

June 17, 1997

Mr. Joseph Clennon
Office of General Counsel
Illinois Commerce Commission
PO Box 19280
Springfield, IL 62794-9280

Dear Mr. Clennon:

We have considered your letter of May 8, 1997, notifying us that the Illinois Commerce Commission has granted the Northern Illinois Gas Company a waiver from complying with 49 CFR 192.485 and 192.713(a) when repairing imperfections and damages in steel pipe. The waiver permits repair with Clock Spring® wrap, a composite material that is tightly wound and adhesively bonded to pipe.

We have no objection to the waiver. It is consistent with a similar waiver we granted operators of interstate gas transmission lines (60 FR 10630; February 27, 1995).

Sincerely,

Richard B. Felder
Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety