



March 26, 2001

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From: A. Smeilus  
Terminal Manager  
Vopak Terminal Wilmington Inc.  
C/O South Wilmington Pipeline  
3340 River Road  
Wilmington, NC 28412

To: Information Officer  
Research & Special Programs Administration  
Department of Transportation  
Room 7128  
400 Seventh Street SW  
Washington, DC 20590

Attn: Mr. R. Little

RE: **ABANDONED UNDERWATER FACILITIES REPORT (49CFR195.59)**

Dear Mr. Little,

I am responding to the subject requirement on behalf of our customer, ExxonMobil Chemical Company who currently owns the active pipeline segments in use. The abandonment of the below described lines was done prior to their ownership (per 49CFR195.59 regarding abandoned piping crossing navigable waterways). Exxon Pipeline Company installed three pipelines under the Cape Fear River in 1973. Of the three pipes installed, one 6" pipe is still in service under lease agreement with North Carolina Natural Gas. The remaining 6" and 4" pipes were cleaned and abandoned in place in 1994. The documented history and cleaning/dismantling procedures for these pipes is as follows:

**Surplus 4" pipeline**

This line was in paraxylene service from 1973 till January, 1994. On February 2, 1994 the line was cleaned with approximately 120,000 cubic feet of standard nitrogen at 300 psi at a rate of 200 bph, a six disk batching pig and four polypigs. The line was cut on the east and west bank of the river following the cleaning, and visual inspection of the line found it to be exceedingly clean, in the same condition as virgin pipe. Draeger tubes were also used to test the cut pipe for traces of hazardous vapors and found none.

**Surplus 6" pipeline**

This line was installed as a spare river crossing in 1973 and has never been filled with any fluid other than the water that was put in at installation. On February 2, 1994 the line was cut and visually inspected, and found to be clean with the original water still in the pipe.

Per conversations with Ms. L.E. Harrick of DOT I believe the above information will fulfill the requirements as stated in 49CFR195.59. If you require any additional information or if I may be of further assistance, please contact me at (910) 763-0104.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Smeilus', written over a horizontal line.

A. Smeilus