

LETTER OF CONCERN

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 26, 1998

Mr. Ed Aabak, VP of Operations
Western Gas Resources, Inc.
12200 North Pecos
Denver, CO 80234

CPF No. 58703-C

Dear Mr. Aabak:

On November 6-7, 1997, a representative of the Western Region, Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code, conducted an inspection of your facilities and records of the Granger-MAPCO district of the liquid transmission system owned and operated by Western Gas Resources, Inc.

The facilities and records reviewed during this inspection did not reveal any violations of Federal pipeline safety regulations, Title 49, Code of Federal Regulation, Part 195 on the part of Western Gas Resources, Inc. However, one item for concern needs to be noted.

1. **§195.266(a) A complete record that shows the following must be maintained by the operator involved for the life of each pipeline facility:
(a) The total number of girth welds and the number nondestructively tested, including the number rejected and the disposition of each rejected weld.**

At the time of the inspection and after an extensive search, Western Gas Resources, Inc. personnel could not produce any documentation concerning the girth welds, their nondestructive tests, the number rejected, and the disposition of each rejected weld.

We realize that the Granger-MAPCO line has changed ownership several times since it was originally constructed and that the records concerning girth welds are lost. This letter substantiates the missing records and the probability that they are permanently lost. We hope that you understand our concern that girth weld records and all other pertinent records of any future construction on this pipeline be retained according to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 195 level of safety. If we can answer any question, or be of any help, please call me at 303-231-5701.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Ondak
Director

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