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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 No. 37060

DOCKET# 37060
DOCUMENT# 217475

Mid-State Energy Commission (Formerly
known as JONG)
200 Dunbar Rd.
Byron, GA 31008

REF: Operator Qualification Inspection # DJ23-027

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Wayne James

On August 7, 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 DJ23-027 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. 37060 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: DJ23-027

OPERATOR: Mid-State Energy Commission (Formerly known as JONG)

INVESTIGATOR: Daphne Jones

INSPECTION DATE: August 7, 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 an inspection of the Operator's operator qualification (OQ) program for compliance with the minimum federal standards in 49CFR §192, Subpart N.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

On August 7-8, 2023, Commission Staff reported to the Midstate Energy Commission in Byron, GA. to conduct an Operator Qualification (OQ) program inspection and a Protocol 9 inspection for compliance with the minimum federal safety standards.

During the inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Lori Calhoun – Director of Compliance and Safety
Casey Connell – Fields Operations Manager
Wade Sharpe – MGAG/SRCS (Consultant)

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

At the time of this inspection, the Midstate Energy Commission had no previously existing probable violations.

During this Operator Qualification inspection, Staff utilized PHMSA Operator Qualification Plan Review Form14 to review the Midstate Energy Commission's Gas Department's OQ plan and records, which includes their process on ensuring contractors compliance.

NO PROBABLE VIOLATIONS

During this inspection Staff conducted a review of the Operator's Qualifications to ensure that the Operator had and followed a written qualification program, that covered task (s) were being performed in accordance with appropriate operator-approved procedures, that the procedures were present at the job site, and that the individuals performing the observed covered task(s) were qualified and adhering to the operator-approved procedures as written.

During the field evaluation, Staff observed the Operator's personnel perform three protocol 9 inspections in Byron, Ga. The Operator provided the individual qualifications for Casey Connell to perform covered tasks. Staff examined the individual records before observing the performance. Staff verified that qualification records for this individual were current.

Casey Connell, Fields Operations Manager for the Midstate Energy Commission, performed Task #1171 Installing Customer Meters – Large Commercial and Industrial, qualified on 10/29/2020 and expires 10/29/2023, Task #1231 Inside Gas Leak Investigation, qualified on 12/14/2022 and expires 12/14/2025, and Task #1301 Install and Maintain Pipeline Markers, qualified on 12/14/2022 and expires 12/14/2027. Staff verified that the individual was able to perform the covered tasks according to the procedure and was able to identify generic and task specific abnormal conditions and define the applicable actions.

As a result of this inspection, Staff found no probable violations of the Operator's written Operator Qualification program required by 49 CFR, Sub-Part N. Staff determined that the Operator has met minimum 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. 37060**
Mid-State Energy Commission	)	
(Formerly known as JONG)	)	
Inspection DJ23-027 on August 7, 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 *Mid-State Energy 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

*Wayne James, General Manager
Mid-State Energy Commission
200 Dunbar Rd.
Byron, GA 31008
wjames@wrga.gov

*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

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