October 28, 2003

Robert Titus  
Director of Energy Services  
City of Ellensburg  
420 N Pearl St  
Ellensburg, Washington 98926

Dear Mr. Titus:

Subject: 2003 Operator Qualification Inspection

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) has the authority to enforce the minimum safety regulations per Chapter 480-93 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) pertaining to the construction, maintenance, and operation of pipelines transporting natural gas in the state of Washington. In addition, the Commission adopts the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 49 Part 191 and 192.

On September 20 and October 1, 2003, Commission staff (Staff) met with the Natural Gas Department of the City of Ellensburg (City) to conduct an Operator Qualification (OQ) Inspection. The inspection included a review of the City’s OQ plan, procedures, and records, which included field procedures and records.

I am pleased to report that Staff did not find any violations of the federal and state codes at this time. It should not be assumed that this inspection detected all code violations at this time. It is incumbent upon the operator to review its operations to determine whether or not there are other areas of non-compliance.
Staff would like to thank Steve Prue and Darren Larsen for their assistance during the inspection.

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact Patti Johnson, Pipeline Safety Engineer at (360) 664-1266.

Sincerely,

Alan E. Rathbun
Pipeline Safety Director