

From: Prosper, Terrie D.
Sent: 3/14/2012 3:07:07 PM
To: Prosper, Terrie D. (terrie.prosper@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: CPUC Risk Assessment Unit Issues First Project Status Report and Safety Recommendations: CPUC Information Alert

CPUC Information Alert: CPUC Risk Assessment Unit Issues First Project Status Report and Safety Recommendations

The California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Risk Assessment Unit (RAU) today issued its first project status report and initial recommendations.

The report is available at:

www.cpuc.ca.gov/NR/rdonlyres/381B6603-37A4-48C0-A1B7-D4A56928F6CC/0/RiskAssessmentMarch2012ReportFINAL.pdf.

The report discusses 17 potential hazards that impact public safety, including susceptibility of older plastic pipe to prematurely crack, grandfathering provisions, excavations by third-parties, and unmonitored class location changes. The CPUC is doing additional research to understand the potential impacts of these hazards in California, how prevalent they are in California utility systems, and what regulatory framework or orders might be necessary to address them. The RAU will provide a report on recommended next steps as the research is completed.

The report also discusses the RAU's development of a Natural Gas System Hazard Database that will help ensure CPUC and utility action on unmitigated public safety concerns, increase situational awareness of public safety, and develop ongoing communication and dialog on risk management topics.

The RAU was created following the 2010 Pacific Gas and Electric Company pipeline rupture in San Bruno, Calif., in order to research, develop, and propose tools to improve pipeline safety and oversight in the state.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Terrie

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