

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking on the  
Commission's Own Motion to Adopt New  
Safety and Reliability Regulations for  
Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution  
Pipelines and Related Ratemaking  
Mechanisms.

Rulemaking 11-02-019  
(Filed February 24, 2011)

Michael E. Boyd President (CARE)  
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April 12, 2011

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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**CALIFORNIANS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC. (CARE)  
MOTION FOR ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING**

Pursuant to Rule 11.1 (a) and the procedural instructions provide by ALJ Bushey Californians for Renewable Energy, Inc. ("CARE") respectfully requests the admission of the following information for filing in the above caption proceedings:

- A. At the oral arguments held before the Commission on April 11, 2011 CARE provided copies to the Commissioners and ALJ copies of the following document titled "CALIFORNIANS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC. (CARE) EXHIBITS FOR INTRODUCTION" presented and requests the admission of the following information for filing in the above caption proceedings.
- B. Also on April 11, 2011 CARE received three response to interrogatories of CARE seeking information from PG&E in the Order Instituting Investigation OII 11-02-016 the Commission instituted formal investigation to determine whether the named Respondent, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), violated any provision or provisions of the California Public Utilities Code, Commission general orders or decisions, or other applicable rules or requirements pertaining to safety recordkeeping for its gas service and facilities. This proceeding also pertains to PG&E's safety recordkeeping for the San Bruno, California gas transmission pipeline that ruptured on September 9, 2010, killing eight persons. This investigation will also review and determine whether PG&E's recordkeeping practices for its entire gas transmission system have been unsafe and in violation of the law.

CARE requests the admission of PG&E's "Answers" provided herein as three separate attachments 1 to 3 to this document.

Respectfully submitted,



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April 12, 2011

### **Verification**

I am an officer of the Intervening Corporation herein, and am authorized to make this verification on its behalf. The statements in the foregoing document are true of my own knowledge, except matters, which are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2011 at Soquel, California.



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**CALIFORNIANS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC. (CARE)  
EXHIBITS FOR INTRODUCTION**

Because we believe Pacific Gas and Electric Company (“PG&E”) can not or will not produce the required records to complete the validation of pipeline maximum allowable operating pressures (“MAOP”), as well as to complete the pipeline testing and repair as promised by PG&E, Californians for Renewable Energy, Inc. (“CARE”) hereby submits these two Google Earth pictures of the site of the San Bruno natural gas pipeline explosion that killed eight of PG&E’s natural gas services customers to define the exclusion zone necessary to “avoid” potential high risk for fatalities in future pipeline explosions. The line pictured in yellow measures a distance of approximately six hundred feet.

Without these necessary records to determine safe operating pressures for PG&E’s continued operations of natural gas pipelines in its service territory the Commission is not in a position to say that any of those pipelines PG&E is operating are safe to the general public and PG&E’s customers. But PG&E is not alone in liability because the local government, the City or County, issued building permits for all the homes that burned in San Bruno; likely after the pipeline was built. Where were our elected local leaders then?

I have attached a copy of Robert Sarvey’s Rebuttal Testimony Exhibit 405 on Hazardous Materials before the California Energy Commission (“CEC”) on the Mariposa natural gas turbine project in CEC Docket 09-AFC-03 on two other high risk natural gas pipelines of PG&E where Mr. Sarvey states, “The combination of these two projects and

their impacts to the degraded PG&E Line 002 are not addressed or analyzed in Staff's testimony. A significant increase in natural gas volume will occur because of the addition of the MEP and the conversion of the Tracy Peaker Project to combined cycle. Pipeline pressure fluctuations from the cycling of these projects will cause additional stress to Line 002. Given the significant risks of a natural gas line failure as evinced by the recent San Bruno Tragedy this impact needs to be addressed. We certainly cannot rely on PG&E's incomplete and inaccurate records and inadequate safety practices." Mr. Sarvey has provided on page 5 of his Testimony a picture of the temporary fence PG&E erected at the site of a proposed sports park in Tracy where PG&E apparently allowed heavy equipment to operate unattended as an offer of proof to PG&E's safety practices or lack there of.

Therefore first we need to know what is the safe zone where residential dwellings, parks and recreational facilities, and businesses, can be built. The City or County then must change its general plans and zoning designation to exclude any development where there is a high risk pipeline where high risk may be based on the lack of record keeping by PG&E. PG&E must buy out all those affected land owners along the exclusion zones along the line under eminent domain exercised by authorization of this Commission if necessary at a fair market value. In the absence of knowing the root cause of the failure that caused PG&E's pipeline to explode the Commission has no choice but to exclude future development and remove existing developments from the safety exclusion zone. Otherwise the question will not be if this will ever happen again but when is the next pipeline explosion going to occur.

