



U.S. Department of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration**

8701 S. Gessner, Suite 630
Houston TX 77074

WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE LETTER

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO: tom.long@energytransfer.com

April 22, 2025

Thomas Long
Chief Executive Officer
Energy Transfer, LP
8111 Westchester Drive
Dallas, Texas 75225

CPF 4-2023-011-NOPV

Dear Mr. Long:

On June 15, 2023, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), Southwest Region issued a Notice of Probable Violation, Proposed Civil Penalty, and Proposed Compliance Order (Notice) to Energy Transfer, LP (Energy Transfer) in the above-captioned administrative proceeding. OPS issued the Notice pursuant to the authority provided in the Pipeline Safety Act, 49 U.S.C. §§ 60117(b), 60118(a)-(b), 60122, and Pipeline Safety Regulations, 49 CFR Part 190, Subpart B.

In the Notice, OPS alleged that an Energy Transfer subsidiary, Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Co. (Panhandle), committed certain violations of the federal gas pipeline safety regulations in 49 CFR Part 192 in connection with a fatal gas pipeline incident that occurred on March 26, 2020, near Meade, Kansas. 49 CFR § 190.207. Panhandle responded to the Notice by contesting the allegations and requesting an informal hearing before a presiding official. 49 CFR § 190.208. The presiding official held that hearing on April 24, 2024, 49 CFR §§ 190.211-190.212, but the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety has not yet issued a final order in the proceeding. 49 CFR § 190.213.

At the request of the Secretary of Transportation, the Attorney General of the United States will be filing a civil enforcement action under the Pipeline Safety Act, 49 U.S.C. § 60120, against Panhandle in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas. In that civil action, the Attorney General will be seeking appropriate relief for the alleged violations of the federal gas pipeline safety regulations that Panhandle committed in connection with March 26, 2020 incident.

Given the Attorney General's decision to pursue a new civil enforcement action, OPS is hereby withdrawing the Notice issued to Panhandle and terminating the above-captioned administrative enforcement proceeding.

Sincerely,

Bryan Lethcoe
Director, Southwest Region, Office of Pipeline Safety
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

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