

May 29, 1975

Mr. Howard E. Boller
General Superintendent
Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company
P.O. Box 615
Dover, Delaware 19901

Dear Mr. Boller:

This responds to your letter of April 18, 1975, regarding construction of a public road over an existing gas pipeline. You ask what criteria should be used in determining whether the pipeline should remain in place or be relocated.

Under the circumstances of a pending road construction, the Federal gas pipeline safety standards in 49 CFR 192.613 and 192.703(b) require that the pipeline be evaluated for safety and appropriate remedial or protective measures taken, if necessary, in accord with those sections. In determining what measures may be necessary, you should consider the types and magnitudes of all anticipated external forces which may be applied to the pipeline during and after the road construction. Various causes of external forces which you should consider include: unstable soils, floods, traffic, movement by heavy construction or maintenance equipment, and direct damage by construction equipment.

If it is decided that a portion of the pipeline should be replaced, relocated or otherwise changed to protect it against likely external forces, that replacement, relocation, or change must comply with the requirements in 49 CFR Part 192 applicable to design, installation, and testing of pipelines.

We trust this satisfactorily answers your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Caldwell
Director
Office of Pipeline Safety

April 18, 1975

Mr. Joseph C. Caldwell, Director
Office of Pipeline Safety
Department of Transportation
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Caldwell:

We have a section of pipeline which lies in a Class 3 Location and operates at between 30 and 39% SMYS. This pipeline is within the confines of the state highway right of way. We have received plans from the State Highway Department indicating they are going to widen and change the location of this road with the result that our pipeline will be under the new roadbed.

What criteria must we use in determining whether the pipeline can remain under the new roadbed or it must be relocated?

Sincerely yours,

EASTERN SHORE NATURAL GAS COMPANY

Howard E. Boller
General Superintendent