

December 15, 1981

Mr. H. R. Garabrant
Public Utility Commissioner of Oregon
Labor and Industries Building
Salem, Oregon 97310

Dear Mr. Garabrant:

Your letter of November 24, 1981, refers to our interpretation No. 81-5, and asks whether the steps required of an operator by §192.727(d) when service to a customer is discontinued would apply in situations such as emergency shutdown or planned maintenance where a service line is temporarily deactivated.

As we stated in 81-5, discontinuance of service to the customer means that a service line is "not currently being used to provide gas service," and it does not mean "temporary closure for some purpose other than termination of service to the customer." Thus, "discontinuance" implies the customer will no longer be provided gas. A brief lapse in gas delivery, as during an outage, would not indicate an intent to "discontinue" service within the meaning of §192.727(d).

Sincerely,

Melvin A. Judah
Acting Associate Director for
Pipeline Safety Regulation
Materials Transportation Bureau