

From: Dowdell, Jennifer
Sent: 11/6/2011 9:13:41 PM
To: 'mfl@cpuc.ca.gov' (mfl@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc: Yura, Jane (/O=PG&E/OU=CORPORATE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JKY1); Cherry, Brian K (/O=PG&E/OU=CORPORATE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BKC7); Bottorff, Thomas E (/O=PG&E/OU=CORPORATE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=TEB3); Horner, Trina (/O=PG&E/OU=CORPORATE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=TNHC); Doll, Laura (/O=PG&E/OU=CORPORATE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=LRDD); Jacobson, Erik B (RegRel) (/O=PG&E/OU=Corporate/cn=Recipients/cn=EBJ1); Allen, Meredith (/O=PG&E/OU=Corporate/cn=Recipients/cn=MEAe)

Bcc:

Subject: Fw: Failure Today (Sunday) on PG&E hydrotest of L132- Update and Clarification
Commissioner Florio,

Just to clarify my earlier email... This failure occurred as a pipe split, but this pipe is SEAMLESS pipe. Also to update, we have found that the failed section shows some evidence of past external damage.

Additional background is below. Please don't hesitate to call if you have questions

Jennifer
415-516-8347

BACKGROUND

The failed section is approximately 3 feet long, 24 inch diameter pipe installed in 1947.

The pipeline's MAOP is 400 psig. It has historically operated at a pressure less than 375 psig. It is currently operating at a reduced pressure of 300 psig

until PG&E can establish it is safe to restore the normal operating pressure through strength testing and MAOP validation.

When the pipe failed it was being tested at approx. 550 psig. This hydrotest pressure is well above the current operating pressure of 300 psig, and also well above the pipeline's MAOP of 400 psig.

This pipeline does not have features similar to the section of Line 132 that ruptured in San Bruno. As this is a 24" diameter seamless pipe, compared to the San Bruno segment that was 30" diameter DSAW pipe.

----- Original Message -----

From: Dowdell, Jennifer
Sent: Sunday, November 06, 2011 07:07 PM
To: 'mpl@cpuc.ca.gov' <mpl@cpuc.ca.gov>; 'mfl@cpuc.ca.gov' <mfl@cpuc.ca.gov>; 'cjs@cpuc.ca.gov' <cjs@cpuc.ca.gov>; 'tas@cpuc.ca.gov' <tas@cpuc.ca.gov>; 'fer@cpuc.ca.gov' <fer@cpuc.ca.gov>

Cc: Cherry, Brian K; Bottorff, Thomas E; Horner, Trina; Yura, Jane; Ramaiya, Shilpa R; Doll, Laura; Jacobson, Erik B (RegRel)

Subject: Failure Today (Sunday) on PG&E hydrotest of L132

Commissioners,

This email is to provide you with the most up-to-date information should you get calls from media or other stakeholders. We will be following up with additional information as we know it.

Today at approx. 3:30 PM PG&E experienced a failed hydrotest on L132 in Menlo Park near the east side of HW 280.

The failure occurred on a 3 foot section of a pipe seam. The pipe is located on a [Redacted]. The escaping water caused a mudslide that closed some lanes on the 280 freeway.

The Fire Department is working with PG&E to get the mud off the road.

Media is on the scene and the CPUC staff and NTSB have been notified. There are no reported injuries. Additional background is below.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have questions

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dowdell
Director, Regulatory Relations
PG&E

415-516-8347

Background:

This was a test of over 4 miles of pipe just north of the separate hydrotest section (T-30) on L132 where there was a small, pin hole leak on Friday. While pressuring up this particular section (T-31) on L-132 today, the pressure dropped from about 500+ psi to 0 indicating a likely pipe rupture.

PG&E terminated the hydrotest, and upon receiving reports of mud on the road between [Redacted] took action to address and make the situation safe.