



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration

MAR 03 2020

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Mr. Robert S. Checketts
Vice President, Operations, IT and Engineering
Kern River Gas Transmission Company
2755 E. Cottonwood Parkway, Suite 300
Salt Lake City, Utah 84121

Ref: Special Permit Renewal March 2020 to March 2030

Docket No. PHMSA-2009-0319

Dear Mr. Checketts:

On September 9, 2019, pursuant to 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 190.341, the Kern River Gas Transmission Company (Kern River) applied to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) for the renewal of the special permit, PHMSA-2009-0319, originally issued on March 19, 2010, and renewed on February 12, 2015, with an expiration date of March 19, 2020. The special permit waives compliance with 49 CFR § 192.625(b) for the non-odorized operation of 1,083 feet of the 12-inch diameter Centennial Lateral (Lateral), located in the city of Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada.

By letter dated September 23, 2019, and supplemented by additional correspondence, Kern River provided operational documentation to justify the special permit renewal. The renewal allows Kern River, subject to the conditions set forth in the special permit, to continue the non-odorized operation of the Lateral in a Class 3 or Class 4 location. On December 13, 2019, PHMSA published a Federal Register notice (84 FR 68295), announcing the renewal request. No public comments were received regarding the renewal. The special permit renewal request letter and all other pertinent documents are available for review in Docket No. PHMSA-2009-0319 in the Federal Docket Management System located at www.regulations.gov.

PHMSA has reviewed all operational and maintenance data submitted by Kern River for the Lateral. PHMSA finds that there has been no material change in the conditions, and that Kern River continues to meet the terms of the special permit. Based on the information provided by Kern River, PHMSA has determined that renewal of the special permit would not be inconsistent with pipeline safety. Furthermore, PHMSA is modifying the renewal timing interval from 5 years to 10 years, and updating the special permit contacts in Limitation 7. The modifications to Limitation 7 are *italicized* and underlined below.

Limitation 7: PHMSA grants this special permit for a period of no more than *ten (10)* years from the grant date. If Kern River elects to seek renewal of this special permit, its request must be submitted at least 180 days prior to expiration of the *ten-year* period, to the PHMSA

Associate Administrator, with copies to the Director, Division of Engineering and *Research*, and Director, *Office of Pipeline Safety*, Western Region. PHMSA may seek additional information from Kern River prior to granting a request for special permit renewal.

Accordingly, pursuant to 49 CFR § 190.341, by this Order, and as outlined in the existing special permit, PHMSA grants the renewal of PHMSA-2009-0319 to the Kern River Gas Transmission Company, from March 19, 2020, through March 19, 2030, to continue its operation of the non-odorized Centennial Lateral. This special permit renewal Order continues to waive compliance with certain Federal regulations in 49 CFR § 192.615(b).

My staff would be pleased to discuss this special permit or any other regulatory matter with you. Senth White, Director of Engineering and Research Division, may be contacted at 202-366-2415, for technical matters; and Dustin Hubbard, Director, Office of Pipeline Safety, Western Region, may be contacted at 720-963-3183, for operational matters specific to this special permit.

Sincerely,



Alan K. Mayberry,
Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety

Enclosures:

Original Special Permit PHMSA-2009-0319 dated March 19, 2010, and
Special Permit PHMSA-2009-0319 Renewal Order dated February 12, 2015.