



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service
Food and Drug Administration

g1264d

Dallas District
3310 Live Oak Street
Dallas, Texas 75204-6191

May 16, 2001

Ref: 2001-DAL-WL-24

WARNING LETTER

Certified Mail
Return Receipt Requested

Ms. Katherine D. Moore
Port Director
Galveston Wharves
123 Rosenberg 25th Street
Galveston, Texas 77553

Dear Ms. Moore:

During an inspection of your vessel watering point on May 2-3, 2001, our investigator documented deviations from Title 21, code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 1250. Therefore, the referenced vessel watering point has been classified as "Provisional."

Our investigation revealed significant insanitary conditions, including:

1. The potable water outlet on pier 41 has a ¾" line tied into it. The twenty-three faucets connected to the line are not equipped with vacuum breakers.
2. Backflow prevention devices are not provided for potable water outlets on piers 10, 15, 24, 25, 27, 28, and 35 T-head.
3. Potable water outlets on piers 15, 16, 21, and 37 are less than 18 inches above the pier and not properly housed.
4. Backflow prevention devices are improperly installed on the potable water outlets 1 and 2 on piers 10 and 16.
5. Potable water outlets on piers 10, 15, 16, 27, and 35 T-head are not equipped with end caps and keeper chains.

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6. The discharge ends of water hoses attached to the potable water outlets on piers 15, 21, 28, 32, and 40 are not protected when not in use. Water hoses are not properly stored on racks or reels and an apparatus attached to a water hose opening on pier 15 was hanging over the pier.

This letter is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of deficiencies at your vessel watering point and it is your responsibility to ensure adherence to each requirement of the regulations. You should assure that all vessel watering points are in compliance with the regulations.

A list of Inspectional Observations (FDA-483) was issued to and discussed with a responsible individual at the firm. A copy of the FDA-483 is enclosed for your reference. Please review the observations noted by the investigator at the Galveston location inspected. You should take prompt action to correct these deviations and ensure that future violations do not recur. Failure to correct these critical violations can result in further action by FDA. Your vessel watering point may be placed on a "Not Approved" status if future similar violations occur.

You should notify this office in writing, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this letter, stating the specific steps you have taken to correct the aforementioned violations. Your reply should be directed to Gwen Gilbreath, Compliance Officer, at the above letterhead address.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Chappell
Dallas District Director

MAC:gsg:jab

Enclosure