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Georgia Public Service Commission

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244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334-5701

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DOCKET# 37020
DOCUMENT# 218919

Docket No. 37020

Albany Water, Gas & Light Comm.
1726 Lily Pond Road
Albany, GA 31701

REF: Follow Up Inspection # JJ23-015

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Steven Carter

On March 9, 2023, a representative of the Georgia Public Service Commission Pipeline Safety/Facilities Protection Office conducted an on-site inspection of your gas system and found that previously identified probable violation(s) of the Pipeline Safety Regulations have either been cleared or are continuing, as identified below.

- ☒ Previously existing probable violation(s) has/have been cleared.
- ☐ Previously existing probable violation(s) still exist.
- ☐ Additional Enforcement
  - ☐ Notice of Proposed Violation
  - ☐ Notice of Proposed Violation with Proposed Civil Penalty
  - ☐ Warning Letter
  - ☐ Letter of Concern
  - ☐ Observed Issue
- ☐ Consent Agreement Pending

The enclosed inspection report numbered JJ23-015 is provided for your information and file.

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. 37020 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: JJ23-015

OPERATOR: Albany Water, Gas & Light Comm.

INVESTIGATOR: Joe Jones

INSPECTION DATE: March 9, 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 a follow-up inspection of the Operators previously existing probable violations.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

Cleared on 3/9/2023

Violation	Description	Inspection#	Date
192.805(b)	Ensure through evaluation that individuals performing covered tasks are qualified.	JH21-030	9/13/2021
192.805(a)	Each operator shall have and follow a written qualification program. The program shall include...	JH21-030	9/13/2021

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

On March 13-16, 2023, Staff reported to the Albany Gas Department to complete this follow-up inspection of the Operator's previously existing probable violation.

During this inspection the Operator was represented by:
Ronnie Bowers – Gas Superintendent
Chris Welborn –MGAG/SRCS (consultant)

Commission Staff was represented by:
Joseph Jones - Lead Inspector
Daphne Jones - Pipeline Safety Inspector
Dainel Clemmons – Pipeline Safety Inspector

At the time of this inspection the City of Albany Gas System was under two (2) previously existing probable violations. Staff reviewed these probable violations with the Operator and determined that:

PROBABLE VIOLATION CLEARED

1. In regard to the probable violation 49CFR §192.805(b) which was cited in Inspection Number JH21-030; in that inspection Staff stated: "The Albany Water Gas & Light Commission failed to identify the covered tasks required for compliance with §192.749(a) and to ensure through evaluation that the individuals performing that covered tasks were qualified to perform it.

OPERATOR RESPONSE: In their response letter to Inspection Number JH21-030, dated March 9, 2022, the City of Albany stated: By March 31, 2022, Albany Utility Board will revise its Operations and Maintenance Procedures and Operator Qualification Plan to include a procedure for vault maintenance and will Qualify appropriate personnel in performance of this Covered Task. Update, Albany has updated its Operations and Maintenance Procedures and Operator Qualification Plan to include a procedure for vault maintenance and have qualified appropriate personnel in performance of the covered tasks.

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION: During this inspection (JJ23-015) Staff determined that the Operator has taken action to address the probable violation by providing documentation to support that they have Procedures and Operator Qualification Plan to include a procedure for vault maintenance and will qualify appropriate personnel in performance of this Covered Task.

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

2. In regard to the notice of amendment for 49CFR §192.805(a) which was cited in Inspection Number JH21-030; in that inspection Staff stated: "The Albany Water Gas & Light Commission must amend their procedures required by §192.605(a) to address the maintenance activities for their vault."

OPERATOR RESPONSE: In their response letter to Inspection Number JH21-030, dated March 9, 2022, the City of Albany stated: By March 31, 2022, Albany Utility Board will revise its Operations and Maintenance Procedures and Operator Qualification Plan to include a procedure for vault maintenance as a Covered Task. Albany has performed the above-mentioned tasks.

FOLLOW-UP INSPECTION: During this inspection (JJ23-015) Staff determined that the Operator has taken action to address the probable violation by providing documentation to support that they have Procedures and Operator Qualification Plan to include a procedure for vault maintenance as a Covered Task.

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

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:	)	
	)	
Cleared Violation Report	)	**DOCKET NO. 37020**
Albany Water, Gas & Light Commission	)	
Inspection JJ23-015 on March 9, 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 *Albany Water, Gas & Light 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

*Steven Carter, City Manager
Albany Water, Gas & Light Commission
1726 Lily Pond Road
Albany, GA 31701
scarter@albanyga.gov

*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