



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration**

8701 S. Gessner, Suite 630  
Houston TX 77074

**NOTICE OF PROBABLE VIOLATION  
and  
PROPOSED COMPLIANCE ORDER**

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO: [tom.long@energytransfer.com](mailto:tom.long@energytransfer.com)**

July 10, 2025

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

**CPF 4-2025-049-NOPV**

Dear Mr. Long:

From March 4 to September 26, 2024 of the onsite inspection, a representative of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code (U.S.C.) inspected Energy Transfer Company's (ETC) Sunoco Lea to Midland interstate hazardous liquid pipeline located in New Mexico and Texas.

As a result of the inspection, it is alleged that you have committed probable violations of the Pipeline Safety Regulations, Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The items inspected and the probable violations are:

**1. § 195.452 Pipeline integrity management in high consequence areas.**

**(a) . . . .**

**(f) What are the elements of an integrity management program? An integrity management program begins with the initial framework. An operator must continually change the program to reflect operating experience, conclusions drawn from results of the integrity assessments, and other maintenance and surveillance data, and evaluation of consequences of a failure on the high consequence area. An operator must include, at minimum, each of the following elements in its written integrity management program:**

**(1) . . . .**

**(3) An analysis that integrates all available information about the integrity of the entire pipeline and the consequences of a failure (see paragraph (g) of this section);**

ETC failed to include in its written integrity management program an analysis on its Sunoco Lea to Midland pipeline system that integrates all available information about the integrity of the entire pipeline and the consequences of failure in accordance with § 195.452(f)(3). Specifically, ETC failed to incorporate coupon and inhibitor data on its Sunoco Lea to Midland pipeline system into its risk model, even though the pipeline has been in service since 2016.

Section 195.452(g) requires integration into the information analysis of data including all available information about the integrity of its entire pipeline and the consequences of a possible failure along the pipeline. ETC's information analyses for the Sunoco Lea to Midland pipeline system did not include coupon and inhibitor data, even though such data was able to be integrated into the analysis.

Therefore, ETC failed to include in its written integrity management program an analysis on its Sunoco Lea to Midland pipeline system that integrates all available information about the integrity of the entire pipeline and the consequences of failure in accordance with § 195.452(f)(3).

**Proposed Civil Penalty**

Under 49 U.S.C. § 60122 and 49 CFR § 190.223, you are subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$272,926 per violation per day the violation persists, up to a maximum of \$2,729,245 for a related series of violations. For violation occurring on or after December 28, 2023 and before December 30, 2024, the maximum penalty may not exceed \$266,015 per violation per day the violation persists, up to a maximum of \$2,660,135 for a related series of violations. For violation occurring on or after January 6, 2023 and before December 28, 2023, the maximum penalty may not exceed \$257,664 per violation per day the violation persists, up to a maximum of \$2,576,627 for a related series of violations. For violation occurring on or after March 21, 2022 and before January 6, 2023, the maximum penalty may not exceed \$239,142 per violation per day the violation persists, up to a maximum of \$2,391,412 for a related series of violations. For violation occurring on or after May 3, 2021 and before March 21, 2022, the maximum penalty may not exceed \$225,134

per violation per day the violation persists, up to a maximum of \$2,251,334 for a related series of violations. For violation occurring on or after January 11, 2021 and before May 3, 2021, the maximum penalty may not exceed \$222,504 per violation per day the violation persists, up to a maximum of \$2,225,034 for a related series of violations. For violation occurring on or after July 31, 2019 and before January 11, 2021, the maximum penalty may not exceed \$218,647 per violation per day the violation persists, up to a maximum of \$2,186,465 for a related series of violations.

We have reviewed the circumstances and supporting documents involved in this case, and have decided not to propose a civil penalty assessment at this time.

#### Proposed Compliance Order

With respect to Item 1 pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 60118, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration proposes to issue a Compliance Order to Energy Transfer Company. Please refer to the *Proposed Compliance Order*, which is enclosed and made a part of this Notice.

#### Response to this Notice

Enclosed as part of this Notice is a document entitled *Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Enforcement Proceedings*. Please refer to this document and note the response options. All material you submit in response to this enforcement action may be 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 your receipt of this Notice, you have 30 days to respond as described in the enclosed *Response Options*. 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 a Final Order. If you are responding to this Notice, we propose that you submit your correspondence to my office within 30 days from receipt of this Notice. The Region Director may extend the period for responding upon a written request timely submitted demonstrating good cause for an extension.

In your correspondence on this matter, please refer to **CPF 4-2025-049-NOPV** and, for each document you submit, please provide a copy in electronic format whenever possible.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures: *Proposed Compliance Order*  
*Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Enforcement Proceedings*

cc: Greg McIlwain, Executive Vice President, Operations, Energy Transfer LP,  
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## **PROPOSED COMPLIANCE ORDER**

Pursuant to 49 United States Code § 60118, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) proposes to issue to Energy Transfer Company (ETC) a Compliance Order incorporating the following remedial requirements to ensure the compliance of ETC with the pipeline safety regulations:

- A. In regard to Item 1 of the Notice pertaining to ETC's failure to include in its written integrity management program an analysis on its Sunoco Lea to Midland pipeline system that integrates all available information about the integrity of the entire pipeline and the consequences of failure in accordance with § 195.452(f)(3), ETC must incorporate coupon and inhibitor data from Sunoco Lea to Midland pipeline system into its risk model and provide risk model analysis results to Southwest Region within **60** days of receipt of the Final Order.
  
- B. It is requested (not mandated) that ETC maintain documentation of the safety improvement costs associated with fulfilling this Compliance Order and submit the total to Bryan Lethcoe, Director, Southwest Region, Office of Pipeline Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. It is requested that these costs be reported in two categories: 1) total cost associated with preparation/revision of plans, procedures, studies and analyses, and 2) total cost associated with replacements, additions and other changes to pipeline infrastructure.