



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration**

840 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 300
West Trenton, NJ 08628
609.771.7800

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT

OVERNIGHT EXPRESS DELIVERY

April 13, 2023

Mr. Gregg West
Vice President, Midstream Operations
Equitrans Midstream Corporation
2200 Energy Drive
Canonsburg, Pennsylvania 15317

CPF 1-2023-034-NOA

Dear Mr. West:

From December 6, 2021, through December 10, 2021, via video-conferenced inspection, representatives of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code (U.S.C.) inspected Equitrans Midstream Corporation's (Equitrans) procedures for control room management of its control room in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania.

As a result of the inspection, PHMSA has identified the apparent inadequacy found within Equitrans' plans or procedures. The item inspected and the inadequacy is described below:

1. 49 CFR § 192.631 Control Room Management.

(a) *General.* This section applies to each operator of a pipeline facility with a controller working in a control room who monitors and controls all or part of a pipeline facility through a SCADA system. Each operator must have and follow written control room management procedures that implement the requirements of this section...

Equitrans' control room management procedures were inadequate to ensure safe operation of a pipeline facility. Specifically, Equitrans' written procedures for reviewing its controller training program failed to include adequate details for completing and documenting its annual review pursuant to § 192.631(h)¹.

During the inspection, PHMSA reviewed Equitrans' *Control Room Management Plan*, dated 2/28/22 (CRM Plan), Section 900 – Training, and its *Control Room Management Training Plan*, dated 11/18/21, Section 10.0 Changes Affecting Controller Responsibilities. These CRM procedures lacked sufficient details on how Equitrans completes and documents its annual review of its training program. The procedures lacked details regarding how changes to the program are recommended, documented, and processed, as well as where the details of the review are ultimately documented.

Therefore, Equitrans' control room management procedures were inadequate as they lacked sufficient detail on how Equitrans complies with the annual review requirement of § 192.631(h). Equitrans must revise its control room management procedures to address this deficiency.

Response to this Notice

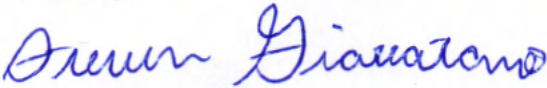
This Notice is provided pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 60108(a) and 49 C.F.R. § 190.206. Enclosed as part of this Notice is a document entitled Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Compliance Proceedings.

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).

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 Equitrans Midstream Corporation 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. In correspondence concerning this matter, please refer to **CPF 1-2023-034-NOA** and, for each document you submit, please provide a copy in electronic format whenever possible.

Sincerely,

p.p. 

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

Enclosure: Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Enforcement Proceedings

¹ § 192.631 Control Room Management.

(a)...

(h) *Training*. Each operator must establish a controller training program and review the training program content to identify potential improvements at least once each calendar year, but at intervals not to exceed 15 months. An operator's program must provide for training each controller to carry out the roles and responsibilities defined by the operator. In addition, the training program must include the following elements...