

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
Gas Pipeline Safety OIR
Rulemaking 11 -02-019
Data Response**

PG&E Data Request No.:	LocalUnions246-342_003-16		
PG&E File Name:	GasPipelineSafetyOIR_DR_LocalUnions246-342_003-Q16		
Request Date:	January 17, 2012	Requester DR No.:	003
Date Sent:	January 30, 2012	Requesting Party:	Plumbers/Pipe Fitters/Steamfitters Local Unions 246/342
PG&E Witness:	Ben Campbell	Requester:	Sarah Grossman-Swenson

As used in the following questions, the terms “segment,” “pipeline segment,” and “pipeline test segment” are used synonymously, in the context of hydrostatic gas pipeline testing, to refer to the portion of a gas pipeline between the inlet and the outlet for water used in a particular hydrostatic test.

QUESTION 16

With respect to each pipeline test segment upon which a hydrostatic pressure test was performed in 2010 or 2011, were vents used to remove gas or air in each test segment? If so, were vents used to remove gas or air at all high points in each test segment?

ANSWER 16

The term “vents” is not a common industry term. On some 2011 tests with varying elevation, air was vented from the pipeline during the water fill procedure. The air was released through small valves installed on the pipeline at the point of highest elevation.

PG&E did not conduct any hydrostatic pressure tests on existing pipe in 2010.