



**Pacific Gas and
Electric Company**

Frances Yee
Acting Director
Regulatory Compliance & Support
Gas Operations

375 N. Wiget Lane, Suite 200
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

925-974-4316
Fax: 925-974-4232
Internet: FSC2@pge.com

January 25, 2013

General Jack Hagan, Director
Consumer Protection and Safety Division
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2205
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

Re: CPUC Resolution ALJ-274 Self-Identified Non-Compliance Notification
Overpressurization Event in West Sacramento

Dear General Hagan:

Pursuant to Resolution ALJ-274, PG&E is providing notification of a self-identified non-compliance issue regarding an overpressurization event that occurred on January 15, 2013 on distribution facilities in the City of West Sacramento, Yolo County.

During a leak repair at a customer service high pressure regulator (HPR) set, PG&E crews inadvertently shut in an HPR relief valve, allowing pressure in the downstream service line to exceed the Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP) of 60 psig. Operating the plastic service above its MAOP is a violation of 49 CFR §192.619(a)(2).

On January 15, 2013, PG&E gas crews responded to an odor call and discovered a leak at an HPR set that was fed off of 16-inch transmission Line 116. The HPR set feeds a single service with an MAOP of 60 psig. During the leak repair, an employee inadvertently shut in the relief valve at the HPR set, allowing pressure to build up in the service pipe. Approximately 250 feet of 1-inch and ½-inch plastic service was overpressurized for approximately one minute, until the crew corrected the error and opened the valve to allow pressure relief. The reading of the pressure gauge on the service reached its maximum value of 150 psig; however, the pressure in the service may have reached as high as 650 psig, which was the operating pressure in the upstream transmission line. The crew then closed a valve upstream of the HPR set to cut off the flow of gas to the HPR set and to the gas service. The gas service was disconnected, and the HPR set was taken out of service. Portable Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) was installed to maintain service to the customer.

PG&E has initiated a project to engineer and install new facilities to replace the deactivated gas service and HPR set. PG&E will serve the customer using portable CNG until permanent replacements of the gas facilities are complete.

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PG&E is conducting a causal evaluation on this event and based on the results of the evaluation, will develop the appropriate corrective actions to address this event on a longer term or system-wide basis, if warranted.

PG&E will notify the local authorities in the City of West Sacramento and the County of Yolo of this event and will provide confirmation of notification as a supplement to this letter.

Please feel free to contact [Redacted] at [Redacted] or [Redacted] for any additional questions you may have regarding this notification.

Sincerely,



Frances Yee
Acting Director, Regulatory Compliance and Support

cc: Julie Halligan, CPUC
Dennis Lee, CPUC
Mike Robertson, CPUC
Sunil Shori, CPUC

[Redacted] PG&E
[Redacted] PG&E
Shilpa Ramaiya, PG&E