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FACILITIES PROTECTION UNIT DIRECTOR

Georgia Public Service Commission

(404) 463-6526
(800) 282-5813

244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334-5701

FAX: (404) 463-6532
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DOCKET# 37024
DOCUMENT# 218903

Docket No. 37024

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

REF: Construction Inspection # JJ23-048

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Pedro Cherry

On November 29, 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 JJ23-048 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: JJ23-048

OPERATOR: AGL - West GA

INVESTIGATOR: Joe Jones

INSPECTION DATE: November 29, 2023 REPORT MAILED DATE: May 30, 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
192.614	Damage prevention program.	JL15-022	3/31/2015
515-9-1-.06	Incident Notification	JL15-022	3/31/2015
192.605(a)	Each operator shall prepare and follow for each pipeline, a manual of written procedures for...	AT19-001	1/3/2019
192.605(a)	Each operator shall prepare and follow for each pipeline, a manual of written procedures for...	JS22-003	2/8/2022

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

On November 29, 2023, Staff reported to Atlanta Gas Light Company (Southern Company) West Georgia service territory Palmetto Georgia, to conduct an unannounced field inspection of the Operator's construction site. The location of the construction site was 7995 Bowen Road, Palmetto Georgia. This was a new construction project. Benton construction crews were installing a 4-inch plastic distribution pipeline for a new industrial customer. Staff conducted an inspection of construction materials/ components, construction description maps, and construction methods. Staff conducted OQ protocol 9 inspection on contract personnel.

During this inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Durant Noles – Supervisor (AGL Contractor)
Johnny Lench - Operator Forman (AGL Contractor)
Todd Haynes – Supervisor Asset Protection

Staff was represented by Joseph Jones, Lead Inspector.

NO VIOLATIONS FOUND

During this inspection Staff made an unannounced visit to an Atlanta Gas Light Company (Southern Company) construction project in the West Georgia service area. Staff visited a Benton construction site where the AGL Contractor was installing a 4-inch plastic service pipeline at 7995 Bowen Road, Palmetto Georgia. The pipeline that was being installed was for a new industrial customer, it was approximately 3000 feet of Driscoplex plastic. Benton crew advised Staff that it would be the first of the year before the service would be connected. Staff reviewed the materials being used, the excavation for the pipe, damage prevention procedures, and qualification records along with an operator qualification field inspection on personnel performing construction tasks. This Benton Construction crew were able to demonstrate and verify they could produce all AGL procedures and AOC documentation while staff were on the construction site.

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, 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 the Operators contractor (Benton) personnel perform each task. Staff observed Johnny Lench, performing Installation of Plastic Pipe (Includes Boring), Jose Rodrigues, performing Damage Prevention Inspection (Excavation), and Mark Davis, performing Visual Inspection of Joining Materials Other than Welding (Electrofusion). Staff observed that they complied with the Operators procedures in the AGLC OPM manual. Staff also verified OQ requirements for each individual. Staff also noted that each individual was 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-West GA	)	
Inspection JJ23-048 on November 29, 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 _____ day of June 2024:

Cathy Nesbitt

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