

## LETTER OF CONCERN

### CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 30, 2001

Mr. James Avioli  
Vice President  
Williams Gas Pipeline-Transco  
P.O. Box 1396  
Houston, TX 77056

CPF No. 220011011C

Dear Mr. Avioli:

During the interval from February 15 to November 16, 2000, representatives of the Southwest, Eastern and Southern Region, Office of Pipeline Safety, and New York State Public Service Commission as an OPS interstate agent, pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code, conducted a system wide pipeline safety inspection of your pipeline facilities and records from Texas, to New York. As a result of this inspection, some areas of concern were discovered. We hope you find these areas worthy of your attention. Please consider the following:

#### **Cathodic Protection**

The field measurements and observation of various locations indicated signs of atmospheric corrosion and a lack of satisfactory levels of cathodic protection.

- The outlet header on the Alabama meter station, Alexandria City, Alabama, showed signs of atmospheric corrosion.
- The paint job is not effective that has been done to mitigate the effects of atmospheric corrosion on inlet/outlet valves at meter station on the end of the Mobile lateral near Butler, Alabama.
- The low pipe-to-soil potentials were measured at the following locations:
  - a. MP 884.708, Autauga, Alabama: 0.82 V (B line)  
0.76 V (C line)
  - b. MP 33.750, 16-inch lateral Tyron, South Carolina: 0.68V
  - c. MP 1215.089, Colonial Pipeline (class 3), South Carolina: C line: 0.700V  
B line: 0.733V
  - d. Homesville Interchange, Mississippi: B line: 0.804V

In addition to above cited concerns, it is recommended that you review and evaluate the relief valves at stations 90 and 120, from the standpoint of capacity and reliability of operation.

The above concerns were covered in the exit interview with Mr. Louis Schoenbaechler and Mr. Kerry Morgan. We hope you will take corrective action to further improve the safety of your pipeline.

Sincerely,

Frederick A. Joyner  
Director, Southern Region  
Office of Pipeline Safety

cc:

Terri J. Binns  
Phillip Nguyen  
Kumar Desai