

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3296



February 2, 2011

Christopher Johns, President
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
P.O. Box 770000
Mail Code B32
San Francisco, California 94177

Re: Directions in Response to Notification of Increased Pressurization Events

Dear Mr. Johns:

The California Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") has conducted a staff level investigation of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's ("PG&E's") planned and unplanned pressurization events where the pressure has risen above the Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure ("MAOP") in several of PG&E's gas transmission lines. Portions of these gas transmission lines are located in High Consequence Areas ("HCAs").

Given the information obtained to date, I direct PG&E to take the following actions:

1. PG&E shall reduce the operating pressure by 20% below the MAOP, as defined in 49 CFR 192, of the following transmission lines that have segments located in HCAs: Line 148, DFM 0805-01, DFM 0807-01 and DFM 1816-01. PG&E shall maintain these pressure reductions until such time as the Commission allows PG&E to return the lines to their normal operating pressures.
2. PG&E shall reduce the operating pressure by 20% below MAOP, as defined in 49 CFR 192, for any additional transmission lines that have segments located in HCAs that are found, through further investigation, to have experienced planned or unplanned events in which the segments experienced pressure greater than 110% of MAOP, as defined in 49 CFR 192. PG&E shall maintain these pressure reductions until such time as the Commission allows PG&E to return the lines to their normal operating pressures.

To the extent there is a reasonable possibility that any of the above ordered pressure reductions could adversely affect service to core customers, PG&E will consult with the Commission concerning appropriate actions to address adverse customer impacts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Clanon".

Paul Clanon
Executive Director