



THE STATE OF WYOMING

JUL 11 2012

MATTHEW H. MEAD
GOVERNOR

Public Service Commission

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July 7, 2012

Mr. Jeffery D. Wiese
Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety
U.S. Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Update on high risk Pipeline Replacement Projects

Dear Mr. Wiese:

The Wyoming Public Service Commission (WPSC) hereby provides an update to the high-risk pipeline replacement projects previously reported to Ms. Quarterman in April 2011. The WPSC would point out there is no cast iron pipe in gas service in Wyoming.

In last year's report, one operator, Anadarko Petroleum Company, dba MGTC, Inc., was in a ten-year replacement project to replace approximately 40 miles of cathodically un-protected bare steel distribution and transmission pipelines. Subsequently, the company proposed and expedited a five-year schedule for the replacement of the pipe. During the first three years of the project, the company will replace thirty (30) miles of bare steel distribution with new PE pipe. Fifteen (15) miles of bare steel transmission will be replaced in the last two (2) years of the project. Additionally, in 2011, eleven (11) miles of bare steel transmission line were replaced.

Questar Gas Company is in the final year of replacing the bare steel and vintage plastic pipelines in the towns of Kemmerer and Diamondville, Wyoming. They have approximately 300 service lines remaining to be replaced during calendar year 2012.

Energy West Wyoming has 5 miles of cathodically protected bare steel mains that it is in the process of replacing. These are smaller sections of line located throughout their system but mainly in the Hart Mountain and Meeteetse areas. These lines are under a replacement plan for completion in the next 5 years.

On a statewide basis there are several gas utilities working on smaller vintage pipeline replacement projects targeting unprotected bare steel mains and plastic PVC systems. Currently,

bare steel and PVC account for 108.5 miles or approximately 2.16% of the distribution mains and 3917 service lines or 2.24% of the gas services in Wyoming.

Pipeline Safety remains a very high priority to the WPSC and the agency critically reviews every proposal and opportunity to improve safety. The same approach is taken when assessing pipeline replacement projects and the benefits which come from them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan B. Minier". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Alan B. Minier
Chairman