

LETTER OF CONCERN

November 20, 2000

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

**Mr. Harris Marple
Vice President, Operations
Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation
P.O. Box 1273
Charleston, WV 25325**

CPF No. 1-2000-1003C

Dear Mr. Marple:

On August 21, 2000, a representative of the Eastern Region, Office of Pipeline Safety, pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code, conducted an onsite pipeline safety inspection of your Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facilities and records at Chesapeake, Virginia.

As a result of the inspection, we are concerned about the condition of the LNG tank where signs of atmospheric corrosion were visible on the tank shell, tank rims, and the tank walkway. Columbia Gas onsite management personnel stated that a budgetary request was made to the headquarters for repairs. But, they were unaware if the request was processed and did not know the proposed timetable for the remedial work.

I encourage you to consider action before any unsafe condition results from the effect of atmospheric corrosion on the tank structure. Your response is appreciated.

Sincerely,

**William H. Gute
Director, Eastern Region
Office of Pipeline Safety**

Enclosure

PNGUYEN/sj/DPS-24/64581/11/20/00
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cc: DPS-22.1, DPS-24, NJDO, MEDO, PIDO, Regions