Second CPUC Hydrostatic Testing Symposium

Wednesday, March 7, 2012 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm



1:30 pm Kick Off and Symposium Overview Interim Deputy Executive Director Michelle Cooke

1:35 pm Opening Comments by Commissioners

1:45 pm

Hydrostatic Testing: One Year Later Nick Stavropoulos, PG&E

- Recap PG&E's 2011 program scope
- Summarize test outcomes [high level]
- How does hydrostatic testing fit into PG&E's overall safety program?
 - Why testing works to ensure safety

2:00 pm

Questions from Commissioners

2:15 pm Hydrostatic Testing Process Ben Campbell, PG&E

Purpose of testing

- Steps involved in pipeline testing, including pipe validation, inspection forms "A" and "H" [photos and images throughout; this is not a comprehensive presentation about PG&E's tests, but rather a description of how we do it, with some selected examples]
 - What happens to the information on the forms and how it is used for integrity
 management and risk management
 - Roles and qualifications/certifications of key players in testing process
 - Methods to assess corrosion, pitting, welding problems
 - What criteria does PG&E use to assess pipeline safety?
 - Options to address problems: repair or replace, sleeving, etc.
 - Quality control and assurance processes [leading into the Weld Verification presentation]

2:45 pm Pipeline Weld Verification

Kirk Johnson or Pierre Bigras (TBD), PG&E Independent pipeline weld expert/X-ray specialist (TBD – perhaps Redacte

Redacted WIX)

PG&E covers:

- Welding code requirements
- Recordkeeping of hydro test girth welds
 - Repair process
- Welder qualifications: PG&E and contractors
- Recent weld failure experience and response

Independent specialist covers (and includes photos):

- Qualifications and training to be an x-ray technician, including liability
 - Process for x-raying a weld
 - What to look for in reviewing a weld

• Frequency of weld repairs

• Quality assurance of the independent process

3:10 pm

Regulatory Perspective Hydrostatic Testing

Sunil Shori, Utilities Engineer, CPUC Consumer Protection and Safety Division

3:20 pm Questions by Commissioners

3:30 pm

Questions from the Public

3:50 pm

Closing and Next Steps Interim Deputy Executive Director Michelle Cooke