Respectfully submitted,



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April 11, 2011

**Exhibit A**

Google Earth image at 37.622524°N 122.441903°W

October 1, 2009

*(Disclaimer digital images are not authentic table)*



**Exhibit B**

Google Earth image at 37.622524°N 122.441903°W

September 11, 2010

*(Disclaimer digital images are not authentic table)*



**Exhibit C**

Robert Sarvey's Rebuttal Testimony Exhibit 405 on Hazardous Materials before the California Energy Commission ("CEC") on the Mariposa natural gas turbine project in CEC Docket 09-AFC-03 –January 21, 2011



State of California  
State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission

In the Matter of:	)	Docket # 09-AFC-03
	)	
Mariposa Energy Project	)	
	)	Robert Sarvey's Rebuttal Testimony
	)	Hazardous Materials
	)	Exhibit 405

The Mariposa Energy Project (MEP) proposes a new 580-foot long natural gas pipeline which would connect the project to PG&E's Line 002 which is an existing high-pressure natural gas pipeline located northeast of the project site.<sup>1</sup> Line 002 is a 26 inch diameter natural gas pipeline that was installed in 1971. The coating on L-002 is a double tape wrapped coating which no longer meets Federal standards because it is prone to corrosion. The pipeline thickness is .322 inches. The maximum allowable operating pressure for the line is 890 PSIG. Recent pipe-to-soil data have indicated corrosion on Line 002 within the Tracy area. A smart pig examination was performed in 2001 which indicated that the line had wall loss of up to 78%. Subsequent examination by PG&E revealed that actual wall loss was 61%. PG&E realized that the area found was unacceptable and lowered the operating pressure to 530 psig and performed repairs on the pipeline.<sup>23</sup> The pipeline has experienced two leaks in the Tracy Area one in 1997 and one in 1999. The line also supplies the existing Tracy Peaker Plant and will supply the approved Tracy Combined Cycle Project when constructed.

PG&E operates two natural gas pipelines in the right of way for line 002; a 36 inch diameter transmission line designated as L-401 and the 26 inch diameter transmission line designated as L-002 which will serve the MEP. This right-of-way also includes an 18 inch petroleum pipeline operated by Chevron. The other natural gas line

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<sup>1</sup> SSA Page 1-3

<sup>2</sup> CPUC Proceeding PG&E data Response Page 0296 Exhibit 413

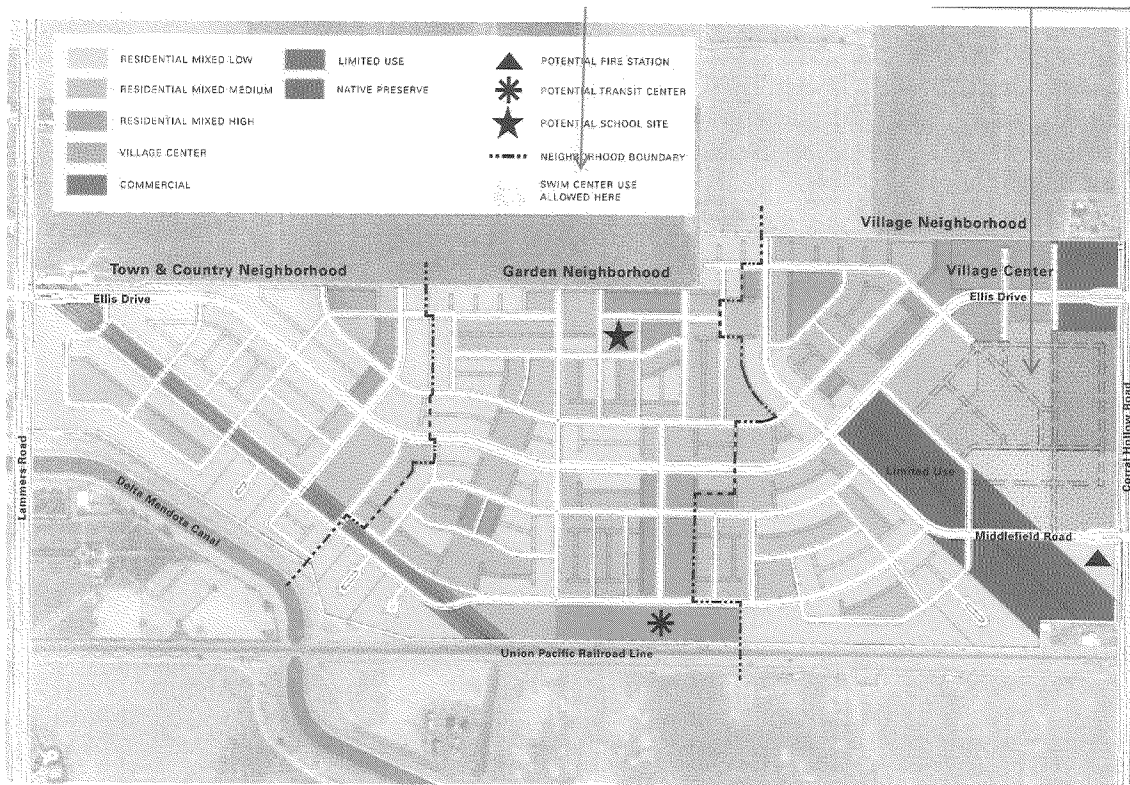
<sup>3</sup> This would be below the acceptable operating pressure to supply the Tracy Combined cycle Plant and impact the MEP. Tracy Combined Cycle AFC Page 2-17

