



Ben Campbell
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March 19, 2012

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL

Dear Ms. Cooke,

In compliance with Consumer Protection and Safety Division's September 12, 2011 letter to PG&E, PG&E is hereby providing notice for an upcoming hydrotest wherein a spike test is not advisable and thus, will not be performed. For reference, CPSD's letter states "For any applicable pressure tests where a spike hydro-test will not be performed, PG&E's MAOP restoration request must provide advance notice regarding the specific pipeline facility, or component, which PG&E believes would preclude the spike hydro-test from being performed to a minimum level of 5%" (p.4).

This test involves 163 feet of Line 300B near Topock Compressor Station and is being done in conjunction with a new valve being installed at the end of the Topock bridge crossing. The valve and insulating flange being installed are ANSI 300 rated and can only be tested to a maximum pressure of 1110 psig. Even though this is a Class 1 area, we are proposing to test this pipe and valve assembly to 1.5 times the 700 psig MAOP. At this test pressure ratio, the minimum test pressure is 1050 PSIG and the maximum test pressure is 1100 psig. It is not advisable to exceed the ANSI rating of the valve and insulating flange assembly, which would be required if we include a 10% spike test. Attached for your reference is a copy of the construction drawing and strength test pressure report for this test.

PG&E has completed an engineering analysis on about 30% of the tests in 2012 and we are aware of several more tests that a spike test may be unadvisable. We will be sending more information about these additional tests once we make a final determination that a spike test is not advisable.

Also attached for your reference, is a copy of our 2012 strength testing schedule. As you know, test dates can frequently change, so we will be sending you periodic updates throughout 2012 on our schedule.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ben Campbell".

Ben Campbell
Director

Attachments