

January 27, 2010

The Honorable Cynthia L. Quarterman  
Administrator  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Quarterman:

Thank you for your August 7, 2009, letter updating the status of Safety Recommendations P-07-7 and -8, stated below. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued these recommendations to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on June 25, 2007, as a result of the NTSB's investigation of the October 27, 2004, anhydrous ammonia pipeline rupture that occurred near Kingman, Kansas.

P-07-7

Require in 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* 195.52 that a pipeline operator must have a procedure to calculate and provide a reasonable initial estimate of released product in the telephonic report to the National Response Center [NRC].

P-07-8

Require in 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* 195.52 that a pipeline operator must provide an additional telephonic report to the National Response Center if significant new information becomes available during the emergency response.

The NTSB has reviewed the notice of proposed rulemaking titled "Pipeline Safety: Updates to Pipeline and Liquefied Natural Gas Reporting Requirements," published in the *Federal Register* on July 2, 2009, that addresses these two recommendations. The NTSB is pleased that, as currently proposed, the rule (anticipated to be completed in spring 2010) will include a requirement that an operator must have a procedure to calculate and provide a reasonable initial estimate of the amount of released product and a requirement that an operator provide an additional telephonic report to the National Response Center if significant new information becomes available during the emergency response phase of a reported event.

Accordingly, pending publication of the final rule, Safety Recommendations P-07-7 and -8 are classified "Open—Acceptable Response."

Thank you for your commitment to pipeline safety. We would appreciate receiving periodic updates on these initiatives as they near completion.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Deborah A.P. Hersman  
Chairman

cc: Ms. Linda Lawson, Director  
Office of Safety, Energy, and Environment  
Office of Transportation Policy