

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



June 4, 2025

G20231216-3638-DOT

Mr. Neil Navin
Senior Vice President and Chief Infrastructure Officers
Southern California Gas Company
555 West 5th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Dear Mr. Navin:

The Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) of the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) submits the following Notice of Probable Violation (NOPV) letter as part of its investigation of the Department of Transportation (DOT) reportable incident (DOT Initial #1395201) that occurred on March 29, 2024, at [REDACTED] 10th Street E. , Palmdale, in Los Angeles County, CA. A third-party excavator working for Palmdale Water District was excavating to install a 25-inch water main when its backhoe operator struck a Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) 1-inch by 5.5-inch-long branched steel service stub (1-inch stub) welded on top of a 10-inch High Pressure Distribution Steel Main, Supply Line 32-60ST, segment ID# 189 (SL32-60ST), installed in 1957. This incident resulted in damage to the 1-inch stub. The cost of the property damage, emergency response, and release of gas was approximately \$909,098. This letter serves as a notification that as a result of SED's investigation, SoCalGas is in probable violation of General Order (G.O.) 112-F, Rule 101.2, which incorporates Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR), Parts 191, 192, 193, and 199, and the following regulations:

Title 49 CFR 192, § 192.605(b)(3), which states, in part:

“Making construction records, maps, and operating history available to appropriate operating personnel.”

SoCalGas failed to make current construction records, maps, and operating history of the 1-inch stub connected to the 10-inch SL32-60ST pipe available to appropriate operating personnel. Therefore, SED finds SoCalGas in violation of G.O.112-F, Rule 101.2, and Title 49 CFR, Part 192, § 192.605(b)(3).

Title 49 CFR, Part 192, § 192.727(b), which states, in part:

“Each pipeline abandoned in place must be disconnected from all sources and supplies of gas; purged of gas”

SoCalGas misidentified the 1-inch steel stub as “abandoned”. The evidence shows that the 1-inch stub carried source gas because the stub was not *physically separated from its source of gas* and was still physically connected to its source of gas: the 10-inch SL32-60ST pipe. SED found that SoCalGas did not include and identify the active gas carrying 1-inch stub on its GIS mapping system. Therefore, SED found SoCalGas in violation of G.O.112-F, Rule 101.2, and Title 49 CFR, Part 192,

§ 192.727(b).

Within 30 days of the date of this letter, please provide your response to the probable violations identified in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Randy Holter (Senior Utilities Engineer – Specialist), by phone at (818) 821-4309 or by email at rh3@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Terence Eng, P.E.
Program Manager
Gas Safety and Reliability Branch
Safety and Enforcement Division

cc:

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