

November 5, 1973

Mr. Joe R. Wells, Jr., P.E.
Texas Railroad Commission
Gas Utilities Division
Ernest O. Thompson Bldg.
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Mr. Wells:

This is regarding the copy of a letter from the Lone Star Gas Company dated September 5, 1973, to the Texas Railroad Commission with reference to a fire at 2522 South Jennings Street, Forth Worth, Texas, which took place on August 23, 1973.

The Lone Star Gas Company states that in this instance a vacant frame house caught fire from an undetermined cause. A portion of the building fell onto the inlet riser of the meter loop, breaking the stop valve and permitting gas to escape which was limited by the flame. Since there were no other sources of escaping gas, it is the Company's opinion that they have no reporting requirement pursuant to 49 CFR?191.5.

Telephonic notice of certain leaks as defined in 49 CFR?191.5 applies to all leaks in the pipeline systems regardless of their cause. The primary purpose of the Reporting Requirements regulation is to provide for the accumulation of factual data that will give the department a sound statistical base with which to define safety problems, determine their underlying causes, and propose regulatory solutions.

The telephonic report of this incident was in keeping with the requirements of 49 CFR?191.5 of the Federal pipeline safety standards.

The Lone Star Gas Company is therefore currently delinquent in meeting the requirement of 49 CFR?191.9 - Distribution system: Leak report. Appropriate action on your part is requested.

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Caldwell
Director
Office of Pipeline Safety