

November 24, 2003

Bob Titus
Director of Energy Services
City of Ellensburg
420 North Pearl Street
Ellensburg, Washington 98926

Dear Mr. Titus:

Subject: Standard Natural Gas Safety Inspection

Between November 17 and November 21, 2003, Commission Pipeline Safety Staff conducted a pipeline safety inspection of the city of Ellensburg's (Ellensburg) natural gas facilities and operations. The inspection involved a review of Ellensburg's natural gas system operations and maintenance, construction procedures, cathodic protection systems, emergency response, and record keeping. Staff found no apparent violations of pipeline safety codes during this inspection.

Overall Staff found Ellensburg's natural gas system to be well operated and well maintained. Staff found Ellensburg's natural gas department personnel to be knowledgeable of Ellensburg's gas system procedures along with state and federal pipeline safety codes and requirements. The previous inspection of 2001 resulted in several recommended procedural changes and Ellensburg has since implemented all recommended changes and incorporated them into their procedures manual. Staff would like to note that Ellensburg performs most system maintenance at an increased frequency level above and beyond current pipeline safety regulations. Staff believes that this practice has added an additional level of safety to Ellensburg's gas pipeline system.

Staff would like to thank Ellensburg's personnel for their commitment to pipeline safety and the cooperation in working with Staff during this inspection. If Staff may be of further assistance, please contact Scott Rukke, Pipeline Safety Engineer at (360) 664-1241.

Sincerely,

Alan E. Rathbun
Pipeline Safety Director