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Senior Manager
Regulatory & Field Compliance
Gas Operations

Redacted

March 12, 2014

Elizaveta Malashenko, Deputy Director
Safety and Enforcement Division
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Courtesy Notification of a Safety-Related Condition on Distribution
Feeder Main 1816-01 in Aptos

Dear Ms. Malashenko,

On March 7, 2014, a redwood tree fell on the Distribution Feeder Main (DFM) 1816-01, causing damage to the normally-exposed 10-inch pipeline [Redacted]. There was no release of gas. This Safety-Related Condition will be eliminated by replacing a section of the pipeline on Wednesday March 12, 2014, and is therefore not required to be reported to PHMSA per CFR §191.23(b)(4). However, in keeping with our commitment to transparency, we wanted to take this opportunity to notify you of this event.

DFM 1816-01 has a Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP) of 303 psig and is a single transmission pipeline serving the Santa Cruz area. The fallen redwood tree downed electric primary wires. PG&E electric crews observed the tree lying on the gas pipe and called gas employees to investigate. Upon discovery of the damage to the pipeline, the pressure in the pipeline was lowered to 180 psig, and additional compressors were placed at the High Pressure Underground Holder in Santa Cruz. PG&E's Pipeline Engineering and General Construction departments have been working around the clock to install an underground replacement section of pipeline on the opposite side of [Redacted]. The replacement pipe will be tied in on March 12, 2014 and the damaged pipe will be deactivated and removed. Pressure will be restored to a normal operating pressure of 285 psig after the new pipe is in service. There is no interruption of gas service anticipated.

Sincerely,

/S/
[Redacted]

Cc: Dennis Lee, CPUC
Mike Robertson, CPUC

[Redacted] PG&E
Laura Doll, PG&E
Bill Gibson, PG&E
Sumeet Singh, PG&E