

From: Cherry, Brian K
Sent: 10/19/2010 7:17:07 AM
To: 'pac@cpuc.ca.gov' (pac@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: San Bruno Media Update 10/18 7:00 a.m.

From: Redacted
To: SB FAQ Key Messages Distribution List; SB MRRT; Peterson, Michael R (Corp Security); Redacted
Sent: Tue Oct 19 07:03:37 2010
Subject: San Bruno Media Update 10/18 7:00 a.m.

San Bruno Media Update

Monday, October 18, 2010

Updated 7:00 a.m.

Summary

The top national news headlines throughout Monday and early Tuesday included stories about France's labor unions calling for work stoppages and details of the upcoming U.S. mid-term elections. Specific to California, the lanes on the San Mateo Bridge are now open, and Magic Johnson has sold his share of the Los Angeles Lakers. Related to the San Bruno accident, coverage focused on the state senate hearing that will take place later today, where PG&E will supply records detailing inspections and company representatives will give testimonies.

Developments to Date

- A state senate hearing is set to take place on Tuesday, October 19

Print Media Coverage

6:00 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.

Monday, October 18, 2010 to Tuesday, October 19, 2010

San Francisco Chronicle

San Bruno Blast Victims Get Buyout Offer from PG&E

By Demian Bulwa

October 19, 2010

SAN BRUNO -- Pacific Gas and Electric Co. is offering to buy out San Bruno residents whose homes were destroyed or badly damaged in last month's deadly natural gas pipeline blast, according to documents obtained by The Chronicle.

Those who sell fast - within six months - stand to collect a hefty bonus: \$50,000.

The offer comes as many victims worry about their land value and the difficulty of rebuilding, and as PG&E seeks to restore public trust after the Sept. 9 blast that killed eight people, destroyed 37 homes and damaged 18 more.

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2010/10/18/MNFI1FUAM2.DTL&tsp=1>

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The Bay Citizen

San Bruno Disaster Could Enrich PG&E Shareholders

By John Upton

October 18, 2010

Pacific Gas & Electric Co. shareholders could profit from last month's San Bruno explosion because the fatal accident will lead to increased investments in its natural gas infrastructure, Bloomberg reported.

Up to \$50 billion is expected to be spent modernizing networks of aging pipelines that sprawl across the nation in the wake of the Sept 9 disaster, it was reported.

"PG&E's plans to replace older pipes were 'constrained' by regulators, who capped spending they saw as unnecessarily driving up customer bills," Bloomberg reported, citing financial analysts. "Investment may benefit utilities such as PG&E, which can pass on the costs to customers through rate increases that include an allowance for profit."

<http://www.baycitizen.org/blogs/pulse-of-the-bay/bloomberg-san-bruno-disaster-could-pge/>

89.3 Southern California Public Radio

California Lawmakers to Probe San Bruno Blast

By Julie Small

October 18, 2010

California lawmakers convene a hearing tomorrow morning on the explosion of a natural gas pipeline just south of San Francisco last month. The San Bruno blast and fire killed eight people and destroyed dozens of homes.

Members of California's state senate committees on Energy, Utilities & Communications and Public Safety want to know what went wrong in San Bruno.

Did Pacific Gas and Electric — the company that owns and operates the section of pipeline that ruptured in the residential neighborhood — properly monitor and maintain its safety?

And what about the state agency that regulates natural gas distribution?

<http://www.scpr.org/news/2010/10/18/california-lawmakers-probe-san-bruno-blast/>

San Bruno Patch

Remembering Jimmy

By Camden Swita

October 18, 2010

Early in the afternoon Saturday, more than 20 longtime friends of James "Jimmy" Franco gathered at the mouth of Linda Mar Creek on Pacifica State Beach to give him a surfer's farewell.

Jimmy died on Sept. 27 at the UCSF Medical Center after he did not awake from a drug-induced coma doctors had put him before treating the severe burns he sustained during the San Bruno fire. He was renting a room in a house located 250 feet from where the PG&E gas pipeline exploded. Jimmy turned 58 years old while he was comatose.

