

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee
Government Issue Paper
Secure Trade Lanes Subcommittee
Pipeline Working Group**

March 2023



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**



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**Office of Field Operations/Cargo and Conveyance Security/Cargo Security and Control
Secure Trade Lanes Subcommittee
Pipeline Working Group
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Action Required: Informational

Background:

- July 2015: The Pipeline Working Group (PWG) established under the COAC to address unique regulatory and administrative challenges of the industry.
- June 2017: Industry and CBP representatives met in Washington under the auspices of the PWG to discuss modernization of pre-arrival data collection, in-bond tracking, and NAFTA compliance processes for pipeline-borne importations of petroleum and natural gas.
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- February 2019: Pipeline working group placed in hiatus in anticipation of dramatic efficiency gains offered by emerging technologies.
- March 2021: 21st Century Customs Framework offered the CBP/SVI oil and gas pipeline project the opportunity to align with broader agency modernization goals.

Issue:

- CBP's Petroleum Natural Gas and Minerals Center (Office of Field Operations) and Trade Modernization and Innovation Office (Office of Trade) are collaborating with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Silicon Valley Initiative (SVI) in the creation of distributed ledger-based software to qualify pipeline-borne crude oil and natural gas for the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). Deployment is projected for late 2024.

Current Status:

- Ongoing

Next Steps:

- If deployed as expected in late 2024, this will likely be the first active component of ACE 2.0.

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