
**DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

Office of Pipeline Safety

[Waiver No. 3; Docket No. OPS-12]

UNITED GAS PIPELINE CO.

**Grant of Waiver of Certain
Requirements**

By petition received July 13, 1971, the United Gas Pipeline Company of Shreveport, La., petitioned for a waiver from the requirements of §192.55 of the Federal safety standards for gas pipelines (49 CFR 192.55). Section 192.55 establishes the qualifications for steel pipe used in gas pipeline facilities. The petitioner has 4,778 tons of 20" O.D. API 5LX 60 pipe in storage that was manufactured in accordance with the 1963 edition of API 5LX, an edition of that specification which is not listed in section I of Appendix B to Part 192. In order for the petitioner's pipe to be used in a gas pipeline facility it would have to meet the requirements of section II of Appendix B, requirements that petitioner alleges are neither applicable, appropriate, nor necessary.

In support of its position that the pipe meets an equivalent level of safety to that required by section II of Appendix B the petitioner submitted detailed information and documentation. This detailed safety justification for the requested waiver is set forth in a notice of hearing published in the **FEDERAL REGISTER** on September 23, 1971, 36 F.R. 18899.

A public hearing was held at the Office of Pipeline Safety on October 21, 1971. The only persons appearing at the hearing were representatives of the petitioner in support of petitioner's position and two industry association observers.

Based upon the information and data supplied with the petition and as a result of testimony at the public hearing, it appears that the pipe in question substantially meets the requirements of the listed specifications API 5LX [sic] 1967 edition for pipe of this size and grade. It was further established in the hearing that the use of the pipe would not derogate safety and that the storage of the pipe was in accordance with acceptable practices to preserve the integrity of the pipe.

In consideration of the foregoing, I find that permitting the petitioner to use the 4778 tons of 20" O.D. API 5LX [sic] 60 pipe that was manufactured in accordance with the 1963 edition of API 5LX [sic] would not adversely affect safety and would be in the public interest. Therefore, pursuant to the authority contained in the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968 (49 U.S.C. 1671 et seq.), Part 1 of the Regulations of the Office of the Secretary of Transportation (49 CFR Part 1), and the delegation of authority to the Director, Office of Pipeline Safety (33 F.R. 16468), United Gas Pipeline Co. is hereby granted a waiver from the provisions of 49 CFR 192.55 to permit it to use the aforementioned pipe in its gas pipeline facilities.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on
November 12, 1971.

JOSEPH C. CALDWELL,
Acting Director,
Office of Pipeline Safety.

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