January 26, 2016

SUBJECT: CPUC Directive to California Owners and Operators of Underground Gas Storage Facilities

The Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) directs all owners and operators (see ATTACHMENT) of underground storage facilities used for natural gas storage as defined in Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 192 to take the following immediate actions:

1. Conduct immediate leak surveys on all underground storage facilities including wells, related compressor stations, and pipelines used for injection and withdrawal. These leak surveys should be done with instruments that are appropriate for the operating conditions. These leak surveys should be completed by February 5, 2016.
2. Please provide SED your leak survey plan in Directive #1 by 3PM on January 27, 2016.
3. Please provide a report to the CPUC with a copy to DOGGR* that details all leak surveys conducted, all leaks found (including those already repaired) and your plan with a timeline for repairing each leak.

*Please note the information provided to SED under the terms of this directive will be made available to the Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOC/DOGGR). Nothing in this directive is intended to substitute for compliance with any DOC/DOGGR regulation or Orders of the Supervisor, present or prospective.

Contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Elizaveta Malashenko
Director - Safety and Enforcement Division
California Public Utilities Commission

Cc: Kenneth Bruno – Program Manager - Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC
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Attachment - California Owners and Operators of Underground Storage Facilities

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