<http://sanbruno.patch.com/articles/remembering-jimmy>

The Desert Sun (via The Associated Press)

San Bruno Explosion Investigative Panel Assembled

By Staff

October 18, 2010

An independent investigative panel into the deadly San Bruno pipeline explosion and fire is being led by University of California, Davis, chancellor emeritus Larry Vanderhoef.

The California Public Utilities Commission said Thursday that experts from academia and labor as well as a former Pacific Gas and Electric executive have joined the panel to investigate the causes of the Sept. 9 tragedy.

<http://www.mydesert.com/article/20101018/NEWS10/101018005/San-Bruno-explosion-investigative-panel-assembled>

Long Beach Press-Telegram

Working to Avoid a San Bruno Tragedy

By Kristopher Hanson

October 18, 2010

Five weeks after a natural gas pipeline explosion killed eight people in the Bay Area, a five-member panel has been named to study underground pipeline safety and regulatory changes.

The group was organized as an "independent body" to investigate the causes, response and liability arising from the Sept. 9 explosion of a natural gas pipeline operated by Pacific Gas & Electric, a huge Northern California gas and electric utility.

http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci_16373884

Benzinga.com

Citigroup Analyzes Pacific Gas & Electric Co.'s Settlement Agreement

By Staff

October 18, 2010

After market close on 10/15/10, Pacific Gas & Electric Co. (NYSE: PCG) announced that it had reached a full settlement in the pending Electric & Gas General Rate Case., Citigroup reports. The agreement includes a total of 17 parties out of 19, including the

California Division of Ratepayer Advocates and The Utility Reform Network.

"The agreement contains a three-year revenue increase, adequate levels of cost recovery and cap-ex, reduces to some extent regulatory concerns in the wake of the San Bruno explosion," Citigroup writes. "The agreement should allow PG&E to meet our EPS estimates for both '11 & '12."

<http://www.benzinga.com/analyst-ratings/10/10/528329/citigroup-analyzes-pacific-gas-electric->

San Bruno Patch

With More Than 2,000 Fans, 12-Year-Old's Facebook Page Provides Important Connection for Fire Relief Effort

By Gideon Rubin

October 18, 2010

Like millions of worldwide television viewers, Angelo Tomassi sat on his living room couch on the night of Sept. 9 watching in horror as the Crestmoor gas explosion and fire destroyed lives and homes here.

Angelo, a 12-year-old Fremont boy, said he and his mother, Andrea, felt helpless as they watched the ghastly images of destruction flash across their TV screen.

<http://sanbruno.patch.com/articles/with-more-than-2000-fans-12-year-olds-facebook-page-provides-important-connection-for-fire-relief-effort>

San Rafael Patch

PG&E Drops Lindaro Street from Pipeline List

By Ken Nordhoff

October 18, 2010

I have reported on our interactions with PG&E on pipeline safety in the last 2 editions of Snapshot, and have good news to relate this week. We had asked PG&E why the 1,900-foot line on Lindaro Street between the Corporate Center and Woodland Avenue had been identified as #22 on their "Top 100 List" and asked that its evaluation be expedited. PG&E did expedite the inspection and responded that the pipe thickness had been in question, and this placed the pipe on the list. PG&E pipeline engineers have now confirmed that the wall thickness meets specifications, shows no corrosion and is not in need of repairs.

<http://sanrafael.patch.com/articles/pge-drops-lindaro-street-from-pipeline-list>

The Bay Citizen

PG&E Wants \$40 Million More in Green Business

By John Upton

October 18, 2010

Electricity and natural gas customers could provide Pacific Gas & Electric Corp. shareholders with \$40 million in new bonuses for energy savings despite a legal ruling that such payments are unwarranted.

Under a program designed to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, California's investor-owned utilities, including PG&E, receive incentive payments when their customers cut back on energy consumption.

<http://www.baycitizen.org/pge/story/pge-wants-40-million-green-bonuses/>

National Coverage
(None)

Local Coverage
Clip

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

10/18/2010, 5:30 - 6:00 PM

Coverage begins at 1:22

Clip

KOVR-TV (CBS) CH 13, Sacramento/Stockton/Modesto, CA

10/18/2010, 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Coverage ends at :15

Clip

KESQ-TV (ABC) CH 42, Palm Springs/Palm Desert, CA

10/18/2010, 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Full Coverage