

From: Halligan, Julie  
Sent: 11/1/2011 1:24:21 PM  
To: Ramaiya, Shilpa R (/o=PG&E/ou=Corporate/cn=Recipients/cn=SRRd)  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Re: Nov 1 Explosion Info

Thanks again.

**From:** Ramaiya, Shilpa R [mailto:SRRd@pge.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 01, 2011 1:14 PM  
**To:** Cooke, Michelle; Halligan, Julie  
**Cc:** Horner, Trina; Doll, Laura; Dowdell, Jennifer  
**Subject:** RE: Nov 1 Explosion Info

PG&E gas has been ruled out as the cause. I just received the following update. Not sure who from the CPUC is at the site, but they have received the same news:

The CPUC requested a site visit to the damaged property so we sent Gas Sup Jim Reeves to escort. CPUC and Fire Marshal requested a houseline test which was completed by a GSR. The houselines held and both CPUC and Fire Marshal ruled out any gas leak as the cause. There is suspicious material in the property that is now suspect.

Shilpa

**From:** Ramaiya, Shilpa R  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 01, 2011 11:32 AM  
**To:** michelle.cooke@cpuc.ca.gov; julie.halligan@cpuc.ca.gov  
**Cc:** Horner, Trina; Doll, Laura; Dowdell, Jennifer  
**Subject:** RE: Nov 1 Explosion Info

Per my conversation with Jennifer, the Contra Costa Times has reported that the incident may have resulted from a propane tank. We have not heard conclusively from the Fire Dept yet. See Costa Times article below:

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'Catastrophic' explosion rocks Richmond home

By Robert Salonga

Contra Costa Times

Posted: 11/01/2011 05:45:10 AM PDT

Updated: 11/01/2011 09:06:45 AM PDT

A firefighter works at the scene of an explosion in a house in the 3800 block of Ohio Ave. in Richmond. A mysterious explosion nearly shook a house from its foundation early this morning, and the home's occupants miraculously escaped injury, police said.

The explosion, reported at 2:21 a.m. in the 3800 block of Ohio Avenue, was isolated to the home where it occurred and left neighboring dwellings amazingly unscathed.

Richmond police Lt. Shawn Pickett said the house looked blown out, the walls warped and the backyard visible through the house from the front yard.

"I have never seen anything like it," Pickett said. "It was catastrophic."

Pickett said residents in the area thought there had been an earthquake.

Three occupants of the home were out front when police arrived. One was sent to the hospital with "flashover" injuries -- including singed eyebrows and hair and general shock -- but none were thought to be life threatening.

Investigators from the Richmond Fire Department are on scene and have ruled out a leaking gas line as a cause. The presence of gas is still likely a factor, Pickett said.

Pickett said there were signs suggesting that the occupants had unsecured propane tanks in the home and were working with an igniting element such as a blowtorch. The fire department has not commented on an exact cause.

**From:** Ramaiya, Shilpa R  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 01, 2011 7:04 AM  
**To:** [michelle.cooke@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:michelle.cooke@cpuc.ca.gov); [julie.halligan@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:julie.halligan@cpuc.ca.gov)  
**Cc:** Horner, Trina; Doll, Laura  
**Subject:** Nov 1 Explosion Info

Michelle, Julie,

I just saw this explosion information and wanted to make sure you saw it. It does not appear that it was a gas explosion, but we are in the process of confirming that with the fire department who is investigating. Two injuries at 2:30 AM on Ohio Street in Richmond. An explosion occurred inside the left, rear bathroom of the house. Gas was shut at the meter, and there was no smell or indication that gas was released.

Gas Crews have checked the property and surrounding gas mains and services and did not detect any gas readings.

I'll let you know more as I receive confirmation of the cause.

Shilpa

**From:** [webmaster@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:webmaster@cpuc.ca.gov) [[webmaster@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:webmaster@cpuc.ca.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 01, 2011 6:06 AM  
**To:** [usrb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:usrb@cpuc.ca.gov)  
**Cc:** Redacted  
**Subject:** Gas Incident: Pacific Gas and Electric Company Incident No: 111101-3115

**The Following information regarding this incident has been reported:**

**Reporting Date:** 11/1/2011 5:50:14 AM  
**Incident Date:** 11/1/2011 @ 2:30 a.m.  
**Reported By:** Redacted Sr Gas Engineer  
**Utility Name:** Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
**Phone Number:** 415-073-0130  
**Email Address:** Redacted

**Incident Location:** 3803 Ohio St Richmond, Contra Costa

**Reported to DOT?** no  
**DOT Number:**

**Reasons For Reporting:**

- Fatalities? No (Utility: 0, Others: 0)
- Names of Fatalities:

- Injuries? Yes (Utility: 2, Others: 0)
- Names of Injured:
- Damage? No (Utility: 0, Others: 0)
- Interruption? No (Total Customers: 0, Total Hours: 0)
- Operator Judgement? No
- Transmission Shutdown? No
- Transmission Test Failure? No
- Media Coverage? Yes

**Cause of Incident:** Unknown (Other Cause: none)

**Emergency Action:**

**Public Agencies on Scene:** Police; Fire; Ambulance; Media;

**Gas Facilities Involved:**

- Specifications of Failed Facilities:
- Pipe Size (in.):
- MAOP (psi):
- Operating Press (psi):
- Type(s):

**DigIn Information:**

- Excavator Name:
- Contact:
- Phone:

**Incident Recovery:**

- On Scene Date & Time: 11/1/2011 @ 2:51 a.m.
- Service Restored: @ 00:00 a.m.

**Summary:** An explosion occurred inside the left, rear bathroom of the house. The cause of the explosion is still unknown and is under investigation. When the gas was shut at the meter, and there was no smell or indication that gas was released. This incident was reported because it was an explosion.