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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
psc.ga.gov

Docket No. 37617

DOCKET# 37617
DOCUMENT# 217460

Southern Company Pipelines
600 18th St N
PO Box 2641
Birmingham, AL 35203

REF: Comprehensive Inspection # DC23-029

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Jim Denham

On September 25, 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 DC23-029 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. 37617 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: DC23-029

OPERATOR: Southern Company Pipelines

INVESTIGATOR: Daniel Clemmons

INSPECTION DATE: September 25, 2023 REPORT MAILED DATE: February 8, 2024

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

1. PURPOSE OF INSPECTION

To conduct a comprehensive inspection of the Operators plans, programs, procedures, pipeline, and pipeline facilities for compliance with the minimum federal safety standards in 49CFR Parts 191 and 192.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

From September 25 through November 9, 2023 Staff conducted a Comprehensive Inspection of the Southern Company Pipelines manuals, plans, records, and pipelines facilities for compliance with the minimum federal safety standards. This inspection was conducted remotely, and in person at the Yates site (Coweta County) and Wansley site (Heard County) and included Operator Qualification Protocol 9 field evaluations of personnel performing covered tasks.

During this inspection the Operator was represented by:
Jim Denham – Operations Compliance Director
Anathea Freiberg – PAP and ERP Coordinator

Commission Staff was represented by:
Daniel Clemmons – Lead Inspector
Daphne Jones – Pipeline Safety Inspector

At the time of this inspection the Southern Company Pipelines had no previously existing probable violations.

NO VIOLATIONS FOUND

During this inspection Staff conducted a review of Southern Company Pipelines Corporate Emergency Manual, the Operations and Maintenance Manual, Damage Prevention Plan, Operator Qualifications, and the records for conducting regular operations on their gas system including the collection of field data required for the Operator's TIMP program.

During the field evaluations, Staff observed James (Bobby) Sims, Pipeline Specialist Task #716OP Inspect, Maintain, and Operate Valves: qualification expiration date, 2/9/2025 and Task # 417OP Atmospheric Corrosion Monitoring: qualification expiration date 5/26/2025. Staff observed also observed Zachary Neal Harris perform Task #701OP Patrolling Pipeline and Leakage Survey without Instrument: qualification date, 9/29/2025 and Task #723OP Leakage Survey with Remote Laser Leak Detection Device, qualification expiration date 9/29/2025. Staff observed Operators personnel follow the task procedure and applicable manufactures written procedure and identify the AOC's.

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. 37617**
Southern Company	)	
Inspection DC23-029 on September 25, 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 *Southern Company* 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

*Jim Denham, Operation Compliance
Southern Company
42 Inverness Center Parkway
Birmingham, AL 35242
jhdenham@southernco.com

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

*Stan Connally, President & CEO, SCS
Southern Company
600 18th Street North
P.O. Box 2641
Birmingham, AL 35203
swconnal@southernco.com

Respectfully Submitted this 14th day of February 2024:

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