



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials Safety
Administration**

8701 South Gessner, Suite 1110
Houston, TX 77074

WARNING LETTER

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

February 19, 2013

Mr. Royce Ramsey
Vice President, Operations
Northern Natural Gas Company
1111 South 103rd Street
Omaha, NE 68124

CPF 4-2013-1007W

Dear Mr. Ramsey:

On multiple occasions between September 17, 2012 and February 7, 2013, a representative of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code, was onsite and inspected your Northern Natural Gas Company facilities in Amarillo, Texas.

As a result of the review, it appears 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. §192.465 External Corrosion Control: Monitoring.

(d) Each operator shall take prompt remedial action to correct any deficiencies indicated by the monitoring.

At the time of the field and records inspection, the PHMSA inspector found a low pipe to soil cathodic protection reading at M.P 23.7 on Line "C." Records indicated that the reading had been out of compliance for the years 2011 and 2012 monitoring cycles.

Northern Natural corrosion and compliance personnel stated that they performed a short close interval survey and found the low area to be about 500 feet in length. They are in the process of

ordering material to mitigate the situation and the installation is expected to be complete by June 2013. 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.

No reply to this letter is required. If you choose to reply, in your correspondence please refer to **CPF 4-2013-1007W**. 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,



R. M. Seeley
Director, Southwest Region
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration