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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, COMPLIANCE TEAM

4298 Elysian Fields Avenue  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70122  
(504) 589-7166 Fax 589-4657

April 17, 1997

WARNING LETTER NO. 97-NOL-40

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Richard Currence  
President, CEO  
Tidewater Marine, Inc.  
P.O. Box 61620  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70161

Dear Mr. Currence:

This letter is to inform you of deviations from the Interstate Conveyance Sanitation Regulations (Title 21, *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 1250), observed by a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) investigator, during an inspection of your firm, Quality Shipyards, Inc., 818 Highway 90 East, Houma, Louisiana, 70360, on April 10, 1997.

Discrepancies noted during the inspection of this vessel watering point included the following:

- 1) No check valves on water supply lines located in line to potable water hydrants # 1 & 2;
- 2) The outlets for hydrant # 1 was less than 18" above the pier;
- 3) Potable water hydrant # 2 was not housed;
- 4) Potable water hydrants # 1 & 2 were not identified for their intended use and were missing caps and keeper chains.

Accordingly, we are classifying this watering point as **PROVISIONAL** for interstate carrier use for a period of thirty days. "Provisional" classification means that the watering point may continue to operate; however, significant corrections of deficiencies must be made by the expiration date. On or about that date, a reinspection of this facility will be conducted to assure that corrections meet FDA requirements.

If significant corrections are not made, the vessel watering point will be reclassified as "Not Approved" for interstate carrier use.

Please advise this office in writing, within ten (10) days, of the actions you have taken to correct the deficiencies and to assure that such violations will not recur. Your response should be directed to Carolyn S. Olsen, Compliance Officer, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 4298 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70122-3896.

Sincerely,

  
James E. Gamet  
District Director  
New Orleans District

Enclosure: FDA 483

cc: Mr. Robert E. Barthel  
General Manager  
Quality Shipyards, Inc.  
818 Highway 90 East  
Houma, Louisiana 70360

/tjt