



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials Safety
Administration**

8701 South Gessner, Suite 1110
Houston, TX 77074

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

June 27, 2012

Ms. Vicki Hollub
President and General Manager
Bravo Pipeline Company
5 Greenway Plaza
Suite 110
Houston, TX 77046

CPF 4-2012-5026M

Dear Ms. Hollub:

On October 11-17, 2011, representatives of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code inspected the Bravo procedures for the Operator Qualification Program in Sundown, TX.

On the basis of the inspection, PHMSA has identified the apparent inadequacies found within your plans or procedures, as described below:

1. §195.505 Qualification Program

**Each operator shall have and follow a written qualification program.
The program shall include provisions to:**

(a) Identify covered tasks;

At the time of the inspection, Bravo Pipeline Company did not identify all applicable covered tasks as required by the OQ rule and PHMSA position. Bravo Pipeline Company must amend its OQ Plan to include the following covered tasks – cpm & leak detection, pressure relief in launcher/receiver, and flange bolting. It is further recommended that elements of the old Bravo covered task procedure be meshed into the OQSG Task and Evaluator's Guide(s).

2. §195.505 Qualification Program

**Each operator shall have and follow a written qualification program.
The program shall include provisions to:**

- (f) Communicate changes that affect covered tasks to individuals performing those covered tasks;**

The PHMSA inspection team observed an individual perform covered task # 21, "Location and Temporary Marking of a Pipeline." The individual performing this covered task was using a new tool (V- vax V-loc ML Pro Line Locator) which is a multi-purpose locator. Bravo needs to amend their procedures associated with this task to provide detailed procedures for locating lines with this tool; in addition, Bravo needs to develop a means and frequency for verifying that this tool is functioning as designed.

In email correspondence dated February, 24, 2012, and March 30, 2012, Bravo Pipeline Company submitted updated procedures that intended to address the afore-mentioned deficiencies prior to the delivery of this Notice to them. My staff reviewed the amended procedures, and it appears that the inadequacies outlined in this Notice of Amendment have been corrected.

This letter is to inform you no further action is necessary and this case is now closed. Thank you for your cooperation.

Response to this Notice

This Notice is provided pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 60108(a) and 49 C.F.R. § 190.237. Enclosed as part of this Notice is a document entitled *Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Compliance Proceedings*. Please refer to this document and note the response options. 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). If you do not respond within 30 days of receipt of this Notice, this constitutes a waiver of your right to contest the allegations in this Notice and authorizes the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety to find facts as alleged in this Notice without further notice to you and to issue a Final Order.

If, after opportunity for a hearing, your plans or procedures are found inadequate as alleged in this Notice, you may be ordered to amend your plans or procedures to correct the inadequacies (49 C.F.R. § 190.237). If you are not contesting this Notice, we propose that you submit your amended procedures to my office within 45 days of receipt of this Notice. This period may be extended by written request for good cause. Once the inadequacies identified herein have been addressed in your amended procedures, this enforcement action will be closed.

It is requested (not mandated) that Bravo Pipeline Company maintain documentation of the safety improvement costs associated with fulfilling this Notice of Amendment (preparation/revision of plans, procedures) and submit the total to R. M. Seeley, Director, Southwest Region, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. In correspondence concerning this matter, please refer to **CPF 4-2012-5026M** and, for each document you submit, please provide a copy in electronic format whenever possible.

Sincerely,



R. M. Seeley
Director, Southwest Region
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Enclosure: *Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Compliance Proceedings*