

From: Cherry, Brian K  
Sent: 10/11/2010 7:15:25 AM  
To: 'pac@cpuc.ca.gov' (pac@cpuc.ca.gov)  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Fw: San Bruno Media Coverage, 7 a.m. Update, Monday, October 11  
FYI

**From:** Redacted  
**To:** SB FAO Key Messages Distribution List; SB MRRT; Peterson, Michael R (Corp Security); Redacted  
Redacted  
**Sent:** Mon Oct 11 07:00:29 2010  
**Subject:** San Bruno Media Coverage, 7 a.m. Update, Monday, October 11

## San Bruno Media Update

### Monday, October 11, 2010

### Updated 7:00 a.m.

#### Summary

The Associated Press article that reports on CPUC's record of fines against PG&E has appeared in major print outlets, including the *Los Angeles Times*, and has been picked up by broadcast stations.

#### Developments to Date

- Clean up should be completed by tomorrow on the 35 houses that were damaged in the accident

#### Print Media Coverage

**6:00 a.m. – 7:00 a.m.**

**Sunday, October 10, 2010 to Monday, October 11, 2010**

**Associated Press** (appeared also in KMPH 26 News and WHNT News 19)

Report: No fines on PG&E over six-year period

By Staff

October 10, 2010

SAN FRANCISCO — A review of public records shows the agency responsible for regulating public utilities has taken a mostly hands-off approach to violations by Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

The San Francisco Chronicle reports Sunday that even though PG&E had more pipeline infractions than the rest of the state's major pipelines combined over a six-year period, the California Public Utilities Commission did not levy a single fine on the utility during that period.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iPgE0LeEhMxc0w3IFJERH5Q2F>

<http://www.kmph.com/Global/story.asp?S=13299722>

<http://www.whnt.com/business/sns-ap-us-pipeline-explosion-regulators,0,5461914.story>

### **San Diego Reader**

Many Opponents to new SDG&E/IOU Proposed WEBA Liability Limit

By a2zresource

October 10, 2010

In the amended A0908020 WEBA application filed two months ago in response to a threatened protest motion by Michael Aguirre and his client Ruth Henricks, a team of attorneys from SDG&E, PG&E and SCE made numerous signed statements on the rationale behind the application. "Because of insurers' heightened perception of wildfire risk, this market is unstable and insurance availability can change quickly. In fact, if there is a utility-related wildfire in the future, insurance companies may refuse to offer the Utilities any coverage for third-party wildfire claims. Although the Utilities have more insurance now than when they filed the 2009 Application last summer, the need for protection from the risk of devastating fire losses is unchanged. The Utilities therefore request prompt Commission action authorizing recovery through retail rates of the costs arising from wildfires for which they are at risk due to the limited availability of liability insurance."

In an eery foreshadowing with tragic consequences, the IOU attorneys in the August amended application stated before last month's PG&E San Bruno gas line explosion and suburban wildfire: "Although wildfire liability is more commonly associated with electric facilities than gas, this application seeks cost recovery for gas utility operations as well. While less frequent, gas facilities can contribute to the ignition or propagation of a wildfire. The gas and electric operations of PG&E and SDG&E are covered by the same policies, so the limited availability of insurance to cover wildfire liabilities affects gas and electric operations equally, and SoCalGas owns some electric distribution facilities, and is covered by the same policy as SDG&E." In the San Bruno matter, PG&E had informed CPUC in 2007 that the gas line was dangerously in need of replacement but made no move to replace the high-pressure gas line before it exploded with lethal catastrophic results earlier this year.

<http://www.sandiegoreader.com/weblogs/encanto-gas-holder/2010/oct/10/many-opponents-to-new-sdgeiou-proposed-weba-liabil/>

### **The Register Guard**

Gas Pipeline Facing Hurdles

By Winston Ross

October 10, 2010

To read the headlines, September was a bad month for supporters of a liquefied natural gas terminal in Coos Bay and a pipeline from there to the Southeastern Oregon town of Malin:

The Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline Project kicked the month off by suing the state, charging that Oregon is using its permitting clout to thwart a proposed 230-mile pipeline for political reasons.

Opponents quickly appealed Coos County's Sept. 8 approval of a conditional use permit for the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline Project's proposed 230-mile line, which means a delay, at least.

And, two days after Coos County's decision, an explosion at a natural gas line in San Bruno, Calif., leveled 50 homes and killed four people. The California pipeline's owner, Pacific Gas and Electric Corp., is one of the partners in the Oregon proposal.

<http://www.registerguard.com/csp/cms/sites/web/news/cityregion/25383025-41/pipeline-project-gas-coos-county.csp>

### **St. Louis Dispatch** (via Associated Press)

National Digest

By Staff

October 11, 2010

California utility in pipeline blast has avoided fines • A review of public records shows the California watchdog agency responsible for regulating public utilities has taken a mostly hands-off approach to violations by Pacific Gas and Electric Co. PG&E operates 42 percent of the gas pipelines in the state, among them the lines that exploded in San Bruno last month, killing eight people. Even though PG&E had more pipeline infractions than the rest of the state's major pipelines combined over a six-year period, the San Francisco Chronicle reports that the California Public Utilities Commission did not levy a single fine on the utility during that period.

[http://www.stltoday.com/article\\_2016ba53-7f37-5f17-870e-5681ae66fce4.html](http://www.stltoday.com/article_2016ba53-7f37-5f17-870e-5681ae66fce4.html)

### **Star Tribune**

World/Nation Briefs

By Staff

October 10, 2010

A review of public records shows the agency responsible for regulating public utilities has taken a mostly hands-off approach to violations by Pacific Gas and Electric Co. The San Francisco Chronicle reported that even though PG&E had more pipeline infractions than the rest of the state's major pipelines combined from 2004 to 2009, the California Public Utilities Commission did not levy a single fine on the utility during that period.

<http://www.startribune.com/nation/104679934.html?elr=KArksDyyicyUtyicyUiD3aPc: Yy>

## 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

(None) [Clip](#)

KFSN-TV (ABC) CH 30, Fresno/Visalia, CA  
10/10/2010, 11:00 - 11:35 PM  
Coverage begins at 1:43

[Clip](#)

KTVU-TV (FOX) CH 2, San Francisco, CA  
10/10/2010, 10:00 - 10:45 PM  
Coverage begins at :10