



U.S. Department  
Of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration**

October 24, 2013

**OVERNIGHT EXPRESS MAIL**

David Lykken  
Pipeline Safety Program Manager  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive, SW  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98502

Dear Dave:

Sections 60105(e) and 60106(d) of the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011 (Act) provides for the monitoring of State pipeline safety programs by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). This annual monitoring ensures State Pipeline Safety Programs are compliant with the Act's requirements and with the annual Progress Report score determines a State's total point award for next year's PHMSA pipeline safety grant.

On August 26-29, 2013 the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) CY2012 Pipeline Safety Program activities, training, and other relative information were evaluated by Mr. Rex Evans, PHMSA Office of State Programs. As part of the evaluation, the annual Progress Report documents submitted to PHMSA were validated for accuracy. Additionally, our State Evaluator observed an on-site field inspection of both Tidewater and Williams Pipeline Company. Thank you for the courtesies extended to Mr. Evans by your staff during the evaluation.

I would like to express PHMSA's appreciation for your valuable service and participation as a board member of the American Public Gas Association's Security and Integrity Foundation and your contribution in the ASME B31 Q and Common Ground Alliance Committees. Your input is very important and appreciated in these efforts in promoting and progressing pipeline safety.

Based on our evaluation the WUTC is generally complying with the requirements for State pipeline safety programs. Our exit briefing discussed the program evaluation and results were included in my letter to Chairman Danner. You were copied on the Chairman's letter which does not require any response, but any comments you may have are always welcome.

David Lykken  
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Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
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The grant funding is based on accurate completion of the annual Progress Report and the State performance score from this evaluation. Attention to these two important items will help to assure your eligibility for maximum grant funding. Thank you again for your courtesies and assistance in making available your time, staff, documents and other relative information during this annual State program evaluation. I appreciate your continuing commitment to the pipeline safety program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Zach Barrett", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Zach Barrett  
Director for State Programs  
Office of Pipeline Safety

cc: Rex Evans, State Programs Evaluator, PHP-50, PHMSA  
Chris Hoidal, Western Region Director, PHP-500, PHMSA

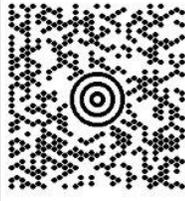
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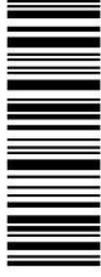
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**SHIP TO:**

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