



Safety & Enforcement Division

Pipeline Safety Program



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Pipeline Safety Program

- Independent Review Panel formed following the September 9, 2010 PG&E Transmission Line failure in San Bruno, CA
- Recommendation 6.2.4.4 was to undertake a management audit of the Gas Branch (then USRB)





Pipeline Safety Program

- Crowe Horwath was ultimately selected and performed the management audit
- Crowe issued its final report in February 2015 with 33 recommendations





Pipeline Safety Program

- Of the 33 recommendations:
- 20 completed, many of which are continuous improvement initiatives
- 10 are planned
- 3 are not planned





Pipeline Safety Program

“Conduct topic-specific standard inspections”

- Corrosion monitoring
- Valves and regulators
- Patrolling and leak surveys





Pipeline Safety Program

“Evaluate approaches to increase the number and thoroughness of inspections”

- Our redesigned approach allows us to perform more in-depth inspections, annual inspections of each territory, and increased sampling





Pipeline Safety Program

“Schedule time for resources to prepare inspection report within 30 days”

- New timeline expectations implemented in 2015





Pipeline Safety Program

“Provide additional specialized training”

- NTSB Cognitive Interview Training was held in San Francisco in December 2015 for GSRB





Pipeline Safety Program

“Implement a redesigned incident process”

- Implemented a Risk Based investigation structure





Pipeline Safety Program

Planned Recommendations

- Purchase tablets for inspections
- Purchase leak detection equipment
- Analyze incidents, violations, and findings to guide utility and field inspections





Pipeline Safety Program

Other GSRB Initiatives

- Process owners
- Service Line inspections
- Continuous improvement of procedures
- Staff mentoring, PHMSA mentoring





