

From: Cherry, Brian K
Sent: 10/6/2010 8:13:40 AM
To: pac@cpuc.ca.gov (pac@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: FW: San Bruno Media Coverage, 7 a.m. Update, Wednesday, October 6

From: Molica, Joseph
Sent: Wednesday, October 06, 2010 7:10 AM
To: SB FAQ Key Messages Distribution List; SB MRRT; Peterson, Michael R (Corp Security); Foletta, Joseph
Subject: San Bruno Media Coverage, 7 a.m. Update, Wednesday, October 6

San Bruno Media Update

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

Updated 7:00 a.m.

Summary

An Associated Press article examines the rules for availability of pipeline emergency response plans and references the Lautenberg Senate bill that proposes gathering the plans and making abridged versions available online. Other coverage centered on Stanislaus County pipeline details, accessibility of pipeline information, the debate whether federal disaster recovery money should be made available to San Bruno, and a second class action lawsuit against PG&E. Broadcast coverage was slightly heavier than yesterday.

Developments to Date

- PG&E presented pipeline information to Stanislaus County supervisors
- Protests continue over the decision not to make federal disaster aid support available
- Clean up crews in San Bruno say they are ahead of schedule in the cleanup following the gas line explosion. Only 12 homes remain in need of more clean up. Crews could be finished by next Monday, one week ahead of schedule.

Print Media Coverage

6:00 a.m. – 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, October 5, 2010 to Wednesday, October 6, 2010

Associated Press

Natural gas pipeline crisis plans kept from public

By Sharon Theimer

October 6, 2010

The emergency plans for companies operating natural gas pipelines like the one that exploded in San Bruno, Calif., killing eight people and destroying a neighborhood, are effectively off-limits to the public and industry watchdogs because the federal pipeline safety agency doesn't keep copies in its offices.

The policy of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration means companies can keep their emergency plans hidden from people who might live near natural gas transmission lines. Because the government doesn't have copies of the plans, the public can't use the nation's open records law to request them.

State, city and county officials in California said they do not have copies of the San Bruno pipeline disaster plan, either.

Pacific Gas & Electric Co., which operated the San Bruno natural gas pipeline that exploded last month, declined to provide a copy of its emergency plan to the AP, saying it contained confidential customer and employee information.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jxYooq_t4zdeHepFDmF-S70489eQD9IM21UO0?docId=D9IM21UO0

International Business Times

PG&E Corp. upgraded at Deutsche Bank

By Staff

October 6, 2010

Deutsche Bank upgraded rating of the San Francisco, California-based PG&E Corp. to 'buy' from 'hold' based on an attractive risk/reward value proposition. The brokerage raised its price target on shares of the public utility company by \$1 to \$49.

"We see upside to the stock, as we believe that relatively negative outcomes are already priced in for the 2011 General Rate Case (GRC), November election, and Manzana decision. We also believe PG&E is better positioned than other high-quality regulated utilities for an economic recovery given its higher growth and lower yield. Higher rates would also likely ease future return on equity (ROE) concerns," said Jonathan Arnold, an analyst at Deutsche Bank.

Given the view that PG&E should be able to recover its San Bruno costs, Jonathan Arnold now believes the stock is already pricing in a relatively negative scenario for these risks as well as a potential adjustment to the company's cost of capital and sees upside if any of the upcoming catalysts move in a favorable direction (gubernatorial

election, Prop 23 outcome, Manzana project approval).

<http://www.ibtimes.com/articles/69013/20101006/deutsche-bank-pg-e-upgrade-buy-price-target-earnings-estimates-general-rate-case-manzana-decision-ca.htm>

San Jose Mercury News

PG&E does an about face, will provide detailed maps of gas pipelines to Bay Area fire departments

By Paul Rogers

October 6, 2010

After weeks of insisting that it could not for security reasons provide maps to Bay Area fire departments showing the locations of shut-off valves to its natural gas transmission pipelines, Pacific Gas & Electric has reversed course and now will disclose the information.

PG&E officials notified East Bay supervisors late Monday of the change.

The utility company will provide detailed maps of its natural gas transmission lines -- with the locations of shut-off valves -- to police, fire and emergency agencies in cities and counties that request them, PG&E spokeswoman Katie Romans said.

PG&E is asking departments not to make the maps public, she added.

http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_16264448

San Jose Mercury News

2nd lawsuit filed against PG&E in gas line blast

By Staff

October 5, 2010

A second lawsuit stemming from a pipeline explosion in a San Francisco suburb alleges that Pacific Gas and Electric Co.'s negligence led to the blast that killed eight.

The San Mateo County Times reports that the lawsuit filed by Daniele DiTrapani last week seeks class-action status and seeks unspecified damages from the utility.

