



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Pipeline and  
Hazardous Materials Safety  
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

OCT 14 2005

Mr. Craig O. Pierson  
Vice President, Operations  
Marathon Ashland Pipe Line, LLC  
539 South Main Street  
Findlay, OH 45840-3295

Re: CPF No. 3-2005-5017

Dear Mr. Pierson:

Enclosed is the Final Order issued by the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety in the above-referenced case. It makes findings of violation and assesses a civil penalty. I acknowledge receipt of your wire transfer of \$60,000 dated May 17, 2005, and accept it as payment in full of the civil penalty assessed in the Final Order. This case is now closed. Your receipt of the Final Order constitutes service of that document under 49 C.F.R. § 190.5.

Sincerely,

James Reynolds  
Pipeline Compliance Registry  
Office of Pipeline Safety

Enclosure

cc: Ivan Huntoon, Region Director  
Central Region, OPS

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY  
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

\_\_\_\_\_)  
In the Matter of )  
\_\_\_\_\_)  
Marathon Ashland Pipe Line LLC, )  
\_\_\_\_\_)  
Respondent )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

CPF No. 3-2005-5017

FINAL ORDER

On March 24, 2005, in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 190.207, the Director, Central Region, Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), issued Respondent a Notice of Probable Violation and Proposed Civil Penalty (Notice). The Notice proposed finding that Respondent had violated 49 C.F.R. Part 195 and proposed assessing a civil penalty of \$60,000 for the alleged violations.

Respondent responded to the Notice by letter dated May 16, 2005. Respondent did not contest the allegations and submitted a wire transfer in the amount of the proposed civil penalty (\$60,000), waiving further right to respond and authorizing the entry of this Final Order.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 190.209(a)(1) and 49 U.S.C. § 60122, I find that Respondent committed the following violations of 49 C.F.R. § 195.402(a), as more fully described in the Notice:

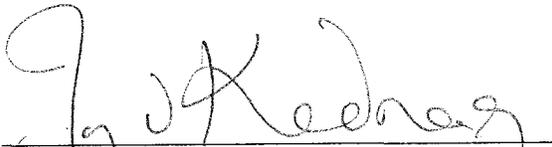
Notice Item 1 – failing to follow pre-established work authorization procedures for the WoodPat 22” pipeline to Equilon Tank 347 tie-in project;

Notice Item 2 – failing to follow procedures in its written operations and maintenance manual for line venting to prevent unsafe accumulations of vapor;

Notice Item 3 – failing to follow procedures in its written operations and maintenance manual for performing ultrasonic testing of a carrier pipe prior to installing a tap connection.

These findings of violation will be considered prior offenses in any subsequent enforcement action taken against Respondent. Having reviewed the record and considered the assessment criteria, I assess Respondent a civil penalty of \$60,000, already paid by Respondent.

The terms and conditions of this Final Order are effective on receipt.

*for*  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stacey Gerard  
Associate Administrator  
for Pipeline Safety

OCT 14 2005

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Issued