



STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

101 Second Street, Hallowell, Maine 04347
18 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0018

VENDEAN V. VAFIADES
DAVID LITTELL
COMMISSIONERS

April 7, 2011

Ms. Cynthia L. Quarterman
Administrator
U. S. Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Replacement Plans for High Risk Pipelines

Dear Ms. Quarterman:

This letter is in response to your March 31, 2011 letter. There are three operators of natural gas distribution systems in Maine; only one of which has cast iron and bare steel pipes in its systems. By an Order Approving Stipulation, dated July 30, 2010, that operator was ordered to replace approximately 65 miles of cast iron pipelines and approximately 10 miles of bare steel pipelines in its Portland/Westbrook distribution system by October 31, 2024. The project is scheduled to begin on April 11, 2011.

The pipelines being replaced in Portland/Westbrook represent all of their cast iron and the majority of their bare steel. The remainder of their bare steel pipelines will be addressed through their Distribution Integrity Management Program which we will closely scrutinize.

We look forward to the continued partnership with PHMSA for the common goal of pipeline safety. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary A. Kenny".

Gary Kenny, PE
Gas Safety Manager

cc: Commissioner Vafiades
Commissioner Littell