



U.S. Department of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration**

8701 S. Gessner, Suite 630
Houston TX 77074

**NOTICE OF PROBABLE VIOLATION
and
PROPOSED COMPLIANCE ORDER**

ELECTRONIC MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 3, 2020

Cary Watson
Vice President
Safety, Environmental & Technical Programs
Enable Gas Transmission, LLC
499 West Sheridan Avenue, Suite 1500
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

CPF 4-2020-002-NOPV

Dear Mr. Watson:

From March 2, 2020 through March 5, 2020, representatives of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code (U.S.C.) inspected Enable Gas Transmission, LLC's (Enable) Control Room Management Program and records in Houston, Texas.

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

1. **§ 192.631 Control room management.**

(a) ...

(f) ***Change management.*** Each operator must assure that changes that could affect control room operations are coordinated with the control room personnel by performing each of the following:

(1) Establish communications between control room representatives, operator's management, and associated field personnel when planning and implementing physical changes to pipeline equipment or configuration;

(2) Require its field personnel to contact the control room when emergency conditions exist and when making field changes that affect control room operations;
and

(3) Seek control room or control room management participation in planning prior to implementation of significant pipeline hydraulic or configuration changes.

Enable field personnel failed to coordinate with control room personnel prior to initiating field changes that could affect control room operations as required by §192.631(f). On May 1, 2019, Enable field personnel tested fire/gas detectors on the system and failed to notify the control room prior to the initiation of the test. Enable's controller received a fire/gas alarm, which affected the control room operations, and required the controller to confirm with the field staff whether the alarm represented a real or a false alarm.

During the inspection, PHMSA inspectors reviewed Enable's written *Operations and Maintenance; Gas Detection* (OM-310) procedure. At the time of the inspection, Enable's procedure did not require its field personnel to contact the control room prior to and after they performed testing or work on the system's fire/gas detectors. Subsequent to the inspection, Enable submitted a revised OM-310 to PHMSA, which requires its field personnel to contact the control room prior to and after testing fire/gas detectors on the system.

Proposed Compliance Order

With respect to item 1, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §60118, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration proposes to issue a Compliance Order to Enable Gas Transmission, LLC. Please refer to the *Proposed Compliance Order*, which is enclosed and made a part of this Notice.

Response to this Notice

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. All material you submit in response to this enforcement action may be 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).

Following the receipt of this Notice, you have 30 days to submit written comments, or request a hearing under 49 CFR §190.211. 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 you are responding to this Notice, we propose that you submit your correspondence to my office within 30 days from receipt of this Notice. This period may be extended by written request for good cause.

In your correspondence on this matter, please refer to CPF 4-2020-002-NOPV and, for each document you submit, please provide a copy in electronic format whenever possible.

Sincerely,

Mary L. McDaniel, P.E.
Director, Southwest Region
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Enclosures:

Proposed Compliance Order

Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Enforcement Proceedings

PROPOSED COMPLIANCE ORDER

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §60118, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) proposes to issue to Enable Gas Transmission, LLC a Compliance Order incorporating the following remedial requirements to ensure Enable Gas Transmission, LLC's compliance with the applicable pipeline safety regulations:

- A. In regard to Item Number 1 of the Notice pertaining to the failure of field personnel in contacting the control room when making field changes that affect the control room operations, Enable Gas Transmission, LLC must:
 - 1. Review all of its operating and maintenance procedures to identify which procedures have tasks with field changes that could affect control room operations, but currently do not require its field personnel to contact the control room before or after any field changes are made; and
 - 2. Follow its Management of Change process and amend the inadequate procedures identified as a result of the review in Item A.1 of the Compliance Order to ensure the procedures require that field personnel contact the control room when making field changes that affect control room operations

- B. In regard to Item Number 1, Enable Gas Transmission, LLC must submit to Director, Southwest Region, Office of Pipeline Safety, PHMSA, documentation of the review conducted under Item A.1 of the Compliance Order and the procedures amended procedures under Item A.1 of the Compliance Order within 90 days of receipt of the Final Order.

It is requested (not mandated) that Enable Gas Transmission, LLC maintain documentation of the safety improvement costs associated with fulfilling this Compliance Order and submit the total to Mary McDaniel, Director, Southwest, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. It is requested that these costs be reported in two categories: 1) total cost associated with preparation/revision of plans, procedures, studies and analyses, and 2) total cost associated with replacements, additions and other changes to pipeline infrastructure.