

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY**

)	
In the Matter of)	
)	
Williams Field Services Company, LLC,)	CPF No. 1-2018-5008
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

REQUEST FOR HEARING AND PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF ISSUES

I. Request for Hearing

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §§ 190.208(a)(4) and 190.211(b) and the extension of time that the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) granted on February 8, 2018, Williams Field Services Company, LLC (Williams) respectfully requests an in-person hearing to discuss the Notice of Probable Violation and Proposed Civil Penalty (Notice) in this proceeding. Williams will be represented by counsel at the informal hearing.¹

II. Preliminary Statement of Issues

Williams respectfully contests the allegations of violation and proposed civil penalty contained in the Notice. Williams intends to raise the following issues at the hearing:

A. Notice Item 1 – 49 C.F.R. § 199.105(b)

1. Probable Violation of 49 C.F.R. § 199.105(b)
 - a. Whether PHMSA has met its burden of proof that a violation has occurred.
 - b. Whether the facts in the record support a violation of § 199.105(b).
 - c. Whether PHMSA’s interpretation of the cited regulation is arbitrary and

¹ As explained in the cover letter accompanying this request, Williams is willing to forgo its right to an informal hearing if PHMSA withdraws the allegation of violation and proposed civil penalty contained in Item 1 of the Notice.

capricious.

2. Proposed Civil Penalty of \$21,600

- a. Whether PHMSA's proposed civil penalty for Item 1 should be withdrawn or reduced.
- b. Whether the record supports the proposed penalty in this case.
- c. Whether PHMSA's method of calculating administrative civil penalties is consistent with applicable laws and regulations.

Williams reserves the right to revise and supplement this Preliminary Statement of Issues as needed based on any new information or argument provided by PHMSA in this matter.

Respectfully submitted this 9th day of
March 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith J. Coyle', is written over a horizontal line.

Keith J. Coyle
Counsel for Williams
Babst Calland
505 9th St. NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20004
202-853-3460
kcoyle@babstcalland.com