Pipeline Companies Should Do More to Prepare for NTSB Accident Investigations

The National Transportation Safety Board is well known for its sleuthing on plane crashes. However, oil and gas executives often need better education about how the agency tackles one of its other responsibilities—investigating pipeline accidents, advise attorneys with the national law firm **LeClairRyan**.

The catastrophic gas explosions that destroyed dozens of homes in Massachusetts this month have called attention to the NTSB's role in investigating such incidents, noted Mark A. Dombroff, an Alexandria-based member of LeClairRyan and co-leader of its Transportation Industry practice. "Most, but not all, in the pipeline business are aware that something like this will immediately trigger a federally mandated and led investigation," he said. "But their counterparts in aviation tend to be far better prepared to contend with the highly specific—and high-stakes—investigative process relied upon by NTSB."

Read the article.