It also demands that PG&E turn over a \$100 million victims' fund to an independent party. It echoes a similar lawsuit filed several weeks earlier by another San Bruno resident.

http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_16259505?nclick_check=1

The Sacramento Bee (also in Modesto Bee)

Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors Watch

By Garth Stapley

October 5, 2010

People in Stanislaus County have little to worry about despite four natural gas lines being on PG&E's Top 100 list of closely monitored pipelines in California, company spokeswoman Anna Brooks told supervisors Tuesday.

"The Top 100 list does not mean they're unsafe or pose an imminent threat," Brooks said, noting two lines watched for evidence of corrosion in Modesto and one each in Turlock and nears Crows Landing. Eight people were killed in a Sept. 9 explosion in San Bruno.

<http://www.sacbee.com/2010/10/05/3083039/stanislaus-county-board-of-supervisors.html>

San Francisco Examiner

PG&E hit with second lawsuit

By Katie Worth

October 6, 2010

A second person affected by the natural-gas line explosion in San Bruno has filed a class-action lawsuit asking for compensation and independent control of a relief fund created by PG&E.

One of PG&E's 30-inch natural-gas lines exploded in a residential neighborhood of the Peninsula city Sept. 9. The blast and ensuing conflagration killed eight people, injured dozens and destroyed many homes.

The lawsuit filed Tuesday, pressed by San Bruno resident Daniele DiTrapani, is worded almost precisely as the first lawsuit filed, which was brought by another San Bruno resident.

Neither of the residents lost their homes in the fire or were injured.

<http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/PGE-hit-with-second-lawsuit-104396399.html>

Inside Bay Area via the San Mateo County Times

Governor to protest federal denial of disaster aid to San Bruno

By Josh Melvin

October 5, 2010

In a Sept. 24 letter, the Federal Emergency Management Agency told Schwarzenegger that the damage was not of "such severity and magnitude" to overwhelm state and local governments. FEMA has, however, pledged to pay for 75 percent of the costs from battling the blaze sparked when a PG&E pipeline blew up Sept. 9, destroying 37 homes.

City Manager Connie Jackson told the council the denial was disappointing not only because San Bruno has "very, very limited resources," but because the money would also go toward helping survivors rebuild their homes.

PG&E has pledged \$100 million to rebuild the affected area, but it's not clear how and when that money will be used. Damage estimates are around \$55 million so far and don't include millions to pay for the massive emergency response. The utility has given San Bruno a \$3 million check, but that money has not been spent yet.

http://www.insidebayarea.com/business/ci_16263792

The Turlock Journal

Local natural gas pipelines ranked on top riskiest list in the state

By Sabra Stafford

October 6, 2010

Three natural gas pipelines in Stanislaus County have been included on Pacific Gas and Electric's list of "Top 100" riskiest segments in the state, however, PG&E officials stress the designations are not a safety concern.

The three areas identified by PG&E are segments of a pipeline between Turlock and Patterson and two segments in north Modesto.

In ranking the pipelines, PG&E evaluated four potential factors: Third party damage, corrosion, ground movement, and the physical design and characteristics of the pipe segment. They also take into consideration the population density, the reliability impacts and if the pipeline is in an environmentally sensitive area.

<http://www.turlockjournal.com/news/article/5869/>

La Canada Valley Sun

Gas Company monitoring LCF pipelines to ensure safety, officials say

By Megan O'Neill

October 5, 2010

As investigators continue to decipher the cause of the Sept. 9 pipeline explosion in San Bruno, Calif., the Southern California Gas Company is enhancing an already extensive list of safety procedures to ensure such an accident does not occur locally, company officials said.

"For the Gas Company, safety is the number one priority," said Tony Tartaglia, public affairs manager with the Gas Company. "It has been for 140 years. We are the largest natural gas distribution company in the United States, and we pride ourselves on safety."

http://articles.lacanadaonline.com/2010-10-05/news/tn-vsl-pipes-20101005_1_pipeline-explosion-pipeline-integrity-program-hazardous-materials-safety-administration

Justice News Flash Release

San Bruno Injury Lawyer News: PG&E Had Plans To Replace Part of Ruptured Pipe

By Staff

October 5, 2010

San Bruno, CA (San Bruno Injury Lawyer News)—While a definitive cause remains unknown, vital information concerning the devastating September 9, 2010 San Bruno gas explosion continues to surface. According to a Thursday, September 16, 2010 San Francisco Chronicle report, Pacific Gas and Electric Co. sought permission from

state regulators to spend \$4.87 million to replace a segment of a potentially hazardous gas pipeline three years ago. Notably, the portion of the gas line PG&E initially wished to replace was a part of the same pipeline that ruptured just over a week ago, leaving a San Bruno neighborhood in flames.

