

9-7-95

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

Dear Mr Carry:

As required by 49 U.S.C.60118(d), your letter of June 15, 1995, forwarded a waiver of compliance from the requirements of §192.123(a) granted by the New York State Public Service Commission on June 15, 1995, to the Long Island Lighting Company (LIL).

This action waives the 100 psig operating pressure limit for plastic pipe (§192.123(a)) to permit operation at a pressure up to 124 psig for plastic pipe to be installed in certain distribution pipelines operated by LIL.

We have reviewed the waiver granted by the Commission to LIL along with data on a similar waiver granted by the Commission to Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation (CHG&E) on April 3, 1985, to operate plastic pipe up to 120 psig. In the previous waiver, we requested, on May 10, 1985, that the Commission submit to us for a period of three years annual summaries of any accidents or other problems CHG&E experienced on the pipelines included in the waiver. We wanted to obtain technical data on the use of plastic pipe operated at pressures above 100 psig. Our review of the annual summaries revealed no pressure-related problems associated with the waiver. Therefore, we do not object to this waiver.

In order to gain more technical data on plastic pipe operated at pressures above 100 psig, we again request the Commission to submit to our Office an annual summary for a three year period beginning on October 1, 1995, of any accidents or other problems LIL experiences on the pipelines included in the waiver. This data will support possible future rulemaking to raise the operating pressure limit for plastic pipe in §192.123(a).

Sincerely,

Richard B. Felder  
Associate Administrator for  
Pipeline Safety

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