

February 14, 2011

The Honorable Cynthia L. Quarterman
Administrator
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Quarterman:

Thank you for the December 8, 2010, letter signed by Ms. Cynthia Douglass, Assistant Administrator/Safety Officer, updating the status of Safety Recommendations P-07-7 and -8, stated below. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued these recommendations to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration on June 25, 2007, as a result of the NTSB's investigation of the October 27, 2004, anhydrous ammonia pipeline rupture that occurred near Kingman, Kansas.

P-07-7

Require in 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* [CFR] 195.52 that a pipeline operator must have a procedure to calculate and provide a reasonable initial estimate of released product in the telephonic report to the National Response Center [NRC].

P-07-8

Require in 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* 195.52 that a pipeline operator must provide an additional telephonic report to the National Response Center if significant new information becomes available during the emergency response.

The NTSB has reviewed the final rulemaking titled "Pipeline Safety: Updates to Pipeline and Liquefied Natural Gas Reporting Requirements," published at 74 *Federal Register* 31675 (November 26, 2010), which addresses these two recommendations. The NTSB is pleased that the rule (anticipated to be approved by the Office of Management and Budget on or about January 26, 2011) includes at 49 CFR 195.52, (b)(6), (c) and (d), respectively, a requirement that an operator have a procedure to calculate and provide a reasonable initial estimate of the amount of released product and a requirement that an operator provide an additional telephonic report to the NRC if significant new information becomes available during the emergency response phase of a reported event. Accordingly, Safety Recommendations P-07-7 and -8 are classified "Closed—Acceptable Action."

Thank you for your commitment to pipeline safety.

Sincerely,

/s/

Deborah A.P. Hersman
Chairman

cc: Ms. Linda Lawson, Director
Office of Safety, Energy, and Environment
Office of Transportation Policy

