



U.S. Department  
Of Transportation  
**Pipeline and  
Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration**

820 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 103  
West Trenton, NJ 08628  
**609.989.2171**

## WARNING LETTER

### UPS OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

July 08, 2013

Granite State Gas Transmission, Inc.  
Mr. Thomas Meissner, Senior VP  
6 Liberty Lane  
Hampton, NH 03842

**CPF 1-2013-1009W**

Dear Mr. Thomas Meissner:

During the week of June 11, 2012, a representative of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code inspected Granite State's pipeline facilities in the Portsmouth, NH area.

As a result of the inspection, it appears that you have committed a probable violation of the Pipeline Safety Regulations, Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations. The item inspected and the probable violation is:

- 1. 192.603 General provisions**
  - (b) Each operator shall keep records necessary to administer the procedures established under §192.605.**

Granite State's records were inadequate to administer the procedures established under §192.605.

Employee test records for Granite State's Emergency Procedures review were inadequate in that some of the records from 2009 were not graded. Graded records were necessary to verify employees were versed and capable of executing the emergency procedures.

Under 49 United States Code, § 60122, you are subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$200,000 per violation per day the violation persists up to a maximum of \$2,000,000 for a related series of violations. For violations occurring prior to January 4, 2012, the maximum penalty may not exceed \$100,000 per violation per day, with a maximum penalty not to exceed \$1,000,000 for a

**1-2013-1009W**

related series of violations. We have reviewed the circumstances and supporting documents involved in this case, and have decided not to conduct additional enforcement action or penalty assessment proceedings at this time. We advise you to correct the item(s) identified in this letter. Failure to do so will result in Granite State being subject to additional enforcement action.

No reply to this letter is required. If you choose to reply, please address your correspondence to: Byron Coy, PE, Director, PHMSA Eastern Region, 820 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 103, West Trenton, NJ, 08628 and please refer to **CPF 1-2013-1009W**. Be advised that all material you submit in response to this enforcement action is subject to being made publicly available. If you believe that any portion of your responsive material qualifies for confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b), along with the complete original document you must provide a second copy of the document with the portions you believe qualify for confidential treatment redacted and an explanation of why you believe the redacted information qualifies for confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b).

Sincerely,

Byron Coy, PE  
Director, Eastern Region  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration