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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Pipeline Safety Trust Denounces Petition from API and GPA Midstream to Remove Important Safety Measures**

BELLINGHAM, Washington [December 16, 2021] – A recent petition filed by GPA Midstream and the American Petroleum Institute (API) aims to slash crucial safety measurements proposed in the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Final Rule, “Safety of Gas Gathering Pipelines: Extension of Reporting Requirements, Regulation of Large, High-Pressure Lines, and Other Related Amendments.” The Pipeline Safety Trust (PST) condemns these actions due to their negative impact on public safety.

GPA Midstream and API state in their petition that “pipelines 12.75 inches or less in outside diameter do not present a significant risk to public safety.” This statement ignores the fact that just three years ago three-year-old Delaney Tercero was killed by an explosion from a 10-inch diameter gas gathering pipeline while inside her home in Midland, Texas. Targa Resources Corp. could have prevented this tragedy with a routine leak survey, but because this gas gathering line was unregulated they were not required to do so. They were not even required to report the explosion to regulators. PHMSA’s Final Rule, published on Nov. 15 will change that, requiring pipelines like the one that killed Delaney to be subject to corrosion control efforts and leak surveys. The industry’s petition claims that these requirements “are not supported by the cost-benefit analysis.”

“The industry continues to hamstring progress,” Pipeline Safety Trust Executive Director Bill Caram said. “The proposed petition by GPA Midstream and API would gut the key parts of the new rule, allowing the industry to continue to get away with negligent practices, which will

continue to lead to the loss of life in our rural communities and unconscionable amounts of methane leaks further destabilizing our climate.”

PST calls on PHMSA to reject the petition from GPA Midstream and API. By allowing this Final Rule to be implemented unhindered, PHMSA will improve the lives of our rural residents and take a step forward toward legitimate climate resilience.