



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration

901 Locust Street, Suite 462
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2641

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 20, 2015

Mr. Dave Sauer
V.P., Plant Manager
Dakota Gasification Company
420 County Road 26
Beulah, North Dakota 58523

CPF 3-2015-5011M

Dear Mr. Sauer:

On July 24, 2012, a representative of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code inspected Dakota Gasification Company's (DGC's) Public Awareness Program in Beulah, North Dakota.

On the basis of the inspection, PHMSA has identified apparent inadequacies found within DGC's Public Awareness Program, as described below:

1. **§ 195.440 Public Awareness**

(c) The operator must follow the general program recommendations, including baseline and supplemental requirements of API RP 1162, unless the operator provides justification in its program or procedural manual as to why compliance with all or certain provisions of the recommended practice is not practicable and not necessary for safety.

DGC's evaluation procedures are inadequate because they do not assess results from stakeholder responses to their mailed survey card program. DGC's procedures also do not ensure that the results of the evaluations are summarized and evaluated for any possible improvements or changes made to the public awareness program. Results of the annual implementation reviews and periodic effectiveness evaluations are not tracked.

2. § 195.440 Public Awareness

(d) The operator's program must specifically include provisions to educate the public, appropriate government organizations, and persons engaged in excavation related activities on...

DGC's procedures are inadequate because they do not ensure that police department personnel are included in the emergency official audience.

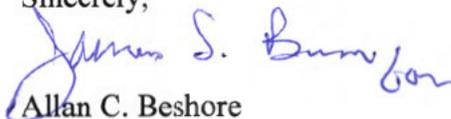
Response to this Notice

This Notice is provided pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 60108(a) and 49 C.F.R. § 190.237. 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. 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). 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, after opportunity for a hearing, 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. § 190.237). 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 DGC maintain documentation of the safety improvement costs associated with fulfilling this Notice of Amendment (preparation/revision of plans, procedures) and submit the total to Allan C. Beshore, Director, Central Region, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. In correspondence concerning this matter, please refer to **CPF 3-2015-5011M** and, for each document you submit, please provide a copy in electronic format whenever possible.

Sincerely,



Allan C. Beshore
Director, Central Region, OPS
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Enclosure: *Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Compliance Proceedings*