[http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/tracyexpansion/documents/applicant/afc/Volume\\_1/GWF\\_Tracy\\_2\\_Project\\_Description.pdf](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/tracyexpansion/documents/applicant/afc/Volume_1/GWF_Tracy_2_Project_Description.pdf)

401 was installed in 1993. The Chevron pipeline is an 18 inch diameter pipeline installed in 1950.

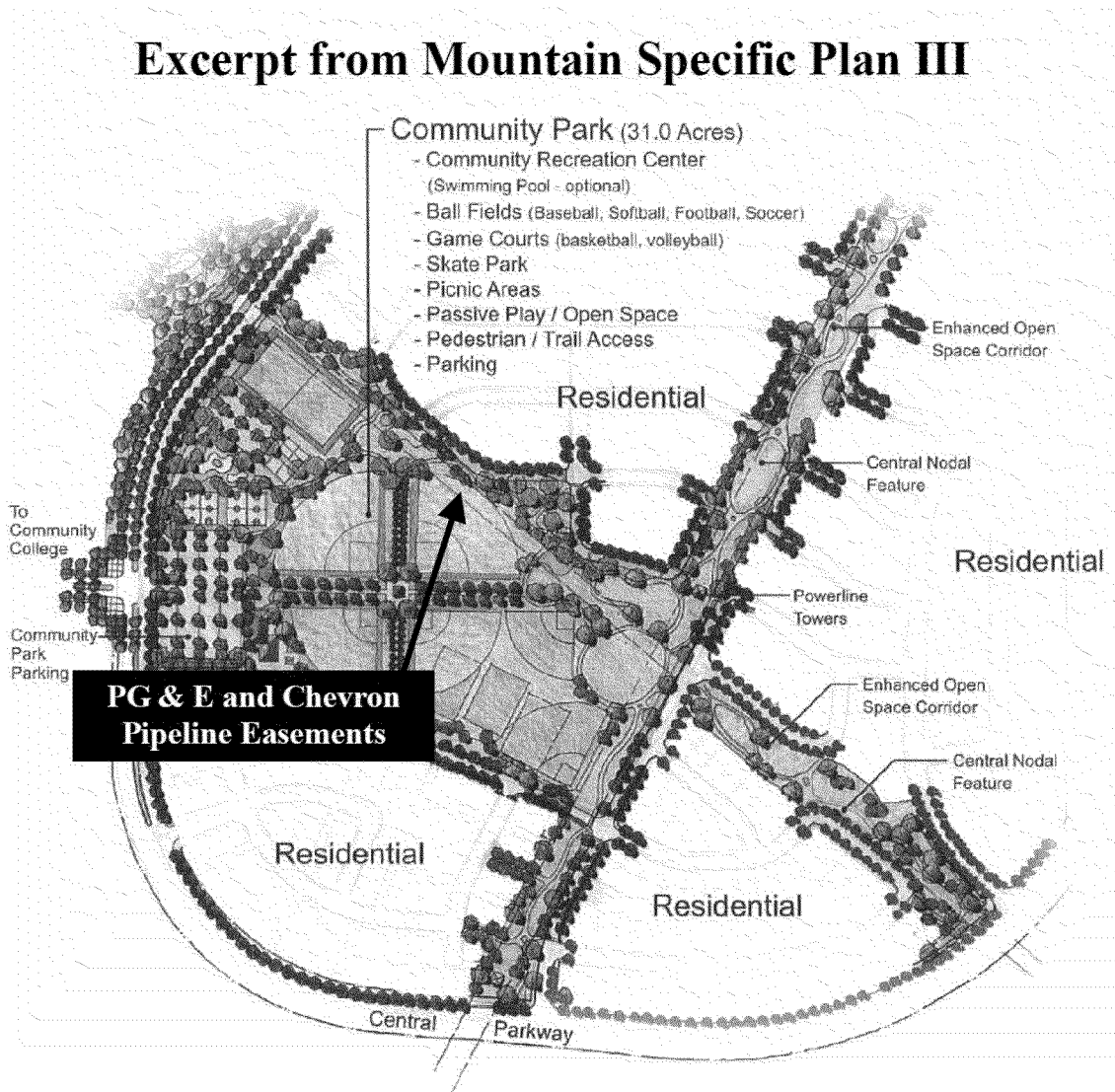
Operations of transmission pipelines pose significant public risks when they are operated in close proximity to areas that are heavily occupied by the public. Significant failures of transmission pipelines can and have resulted in loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and environmental damage. According to the TRB, *“In the last 3 years, hazardous liquids pipeline incidents have resulted in an average of 2 deaths, 11 injuries, and \$97 million in property damage each year; natural gas transmission pipeline incidents have resulted in an annual average of 6 deaths, 10 injuries, and \$20 million in property damage.”* Of course the recent San Bruno incident underscores the potential danger from a natural gas line malfunction. The presence of three pipelines in this one pipeline corridor triples the consequences of a failure of Line 002.

