



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration

12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 110  
Lakewood, CO 80228

## WARNING LETTER

### **CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

July 7, 2017

Mr. Scott Jepsen  
President  
Alpine Transportation Company  
700 G Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

**CPF 5-2017-5015W**

Dear Mr. Jepsen:

On August 15 – 16, August 29, and December 14, 2016, representatives of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code, inspected your Alpine Crude Pipeline on the Alaskan North Slope and related documents in Anchorage, Alaska.

As a result of the inspection, it is alleged that you have committed a probable violation of the Pipeline Safety Regulations, Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations. The item inspected and the probable violation is:

1. **§195.428 Overpressure safety devices and overfill protection systems.**
  - (a) **Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, each operator shall, at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year, or in the case of pipelines used to carry highly volatile liquids, at intervals not to exceed 7 1/2 months, but at least twice each calendar year, inspect and test each pressure limiting device, relief valve, pressure regulator, or other item of pressure control equipment to determine that it is functioning properly, is in good mechanical condition, and is adequate from the standpoint of capacity and reliability of operation for the service in which it is used.**

Alpine Transportation Company provided inspection records for the following four (4) Alpine Crude Oil Line overpressure safety devices: Alpine CO-OOPS: YA/AI/A2/CF-PT310 #61, #62, #68, and #69 for January 26, 2016, October 27, 2014, and October 26, 2013. No 2015 records were provided to demonstrate that Alpine Transportation Company performed inspection of their overpressure safety devices. In addition, Alpine Transportation Company's representative confirmed that no testing was performed on the four (4) aforementioned devices in the 2015 calendar year.

As of April 27, 2017, under 49 U.S.C. § 60122 and 49 CFR § 190.223, you are subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$209,002 per violation per day the violation persists up to a maximum of \$2,090,022 for a related series of violations. We have reviewed the circumstances and supporting documents involved in this case, and have decided not to conduct additional enforcement action or penalty assessment proceedings at this time. We advise you to correct the item(s) identified in this letter. Failure to do so will result in Alpine Transportation Company being subject to additional enforcement action.

No reply to this letter is required. If you choose to reply, in your correspondence please refer to **CPF 5-2017-5015W**. 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).

Sincerely,



Huy Nguyen  
Acting Director, Western Region  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

cc: PHP-60 Compliance Registry  
PHP-500 H. Marlowe/J. Owens (#153686)