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FACILITIES PROTECTION UNIT DIRECTOR

Georgia Public Service Commission

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244 Washington Street, SW
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FAX: (404) 463-6532
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DOCKET# 37035
DOCUMENT# 221388

Docket No. 37035

City of Claxton Gas Department
P. O. Box 829
204 West Railroad Street
Claxton, GA 30417

REF: 199 Inspection # DL24-022

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Terry Branch

On June 18, 2024, a representative of the Georgia Public Service Commission Pipeline/Facilities Safety Office conducted an inspection of your gas system. The enclosed inspection report numbered DL24-022 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. 37035 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: DL24-022

OPERATOR: City of Claxton Gas Department

INVESTIGATOR: David Lewis

INSPECTION DATE: June 18, 2024 REPORT MAILED DATE: February 5, 2025

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 anti-drug and alcohol programs required by 49CFR Parts 40 and 199.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

Violation	Description	Inspection#	Date
192.1007(d)	Identify and implement measures to address risks.	AT22-009	2/21/2022
192.1011	What records must an operator keep?	AT22-009	2/21/2022
192.473(a)	Each operator whose pipeline system is subjected to stray currents shall have in effect a...	JH23-009	6/20/2023
Consent Agreement Pending	Operator is negotiating Consent Agreement with the FPU Director	DL24-017	6/1/2024

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

On June 18-19, 2024, Staff reported to the City of Claxton to conduct an inspection of the Operator's Drug and Alcohol misuse plan for compliance with the minimum federal safety standards.

During this inspection the Operator was represented by:
Danny Hughs – Gas Superintendent
Taylor Rush- DER/ Regulatory Compliance
Chris Cawley – MGAG/SRCS (Consultant)

Commission Staff was represented by:
David Lewis – Lead Inspector
Jack Hewitt - Pipeline Safety Inspector
Chuck Whitaker- Pipeline Safety Inspector

At the time of this inspection the City of Claxton was under seventeen (17) previously existing probable violations. These violations will be addressed under Follow-Up Inspection Number DL24-017.

NO VIOLATIONS FOUND

During this inspection Staff reviewed the City of Claxton's natural gas system drug & alcohol plan and records for compliance with Part 199 & 40 of the Pipeline safety Regulations. Staff examined the operator's policies, provisions for education and training, drug and alcohol testing, and when needed, referral for evaluation and treatment.

During this inspection Staff performed three OQ Protocol 9 evaluations. Staff observed
- Bishop Bullard performed Task #0301 Manually Opening & Closing Valves qualified through 5/30/2026 and Task #0141 Visual Inspection for Atmospheric Corrosion he is qualified through 5/30/2026.
- Brad Jernigan perform Task #1301 Install & Maintain Pipeline Markers qualified 9/14/2025.

Staff verified that each individual was able to perform the covered tasks according to the procedures and was able to identify generic and task specific abnormal conditions and define the applicable actions.

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:	)	
	)	
City of Claxton Gas Department	)	**DOCKET NO. 37035**
	)	
	)	
	)	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, do hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the within and foregoing document on the following persons via email or United States Mail as follows:

*Sallie Tanner, Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

*The Honorable Terry Branch, Mayor
City of Claxton Gas Department
P.O. Box 829
204 West Railroad Street
Claxton, GA 30417
mayor@cityofclaxton.net

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

Respectfully Submitted this 12th day of February 2025:

Cathy Nesbitt

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