

January 10, 2011

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

Dear Administrator Quarterman:

Thank you for the September 2, 2010, letter regarding Safety Recommendation P-04-2, stated below, that the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on July 1, 2004, as a result of the NTSB's investigation of the Enbridge pipeline rupture and crude oil release near Cohasset, Minnesota, on July 4, 2002.

P-04-2

Amend 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* [CFR] to require that natural gas pipeline operators (Part 192) and hazardous liquid pipeline operators (Part 195) follow the American Petroleum Institute's recommended practice RP 5LW for transportation of pipe on marine vessels.

The NTSB is pleased that the August 11, 2010, issue of the *Federal Register* included an entry titled *Pipeline Safety: Periodic Updates of Regulatory References to Technical Standards and Miscellaneous Edits* that adds language to the pipeline safety regulations, thus satisfying Safety Recommendation P-04-2. Specifically, API Recommended Practice (RP) 5LW (2nd edition 1996), which provides a standard for transportation of certain API Specification 5L steel line pipe by ship or barge on both inland and marine waterways, has been incorporated by reference within 49 CFR Parts 192 and 195. In addition, the RP is referenced in subsection 192.65 (a) and in subsection 195.207 (a) of API RP 5LW. These updates became effective on October 1, 2010. Accordingly, Safety Recommendation P-04-2 is classified "Closed—Acceptable Action."

Thank you for your commitment to pipeline safety.

Sincerely,

/s/

Deborah A. P. Hersman
Chairman

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

Ms. Linda Lawson, Director
Office of Safety, Energy, and Environment
Office of Transportation Policy
Department of Transportation
Washington, DC 20590