



**NiSource Gas
Transmission & Storage®**

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Perry Michael Hoffman
Manager – System Integrity

November 30, 2010

Byron E. Coy, PE
Director, Eastern Region
United States Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
820 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 103
West Trenton, NJ 08628

RE: Notice of Probable Violation and Proposed Civil Penalty CPF 1-2010-1009

Dear Mr. Coy:

NiSource Gas Transmission & Storage (NGT&S) respectfully submits this letter as a request to issue final order and close Notice of Probable Violation (NOPV) and Proposed Civil Penalty CPF 1-2010-1009. The NOPV was issued to Columbia Gas Transmission LLC, a business unit of NGT&S, on November 1, 2010, as a result of inspections that had occurred in the fall of 2008. The NOPV identified concerns with the exposure of coated pipe to the atmosphere during mining mitigation activities. The condition identified in 2008 was addressed subsequent to the inspection and the affected pipeline is no longer exposed or located in an active mining area.

In response to CPF 1-2010-1009, NGT&S has elected not to contest the NOPV and to pay in full the proposed civil penalty of \$29,600. The full amount of the proposed civil penalty was submitted to the US Treasury on November 23, 2010, in accordance with Item VII of the Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Compliance Proceedings "Payment Instructions." Evidence of the payment is provided in Attachment A. Based on payment of the proposed penalty and the fact that the identified condition has been mitigated, we respectfully request formal closure of this matter.

If you have any questions or would like additional information in order to resolve this case, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Perry M. Hoffman', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Perry M. Hoffman
Manager – System Integrity
NiSource Gas Transmission & Storage

Notice of Probable Violation and Proposed Civil Penalty CPF 1-2010-1009

Attachment A

Record of Wire Payment

Previous Day Summary and Detail Report - TCODaily



Previous Business Day: November 23, 2010

11/24/2010 05:49:59 AM

1001742895 - TCO Master Funding - Lockbox cont.

Debit Transactions cont.

Wire Transfer Out cont.

Money Transfer DB - Wire cont.

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reference Number</u>	<u>Reference Detail</u>
\$29,600.00	101123030001	FED WIRE OUT 030001 ORIGINATOR:COLUMBIA GAS TRANSMISSION CORP AC/1001742895 BENEFICIARY:TREAS NYC AC/69140001 RECVBNK:TREAS NYC/FUNDS TRANSFER DIVISION ABA:021030004 TRN:101123030001 FEDREF:01410 DATE:101123 TIME:1533
