



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-2019-0202
Special Permit from March 31, 2022 to March 31, 2032**

Dear Mr. Chapman:

On October 15, 2019, pursuant to the 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 special permit to waive compliance with 49 CFR § 192.611 for Class 1 to Class 3 location changes of approximately 2.046 miles of the 30-inch diameter Line MC pipeline (Pipeline). The Pipeline is located in Montgomery County, Maryland. A gas transmission pipeline operator is required by 49 CFR § 192.611 to confirm or revise the maximum allowable operating pressure of a pipeline segment where the class location has changed as defined in 49 CFR § 192.5.

On September 8, 2020, PHMSA published a Federal Register notice (85 FR 55574), announcing the Special Permit Request. PHMSA received no public comments. 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-2019-0202 in the Federal Docket Management System located at www.regulations.gov.² PHMSA received an anonymous comment concerned with usage of fossil fuels and protecting the environment.

¹ Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC is a subsidiary of TC Energy.

² <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=PHMSA-2019-0202>.

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 Pipeline 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. Senth 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) 771-7809, for operational matters specific to this special permit.

Sincerely,

Alan K. Mayberry
Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety

Enclosure: Special Permit – PHMSA-2019-0202