According to information provided, the utility's plan to replace the questionable segment of pipeline was never put into action. PG&E reportedly planned to make repairs to the South San Francisco portion of the gas line in 2007 and intended to have the project completed by October 2009. This has led some individuals to speculate as to whether the project would have given PG&E the chance to detect a potential hazard with the portion of pipeline that exploded in San Bruno.

http://www.justicenewsflash.com/2010/10/05/pge-had-plans-to-replace-part-of-ruptured-pipe_201010055709.html

Online Broadcast Coverage

KTVU San Francisco

City Of San Bruno, State Renew Appeal For FEMA Aid

By Staff

October 5, 2010

The city of San Bruno and the state of California Tuesday announced a plan to appeal a decision by the federal government to deny federal disaster aid for the pipeline explosion.

A request for a federal disaster declaration by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger was denied last month, and the governor's office is in the process of appealing FEMA's denial, City Manager Connie Jackson said.

"I am not yet aware if an actual appeal has been submitted," Jackson said. "It was in draft form at the end of last week."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency determined that the severity of the damage was not of significant magnitude as to overwhelm state and local agencies. Additionally, FEMA pointed that a responsible party -- PG&E -- was providing sufficient coverage.

<http://www.ktvu.com/news/25295346/detail.html>

NBC Bay Area

PG&E Faces New Class Action Lawsuit

By Staff

October 5, 2010

A San Bruno man filed a class action lawsuit in San Mateo County Superior Court last week alleging that Pacific Gas and Electric Co. was negligent and at fault for the Sept. 9 pipeline explosion that tore through the city's Crestmoor Canyon neighborhood.

Attorney Vahn Alexander filed the class action lawsuit on Wednesday for resident Daniele DiTripani. The suit claims he was home when the gas pipeline exploded and was injured and "suffered damages."

The suit is on behalf of "all San Bruno residents who have been impacted by the explosion," which destroyed at least 37 homes and killed eight people.

It alleges that PG&E was negligent in its management of the pipeline, which was "a direct and legal cause of the PG&E explosion," causing residents to suffer economic harm, injury and future economic loss.

<http://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local-beat/PGE-Faces-New-Class-Action-Lawsuit-104385644.html>

KGPE

PG&E Pipeline Information

By Staff

Last Update: 10/04 2:54 pm

Pipeline safety has been a major issue since the deadly explosion in San Bruno in September. Pacific Gas and Electric is responding by putting up information on their website. PG&E customers can log in and get a personalized report about nearby pipelines.

<http://www.cbs47.tv/content/links/story/PG-E-Pipeline-Information/g0bJ1aXJIEykmSjPJOxy7g.csp>

KCRA Sacramento

PG&E Assures Supervisors It's Looking At Pipelines

By Staff

October 5, 2010

Communities are looking in their own back yards for problem gas lines ever since the fatal gas explosion in San Bruno.

Pacific Gas and Electric spokeswoman Anna Brooks told the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors Tuesday about the top 100 pipelines that the utility is prioritizing.

<http://www.kcra.com/news/25293426/detail.html>

CBS 13

'Risky' Pipelines In Modesto, Turlock, Patterson

By Staff

October 5, 2010

PG&E officials revealed the location of more risky pipelines throughout California in a meeting with Stanislaus County supervisors on Tuesday.

In the wake of the deadly San Bruno explosion last month, regional leaders across California have pushed hard for PG&E to release the location of pipelines deemed

"risky."

<http://cbs13.com/local/pipelines.modesto.pge.2.1948504.html>

News 10

PG&E checks Stanislaus County pipelines

By Tim Daly

October 5, 2010

Following a natural gas explosion that killed eight people and destroyed several dozen homes in San Bruno, a Pacific Gas and Electric representative said pipelines in Stanislaus County don't show any problems.

The utility's Anna Brooks told county supervisors PG&E puts safety as its top priority. "We monitor our pipelines 24 hours a day, seven days a week and regularly conduct leak inspections on our natural gas pipelines," said Brooks.

<http://www.news10.net/news/story.aspx?storyid=99336&catid=2>

Broadcast Coverage

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

National Coverage Local Coverage

No national coverage aired within the time frame of this report [Clip](#)

KBAK-TV (CBS) CH 29, Bakersfield, CA
10/5/2010, 11:00 - 11:35 PM

Coverage ends at :30

[Clip](#)

KNTV-TV (NBC) CH 11, San Francisco, CA
10/5/2010, 11:00 - 11:35 PM

Coverage starts at 1:00

[Clip](#)

KRON-TV (My Network TV) CH 4, San Francisco, CA
10/5/2010, 11:00 - 11:30 PM

Coverage ends at 1:18

[Clip](#)

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

10/5/2010, 11:00 - 11:35 PM

Coverage ends at 1:15

Clip

KTVU-TV (FOX) CH 2, San Francisco, CA
10/5/2010, 10:00 - 11:00 PM

Coverage starts at 1:10

Clip

KCRA-TV (NBC) CH 3, Sacramento/Stockton/Modesto, CA
10/5/2010, 6:30 - 7:00 PM

Coverage starts at :34

Clip

KPIX-TV (CBS) CH 5, San Francisco, CA
10/5/2010, 6:00 - 7:00 PM
Updated Coverage ends at 1:00