

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

February 26, 2018

GI-2017-06-SWG-31-02C

Jerry Schmitz
Vice President/Engineering
Southwest Gas Corporation
P.O. Box 98510, LVA-581
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8510

**SUBJECT: Safety and Enforcement Division closure letter for the General Order 112-F
Inspection of Southwest Gas Corporation, South and North Lake Tahoe and Truckee,
Districts 14, 15 and 16**

Dear Mr. Schmitz:

The Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) of the California Public Utilities Commission reviewed Southwest Gas Corporation's (SWG) response letter dated September 13, 2017 for the findings identified during the General Order (GO) 112-F inspection of SWG Lake Tahoe and Truckee which was conducted from June 20-23, 2017.

A summary of the inspection findings documented by SED, SWG's response to SED findings, and SED's evaluation of SWG's response taken for each finding are outlined for each identified violation, concern, and recommendation.

This letter serves as the official closure of the 2017 SWG Lake Tahoe and Truckee safety inspection and any matters that are being recommended for enforcement will be processed through the Commission's Citation Program or a formal proceeding.

Thank you for your cooperation in this inspection. Please contact Joel Tran at (415) 515-3442 or by email at joel.tran@cpuc.ca.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dennis Lee".

Dennis Lee, P.E.
Program and Project Supervisor
Gas Safety and Reliability Branch
Safety and Enforcement Division
California Public Utilities Commission

cc: Laurie Brown, SWG Administrator/Staff Compliance, Kenneth Bruno, SED/GSRB, Aimee Cauguiran, SED/GSRB, & Kelly Dolcini, SED/GSRB

I. Area of Concern/Observations/Recommendations

AOC-1

On 6/21/2017 and 6/22/2017, SED observed SWG employees perform odorant sniff tests in each district of the SWG Division. On each occasion, the SWG employees did not leak check the supply line connection to the Odorometer instrument (instrument). A leak on or near the gas connection to the instrument could potentially influence the accuracy of the sniff test. SED recommends SWG consider soap testing the natural gas connection to the instrument to ensure no leaks are influencing the results of the sniff test.

SWG's Response:

Southwest Gas will revise its Operations Manual to require that the natural gas supply line connection be checked for leakage prior to starting the odorant test. The method for conducting the leak check will also be included. The revision will be included in the next scheduled Operations Manual release scheduled for December 2017.

SED's Conclusion:

SED will check in future inspections to ensure that SWG has followed through with its response.