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Policy Group

Jane Haswell
Secretary, Working Group on Pipelines
Pipeline Integrity Engineers
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26 July 2004

Dear Jane

AMENDMENTS TO PIPELINES SAFETY REGULATIONS

I am writing to let you know that the Health and Safety Executive has recently completed a review of all its ongoing projects which involve amendments to regulations. This was necessary in order to establish where resources could be released to take forward the new HSC strategy for health and safety.

As a result of this review a number of projects have been abandoned. One of them is this sections work on amendments to the Pipelines Safety Regulations. The review concluded that this work should wait until the European Commission produces a pipelines directive.

Consequently no further work will be done on this project and, therefore, the proposed amendments to make gasoline a dangerous fluid and to require pipeline emergency plans to be tested will not now be taken forward.

I know this will be a disappointment for the members of the WGP but this decision was taken on strategic grounds and, in the current situation, is unavoidable.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sargent'.

Peter Sargent

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Reducing risks - protecting people*