



12/20/97

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

December 17, 1997

Ref:98-DAL-WL- 12

WARNING LETTER

FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Raul A. Besteiro
Port Director
Port of Brownsville Navigation
1000 Foust Rd.
Brownsville, Texas 78521

Dear Mr. Besterio:

During an inspection of the Port of Brownsville vessel watering point, Brownsville, Texas, on December 11, 1997, 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. Twelve potable water outlets on docks 1, 2, 4, 11, 12 and the BC (grain elevator) were directed upward or horizontal.
2. End caps and keeper chains were not provided for at least eight potable water outlets on docks 1, 2, 8, 13, oil dock No. 1 and the BC dock.
3. Potable water outlets on oil docks 1, 2, 3 and 5 were on the same docks with non-potable hydrants and not identified.

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 under your control are in compliance with the regulations.

A list of Inspectional Observations (FDA-483) was issued to and discussed with a

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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 Brownsville 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,



Joseph R. Baca
Dallas District Director

JRB:GSG

cc. Mr. Elward E. Cockrill
Deputy Port Director

Mr. Edward F. Rivera
Water and Waste Plant Operator