

From: Cherry, Brian K
Sent: 9/27/2010 12:55:48 PM
To: 'pac@cpuc.ca.gov' (pac@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: San Bruno Media Coverage, Noon Update, September 27

From: Molica, Joseph
To: SB FAQ Key Messages Distribution List; SB MRRT; Peterson, Michael R (Corp Security); Foletta, Joseph
Sent: Mon Sep 27 12:54:35 2010
Subject: San Bruno Media Coverage, Noon Update, September 27

San Bruno Media Update

Monday, September 27, 2010

Updated 12:00 p.m.

Summary

This morning, media outlets reported on *The Los Angeles Times'* article about the number of leaks in PG&E's gas lines that run near metropolitan and environmentally-sensitive areas compared to national averages. PG&E has been reaching out actively to all media with the following information:

"We believe it is our responsibility to ensure our regulators have the most comprehensive information we can provide about our natural gas system, and we provide that to them. On HCA pipelines, we report everything from a pinhole leak to a third-party dig-in. We continue to work with PHMSA to determine how our self-imposed strict reporting requirements compare to our industry peers. It appears that article looks at less than a third of the total miles designated across the country as high consequence area pipeline. It is important to remember that high consequence area pipelines are defined by regulations and do not vary depending on the size of the operator. What we have found is that when we compare our statistics to ALL pipeline operators in the country, we are comparable to the industry standard.

Regardless of statistics, the tragic accident in San Bruno is devastating to us all. The 20,000 men and women of PG&E work day and night to provide safe energy service to our customers. Safety is our top priority. We take it personally, and we will continue to do everything we can

to help assure the people of northern California that our gas and electric systems are safe.”

Bay Area broadcast stations also reported heavily that Congresswoman Jackie Speier (D-San Mateo) will be in San Bruno today and introduce new pipeline regulation legislation. The *Washington Post* also published an Associated Press article that reviewed pipeline legislation introduced in 2002 and noted that pipeline watchdog groups claim that industry lobbyists have pushed through relaxed regulation policies.

Developments to Date

- Congresswoman Jackie Speier is scheduled to meet with emergency response officials in San Bruno today and is expected to introduce legislation that would require more stringent pipeline regulation; media reports she will be meeting with PG&E later in the day

Print Media Coverage

5:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Monday, September 27, 2010

Associated Press

PG&E gas line leaks exceed national average

By AP Staff (Information from LA Times)

September 27, 2010

Records show Pacific Gas & Electric, whose pipeline exploded in San Bruno earlier this month, has reported gas line leaks at a rate six times the average for other large pipeline operators.

Federal records analyzed by the Los Angeles Times shows PG&E has reported 38 leaks since 2004 along about 1,000 miles of line it controls near population centers or environmentally sensitive areas.

The leak rate was 6.2 annually per 1,000 miles of transmission pipes serving "high consequence" areas, more than six times the average leak rate for the nation's six other large operators.

http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_16184907?nclick_check=1

The Washington Post

After pipeline blast, widespread concern

By Garance Burke and Jason Dearen

September 26, 2010

An ominous theme has emerged from the wreckage of a deadly pipeline explosion in California: There are thousands of pipes just like it nationwide.

Utilities have been under pressure for years to do a better job of inspecting and replacing aging gas pipes. Many of them were laid years before the suburbs expanded over them and

now are at risk of leaking or erupting.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/25/AR2010092500502.html>

UPI

Gas company's leak rate increasing

By UPI Staff

September 27, 2010

The company whose pipeline exploded and killed seven people has reported six times more gas leaks than similar sized companies, The Los Angeles Times said.

A Pacific Gas & Electric Co. pipeline exploded in San Bruno, Calif., this month. The company reported 38 leaks along about 1,000 miles of line it controls near population centers or environmentally sensitive areas since 2004, an analysis of federal records by the Times showed.

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2010/09/27/Gas-companys-leak-rate-increasing/UPI-94081285601132/

KGO-TV

Proposed measure to modernize gas shutoff systems

Janelle Wang

September 27, 2010

Peninsula Congresswoman Jackie Speier will be in San Bruno to propose a measure to make utilities modernize their gas shutoff systems in the wake of the recent disaster.

Meantime, a new report says PG&E's key gas pipes may leak much more often than it's peers. In a report by the LA Times, PG&E has more leaks than any other of the nation's large pipeline operators - nearly six times more.

The article says PG&E has reported a 40 percent increase in leaks in recent years versus a 30 percent decline in other parts of the country.

<http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/peninsula&id=7690976>

Broadcast Coverage

National Coverage Local Coverage

NOTE: These video clips are being captured electronically in real time. Cleaner and more accurate start/stop clips will be collected at a later date.

(None) [Clip](#)

KRON-TV (My Network TV) CH 4, San Francisco, CA

9/27/2010, 6:00 - 7:00 AM

Full coverage

Clip

KGO-TV (ABC) CH 7, San Francisco, CA

9/27/2010, 6:00 - 7:00 AM

Full coverage [here](#)

Clip

KTXL-TV (FOX) CH 40, Sacramento/Stockton/Modesto, CA

9/27/2010, 6:00 - 7:00 AM

Full coverage

Clip

KPIX-TV (CBS) CH 5, San Francisco, CA

9/27/2010, 5:00 - 6:00 AM

Coverage begins at 0:38

Clip

KNTV-TV (NBC) CH 11, San Francisco, CA

9/27/2010, 6:00 - 7:00 AM

Full coverage

Clip

KGO-TV (ABC) CH 7, San Francisco, CA

9/27/2010, 11:00 - 11:30 AM

Coverage begins 0:38

Coverage Continued: [Clip](#)

Coverage Continued: [Clip](#)