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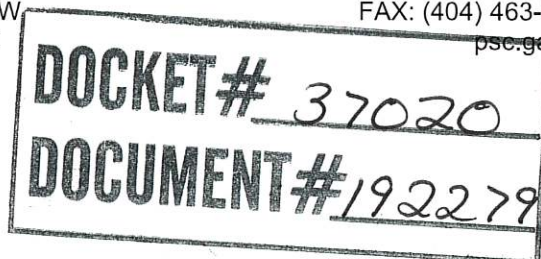
Georgia Public Service Commission

(404) 463-6526
(800) 282-5813

244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334-5701

FAX: (404) 463-6532
psc.ga.gov

Docket No. 37020



Albany Water, Gas & Light Comm.
1726 Lily Pond Road
Albany, GA 31701

REF: Methane Emission Plan Inspection # KR22-029

☐ Certified Mail

☐ Regular Mail

☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Steven Carter

On August 24, 2022, a representative of the Georgia Public Service Commission Pipeline/Facilities Safety Office conducted an inspection of your gas system. The enclosed inspection report numbered KR22-029 is provided for your information and file.

In conjunction with this inspection report, Staff has recommended the following enforcement(s):

Enforcement Action:

- ☐ Notice of Probable Violation
☐ Notice of Probable Violation with Proposed Civil Penalty
☐ Notice of Amendment

Enforcement Letter:

- ☐ Warning Letter
☐ Letter of Concern

Enforcement Notification:

- ☐ Observed Issue
☒ No Violation

Please review and respond to this report in accordance with the attached Instructions for Responding to Enforcement Actions, Enforcement Letters, and Notifications Issued by the Georgia Public Service Commission. Please refer to Docket No. 37020 in your response.

Please let me know if there are any questions concerning this report at (404) 463-6526 or michellet@psc.state.ga.us. Thank you for your continuing contribution toward increased pipeline safety.

Sincerely,

Michelle Thebert

Michelle L. Thebert
Director, Office of Pipeline Safety/Facilities Protection

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REPORT OF NATURAL GAS SAFETY

INSPECTION NO: KR22-029

OPERATOR: Albany Water, Gas & Light Comm.

INVESTIGATOR: Kenny Rowe

INSPECTION DATE: August 24, 2022

REPORT MAILED DATE: November 30, 2022

Any questions concerning this report may be directed to the above address or by telephoning (404) 463-6526.

1. PURPOSE OF INSPECTION

To perform an inspection of the Operator's methane emission reduction plan for compliance with the Congressional mandate of Section 114 of the Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety (PIPES) Act of 2020.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

Violation	Description	Inspection#	Date
192.805(b)	Ensure through evaluation that individuals performing covered tasks are qualified.	JH21-030	9/13/2021
192.805(a)	Each operator shall have and follow a written qualification program. The program shall include...	JH21-030	9/13/2021

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

On August 24, 2022, Staff reported to the Albany Water & Gas Light Gas Department to perform an inspection of the Operator's methane emission reduction plan for compliance with the Congressional mandate of Section 114 of the Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety (PIPES) Act of 2020.

During this inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Adam Lavender – Albany Gas Department Superintendent
Chris Welborn – MGAG/SRCS (Consultant)

Commission Staff was represented by Kenny Rowe, Lead Inspector.

At the time of this inspection Albany had two (2) previously existing probable violations, these violations were not reviewed at the time of this inspection.

NO VIOLATIONS FOUND

During this inspection, Staff examined Albany's Natural Gas System Methane Emission Mitigation Plan. Staff utilized the PHMSA 114 inspection Form for gas distribution operators to review the Operators Methane Emission Plan and all related records to verify compliance with Minimum Federal Safety Regulations. Staff determined that the Operator incorporated minimum standards and measures into their Methane Emission Plan to reduce methane in their day-to-day operations.

As a result of this inspection Staff noted no probable violations of the minimum federal safety standards.

Please review and respond to this report in accordance with the attached Instructions for Responding to Enforcement Letters Issued by the Georgia Public Service Commission.

OPERATOR RESPONSE FORM

Informal Conference Requested: Yes ☐ No ☐

Operator Name: ALBANY WATER, GAS, & LIGHT COMMISSION Docket Number: 37020

Responses required within **30 days of electronic mail**. Provide the following information for this report:

Response to Inspection Number: _____

Type of Enforcement Action(s) cited in report:

Informal Conference Requested

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Probable Violation (NOPV) | <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Amendment (NOA) | <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Warning Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Letter of Concern | <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Observed Issue | <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed Civil Penalty | \$ _____ | |

PCP \$ Amount (Total for report)

Indicate below (A-E) based on the type of Enforcement Actions in this report: (Check all that apply)
Complete a separate copy of Page 2, Operator Response to Enforcement Action, for each cited item.

- A. Response for **Notice of Probable Violation** (with and without proposed civil penalty):
- ☐ Written statement indicating that corrective measures have achieved Compliance or
 - ☐ Written plan of action outlining the corrective measures that will be taken to achieve compliance and when compliance is anticipated.

- B. Response for **NOA**:
- ☐ **Contested**: Attach written explanation, information, or other material in answer to the allegations in the Notice of Amendment stating your reasons for objecting to the NOA, in whole or in part; or
 - ☐ **Not Contested**: Explanation, information, or other material believed to warrant modification of the NOA in whole or in part; or
 - ☐ Written request for clarification. (Attached)

- C. Response for **Continuing** and/or **Existing** violations:
Current status, updates, expected completion dates, proposed modifications, etc., of the continuing and/or existing violations, even if this information was previously provided. Referencing a previously filed response letter, as status, updates, etc. alone is not sufficient for this response. Failure to provide this information may result in formal interrogatories from the Director through data requests.

