

Mr. Nabil S. Dia, P.E.
Westar Transmission Company
P.O. Box 0-
Amarillo, Texas 79189

Dear Mr. Dia:

Your December 22, 1986, letter to this Office asks, if a welder qualified under the requirements of §192.227(a), in accordance with Section IX of the ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code (destructive testing), has a production weld tested and accepted under section 6 of API Standard 1104 (nondestructive testing) every 6 months as required by §192.229(c), is that welder subject to further follow-up destructive testing.

The requirements of §192.229(a) do not apply because the original welder qualification under §192.227(a) was based on destructive testing. The periodic testing required by §192.229(c) as a verification of the original qualification under Section IX of ASME is met by the 6-month x-rays. Therefore, further destructive testing is not required to maintain the original qualification under §192.227(a).

Sincerely,

/signed/

Richard L. Beam
Acting Director
Office of Pipeline Safety