



Navajo Nation Oil & Gas Co.
50 Narbono Cir W.
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Via Email

May 24, 2022

Mr. Gregory A. Ochs
Director, Central Region, Office of Pipeline Safety
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
901 Locust Street, Suite 480
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2641

**RE: Response of Navajo Nation Oil and Gas Co.
CPF 3-2022-036-WL**

Dear Mr. Ochs,

The Navajo Nation Oil and Gas Co.(NNOGC) submits this response to the Warning Letter issued by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on March 1, 2022, in CPF No. 3-2022-036-WL. PHMSA issued the Notice after a control room management (CRM) records and procedure inspection conducted by the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) May 24 to 28, 2021 with respect to NNOGC's Running Horse Pipeline (RHP).

NNOGC is committed to public safety and operating the RHP in accordance with the PHMSA's regulations. NNOGC appreciates the feedback provided in the Warning Letter and takes the issues raised by PHMSA seriously. NNOGC will review the items identified in the Warning Letter with operating personnel to reinforce their understanding of their roles and responsibilities with respect to compliance with the CRM regulations and the CRM plan.

The Warning Letter identified the following issues regarding NNGOC's implementation of its CRM procedures.

Item 1 - § 95.446(a): The Warning Letter states that NNOGC failed to follow Procedure 500-4.5 with respect to fatigue management training to a new controller before being initially qualified to operate the pipeline and did not provide fatigue training every three years for another qualified controller. The Warning Letter also stated that a controller did not use a form to document sleep hours for review by the supervisor for the purpose of evaluating fatigue levels.

Item 2 - § 195.446(b)(4): The Warning Letter identified an occasion when NNOGC did not follow its procedures for conducting and documenting mid-week shift turnovers.



Item 3 - § 195.446(c)(4): The Warning Letter asserts that NNOGC did not test and document back SCADA server during 2018, 2019, and 2020. The Warning Letter states that NNOGC tested the server on August 2, 2021 and noted that no further action is required.

Item 4 - § 195.446(d)(1): The Warning Letter asserts that NNOGC did not document and consider all time controllers work in order to provide off-duty time sufficient to achieve 8 hours of continuous sleep. The Warning Letter states that during a controller's rotation week, the controller may monitor and control the pipeline from home after hours and, if needed, go to the office. In addition, during after hours, a call center is alerted and notifies the controller. The Warning Letter states that these hours are tracked for payroll purposes, but not for hours-of-service purposes, unless the controller goes to the control room.

Item 5 - § 195.446(g)(2): The Warning Letter asserts that NNOGC did not document lessons learned and training dates related to internal abnormal operations and emergencies, sharing them with controllers only verbally. The Warning Letter also states that NNOGC "did not include accidents or events outside NNOGC to share and incorporate them into training."

Item 5 - § 195.446(h)(6): The Warning Letter asserts that, as of January 23, 2018, NNOGC did not identify individuals who operationally collaborate with control room personnel and provide team training by January 23, 2019. NNOGC provided team training in May 2021.

If there are any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. McClure". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James R. McClure

Chief Executive Officer

Navajo Nation Oil and Gas Company

CC: Joseph Hainline, Esq., Sr. Attorney Advisor, Office of Chief Counsel, PHMSA
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