

ARKANSAS

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION)
OF ARKANSAS LOUISIANA GAS)
COMPANY FOR WAIVER OF CERTAIN)
REQUIREMENTS OF THE ARKANSAS)
GAS PIPELINE CODE)

DOCKET NO. U-2711

ORDER

On April 19, 1976, Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company filed a Petition for Waiver of portions of Subpart I - Requirements for Corrosion Control, of the Arkansas Gas Pipeline Code. The provisions for which waiver was requested were paragraphs 192.455, .461, .463, .465, .469, .471, and .483.

On April 28, 1976, at 9:30 a.m., a hearing was held on the Petition. Testimony of Mr. J. E. Hartsfield, Code Compliance Coordinator for Arkla, and Mr. Anthony Creston, Chief, Pipeline Safety of the Arkansas Public Service Commission was heard by Mr. Stephen Cuffman, Hearing Examiner for the Commission in this case.

Based on the testimony and exhibits adduced at the hearing, the Commission finds:

The Company has requested this waiver in order to conduct a study to determine if a prefabricated meter riser, coated with 3M Scotch Coat and joined to plastic service lines with stainless steel compression rings, may be installed without cathodic protection.

Installation of these meter risers is planned at three locations. The first installation will be made on Federal Street, east of Park Street, in Ashdown, Arkansas, terminating in the cul-de-sac on Federal Street, serving 21 duplexes in a federal low-rent housing project. Two more installations are planned at sites not yet determined.

If this study shows no corrosion exists, the elimination of the small anode presently required under the code would reduce costs on installations of this type.

The Commission further finds that Section 3 (e) of the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968 authorizes any State agency certified under Section 5(a) to waive compliance with any standard if the agency determines that the waiver is not inconsistent with gas pipeline safety.

Pursuant to this authority the Commission finds that it would be in the public interest to grant the requested waiver for a period of three years, subject to the following restrictions:

1. The Company will electronically test the pipe, except those at the apartment numbers listed below, to be sure the coating has not been damaged.
2. A leak check will be conducted monthly on the underground pipe with a Combustible Gas Indicator. A check for shorts on all risers will be conducted at the same time. If the results are positive the findings will be forwarded, in writing, to the Commission.
3. No later than 15 months after installation the risers will be removed for testing on apartments numbered 310, 326, and 351 and the findings shall be reported, in writing, to the Commission.

This waiver will cover all three testing sites. However, before installation is begun on the other two sites the Company must inform the Commission in writing.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

This 11th day of May, 1976.

Robert C. Downie, Chairman

Pat Moran, Commissioner

John C. Pickett, Commissioner

(signed) _____
Tommie Castillow
Secretary to Commission

Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company
P.O. Box 751 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203
April 12, 1976

Arkansas Public Service Commission
Justice Building, State Capitol
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Docket No. 2711

RE: Petition for Waiver Subpart I -
 Requirements for Corrosion
 Control - Arkansas Gas Pipeline
 Code

Gentlemen:

1. Regulatory provisions involving Subpart I - Requirements for Corrosion Control, more particularly described as Paragraphs 192.455, .461, .463, .465, .469, .471 and .483.
2. The purpose of this request is to determine whether or not the Nipak double bend prefabricated meter riser approximately 52 inches over all, coated with 3M Scotch Coat applied to the pipe after the riser is formed and joined to the plastic service lines with AMP Part No. 332818 transition coupling 3/4 inch IP to 1/2 inch IP plastic pipe with 316 stainless steel compression rings may be installed without cathodic protection. The installations will not have any bare metal exposed subject to corrosion with the exception of the 316 stainless steel compression rings on the AMP compression coupling. Approximately 42 inches of the metal riser will be buried. (Exhibit A)
3. The installations will be made on Federal Street east of Park Street, located in Ashdown, Little River County, Arkansas, terminating in the cul-de-sac on Federal Street, serving 21 duplexes in a Federal Low Rent housing project. (Exhibit B)

It is proposed to insert approximately 480 feet of 1 1/4 Aldyl "A" PE 2306 plastic pipe in the existing 2 inch steel main and 1/2 Aldyl A PE 2306 plastic pipe in the existing service lines.

A 2 inch x 1 1/4 inch AMP transition coupling Part No. 561183-1, will be installed at the intersection at Park and Federal Streets to the inserted plastic main. Aldyl "A" PE 2306 service saddles will be installed in the plastic main by heat fusion and all service lines will be inserted into the existing 1 inch steel service as a continuous run and socket fused to the service saddles, and AMP fittings will be used at the meter riser.

All coupon openings in the main and each end of the service lines will be sealed after the services are completed.

The meter riser will be electrically isolated from the house piping by an insulated meter swivel.

