

Biomethane Injection Workshop 1
California Public Utilities Commission
Rulemaking - R.13-02-008
Human Health and Safety
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
March 27, 2013 - Auditorium
505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

AB 1900 (authored by Assemblyman Mike Gatto, Chapter 602, Statutes of 2012), requires the CPUC to develop standards for constituents in biogas to protect human health and pipeline integrity and safety. In support of the CPUC standards development efforts, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) and the California Air Resources Board (ARB), in consultation with other State agencies, are to compile a list of constituents of concern (constituents) found in biogas that could pose a health risk and that are at levels that significantly exceed the concentrations of those constituents in natural gas. OEHHA is also to determine health protective levels for these constituents. ARB is tasked with developing realistic exposure scenarios and identifying the associated health risk to utility workers and gas end users; determining the concentrations of these constituents in biogas necessary to protect public health; and identifying monitoring, testing, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements necessary to ensure that health protective levels are maintained. OEHHA/ARB are to issue a report by May 15, 2013 detailing their findings, to which the CPUC will give due deference in its proceeding addressing AB 1900 (R.13-02-008).

Additionally, R.13-02-008 requires CPUC-regulated gas utilities to issue preliminary information regarding, among other things, human and pipeline safety, testing, monitoring, and access.

Given the imminent May 15, 2013 deadline for OEHHA/ARB, this workshop will focus on human health and safety implications of AB 1900 in order to facilitate communication among stakeholders and OEHHA/ARB. The utility presentation will also provide an opportunity for the utilities to present their insights for OEHHA/ARB and for stakeholders to give the utilities input regarding human health and safety. Other topics, such as pipeline integrity, may be addressed in future workshops if necessary.

This workshop will be off the record and not transcribed in order to encourage open discussion. There will likely be a second workshop similar to this one in late April or early May 2013.

This workshop will have a teleconference option. To join the teleconference, please dial: 1-866-812-8481 and enter participant code: 9058288#

If you have any comments or questions regarding the Workshop, please direct them to Franz Cheng, senior regulatory analyst, CPUC at (415) 703-1536 or fcc@cpuc.ca.gov.

Workshop I Agenda

March 27, 2013

1:00 p.m. - 1:10 p.m. – Welcome and Opening Comments

1:10 - 3:00 p.m. (including 45 minutes Q&A) - ARB and OEHHA Joint Presentation on Human Safety: Process, Progress to Date, Constituents of Concern, Health Values, Risk Evaluation, and Health Protective Levels

Presenters

ARB: Paul Milkey, Staff Air Pollution Specialist

ARB: Bonnie Soriano, Staff Air Pollution Specialist

OEHHA: Dr. Andy Salmon, Chief Air Toxicology and Risk Assessment Section

OEHHA: Ken Kloc, Associate Toxicologist

3:00 pm - 3:15 pm Break

3:15 - 4:55 p.m. (including 45 minutes Q&A) - Utility Presentation on Preliminary Information (Focus on Human Safety)

Presenters

PG&E: Carol O. Burke, Acting Manager, Measurement & Gas Quality, Gas Transmission Engineering & Design

So. California Gas Co. / SDG&E: Ron Goodman, Engineering Analysis Center Manager

So. California Gas Co. / SDG&E: May Lew, Chemist

So. California Gas Co. / SDG&E: Steve Hruby, Regulatory Case Manager

Southwest Gas: Steve Frehse, Engineering Staff Manager

4:55 – 5:00 p.m. Workshop Wrap-Up