U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Research and
Special Programs
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

OCT 30 2002

Mr. Kim Cocklin
Senior Vice President
Williams Gas Pipeline
3800 Frederica Street
Owensboro, KY 42301

Re: CPF No. 2-2000-1009

Dear Mr. Ralph:

Enclosed is the Final Order issued by the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety in the above referenced case. It makes findings of violation, assesses a civil penalty of $20,000, and acknowledges completion of required corrective action. Your receipt of the Final Order constitutes service of that document under 49 C.F.R. § 190.5.

I acknowledge receipt of, and accept, your wire transfer in the amount of $20,000, as payment in full of the civil penalty assessed against Texas Gas Transmission in the Final Order. I also acknowledge your prompt corrective action with respect to the items in the proposed compliance order. This case is now closed and no further enforcement action is contemplated with respect to the matters involved in the case. Thank you for your cooperation in our joint effort to ensure pipeline safety.

Sincerely,

Gwendolyn M. Hill

Gwendolyn M. Hill
Pipeline Compliance Registry
Office of Pipeline Safety

Enclosure

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RECEIVED
NOV 15 2002

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
RESEARCH AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Williams Gas Pipeline,	)	CPF No. 2-2000-1009
	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	

FINAL ORDER

From February 27, to September 14, 2000, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 60117, a representative of the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), conducted an on-site pipeline safety inspection of Respondent's facilities and records from Louisiana to the northern state line of Kentucky. As a result of the inspection, the Director, Southern Region, OPS, issued to Respondent, by letter dated November 3, 2000, a Notice of Probable Violation, Proposed Civil Penalty, and Proposed Compliance Order (Notice). In accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 190.207, the Notice proposed finding that Respondent had violated 49 C.F.R. §§ 192.199 and 192.743 and proposed assessing a civil penalty of $20,000 for the alleged violations. The Notice also proposed that Respondent take certain measures to correct the alleged violations.

Respondent responded to the Notice by letters dated December 6, 2000 and June 13, 2002, and made a wire transfer in the amount of the proposed civil penalty ($20,000). Respondent did not contest the allegations of violation but provided information concerning the corrective actions it has taken. Respondent did not request a hearing; consequently, Respondent waived its right to one. Respondent's payment of the civil penalty authorizes finding of the facts as alleged in the Notice and closing of the case under 49 C.F.R. § 190.209(a)(1).

FINDINGS OF VIOLATION

Respondent did not contest the alleged violations in the Notice. Accordingly, I find that Respondent violated the following sections of 49 C.F.R. Part 192, as more fully described in the Notice:

> 49 C.F.R. § 192.199(c) and (h) -- Except for rupture discs, failing to utilize a pressure relief or limiting device designed and installed so that it can be readily operated to determine if the valve is free, can be tested to determine the pressure at which it will operate, and can be tested for leakage when in the closed position; and, except for a valve that will isolate the

system under protection from its source of pressure, failing to utilize a pressure relief or limiting device designed to prevent unauthorized operation of any stop valve that will make the pressure relief valve or pressure limiting device inoperative.

49 C.F.R. § 192.743 -- failing to properly review all regulator and relief valve records for compliance with capacity requirements; failing to modify records in accordance with changes in capacity requirements; and failing to install a new or additional pressure relieving device to provide the additional capacity required at a second location.

These findings of violation will be considered prior offenses in any subsequent enforcement action taken against Respondent. I assess Respondent a civil penalty of $20,000, already paid by Respondent.

COMPLIANCE ORDER

The Notice proposed a compliance order. Respondent has demonstrated corrective action addressing all items in the proposed compliance order. No further action is needed with respect to the compliance order.

James K. O'Steen

Stacey Gerard
for Associate Administrator
for Pipeline Safety

OCT 30 2002
Date Issued