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Cc:
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Subject: CPUC Symposium Panel 1 and 2 Questions

Hello all – these are the Panel 2 (Commissioners, Utilities, PST) Questions provided by [Redacted] and Panel 3 (emergency response) by [Redacted] For your input, comments.

Thank you,

Jane

Jane/Laura-Following are suggested talking points **for Panel 2**

- . From the perspective of each of you-“what constitutes safe enough as it relates to the public safety performance of a gas utility”? Is this an abstract or empirical objective?
- . Is it necessary to measure utility performance in key operational safety areas?
- . Can the parties (utilities and regulators) agree on what these key public safety measures should be?
- . What performance measures should exist that could define the condition of public safety for public safety by gas utilities in California?
- . Should our expectations for public safety be specific, understood and agreed to by the parties or should they be mandated by the regulator?

- . How can we know when we have met these expectations?
- . Should all regulated gas utilities in California be required to measure these key public safety measures using the same methodology?
- . Should these public safety performance measures be periodically published for the public?
- . What specific recommendations can you make to improve the working relationship of the parties to public safety for gas operations in California?
- . Is public safety really a “shared” responsibility for both the regulated companies and the regulator? If so what is the appropriate balance between the parties for this shared responsibility to the public?
- . How can the companies do a better job of meeting regulator needs-what are the largest barriers to that success?
- . How can the regulators do a better job of defining what and when they need something in a way that reduces frustration, improves productivity and the timeliness of reporting?

Jane/Laura-Jerry Hill in his letter to the PUC of 5/22/12 concluded his letter by asking “what constitutes a safe natural gas system”? This is additional validation for what we have been asking. I wonder if this should not be the title for this panel? Just a thought. If you could add to this as you see fit and send to the team members for tomorrow’s conference call it would be appreciated.

Redacted

Jane and symposium team - below is a draft of information that can be provided to panel 3 to help them prepare for the symposium.

Panel 3 - Elements of an Effective Pipeline Emergency Response

(We need to inform panel 3 about the topics of the first 2 panels: 1- Defining a Climate and Culture of Safety and 2- Safety as a Shared Responsibility)

Participants on Panel 3 will include:

Chief Joanne Hayes-White, San Francisco Fire Department

Tim Butters, Deputy Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Jerry Schmitz, Vice-President Gas Engineering, Southwest Gas

Susan Fleming, Director, Physical Infrastructure, GAO

Suggested topics of discussion for panel 3 are:

- What are the elements that make a response to a gas pipeline emergency successful?
- Preparing for gas emergencies: the importance of preparing before a gas pipeline emergency; how planning, establishing professional working relationships, and developing good communications between pipeline operators and emergency responders before an accident can improve the timeliness and effectiveness of responses.
- Training and exercises: the importance of training and joint exercises - and how these activities can improve the effectiveness of responses to events.
- Knowledge of gas systems: the importance of accurate pipeline system maps, including pipe size, normal operating pressure ranges, characteristics such as transmission or distribution lines, and the location of valves that can be used to isolate a failed section.
- Timely responses to reported gas leaks and odors
- Public safety at an incident site- effectively evaluating conditions on scene; assessing potential gas migration paths and measuring gas levels at critical locations; and timely determining evacuation needs.
- Timely isolating gas leaks: importance of having a system capable of quickly identifying a failure location, having adequate valves at appropriate locations to isolate a failed section, and having remote or automatic shut-off valves to improve the timeliness of stopping the flow of gas.
- Public education: educating the public to report gas leaks and odors and on the appropriate actions to take such as when to evacuate a building; educating contractors to immediately report to 911 any damage to a pipeline that results in a release of gas and also to promptly report to a pipeline operator any damage that does not result in an immediate release.

Suggestions welcome. Anything you all would like to add or delete?

Redacted

Chief Hayes-White - proposed topics for her discussion include her views on issues such as cooperation needed between gas utilities and fire departments in planning and preparing for gas emergencies; coordination and communication; access to gas system maps; training and exercises; responses to gas leaks and emergencies; the need for gas system shut-off valves and the ability of utilities to isolate leaks timely; and public education.