- D. Response for ☐ **Letter of Concern** / ☐ **Warning Letter**

I acknowledge receipt of the Letter of Concern/Warning Letter: _____
SIGNATURE / TITLE

Additional Comments: (Optional) _____

- E. Response for **Observed Issue** and **No Violation**: (Optional Response)
Staff requests that the Operator acknowledge receipt of the Observed Issue/No Violation in writing, or by submitting an email to the FPU Director

Operator Response to Enforcement Action

Enforcement Action for: _____

☐ New Violation

☐ Continuing Violation

Enter Code / Commission Rule (Complete a separate attachment for each enforcement action)

Enforcement Action(s) cited in report:

☐ Notice of Probable Violation (NOPV)

☐ Notice of Amendment (NOA)

☐ Warning Letter

☐ Letter of Concern

☐ Observed Issue

☐ Proposed Civil Penalty

Conference Requested:

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No

\$

Proposed Penalty for this violation

OPERATORS RESPONSE: _____

Response Provided by: _____

Name / Title

Date: _____

Internal use only:

Lead Inspector: _____

Date Response Reviewed: _____

Actions Acceptable: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Re-inspection Needed: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Clear Violation: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Supervisor Review by: _____

Date Reviewed: _____

Additional Enforcement Recommended: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Director Review

Approved: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Schedule Special Follow-up Inspection: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Cleared Violation: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Comments: _____

OPERATOR RESPONSE FORM

Informal Conference Requested: Yes ☐ No ☐

Operator Name: ALBANY WATER, GAS, & LIGHT COMMISSION Docket Number: 37020

Filings:

For all written responses or any other official correspondence, the Operator shall file the response at the following address:

Ms. Sallie Tanner, Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

The Operator must file **five (5)** copies of any response and/or official correspondence, as well as a CD with an electronic version of the response in Microsoft Word and/or a PDF, if applicable.

Informal Conference:

Any Operator who chooses to request an informal conference shall request such a conference through emailing the Director (michellet@psc.state.ga.us), calling the Director (404-463-2765), or selecting the "Request Conference" choice.

Civil Penalty Payments:

Certified check for the full amount of the recommended civil penalty or consent agreement amount made payable to the Georgia Public Service Commission. The Operator's name, applicable Docket No., and Inspection Report No. must be included on the certified check. Mail payment to:

Ms. Michelle Thebert, Director, Facilities Protection Unit
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Hearing Requests:

The Operator has the right to request a hearing before the full Commission to contest the alleged probable violations, recommended civil penalties, and all other proposed actions of enforcement. A request for a hearing must be submitted in writing and in accordance with Commission Rule 515-2-1-.04. The Operator must include a statement of the issues that you intend to raise at the hearing. The issues may relate to the allegations, new information, proposed compliance order, proposed civil penalty, or any other recommendation for enforcement action. Please refer to Commission Rule 515-9-3-.11 and O.C.G.A. § 46-2-91 for assessment considerations upon which civil penalties are based. An operator's failure to specify an issue may result in a waiver of the right to raise that issue at hearing. The request must also indicate whether or not the Operator will be represented by counsel at the hearing.

Open Records and Trade Secret Filings:

The Operator is advised that any material provided to the Commission, and all materials prepared by the Commission, including the Notice of Probable Violations and any Orders issued in this case, may be considered public information and subject to disclosure under the Georgia Open Records Act (O.C.G.A. § 50-18-70 et seq.). If you believe that any portion of your response material is security sensitive, privileged, confidential or may cause your company competitive disadvantages and would qualify for protection under the Commission's "Trade Secret Rule" (Commission Rule 515-3-1-.11), you must, along with the complete original document clearly marked "TRADE SECRET" on each page, provide a second copy of the document with the portions you believe qualify for trade secret treatment redacted, and an explanation of why you believe the redacted information qualifies for such trade secret treatment. Should the Commission receive a request for disclosure of any "TRADE SECRET" material, you will be notified, if after review, the materials and your provided justification are deemed not to meet any exemptions provided in the Georgia Open Records Act. You may appeal the Commission's decision to release material at that time. Your appeal will stay the release of those materials until a final decision is made.

**BEFORE THE GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF GEORGIA**

IN THE MATTER OF:

**No Violation Report
Albany Water, Gas & Light Commission
Inspection KR22-029 on August 24, 2022**

)
)
) **DOCKET NO. 37020**
)
)
)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I have caused to be served a copy of the foregoing, and a copy of same was served upon all parties and persons listed below via electronic mail as indicated by an asterisk. I further certify that the *Albany Water, Gas & Light Commission* was served a hard copy of the above-stated document by U.S. Mail, certified/return receipt requested.

*Sallie Tanner, Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

*Steven Carter, City Manager
Albany Water, Gas & Light Commission
1726 Lily Pond Road
Albany, GA 31701
scarter@albanyga.gov

*Michelle Thebert, Facilities Protection Unit Director
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

Respectfully Submitted this 14th day of December 2022:



Cathy Nesbitt, Administrative Assistant
Georgia Public Service Commission
Facilities Protection Unit
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334