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Georgia Public Service Commission

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

FAX: (404) 463-6532
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DOCKET# 37099
DOCUMENT# 204696

Docket No. 37099

City of Waynesboro Gas Dept.
615 N Liberty Street
Waynesboro, GA 30830

REF: DIMP – Implementation Inspection # JS23-009

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Ms. Valerie Kirkland

On February 16, 2023, a representative of the Georgia Public Service Commission Pipeline/Facilities Safety Office conducted an inspection of your gas system. The enclosed inspection report numbered JS23-009 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. 37099 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: JS23-009

OPERATOR: City of Waynesboro Gas Dept.

INVESTIGATOR: Jason Smith

INSPECTION DATE: February 16, 2023 REPORT MAILED DATE: June 6, 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 Operator's implementation of their Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP) for compliance with the minimum federal standards in 49CFR Part 192, SubPart P.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

Violation	Description	Inspection#	Date
Under Consent Agreement	Operator is under a Consent Agreement.	DL20-025	6/30/2020

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

CITY OF WAYNESBORO GAS DEPARTMENT / FOLLOW UP INSPECTION
INSPECTION NUMBER DL23-007 / DOCKET NUMBER 37099

On February 20. 2023 Staff reported to the City of Waynesboro Natural Gas System to conduct a follow-up inspection of the Operators previously existing probable violations.

During this inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Everett Rhodes - Gas Superintendent
Chris Cawley – MGAG/SRCS (consultant)

Commission Staff was represented by:
David Lewis - Lead Inspector
Jason Smith - Pipeline Safety Inspector

At the time of this inspection, the City of Waynesboro was under one (1) previously existing probable violations. In addition, the City of Waynesboro was under a Consent Agreements, (Inspection numbers AT17-036) Staff reviewed the probable violation and Consent Agreement conditions with the Operator and determined that:

PROBABLE VIOLATION CLEARED

In regard to the probable violation of 49 CFR, §192.805 which was cited in Inspection Number DL20-026 in that inspection Staff stated: "The City of Waynesboro failed to ensure that personnel performing covered tasks on their natural gas system were qualified to do so."

OPERATOR RESPONSE: In their response letter to Inspection Number DL20-026 dated March 9, 2021 the City of Waynesboro stated that: "At the time of this Inspection and continuing to-date, all of the referenced Covered Tasks were and are being performed by individuals with current, valid Qualifications. To ensure that Qualifications do not lapse in the future, the City Manager has been added to the distribution list for monthly reports of expiring and ended Qualifications generated from the City's Qualification Keeper system."

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION: During this inspection (DL23-007) Staff examined documentation of the City of Waynesboro's training records for two employees that have caught them up to date on their training.

Staff determined that this probable violation can be cleared at this time.

FOLLOW-UP ON TERMS OF CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR AT17-036 REGARDING JL13-012:

During this inspection (DL23-007) Staff found that on July 31, 2019, the City of Waynesboro signed a Consent Agreement with the Commission to address the probable violation and proposed civil penalty for the violation of Waynesboro's probable violations of 49 C.F.R. §192.13(c) cited in Inspection Number JL13-012 and recommended a civil penalty in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000.00). Staff reviewed each of the items from the Consent Agreement and determined the following:

a) Consent Item 1- Waynesboro shall send two employees to the Georgia Pipeline Safety Seminar in Macon beginning in 2020 for the next three (3) years at an estimated cost of $1000 per person per year.

FOLLOW UP (1): During inspection (DL20-025) Staff determined that due to the Covid 19 conditions, the Georgia Pipeline Safety Seminar did not take place and this item could not take place.
FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION (2): During this inspection (DL23-007) Staff determined that this item cannot be corrected until the 2023 Georgia Pipeline Safety Seminar in Macon.

Staff determined that this item has not been addressed.

b) Consent Item 2- Waynesboro shall send one employee to the Drug and Alcohol class offered by Staff during the next three Pipeline Safety Seminars beginning in 2020 at an estimated cost of $500.00 per year.

FOLLOW UP (1): During inspection (DL20-025) the City of Waynesboro could not provide documentation showing that the City of Waynesboro employee completed the class for Drug and Alcohol training.

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION (2): During this inspection (DL23-007) Staff determined that this item cannot be corrected until the 2023 Georgia Pipeline Safety Seminar in Macon.

Staff determined that this item has not been addressed.

c) Consent Item 3- Waynesboro shall become a member of the Georgia Pipeline Emergency Responders Initiative ("GPERI") for a period of three (3) years at a cost of $400.00 per year. The projected completion date is June 30, 2023.

FOLLOW UP (1): During this inspection (DL20-025) Staff examined documentation showing that the City of Waynesboro has been participating in the GPERI initiative since May 16, 2019.

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION (2): During this inspection (DL23-007) Staff determined that this item cannot be corrected until the 2023. The projected completion date is June 30, 2023.

Staff determined that this item has not been addressed.

d) Consent Item 4- Waynesboro shall participate in the Georgia 811 RP1162 Statewide Excavator Awareness Program for a period of three (3) years at a cost of $75.00. The projected completion date of December 31, 2023.

FOLLOW UP (1): During inspection (DL20-025) Staff examined documentation showing that the City of Waynesboro has joined the Georgia 811 RP1162 Statewide Excavator Awareness Program started on November 14, 2019.

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION (2): During this inspection (DL23-007) Staff examined documentation/invoice and payment for membership with the Georgia 811 RP1162 Statewide Excavator Awareness Program.

Staff determined that this item is completed for the three (3) year term.

Staff determined that this consent agreement cannot be cleared at this time.

Staff advised the Operator that they would remain subject to periodic monitoring of the consent agreement terms until the final completion date in 2023.

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:	)	
	)	
Letter of Concern	)	**DOCKET NO. 37099**
City of Waynesboro Gas Department	)	
Inspection JS23-009 on February 16, 2023	)	
	)	

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 Waynesboro Gas Department* 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

*Valerie Kirkland, City Manager
City of Waynesboro Gas Department
628 Myrick Street
Waynesboro, GA 30830
vkirkland@waynesboroga.gov

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

Respectfully Submitted this 27th day of June 2023:

Cathy Nesbitt

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