



LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD

May 29, 2015

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT # 70143490000070316690 REQUESTED

Pipeline Company, LLC.

RECEIVED

JUN 04 2015

Re: Notification and Request for Assistance

PIPELINE COMPANY LLC

Gentlemen:

The Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board (LPELS) is charged by statute with safeguarding life, health, and property, and promoting the public welfare. We do this through a set of laws and rules that regulate the practice of engineering and the practice of land surveying in Louisiana. I am writing this letter to you, and to each of the other pipeline operators in the state, to solicit your cooperation and assistance as we work to fulfill our obligation to the public.

We have recently completed several investigations that have resulted in the imposition of fines and other sanctions against firms which were found to have unlawfully provided land surveying services to pipeline companies in Louisiana. The firms that rendered these services were not licensed with LPELS as professional land surveying firms and, thus, were acting in violation of state law when they performed the work.

In the majority of these cases we have investigated, we have determined that the contractors who unlawfully provided the land surveying services were not aware that licensure was a state requirement. It was not uncommon for a respondent to tell us that they had been providing services to a pipeline operator for many years, and then responded to a Request for Proposal (RFP) from that same pipeline company asking the contractor to provide additional services which involved the practice of land surveying.

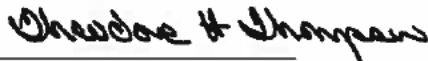
For example, one firm had been providing right-of-way maintenance services to a pipeline operator for many years, and was then asked to gather field data and prepare maps showing the alignment and depths-of-cover for several existing pipelines. LPELS' laws and rules require that such land surveying and mapping services be performed by or under the responsible charge of a professional land surveyor (PLS) or, in some cases, by or under the responsible charge of a professional engineer (PE). This means that any firm contracted to provide these services must be licensed with LPELS, and the completed maps that are submitted to the client must bear the seal of the PLS or PE who was in responsible charge of the firm's work.

LAPELS would prefer to prevent these problems through education rather than have to impose sanctions after discovery of a violation. Our request of you is that your future RFPs, purchase orders, service agreements, etc. for surveying services in Louisiana include language requiring potential contractors and/or consultants to certify that they are properly licensed by LAPELS to provide the proposed services, and to include their firm's license number in any proposal they submit to you. A sample certification is provided below for your review:

We hereby certify that our firm is currently licensed by the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board (LAPELS) to provide the requested services in Louisiana. Our firm license number, issued by LAPELS, is _____. We have familiarized ourselves with the scope of work and with the pertinent LAPELS laws and rules, and we have determined that we are qualified to render these services in conformance with LAPELS' laws and rules.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this request, please feel free to contact the Enforcement Division of LAPELS via email comments@lapels.com or by telephone (225-9256291)

Sincerely,



Theodore H. Thompson, P.E.
Board Chairman