



Gerl D. Huser, Chair
Nick Wagner, Board Member
Richard W. Lozier, Jr., Board Member

January 6, 2020

Docket Numbers: RG-0156 & P-0067, P-0148, P-0451, P-0529, P-0554, P-0701, P-0729, P-0732, P-0750, P-0792 & P-0831

Mr. Rob Berntsen
Sr. Vice President & General Counsel
MidAmerican Energy Company
666 Grand Avenue, Suite 500
Des Moines, IA 50306-0657

RE: Revised Inspection of the MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican)'s Bettendorf Unit for Compliance with Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Standards

Dear Mr. Berntsen,

On December 24, 2019 MidAmerican was notified in the EFS of the following inspection results. A revision of the Unit's current, open P-Docket numbers has been made. An inspection of the above-referenced pipeline facilities was recently conducted by Iowa Utilities Board staff to determine compliance with pipeline safety rules and regulations administered by the Board. Jurisdiction and regulatory authority for such inspections and the applicable rules and regulations of the Board are found in the following:

1. Iowa Code chapter 479, and 199 of the Iowa Administrative Code chapter 10, Intrastate Gas and Underground Gas Storage.
2. Iowa Code chapter 476, and 199 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 19, Service Supplied by Gas Utilities.
3. 49 U.S.C., § 60101 et seq, 49 CFR Part 192 – Transportation of Natural and Other Gas by Pipeline: Minimum Federal Safety Standards; 49 CFR Part 199 – Drug Testing; 49 CFR 193 – Liquefied Natural Gas Facilities; and 49 CFR Part 191 – Transportation of Natural and Other Gas by Pipeline: Annual Reports, Incident Reports, and Safety Related Conditions Reports.

The federal minimum safety and drug testing standards have been adopted as state standards by the Board, 199 Iowa Administrative Code 10.12 and 19.5(2), and are enforced under 49 U.S.C., § 60105, State Pipeline Safety Program Certifications.

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The inspection concluded that your company is in probable violation of certain areas of the above-referenced standards. Company personnel were verbally informed of these items during an exit interview at the end of the inspection. The specific regulation code sections for which probable violations were found are as follows:

PROBABLE VIOLATION - GAS TRANSMISSION

- 1) 192.707(d)(1) x 4 instances

PROBABLE VIOLATIONS - GAS DISTRIBUTION

- 1) 192.147(a)
- 2) 192.161(c)(3) x 4 instances
- 3) 192.353(a) x 4 instances
- 4) 192.355(b)(2) x 4 instances
- 5) 192.357(a)
- 6) 192.455(a) x 4 instances
- 7) 192.479(b) x 5 instances
- 8) 192.481(b) x 13 instances
- 9) 192.727(d)(1)
- 10) 192.740(b)(4) x 3 instances

The inspection also identified certain areas where a need for improvement is seen although a probable violation is not being cited at this time. Recommendations regarding improvement of procedures or practices, known as advisories, are as follows:

ADVISORY GAS TRANSMISSION

- 1) 192.705(b) x 4 instances

For specific information on the basis for a finding of probable violation, or for an advisory, consult the appropriate section of the enclosed report. **A written response is required to be filed with the Board within 30 days of the date of this letter, responding to each item in the above list and providing:**

- (1) A description of the action taken, with visual documentation, to correct each probable violation or deficiency cited; or
- (2) A description of the action to be taken to correct each probable violation or deficiency cited, including a time schedule for proposed action. Subsequent

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- corrections, with visual documentation, should also be submitted on completion; or
- (3) Additional information to demonstrate that your company is not in probable violation.

Your response must be submitted in our electronic filing system at <http://efs.iowa.gov> and must include the RG and/or P docket number listed. Help with electronic submissions is available by contacting the Board at efshelpdesk@iub.iowa.gov or at (515) 725-7337.

Note: In some cases, probable violations may not have been observed during the inspection and therefore not cited. Be advised that all probable violations require correction regardless of inclusion on the above list.

If you believe a citation of a probable violation is not justified, please provide supporting documentation. If MidAmerican Energy Company and Board staff cannot reach agreement on the corrective action, or on the validity of a probable violation, the issue may be brought before the Board in a contested case proceeding

Failure to correct the probable violation may result in additional action taken by the Board, including a show cause proceeding to address the probable violation and determine whether the Board should assess civil penalties for violation of the appropriate safety standards. Iowa Code §§ 476.51 and 479.31.

If you have any questions, please contact David McCann at (515) 681-4110 or david.mccan@iub.iowa.gov, or me, at (515) 725-7315 or magid.yousif@iub.iowa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Magid Yousif

Magid Yousif
Manager
Safety and Engineering Section