

**LETTER OF CONCERN**

**CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

May 19, 1999

Mr. John Zurcher  
Manager - Pipeline Safety  
Columbia Gas Transmission Company  
1700 Maccorkle Ave. SE  
Charleston, WV 25314

CPF No. 39109C

Dear Mr. Zurcher,

On December 16, 1997 through February 20, 1998, a representative of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, acting as an agent for interstate pipelines for the Central Region, Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code, conducted an inspection of your records and pipeline facilities in the Cental Ohio District for Treat, Cambridge, and Columbus, Ohio.

During the inspection, the following items came to our attention that have caused some concern. I hope you will give these items your attention.

1. A repair procedure for plastic pipe was found in your manuals that permits a stainless steel repair clamp to be utilized. After discussion with company personnel, I understand that the procedure is to be removed from your manual.
2. Records indicate that the K-205 Line was operated at a pressure that exceeded the allowable operating pressure for the listed class location. Your report indicates that the line was apparently incorrectly operated at 800 psig, which exceeded the 718 psig MAOP established. Additionally, a class 3 location was established based on the presence of a meat packing plant. Although the plant closed in 1992, your records continued to carry this area as class 3 until 1997 when a new class location survey was performed. While still classified as a class 3 location in your records, the line was operated at pressures that were not commensurate with that class rating.

If we can answer any questions or be of any assistance, please contact me or Warren Miller of my staff at (816) 426-2654. Thank you for your staff's cooperation during this scheduled inspection.

Sincerely,

Ivan A. Huntoon  
Director, Central Region  
Office of Pipeline Safety