These three lines run through a newly approved residential development called the Ellis Project in Tracy. The Ellis subdivision is a 2,250 home subdivision with a planned aquatics park.<sup>4</sup>



<sup>4</sup> Ellis Specific Plan <http://www.ci.tracy.ca.us/modules/dms/index.php>

These pipelines also run through Mountain House. They run through an area that is residential and has a planned 31 acre community park. The following depicts the area from the Mountain House Specific Plan.



For the MEP the natural gas requirement during base load operation at annual average ambient temperature is approximately 1,926 million British thermal units per hour (MMBtu/hr) (higher heat value [HHV] basis, total for four CTG units), or 44.9

million dry standard cubic feet.<sup>5</sup> As mentioned above the Tracy Combined Cycle Project will also increase the volume of natural gas required to be transported through Line 002. The new maximum total natural gas requirements (heat input) during base load operation for two CTGs and duct burners will be approximately 68,000 MMBtu per day or 2,833 MMBtu per hour, and a facility total (including auxiliary boiler) of 21,203,661 MMBtu per year on a higher heating value basis. According to the Tracy Combined Cycle AFC the pressure of natural gas delivered to the site via PG&E's existing Line #2 pipeline that crosses GWF's 40-acre parcel is expected to be 600 to 1,015 pounds per square inch gauge (psig). The minimum supply pressure to the equipment would be 535 psig.<sup>6</sup> As mentioned above the MAOP for Line 2 is 890 PSIG.

The combination of these two projects and their impacts to the degraded PG&E Line 002 are not addressed or analyzed in Staff's testimony. A significant increase in natural gas volume will occur because of the addition of the MEP and the conversion of the Tracy Peaker Project to combined cycle. Pipeline pressure fluctuations from the cycling of these projects will cause additional stress to Line 002. Given the significant risks of a natural gas line failure as evinced by the recent San Bruno Tragedy this impact needs to be addressed. We certainly cannot rely on PG&E's incomplete and inaccurate records and inadequate safety practices.

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<sup>5</sup> AFC Page 2-17

<sup>6</sup> Tracy Combined Cycle AFC Page 2-17

[http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/tracyexpansion/documents/applicant/afc/Volume\\_1/GWF\\_Tracy\\_2\\_Project\\_Description.pdf](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/tracyexpansion/documents/applicant/afc/Volume_1/GWF_Tracy_2_Project_Description.pdf)



**Attachment 1**

GasTransmissionSystemRecordsOII\_DR\_CARE\_001-Q01

(This is a separate attachment)

**Attachment 2**

GasTransmissionSystemRecordsOII\_DR\_CARE\_001-Q02

(This is a separate attachment)

**Attachment 3**

GasTransmissionSystemRecordsOII\_DR\_CARE\_001-Q03

(This is a separate attachment)



**Verification**

I am an officer of the Intervening Corporation herein, and am authorized to make this verification on its behalf. The statements in the foregoing document are true of my own knowledge, except matters, which are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2011 at Soquel, California.



---

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**Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing document "*CALIFORNIANS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY, INC. (CARE) MOTION FOR ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING*" under CPUC Docket R.11-02-019. Each person designated on the official service list, has been provided a copy via e-mail, to all persons on the attached service lists on April 12, 2011 transmitting the copies via e-mail to all parties who have provided an e-mail address. First class mail will be used if electronic service cannot be effectuated.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2011, at Soquel, California.



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