

October 7, 1975

Mr. J. B. Benear  
Manager Engineering  
Explorer Pipeline Company  
P.O. Box 2650  
Tulsa, OK 74101

Dear Mr. Benear:

This is in reply to your letter of September 4, 1975, to Mr. Joseph C. Caldwell. Your letter requests an interpretation on the hydrostatic testing requirements for liquid pipelines as set out in 49 CFR Part 195, Section 195.302(b).

The test pressure for each hydrostatic test conducted in accordance with the requirements of section 195.302(b) must be maintained for a continuous, noninterrupted 24-hour period without leakage. If a hydrostatic test is interrupted for any reason such as leakage caused by a pinhole leak, seam rupture, etc., the hydrostatic test must be restarted and maintained until a 24-hour test has been successfully performed.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to call or write.

Sincerely,

Cesar DeLeon  
Acting Director  
Office of Pipeline  
Safety Operations

**EXPLORER PIPELINE COMPANY**

SEPTEMBER 4, 1975

MR. JOSEPH C. CALDWELL, DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

DEAR MR. CALDWELL:

AS DISCUSSED BY TELEPHONE WITH MR. FRANK C. FULTON, EXPLORER PIPELINE COMPANY REQUESTS AN INTERPRETATION ON THE HYDROSTATIC TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR LIQUID PIPELINES AS SET OUT IN 49CFR 195.302(B).

IT IS EXPLORER'S INTERPRETATION THAT THE REQUIRED 24 HOUR TEST MUST BE CONTINUOUS AND IF THE TEST IS INTERRUPTED BY A FAILURE IN THE SYSTEM, SUCH AS A PIPE SEAM RUPTURE, THE TEST IS ABORTED AND AFTER REPAIRS A NEW TEST MUST BE COMMENCED AND MAINTAINED AT THE SPECIFIED TEST PRESSURE FOR AT LEAST 24 CONTINUOUS HOURS. IS THIS INTERPRETATION CORRECT?

VERY TRULY YOURS,

J. B. BENEAR