

U.S. Department of Transportation **Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration** 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

March 31, 2022

Mr. Stanley Chapman Executive VP and President of U.S. Natural Gas Pipelines TC Energy 700 Louisiana St., Suite 300 Houston, Texas 77002

Re: Docket No. PHMSA-2008-0331 Special Permit Renewal from March 31, 2022 to March 31, 2032

Dear Mr. Chapman:

On October 15, 2019, pursuant to 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 190.341, Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC (TCO)¹ applied to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) for a special permit. TCO requested a renewal of a previously granted special permit, as well as the addition of new segments to the permit in the renewal, to waive compliance with 49 CFR § 192.611(a) for Class 1 to Class 3 location changes of approximately 3.981 miles of the 30-inch diameter SM80 and SM80 Loop Pipelines (Pipelines) located in Putnam and Kanawha Counties, West Virginia. A gas transmission pipeline operator is required by 49 CFR § 192.611 to confirm or revise the maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) of a pipeline segment where the class location has changed as defined in 49 CFR § 192.5.

On November 5, 2020, PHMSA published a Federal Register notice (85 FR 70710) announcing the Special Permit Request. The Special Permit Request letter, Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), Special Permit Analysis and Findings (SPAF), and all other pertinent documents for this special permit are available in Docket No. PHMSA-2008-0331 in the Federal Docket Management System located at <u>www.regulations.gov</u>.² PHMSA received no comments from the public from the Federal Register notice.

¹ TCO is a subsidiary of TC Energy.

² https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=PHMSA-2008-0331.

PHMSA grants this special permit (enclosed) based on the information provided by TCO and the findings set forth in the SPAF, FEA, and FONSI. This special permit provides relief from the Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations for the Pipelines and requires TCO to comply with certain conditions and limitations designed to maintain pipeline safety as defined in the special permit. If TCO elects not to implement the special permit conditions, TCO must notify PHMSA and comply with 49 CFR § 192.611 within 18 months of the special permit grant date.

My staff would be pleased to discuss this special permit or any other regulatory matter with you. Sentho White, Director of PHMSA Engineering and Research Division, may be contacted at 202-366-2415, on technical matters; and Robert Burrough, Director, Office of Pipeline Safety, Eastern Region, may be contacted at 609-771-7813, for operational matters specific to this special permit.

Sincerely,

Alan K. Mayberry Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety

Enclosure: Special Permit - PHMSA-2008-0331