Mr. John C. Crary Secretary New York Public Service Commission Three Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223-1350

Dear Mr. Crary:

We have considered your letter of September 26, 1997, notifying us that the Commission has granted the New York State Electric & Gas Corporation a waiver from complying with 49 CFR 192.321(a) for plastic pipe on bridges. The waiver will permit the installation of plastic pipe aboveground inside steel pipe on bridges. The installations will be protected against mechanical damage and ultraviolet radiation, and will meet all applicable plastic pipe safety requirements other than 49 CFR 192.321(a).

We have no objection to the waiver. The circumstances are comparable to those of previous waivers we have approved permitting the installation of plastic pipe aboveground on bridges.

Sincerely,

Richard B. Felder Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety

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