



Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.
4700 State Route 56
P.O. Box 20010
Owensboro, Kentucky 42304-0010
Phone 270/852-5000

By Email Only

March 20, 2023

Mr. Gregory A. Ochs
Director, Central Region
Office of Pipeline Safety
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
901 Locust Street, Suite 462
Kansas City, MO 64106

**Re: Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. CPF No. 3-2023-002-NOPV
Written Response to Notice of Probable Violation, Proposed Civil Penalty and Proposed
Compliance Order**

Dear Mr. Ochs,

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 190.208(a) & (b), Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. (Southern Star) respectfully submits a Written Response to Notice of Probable Violation, Proposed Civil Penalty and Proposed Compliance Order (Notice) issued on January 18, 2023. On January 20, 2023, the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) approved an extension of time until March 20, 2023 to respond to the Notice. Therefore, this response is timely.

Southern Star requests that it continue to be provided with all documents or communications from OPS pertaining to the case or the case file, which includes “all agency records pertinent to the matters of fact and law asserted,”¹ including, but not limited to inspector notes or other materials the region intends to rely on to support the NOPV, and Region Director’s “written evaluation of response material submitted by the respondent and recommendation for final action, if one is prepared.”² Please consider this a standing request. Southern Star reserves the right to amend or supplement its Response or the preliminary list of issues in the event that PHMSA provides any additional materials for our review.

Southern Star looks forward to working with you and your staff to resolve the issues raised in the Notice. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

¹ 49 U.S.C. § 60117(b)(1)(C) (2021).

² 49 C.F.R. § 190.209(b)(7) (2021).

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:



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Charles Crews

Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer

Attachments

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