

LETTER OF CONCERN

February 1, 2000

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Don Bozell
Vice President, Operations
Marathon-Ashland Pipe Line, LLC.
539 S. Main Street
Findlay, OH 45840-3295

CPF No. 3-2000-5006C

Dear Mr. Bozell:

On May 17 - May 21 and August 30 - September 3 a representative of the Central Region, Office of Pipeline Safety, pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code, conducted an onsite pipeline safety inspection of your records at the Casper, WY, Wood River, IL and Salisbury, MO locations and field facilities located within the states of Illinois, Missouri and Kansas.

The inspection disclosed the following items of concern. Please give these items your attention.

1. Marathon-Ashland had low/marginal pipe-to-soil readings at various locations within the following 3 areas:
 - (1) I-29 west to Station 5406+70
 - (2) I-35 east to Highway 69
 - (3) St. Joe Block Valve to Hiawatha Station.
2. At the crossing of the Grand River, the right-of-way was not cleared on the east side.
3. The St. Joe Block Valve (aboveground valve) setting did not have company signs on the fencing surrounding the block valve.
4. The Wathena Block Valve (aboveground valve) setting did not have company signs on the fencing surrounding the block valve.

5. At the Marysville, KS Station the aboveground piping was not adequately protected from atmospheric corrosion and needs painting.
6. At the Centralia, MO Station the aboveground piping was not adequately protected from atmospheric corrosion and needs painting.
7. At the Platte Route 3 Block Valve (IL) setting the aboveground piping was not adequately protected from atmospheric corrosion and needs painting.
8. Marathon-Ashland had records to show that mainline valves were being inspected at the required intervals, however, the records did not indicate the extent to which each valve was operated. Marathon-Ashland should indicate on the records how much each valve is operated to determine that it operates correctly.

These items were discussed with your representatives during the inspection. They indicated that the items would receive attention.

The Office of Pipeline Safety has received photos and documents from Marathon-Ashland showing evidence that corrective action has already been completed for items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 mentioned above. The submittals are satisfactory and additional action by Marathon-Ashland on these specific items is not required.

The Office of Pipeline Safety appreciates your attention in this matter and good faith efforts to promote continued safety in your organization.

If we can answer any questions or be of any assistance, please contact us at (816) 329-3800. Thank you for your staff's cooperation during this scheduled inspection.

Sincerely,

Ivan A. Huntoon
Director, Central Region
Office of Pipeline Safety