

Mr. Dennis Crawford
Program Manager
Utility Division
Montana Public Service Commission
1701 Prospect Ave
Helena, Montana 59620-2601

Dear Mr. Crawford:

This is in response to your letter of March 12, 1996, in which you seek the U.S. Department Of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety's approval of a waiver for West Yellowstone Gas Company (WYG), a division of Energy West Inc., for a portable Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility at West Yellowstone, Montana. Your letter advises that the Montana Public Service Commission has granted WYG a waiver of certain provisions of 49 CFR Part 193 and that the waiver would allow WYG to operate and maintain a portable LNG facility at West Yellowstone, Montana, as a back up to its permanent storage facility in the event of an emergency whereby the permanent storage facility becomes unavailable.

Your Commission has granted WYG a waiver of Part 193 subject to a list of conditions described in 'Exhibit A' attached with the report to the Commission's order. Also, your Commission has previously granted WYG a waiver of Part 193 for the same facility during the construction of the permanent storage facility.

Based on the reasons presented in your grant of waiver, and the conditions placed on WYG, during the use of a portable LNG facility in the event of an emergency, the Research and Special

Programs Administration does not object to the grant of waiver of those provisions of 49 CFR Part 193 as specified under the waiver request.

Sincerely,

Richard B. Felder
Associate Administrator
for Pipeline Safety

cc:

DPS-1/2/10/11/20; OPS Western Region

DPS-11:MIsrani:366-4571:6/10/99

File: Colorado State Waiver File

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