It is requested that the installation of the prefabricated coated meter riser be permitted to be installed without cathodic protection in this location and two additional locations to be selected at a later date for a continuing study to determine the necessity for cathodic protection for the short run of 3/4 inch coated pipe and stainless steel rings on the AMP fittings as outlined above.

If through the study it is found that no corrosion exists, the elimination of the small anode presently required under the code would produce economical savings on installations of this type as far as the consumer expense is concerned as well as in those installations that may be installed by the company.

4. Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company
P.O. box 751
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203
Telephone: 372-6241
5. Mr. John Wise, Manager, Corrosion Control, concurs in this test project petition for waiver. (Exhibit C)
6. Mr. Marion Monk, Department of Housing & Urban Development, Little Rock, Arkansas, has been advised of the petition for waiver as set forth above and concurs in this test program. (Exhibit D)
7. No recommendations for any change to the present regulations are requested at this time since this project and the two to be requested in the future are for study and obtaining all data that might be required for future changes.

Yours truly,

ARKANSAS LOUISIANA GAS COMPANY

By _____ (signed) _____
J.E. Hartsfield, Code Compliance Coord.

Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company
P.O. Box 751 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203
April 28, 1976

Housing Authority of Little River County
Foreman, Arkansas 71836

Attention: Mr. Solon Moore

Re: Federal Street Housing Project
Replacing of Service Lines with
1/2 Inch Plastic Pipe with Coated
Steel Risers without Anodes.

Dear Mr. Moore:

All operation, maintenance, inspections and surveys of the service lines, required by Arkansas Public Service Commission and Department of Transportation, will be performed by Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company at no cost to the Housing Authority for as long as the test of the coated risers is being conducted at the above site.

At the end of the test period, the responsibility for the above operation, maintenance, inspections and surveys on the Federal Street Housing Project will become that of the Housing Authority. Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company will advise you of length of test period and again will advise you when responsibility for the above line becomes that of the Housing Authority.

If at any time during test period the Arkansas Public Service Commission or the Department of Transportation rules that the coated risers on above project must have anodes installed, Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company will install anodes on each of the coated service risers.

In the event of above ruling by P.S.C. or D.O.T. and after Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company has installed the anodes on risers, the responsibility for the operation, maintenance, inspections and surveys will become the responsibility of the Housing Authority of Little River County. Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company will advise you of any such ruling by the P.S.C. or D.O.T.

There is a mistake in the total cost as written in a letter received by this office from Mr. Marion Monk of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The \$25.00 charge per service, as quoted by Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company, is correct, but there are 21 services within the Federal Street project making a total cost of \$525.00 and not the total as written by Mr. Monk of \$275.00

Please advise this office if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

(signed)

J.E. Hartsfield

Code Compliance Coordinator

JEH/dh

cc: Mr. J.C. Baker
Mr. Marion Monk - HUD
Mr. Anthony Creston - PSC
Mr. B.L. Cearley

For 3rd attachment , "A Measurement of Corrosion Resistance in High- Allow Steel," excerpted from the report on a test conducted by the National Bureau of Standards, see paper copy available in Office of Pipeline Safety file.

DOT/OST/MTB

PRIORITY

L.M. FURROW

62392

MR. ANTHONY CRESTON
CHIEF, PIPELINE SAFETY
ARKANSAS PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JUSTICE BUILDING
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

ON MAY 11, 1976, THE COMMISSION IN DOCKET NO. U-2711 (OPSO DOCKET NO. ARK-76-1) GRANTED A WAIVER FROM COMPLIANCE WITH 49 CFR 192.455, 192.461, 192.463, 192.465, 192.469, 192.471, AND 192.483 TO THE ARKANSAS LOUISIANA GAS COMPANY REGARDING THE BURIED PORTIONS OF THREE COATED METER RISERS TO BE INSTALLED WITH DEFECTS IN THE COATING. THE PURPOSE OF THE WAIVER IS TO CONDUCT A TEST TO DETERMINE THE NECESSITY OF CATHODIC PROTECTION ON NIPAK PREFABRICATED 3/4 INCH METER RISERS COATED WITH 3M SCOTCHKOTE AND INSTALLED ON PLASTIC SERVICE LINES.

WE OBJECT TO THE GRANTING OF THIS WAIVER FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS: 1. THE COMMISSION HAS NOT PROVIDED ANY ARGUMENTS OR EVIDENCE TO SHOW WHY THE EXISTING CORROSION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR THE NIPAK RISERS WITH 3M SCOTCHKOTE. 2. THE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING DOES NOT JUSTIFY THE RISKS INVOLVED IN USING ACTUAL GAS SERVICE INSTALLATIONS FOR THE TEST.