

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT

OVERNIGHT EXPRESS DELIVERY

February 24, 2022

Mr. Matthew Hobbs
Gas System Engineer
Elizabethtown Natural Gas
200 W. Dixie
P.O. Box 550
Elizabethtown, Kentucky 42701

CPF 1-2022-024-NOA

Dear Mr. Hobbs:

From November 2 to 5, 2020 and April 26, 2021, a representative of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code inspected Elizabethtown Natural Gas's (ENG) Cecilia Storage procedures for underground natural gas storage in Elizabethtown, Indiana.

On the basis of the inspection, PHMSA has identified the apparent inadequacy found within Elizabethtown Natural Gas's plans or procedures, as described below:

1. § 192.12 Underground natural gas storage facilities.

(a) ...

(c) *Procedural manuals.* Each operator of a UNGSF must prepare and follow for each facility one or more manuals of written procedures for conducting operations, maintenance, and emergency preparedness and response activities under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section. Each operator must keep records necessary to administer such procedures and review and update these manuals at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year. Each operator must keep the appropriate parts of these manuals accessible at locations where UNGSF work is being performed. Each operator must have written procedures in place before commencing operations or beginning an activity not yet implemented.

ENG's written procedures for conducting operations, maintenance, and emergency preparedness and response activities under § 192.12(b) were inadequate. Specifically, ENG's *Storage Operations and Maintenance Manual*, dated 4/1/2021 (O&M Manual), lacked details for the operation of underground natural gas storage fields with regard to reporting safety related conditions (SRCs) in accordance with the requirements of § 191.23 and § 191.25.

During the inspection, PHMSA reviewed the O&M Manual and determined that ENG did not have a procedure to report SRCs.

Therefore, ENG's written procedures required by § 192.12(c) were inadequate. ENG must revise its procedures to address SRC reporting requirements.

Response to this Notice

This Notice is provided pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 60108(a) and 49 C.F.R. § 190.206. Enclosed as part of this Notice is a document entitled Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Enforcement 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).

Following the receipt of this Notice, you have 30 days to submit written comments, revised procedures, or a request for a hearing under §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 an Order Directing Amendment. If 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. § 190.206). If you are not contesting this Notice, we propose that you submit your amended procedures to my office within 30 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 Elizabethtown Natural Gas maintain documentation of the safety improvement costs associated with fulfilling this Notice of Amendment (preparation/revision of plans, procedures) and submit the total to Robert Burrough, Director, Eastern Region, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, 840 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 300, West Trenton, NJ 08628. In correspondence concerning this matter, please refer to **CPF 1-2022-024-NOA** and, for each document you submit, please provide a copy in electronic format whenever possible. Smaller files may be emailed to robert.burrough@dot.gov. Larger files should be sent on USB flash drive accompanied by the original paper copy to the Eastern Region Office.

Sincerely,

Robert Burrough
Director, Eastern Region
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Enclosure: Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Enforcement Proceedings