

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



September 17, 2010

Christopher Johns, President  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
P.O. Box 770000  
Mail Code B32  
San Francisco, California 94177

Re: Questions Regarding the San Bruno Pipeline Explosion

Dear Mr. Johns:

Pursuant to the California Public Utilities Commission's safety oversight over Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E's) natural gas pipelines:

- 1) Please provide a list of PG&E's top 100 list of high priority pipeline projects, by segment, from 2007 to the present, that PG&E has identified as priority candidates for replacement or upgrade for reasons of public safety, including the current version of such list. If it is not possible to provide every iteration of such list immediately, then please at a minimum immediately provide (i) the current version of such list, and (ii) the version of the list relevant to the workpapers submitted in the 2007 Gas Accord IV proceeding.
- 2) For each proposed project on the foregoing list, please describe the status of the replacement or upgrade project (e.g., work completed, in construction, or work not yet commenced).
- 3) Please provide maps showing the location of each pipeline segment on the foregoing list of projects that has not yet been replaced or upgraded.
- 4) Please provide a detailed description of the criteria PG&E uses in deciding which pipeline segments to characterize as high priority projects, including any mathematical formulas used to rank such segments in terms of priority. Please also provide any related workpapers in PG&E's possession.
- 5) Please identify the exact milepost at which the rupture occurred on September 9, 2010.
- 6) For any segment of Line 132 currently or previously listed on the high priority projects list described above, please provide a description of such segment(s) (including location by mileposts), a detailed explanation of the factors PG&E took into account in deciding to include such segment(s) on the list, and a detailed explanation as to why any replacements or upgrades have not yet been completed. Please also provide a complete set of PG&E's risk analysis workpapers in response to this question.

- 7) Please describe and provide justification for how long it will take PG&E to develop (i) a list of locations on its gas transmission system at which manual valves could be replaced by remotely-operated or automatic valves, giving priority to locations with highest population density, and (ii) an estimate of the capital cost and any increased O&M costs of such replacement valves. Please also include a description of the types of valves commercially available, including an analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of remotely-operated as distinct from automatic valves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Clanon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "P".

Paul Clanon  
Executive Director