



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration

1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

AUG 18 2010

Mr. Geoffrey Craft
Vice President – Southern Operations
ExxonMobil Pipeline Company
800 Bell Street
Houston, TX 77002

Docket Nos.: PHMSA-2007-27120 and PHMSA-2007-29033

Dear Mr. Craft:

On June 15, 2006, and July 19, 2007, ExxonMobil Pipeline Company (EMPCo) wrote to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) requesting special permits to waive compliance from the Pipeline Safety Regulations of 49 CFR § 195.452(h) for segments of the EMPCo hazardous liquid pipeline systems. EMPCo sought special permits for segments of its 12.75-inch South Bend to New Iberia Pipeline located in Saint Mary and Iberia Parishes, Louisiana and the 12.75-inch New Iberia to Sunset Pipeline located in Iberia, St. Martin, Lafayette, and St. Landry Parishes, Louisiana.

PHMSA is denying both of these special permit applications because they remain incomplete. PHMSA has requested information on the measures EMPCo would take as an alternative to compliance with the regulation. However, EMPCo has not submitted this information as required by 49 CFR § 190.341(b)(5). Specifically, EMPCo has not indicated the criteria it would use when repairing anomalies detected by In-Line Inspection (ILI) tools.

My staff would be pleased to discuss this matter or any other regulatory matter with you. John Gale, Director of Regulations (202-366-4046), may be contacted on regulatory matters and Alan Mayberry, Deputy Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety (202-366-5124), may be contacted on technical matters specific to this special permit.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Wiese
Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety