



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials Safety
Administration**

233 Peachtree Street Ste. 600
Atlanta, GA 30303

WARNING LETTER

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

March 11, 2010

Mr. William Cope
Vice President, Eastern Operations
Tennessee Gas Pipeline
569 Brookwood Village
Room 766
Birmingham, AL 35209

CPF 2-2010-1005W

Dear Mr. Cope:

On September 14-18, 21-24, and November 2-6, 2009, a representative of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code inspected Tennessee Gas Pipeline (TGP) procedures and records in Catlettsburg, Clay City, Greenup and Morehead, Kentucky and Batesville and Greenville, Mississippi; and TGP's pipeline facilities in Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Ohio.

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

§192.479 Atmospheric corrosion control; General.

(a) Each operator must clean and coat each pipeline or portion of pipeline that is exposed to the atmosphere, except pipelines under paragraph (c) of this section.

At TGP's Compressor Station 63 in Batesville, Mississippi, the compressor unit suction and discharge piping in the basements of Compressor Buildings A and B had numerous areas where the paint had disbanded from the pipe exposing the pipe. Several of the areas with disbanded paint have extensive surface rust.

Under 49 United States Code, § 60122, you are subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$100,000 for each violation for each day the violation persists up to a maximum of \$1,000,000 for any 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 identified in this letter. Failure to do so will result in TGP being subject to additional enforcement action.

No reply to this letter is required. If you choose to reply, in your correspondence please refer to **CPF 2-2010-1005W**. 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,



Linda Daugherty
Director, Southern Region
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration