

Wayne Parkin  
General Manager  
Barrow Utilities and Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
P.O. Box 449  
Barrow, Alaska 99723

Re: CPF No. 56007

Dear Mr. Parkin:

Enclosed is the Final Order issued by the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety in the above-referenced case. It makes findings of violation and acknowledges completion of certain corrective action. Your receipt of the Final Order constitutes service of that document under 49 C.F.R. § 190.5. This case is now closed. No further enforcement action is contemplated with respect to the matters involved in this case. Thank you for your cooperation in our joint effort to ensure pipeline safety.

Sincerely,

Gwendolyn M. Hill  
Pipeline Compliance Registry  
Office of Pipeline Safety

Enclosure

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
RESEARCH AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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In the Matter of )  
 )  
Barrow Utilities and )  
Electric Cooperative, Inc. ) CPF No. 56007  
 )  
Respondent. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

FINAL ORDER

On August 31 and September 25, 1995, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 60117, a representative of the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) conducted an on-site pipeline safety inspection of Respondent's facilities and records in Barrow, Alaska. As a result of the inspection, the Director, Western Region, OPS, issued to Respondent, by letter dated March 28, 1996, a Notice of Probable Violation, Proposed Compliance Order, and Notice of Amendment (Notice). In accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 190.207, the Notice proposed finding that Respondent had violated 49 C.F.R. §§ 192.605, 192.465, and 192.739, and proposed that Respondent take certain measures to correct the alleged violations. The Notice also proposed, in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 190.237, that Respondent amend its procedures for Operations, Maintenance and its anti-drug plan.

Respondent responded to the Notice by letter dated April 24, 1996 (Response). Respondent did not contest the allegations of violation but provided information concerning the corrective actions it has taken.

FINDINGS OF VIOLATION

Respondent did not contest the alleged violations in the Notice. Accordingly, I find that Respondent violated the following sections of 49 C.F.R. Part 192, as more fully described in the Notice:

49 C.F.R. § 192.605 -- failing to provide in its Operations and Maintenance Manual instruction enabling personnel to recognize conditions that may potentially be safety related conditions subject to the reporting requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 191.23;

49 C.F.R. § 192.465 -- failing to properly monitor the steel portions of its gas distribution system for external corrosion; and

49 C.F.R. § 192.739 -- failing to adequately inspect and test each pressure limiting station, relief device, and pressure regulating station to determine if set to function at the correct pressure.

These findings of violation will be considered prior offenses in any subsequent enforcement action taken against Respondent.

#### COMPLIANCE ORDER

The Notice proposed a compliance order. Respondent has demonstrated corrective action addressing the items in the proposed compliance order. The Director, Western Region, OPS has accepted these measures as adequately fulfilling the requirements of the regulations and no further action is needed with respect to a compliance order.

#### AMENDMENT OF PROCEDURES

The Notice alleged inadequacies in Respondent's Operating and Maintenance Manual and its Anti-drug plan, and proposed to require amendment of Respondent's procedures to comply with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 192.625, 192.475, 192.479, 192.513, 192.273, and 199.3.

In its Response and in subsequent responses dated December 16, 1996 and February 28, 1997, Respondent submitted copies of its amended procedures, which the Director, Western Region, OPS has accepted as adequate to assure safe operation of Respondent's pipeline system. Accordingly, no need exists to issue an order directing amendment.

Under 49 C.F.R. § 190.215, Respondent has a right to petition for reconsideration of this Final Order. The petition must be received within 20 days of Respondent's receipt of this Final Order and must contain a brief statement of the issue(s). The

filing of the petition automatically stays the payment of any civil penalty assessed. All other terms of the order, including any required corrective action, shall remain in full effect unless the Associate Administrator, upon request, grants a stay. The terms and conditions of this Final Order are effective upon receipt.

/s/ Richard B. Felder

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Richard B. Felder  
Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety

Date issued: 05/01/98