



U.S. Department
Of Transportation
**Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration**

820 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 103
West Trenton, NJ 08628
609.989.2171

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT

OVERNIGHT EXPRESS MAIL

June 11, 2012

Jimmie E. James, VP & Northern Ops Mgr.
ExxonMobil Pipeline Co.
3225 Gallows Rd.
Fairfax, VA 22037

CPF 1-2012-5011M

Mr. Jimmie James:

During the week of November 14, 2011, a representative of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code inspected ExxonMobil's procedures for Operations and Maintenance (O&M) in East Providence, RI.

On the basis of the inspection, PHMSA has identified the apparent inadequacies found within ExxonMobil's plans or procedures, as described below:

1. §195.402 Procedural manual for operations, maintenance, and emergencies

(c) Maintenance and normal operations. The manual required by paragraph (a) of this section must include procedures for the following to provide safety during maintenance and normal operations:

(3) Operating, maintaining, and repairing the pipeline system in accordance with each of the requirements of this subpart and subpart H of this part.

ExxonMobil's DOT Liquid Manual and Cathodic Protection Program procedures were inadequate in that they failed to provide details on how supervisors maintain a thorough knowledge of that portion of the corrosion control procedures established under Sec. 195.402(c)(3) for which they were responsible for insuring compliance, in accordance with 49 CFR 195.555.

2. §195.402 Procedural manual for operations, maintenance, and emergencies

(c) Maintenance and normal operations. The manual required by paragraph (a) of this section must include procedures for the following to provide safety during maintenance and normal operations:

(3) Operating, maintaining, and repairing the pipeline system in accordance with each of the requirements of this subpart and subpart H of this part.

ExxonMobil's procedure was inadequate in that it did not provide details on how to locate leads at intervals frequent enough to obtain electrical measurements indicating the adequacy of cathodic protection, in accordance with 49 CFR 195.567.

3. 195.402 Procedural manual for operations, maintenance, and emergencies.

(a) General. Each operator shall prepare and follow for each pipeline system a manual of written procedures for conducting normal operations and maintenance activities and handling abnormal operations and emergencies. This manual shall be reviewed at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year, and appropriate changes made as necessary to insure that the manual is effective. This manual shall be prepared before initial operations of a pipeline system commence, and appropriate parts shall be kept at locations where operations and maintenance activities are conducted.

The operator's procedural manual for operations, maintenance and emergencies is inadequate in that some sections lacked revision dates that would ensure that the manual has been reviewed at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year and appropriate changes have been made as necessary to insure that the manual is effective.

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 ExxonMobil maintain documentation of the safety improvement costs associated with fulfilling this Notice of Amendment (preparation/revision of plans, procedures) and submit the total to, as well as any correspondence relating to this Notice to: Byron Coy, PE, Director, PHMSA Eastern Region, 820 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 103, W. Trenton, NJ 08628. Please refer to **CPF 1-2012-5011M** on each document you submit, and please provide a (signed) copy in electronic format whenever possible. Smaller files may be emailed to Byron.Coy@dot.gov. Larger files should be sent on a CD accompanied by the original (signed) paper copy to the Eastern Region Office.

Sincerely,

Byron Coy, PE
Director, Eastern Region
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

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