



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration

901 Locust Street, Suite 462
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2641

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

September 13, 2016

Mr. Vern Meier
Vice President, Pipeline Safety & Compliance
TransCanada
717 Texas Avenue
Houston, Texas 77002-2761

Re: CPF No. 3-2016-5003H
Removal of Pressure Restriction

Dear Mr. Meier:

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) issued the Corrective Action Order (Order) referenced above on April 9, 2016 following the crude oil release that was reported on April 2, 2016 near the Freeman pump station in South Dakota. Amongst other things, the Order required the Affected Segment to be operated at reduced pressure.

Previously, on May 31, 2016, the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) Central Region approved a modification of the pressure restriction. Subsequently, TransCanada completed remaining actions in the approved integrity verification and remedial work plan (RWP). In summary, this work included: inline inspection (ILI) to assess for similar girth weld defects to the one that failed; and performance of excavations based on the ILI results along with other welds having similar attributes as the failed girth weld. Based on a review of the information provided, including an Engineering Assessment incorporating the results of the RWP that demonstrates that no other girth weld features similar to the one that failed are present in the Affected Segment, your request to remove the pressure restriction required by the Order is approved.

Thank you for providing the required information. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact me or my staff.

Sincerely,

Allan C. Beshore
Director, Central Region, OPS
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

cc: Mr. Lee Romack – TransCanada (via email)

