



OCT 3 0 2003

Mr. Royce A. Ramsey Vice President, Operations Northern Natural Gas Company 1111 South 103rd Street Omaha, NE 68124-1091

Re: CPF No. 36111

Dear Mr. Ramsey:

Enclosed is the Final Order issued by the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety in the above-referenced case. It makes findings of violation and finds that you have completed the corrective action proposed in the Notice. This case is now closed. Your receipt of the Final Order constitutes service of that document under 49 C.F.R. § 190.5.

Sincerely

Gwendolyn M. Hill

Pipeline Compliance Registry Office of Pipeline Safety

Enclosure

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY WASHINGTON, DC 20590

In the Matter of	
Northern Natural Gas Co.,	CPF No. 36111
Respondent )	
)	

## **FINAL ORDER**

On October 4-6, 1995, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 60117, a representative of the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) conducted an on-site pipeline safety inspection of Respondent's facilities and records in Platteville, Wisconsin. As a result of the inspection, the Director, Central Region, OPS, issued to Respondent, by letter dated April 26, 1996, a Notice of Probable Violation and Proposed Compliance Order (Notice). In accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 190.207, the Notice proposed finding that Respondent had violated 49 C.F.R. § 192.465(d) and proposed that Respondent take certain measures to correct the alleged violations.

Respondent responded to the Notice by letter dated May 29, 1996 (Response). Respondent did not contest the allegations of violation but provided information concerning corrective action it has taken. Respondent did not request a hearing, consequently Respondent waived its right to one.

## FINDINGS OF VIOLATION

In its Response, Respondent did not contest the alleged violations in the Notice. Accordingly, I find that Respondent violated the following section of 49 C.F.R. Part 192, as more fully described in the Notice:

49 C.F.R. § 192.465(d) – failing to promptly remedy deficiencies indicated by cathodic protection monitoring. Readings showed twenty-one (21) branchline and town border station locations to be below the -0.85 voltage criteria.

This finding of violation will be considered a prior offense in any subsequent enforcement action taken against Respondent.

## COMPLIANCE ORDER

The Notice proposed a compliance order for the violations of 49 C.F.R. § 192.465(d). Respondent has demonstrated corrective action addressing the items in the proposed compliance order. Respondent made modifications at each of the 21 specified branchline and town border station facilities to correct the deficiencies in voltage criteria indicated by cathodic protection monitoring. Because Respondent's actions satisfied the proposed compliance terms, no need exists to issue a compliance order.

Stacey Gerard

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety

OCT 30 2003

Date Issued