# Safety Symposium

A Proposal For A Series Of Symposiums Beginning In 2012 That Will Address Issues and Seek Solutions To Concerns Relating to Public Safety In The Public Utility Sector Of The State Of California.

Sponsors; California's Public Utility Companies and the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC).

Mission; Define, Create and Sustain a Safety Culture in the State of California

#### Objectives;

- . Define the End Game for Public Safety in California
- . Quantify Where We Are Now
- . Agree on what Safety Culture is Required to Move Us from Our Current State to Our Desired State

Scope of the Symposiums; These will be working meetings that are designed; 1. To allow people in industry and government who are necessarily interdependent on one another to meet, talk, share and make recommendations that are consistent with the Symposiums' objectives, 2. Provide for workshops, panels and presentations that will be designed to share best practices in areas affecting public safety, 3. To understand the expectations for safety and the consequences of failure, 4. To allow industry to understand what the regulators need and why they need it, 5. To affirm that safety, with respect to human life and property is non-negotiable, and, 6. To understand that all parties to these symposiums, including the people of California share the same goal of dramatically improving the safety of our public utility systems.

Disclaimer; The Symposiums are not to be construed as opportunities to advance self-interest, debate rate cases, position for litigation nor provide a forum for mandates.

Attendees; Sponsoring Companies and the CPUC will send individuals who bring subject expertise to the topics of the Symposium and who are of an appropriate level in their respective organizations to influence and advance the solutions advanced.

These Symposiums will be ongoing annual or semi annual events per year beginning with the first Symposium which is targeted to be held during the first 10 days of Dec. 2012. Symposium topics should be timely and forward thinking. Possible topics could include;

- 1. Building A Safety Culture in California's Public Utility Industry (Target 1<sup>st</sup> Symposium Topic).
- 2. Risk Identification, Risk Mitigation and Risk Management
- 3. Right of Way Management and the State of California's One Call System
- 4. Public Safety Benchmarks and Performance Metrics
- 5. Industry Self Reporting and Citation Authority
- 6. Emergency Response, Disaster Communication and Cooperative Disaster Mitigation

Symposium Management and Coordination; It is anticipated that a select committee comprised of Sponsor Company representatives and the CPUC will be put forth and empowered to develop and execute a series of Symposiums consistent with the Objectives. The Team will select its own leader.

Financing for each Symposium will be shared by the sponsors. All in costs for each event are anticipated to be less than \$100,000.00.

It is anticipated that from time to time subject matter experts and public officials not employed by or under the direction of sponsors will be invited to participate in any given Symposium where their participation can reasonably be expected to further the objectives of the specific Symposium's agenda.

Outside attendees; In the interests of full disclosure and transparency all event working sessions will be open to media and will provide limited space opportunities for members of the public.

#### Page 3

Example Symposium Agenda

Date; Dec. 1-10, 2012

Location; San Francisco Bay Area

Title; Safe California-Creating a Culture of Change to Benefit the People of California. (Example working title only)1.

#### Day 1

6-7:00 Reception for Sponsor Attendees (not open to media or the public). The objective here is to provide an opportunity for people to meet each other, to establish lines of communications and build relationships.

7-9:00 Dinner and Speaker

Keynote Speaker; Debra Hersman, Chairman of the NTSB. Hopefully she would speak about some of the nation's most serious pipeline accidents as investigated by the NTSB defining the costs in human terms and property damage; As part of this presentation, she would share the most significant findings and lessons learned from these disasters and the actions that the NTSB believes can be taken to significantly increase pipeline safety nationwide. Hopefully she can support the premise that cooperation between industry and regulators is essential to a successful outcome.

## Day 2

8:30AM Kick Off-President Peavy of the CPUC-To Set the tone for the Symposium. To create the expectation for listening and learning from one another. We are all in the same boat now.

8:45AM PG&E Chairman, CEO and President Tony Earley would discuss the "unique" collaborative opportunity to transform the relationship between regulators and industry to one that becomes a partnership for public safety.

### Page 4

- 9:15 Panel Discussion-Creating a New Culture of Safety-The Past. Panelists would discuss topics including: What is today's safety culture? Do we have the right model in place to foster a partnership between industry and regulators that assures Californians that they have the safest natural gas/electrical distribution systems in the US? How do you foster understanding and create an environment between regulated industry and the regulators that produces a positive outcome? What are the barriers to success and how do we overcome them? The session will be followed by Q&A with a moderator.
- 10:30 Working sessions will be held in separate rooms to allow interested attendees to focus on one of the panel presentations. This open session is intended to allow participants a free forum for their thoughts and recommendations. A session moderator will prepare a group report out.
- 11:30 Working session report out. This is not a debate period but rather a listening opportunity.
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:45 Presentation by a senior California Elected Official (potentially Senator Alex Padilla, Chairman of the California State Senate Utilities Committee) who would speak about what the people of California expect from the companies who serve them and the regulators who represent them with respect to safety. Safety vs Cost-how do we achieve the correct balance between the two. This presentation would provide a key political player a bi-partisan forum to further California's leadership, via a public-private partnership, in the area of public utility safety.
- 12:30 Panel Discussion-Creating a New Culture of Safety-The Future. Panelists would discuss such topics as; What kind of safety culture do we want? How will we know when we have arrived? Can we afford what we think we want? Who is accountable?
- 1:45 Working sessions (above)
- 3:00 Working session report out (above).
- 4:00 Conclusion-What do we do with this now?

## Page 5

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## Other Symposium Titles for Consideration

- 1. Safe: Securing a Future in Energy
- 2. Pause California: Partnership for Utility Safety Excellence
- 3. Public-Private Partnership for a Safe California
- 4. Powering California's Safety
- 5. Keeping California Safe: A Conference on Utility Improvement
- 6. Working Together to Build a Safer California
- 7. California's Energy Future Symposium
- 8. Partnership for a Safer Energy Future
- 9. Building a Blueprint for a Safe California