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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. 37024

DOCKET# 37024
DOCUMENT# 217463

AGL - Operations and Engineering
Ten Peachtree Place, NE Suite 1000
Location 1365
Atlanta, GA 30309

REF: Construction Inspection # RS23-020

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Pedro Cherry

On September 26, 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 RS23-020 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. 37024 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: RS23-020

OPERATOR: AGL - Athens

INVESTIGATOR: Brant Sweat

INSPECTION DATE: September 26, 2023 REPORT MAILED DATE: February 7, 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 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
192.605(a)	Each operator shall prepare and follow for each pipeline, a manual of written procedures for...	AT20-014	2/27/2020

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

On September 26th and September 27th Staff reported to the city of Hoschton, Georgia territory of Atlanta Gas Light to conduct a field inspection of the Operator's construction site. SEC was installing a 6-inch Drisocoplex distribution pipeline for Atlanta Gas Light on a main extension and service installation project located at SR 332 and Boone Rd in Hall County.

During this inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Malcom Loyd – AGL, Quality Assurance Specialist
Esgar Ortuno – SEC, Gas Line Technician
Ebed Martinez – SEC, Gas Line Technician
Jose Lopez – SEC, Crew Foreman

Staff was represented by Brant Sweat, Lead Pipeline Safety Inspector.

At the time of this inspection the AGLC - Athens Service Center was under one previously existing prior violation. Since this inspection was performed in the field Staff did not review this item.

NO VIOLATIONS FOUND

During this inspection Staff reviewed SEC's construction project specifications for the 6-inch PE main extension and service installation project at SR 332 and Boone Rd. This project consisted of installing 21,000 ft of 6-inch PE plastic main to extend the current 6-inch PE main to feed 4 Subdivisions, also a 6-inch transition was welded onto steel line. 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 multiple SEC Pipeline construction crew workers conduct OQ Protocol 9 field Task. 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 Ebed Martinez performing the Task of Socket Heat Fusion on 6-inch plastic, qualification verified current until 04/20/24. Staff also observed Jose Lopez performing the Task of Excavation and Backfilling, Qualification current until 05/24/24. Staff also observed Esgar Ortuno performing the task of Purging Pipelines, qualification current until 02/23/2025. 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. 37024**
Atlanta Gas Light Company	)	
Inspection RS23-020 on September 26, 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 *Atlanta Gas Light 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

* Pedro Cherry, President and CEO
Southern Company Gas
Ten Peachtree Place, NE,
Atlanta, GA 30309
ppcherry@southernco.com

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

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