

August 6, 1997

Rae McQuade, Executive Director
Gas Industry Standards Board
1100 Louisiana, Suite 4925
Houston, TX 77002

Dear Ms. McQuade:

Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company respectfully submits its comments relating to recommended interpretation C97002A and recommended standards R97035, R97054 and R97060. GISB requested that such industry comments be received by the GISB office by August 6, 1997.

An alternative "short form" EDI Trading Partner Agreement has been proposed in R97060. Williston Basin objects to the adoption of an alternative EDI Trading Partner Agreement. A model EDI Trading Partner Agreement has already been ratified by the GISB membership and approved by FERC. Pipelines have been required by FERC to adopt such model Trading Partner Agreement or, if it develops its own agreement, it must be based on such model Trading Partner Agreement. The adoption of another EDI Trading Partner Agreement will only create confusion within the industry. There has not been shown an adequate business purpose for two Trading Partner Agreements.

Williston Basin appreciates the opportunity to comment on the recommended interpretation and standards.

Sincerely,

Keith A. Tiggelaar
Manager
Regulatory Affairs