

June 9, 2008

TO: Missouri Natural Gas Operators

SUBJECT: Advisory Bulletin ADB-08-04

Note: Copies are not sent to all operator personnel. Please forward to the appropriate person(s).

The Federal Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) has recently issued an Advisory Bulletin numbered ADB-08-04.

Advisory Bulletin ADB-08-04: Installation of Excess Flow Valves into Gas Service Lines

A copy of the *Federal Register* Notice containing the advisory bulletin is attached. As noted in the last paragraph of the advisory bulletin, "PHMSA encourages all gas distribution operators to take actions to ensure that EFVs are installed on the appropriate service lines that are installed or completely replaced after June 1, 2008."

The Staff previously sent an All Operators Letter on 12/14/06 regarding the PIPES Act of 2006 that required PHMSA to prescribe minimum standards for DIMP by 12/31/07. Further, these DIMP standards were to include a requirement for an excess flow valve (EFV) in new or replaced service lines to single family residences after 6/1/08, with some exceptions such as less than 10 psig or prior experience with contaminants. PHMSA has not issued the DIMP regulations yet (as explained in this advisory bulletin), but is encouraging distribution operators to install EFVs as envisioned in the PIPES Act. PHMSA expects a proposed rule for DIMP to be published shortly, and then intends to prepare a final rule in an expeditious manner.

The Staff has previously discussed this issue at MANGO meetings and with many Missouri operators. The Staff appreciates the overall willingness of operators to install EFVs on the designated new or replaced service lines after June 1, 2008.

If you have any questions concerning this topic, please contact me at 573/751-3456.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Leonberger
Assistant Manager – Gas Safety/Engineering

JK; RRL