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FACILITIES PROTECTION UNIT DIRECTOR

Georgia Public Service Commission

(404) 463-6526
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244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334-5701

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

DOCKET# 37040
DOCUMENT# 193095

Docket No. 37040

City of Covington Municipal Gas
P. O. Box 1527
Covington, GA 30015

REF: Construction Inspection # RS22-009

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Tres Thomas

On April 25, 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 RS22-009 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. 37040 in your response.

Please let me know if there are any questions concerning this report at (404) 985-4271 or mthebert@psc.ga.gov. 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: RS22-009

OPERATOR: City of Covington Municipal Gas

INVESTIGATOR: Brant Sweat

INSPECTION DATE: April 25, 2022 REPORT MAILED DATE: January 31, 2023

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

1. PURPOSE OF INSPECTION

To conduct an inspection of the Operators construction project for compliance with the minimum federal standards in 49CFR Part 192.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

Violation	Description	Inspection#	Date
192.619(a)	No person may operate a segment of steel or plastic pipeline at a pressure that exceeds a maximum...	DJ18-015	5/7/2018

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

On April 25th and April 26th Staff reported to The City of Covington Service territory located in middle Georgia, the city of Covington to conduct a field inspection of the Operator's construction site. Southern Pipeline was installing a 2-inch Drisocoplex distribution pipeline for The City of Covington on a main extension and service installation project located at Alcovy Rd and Avenue of Champions.

During this inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Jeremy LaGuins – Gas Project Technician / City of Covington
Micheal Right – Foreman / Crew Leader / Southern Pipeline
Santana Concepcion – Plastic Fuser / Southern Pipeline

Staff was represented by:
Brant Sweat - Lead Pipeline Safety Inspector
Kenny Rowe – Pipeline Safety Inspector

NO VIOLATIONS FOUND

During this inspection Staff reviewed the City of Covington's construction project specifications for the 2-inch PE main extension and service installation project at Alcovy Rd and Avenue of Champions. This project consisted of installing 1950 ft of 2 inch PE plastic main to extend the current 2 inch PE main to feed a warehouse, also a 2 inch transition was welded on to steel line near high pressure station. Staff reviewed the materials being used, excavation for the pipe, damage prevention procedures, and qualification records along with an operator qualification field inspection on personnel performing construction tasks.

During this inspection, Staff conducted OQ Protocol 9 field verification inspections to ensure that covered task(s) were being performed in accordance with appropriate Operator-approved procedures, that the procedures were available at the job site, and that the individuals performing the observed covered task(s) were adhering to the operator-approved procedures as written.

During the field evaluations, Staff observed a Southern Pipeline construction crew and conducted OQ Protocol 9 field evaluations. Staff verified that covered task(s) were being performed in accordance with appropriate Operator-approved procedures, that the procedures were available at the job site, and that the individuals performing the observed covered task(s) were adhering to the operator-approved procedures as written. During the field evaluations, Staff observed Santana Concepcion performing the Task of Socket Heat Fusion on 2 inch plastic, qualification verified current until 01/14/2025. Staff also observed Justin Cordoza performing the Task of Welding, Qualification current until 03/14/2023. Staff also observed Micheal Right performing the task of Back filling, qualification current until 02/06/2023. Staff noted that the individuals were cognizant of abnormal operating conditions that could be encountered with their task.

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.

BEFORE THE GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	
No Violation Report	)	**DOCKET NO. 37040**
City of Covington Municipal Gas	)	
Inspection RS22-009 on April 25, 2022	)	
	)	

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 *City of Covington Municipal Gas* 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

*Tres Thomas, Interim City Manager
City of Covington Municipal Gas
P.O. Box 1527
Covington, GA 30015
tthomas@cityofcovington.org

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

Respectfully Submitted this 7th day of February 2023:

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