

Mr. K. A. Zwicky  
Chevron U.S.A., Inc.  
P.O. Box 1392  
Bakersfield, CA 93302

Dear Mr. Zwicky:

this is in response to your letter of April 7, 1992, regarding Chevron's Coalinga Nose and Cal-Canal pipelines. We have decided the Coalinga Nose line is a transmission line under the jurisdiction of 49 CFR Part 192. As an onshore gathering line, the Cal-Canal line comes under Part 192 to the extent that it lies within the areas described by 49 CFR 192.1(b)(2)(i) and (ii).

The Coalinga Nose line begins at a meter at a Union Oil Company gas plant, which processes gas (removes liquid hydrocarbons) from several gathering lines. From there, the line runs about 9 miles to Chevron steam plants for use as fuel. the line is 10 inches in size and operates at 350 psi. Because the line transports a large volume of gas downstream from the end of gathering (Union gas plant), it is analogous to pipelines that supply distribution centers. Thus, we consider the line to be a "transmission line" under the definition of that term in 49 CFR 192.3. Although you referred to the Coalinga Nose line as a service line, Part 192 does not classify a pipeline as a service line or distribution line if the line qualifies as a transmission line.

The Cal-Canal line begins at Chevron's Lost Hills gas plant where gas from several Chevron gathering lines is compressed and glycol contacted (dehydrated). From there, the Cal-Canal line, which is 10 inches in size and operates at 400 psi, runs through a rural area about 16 miles to Chevron's 17Z gas plant. The 17Z plant processes the gas along with gas from another source. Chevron then distributes some of the processed gas by pipeline to its steam plants for use as fuel and transfers the remainder of the gas to others. Under these circumstances, we consider the Cal-Canal line to be a gathering line because it lies upstream from the first plant used to process the gas by removing liquid hydrocarbons (Chevron's 17Z plant). As an onshore gathering line, Part 192 applies to the line to the extent that it lies within the areas described by 49 CFR 192.1(b)(2)(i) and (ii). These areas are:

- (i) An area within the limits of any incorporated or unincorporated city, town, or village.
- (ii) Any designated residential or commercial area such as a subdivision, business or shopping center, or community development.

Sincerely,

Cesar DeLeon, Director