

Mr Robert R. Kain
Operations Coordinator
North Central Public Service Co.
1080 Montreal Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota 55116

Dear Mr. Kain:

With regard to your inquiry of June 1, 1979, 49 CFR Part 192 does not prohibit the construction and operation of bare steel gathering lines above ground wither inside or outside a populated area. You should note that Section 192.1(b)(2) excludes from the coverage of Part 192 gas gathering lines that are located outside certain populated areas.

Sincerely,

/signed/

Cesar DeLeon
Associate Director for
Pipeline Safety Regulation
Materials Transportation Bureau