UTILITY OPERATIONS	Bulletin Number: 223
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE	Date: 02/15/07

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Gas Information Bulletin

Title: Gas Gathering Relief Valve Capacity Verification

Check all appropriate boxes

☐ SAFETY ALERT	☒ GAS	☒ DISTRIBUTION	☐ SUBSTATION ENGR.
☐ MANDATORY COMPLIANCE	☐ ELECTRIC	☒ TRANSMISSION	☐ TRANS./SUB. M&C
☒ RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	☐ ESTIMATING	☐ OPERATIONS	☐ APPLICANT DESIGNER / CONSTRUCTION
☒ INFORMATIONAL/CLARIFICATION	☐ MAPPING	☐ SERVICE	

Purpose:

The purpose of this bulletin is to communicate the best practice on performing the annual relief valve capacity reviews on relief valves located at gas gathering receipt points. The best practice has been derived from discussions with gas employees at Meridian and Rio Vista Districts.

Affected Documents:

GS&S H-70, *Pressure Relief Devices*

Implementation Responsibilities:

In those districts and divisions that have gas production wells, the Gas Maintenance Supervisors and T&R Supervisors are responsible for implementing and communicating the requirements of this bulletin.

Background:

GS&S H-70, Pressure Relief Devices, has recently incorporated new form FH-70-C, Capacity Review of Relief Devices at Gas Gathering Receipt Points. This form is to be used to verify the adequacy of relief valve capacity where gas is delivered to PG&E pipelines from external gas producers. Typically, these relief valves are installed immediately upstream of PG&E master meters, at receipt points, as assurance that the gas producers are not over-pressurizing our pipelines.

Process:

In order to verify the adequacy of the relief valve capacity, the maximum daily production delivery to our pipelines (since the last review) must be compared with the maximum relief valve capacity. Based on best practices, the following process shall be used to track the maximum daily production delivery:

Each month, review the Totalflow Standard Meter Daily Volume Report (Report Code: 321) for the highest daily volume. Totalflow is the flow computer used to accumulate flow data from the gas gathering master meters. (See Attachment 1 for example of a December 2006 report for meter location of well 70-5.)

Enter the highest daily value for the month on the Maximum Daily Volume for Gas Gathering Relief Valve Calculation Review table. (See Attachment 2 for example for a completed form for 2006.)

This table is used to input the maximum daily flow rates, as well as the maximum relief valve capacity. For 2007, a table shall be created and kept with the relief valve calculations to minimize potential errors. A blank table is available on line under "CGT on WalnutCrk01": PLM\Forms\Pipeline Forms\Relief Valves\ GIB223Attachment3.xls. (See Attachment 3). Note: the daily volume on the Totalflow Report is in MCF (thousand standard cubic feet) and this should be converted to MMCF (million standard cubic feet) since this is the unit used on the form FH-70-C for the maximum relief capacity. The conversion can easily be done by dividing the Totalflow reading by a 1000 or moving the decimal point 3 places to the left. Example: 1173.4440 MCF is 1.173 MMCF.

During the annual capacity review of the relief valve at a gas gathering receipt point, select the highest daily flowrate by reviewing data entered over the previous 12 months. Input this value on Part 1, Line 1 of Form HF-70-C. The example on Attachment 4 of this bulletin shows that the maximum daily volume is 1.17 MMCF, while the relief valve capacity is 4.1 MMCF/D. Therefore, the relief valve capacity is adequate.

If the maximum daily flowrate exceeds the maximum relief valve capacity, the district/division shall contact the responsible pipeline engineer to assess for possible relief valve replacement.

Approved by:

[redacted]

Date: 02/15/07

Author: [redacted]

If you have any questions about this bulletin, please call the employee(s) listed below:

Contact(s): [redacted]
LAN ID(s): [redacted]
Phone(s): [redacted]