

C/CAG

CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

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November 14, 2011

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Paul Clanon
Executive Director
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue, Rm 5223
San Francisco, CA 94102

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Dear Mr. Clanon,

Thank you for the time and attention you and others from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) recently provided in meeting with the City/ County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) Board. In light of the tragic September 9, 2010 pipeline explosion in San Bruno, both the elected officials that comprise the C/CAG Board and our constituents have a very strong interest to stay informed and engaged regarding the issues and actions underway through the CPUC to assure the safety of residents in San Mateo County.

C/CAG is a joint powers agency for San Mateo County jurisdictions for member agencies to collaborate and solve common problems. The C/CAG Board of Directors consists of elected officials from all 20 cities in the county plus the County itself. By having jurisdictions represented on the C/CAG Board of Directors, we are able to work together efficiently and effectively to achieve significant objectives.

There is urgent need for improvements to be made in the coordination and communication between elected officials and both the CPUC and Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E). As elected officials, the members of the C/CAG Board have a responsibility to represent the interests of residents throughout San Mateo County. In order for each of the C/CAG members to have the ability to respond to the needs and interests of our residents, it is critical that we receive information about issues and activities occurring through PG&E within our communities. We need this information in a timely manner and it needs to be provided in a way that is complete, useable, and understandable for residents.

C/CAG would like assistance from CPUC to ensure PG&E's cooperation in the sharing of important information with the cities and the County.

1. Receive information from PG&E regarding underground utilities, including but not limited to the location and integrity of pipelines and shutoff valves.
2. Coordinate with PG&E on plan of actions to ensure safety. For example, PG&E's plans for testing, deficiency corrections, pipeline replacements, and emergency response.
3. Establish communication channels and protocols between PG&E and local first responders for information exchange.
4. Enter into a formal partnership between the CPUC and C/CAG, with the participation of PG&E, to initiate a pilot program that will develop a communications model between the

CPUC, PG&E, and local governmental agencies. C/CAG is the appropriate agency for this type of partnership with the CPUC due to our official standing as the intergovernmental agency within San Mateo County.

Finally, in order to ensure public safety in the long term, we request that the CPUC toughen up regulations and enforce penalties. One way for CPUC to accomplish that would be to conduct regular audits of PG&E operations, emergency planning, record-keeping, and to require PG&E to correct all deficiencies and verify that all corrective actions are completed in a timely manner.

C/CAG is committed to remain engaged and to continue to promote transparency in the way that our utility services and infrastructure are operated and regulated. Please contact Richard Napier, C/CAG Executive Director, at 650 599-1420 or by email at rnapierr@co.sanmateo.ca.us.

Respectfully,



Bob Grassilli
Chairman of the C/CAG Board of Directors