

Mr. Charles F. Walton  
Technical Director  
Gray & Ductile Iron Founders  
Society Inc.  
East Sixty Building  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Dear Mr. Walton:

This is in reply to your letter of March 24, 1971, inquiring as to the reason why particular aspects of ductile iron valve manufacture and use were selected for regulation.

The requirements of the Federal Minimum Safety Standards relating to the use of welding on ductile iron shell components in valves, were an adoption, in regulatory language of the existing provisions of the ANSI B31.8 Code, 1968 edition, and in this area did not increase the requirements of the code.

Your letter of December 18, 1970, has been viewed as a request for the initiation of rulemaking, and accordingly, your proposal for the amendment of the regulations concerning the manufacture of valves for gas transmissions, is now under active consideration. We will be happy to keep you informed of any developments in this matter.

If we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

/signed/

Joseph C. Caldwell  
Acting Director  
Office of Pipeline Safety