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Georgia Public Service Commission

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DOCKET# 37029
DOCUMENT# 221391

Docket No. 37029

City of Buford Gas System
2300 Buford Highway
Buford, GA 30518

REF: 199 Inspection # DJ24-033

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Bryan Kerlin

On August 27, 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 DJ24-033 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. 37029 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: DJ24-033

OPERATOR: City of Buford Gas System

INVESTIGATOR: Daphne Jones

INSPECTION DATE: August 27, 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

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

On August 27, 2024, Commission Staff reported to the City of Buford to conduct an inspection of the Operator's Drug and Alcohol misuse plan for compliance with the minimum federal safety standards and Protocol 9 inspections for compliance with the minimum federal standards in 49CFR §192, Subpart N.

During this inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Jason Higgins – Program Coordinator
Leroy Kellam Jr. – Administrator Assistant
Wes Gunter – AC Mitigation Technician
Chris Wall – Leak Survey Technician
Aaron Davis – Service Technician
Bruce Bagnasco– MGAG/SRCS (Consultant)

Commission Staff was represented by:
Daphne Jones – Lead Inspector
Eric Atkins – Pipeline Safety Inspector

At the time of this inspection, the City of Buford had no previously existing probable violations.

NO VIOLATIONS FOUND

During this inspection Staff reviewed City of Buford 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 the field evaluation, Staff observed the Operator's personnel perform three protocol 9 inspections in Gwinnett County. The Operator provided the individual qualifications for Wes Gunter, Chris Wall, and Aaron Davis to perform covered tasks. Staff examined the individual records before observing the performance in the field. Staff verified that qualification records for these individuals were current.

Wes Gunter, A.C. Mitigation Tech, perform Task #0101 Inspect Rectifier and Obtain Readings: qualification expiration date, 10/27/2025. Staff verified that the individual was able to perform these covered tasks according to the procedures and was able to identify generic and task specific abnormal conditions and define the applicable actions.

Chris Wall, Leak Survey Tech, perform Task #1241 Outside Gas Leak Investigation: qualification expiration date, 8/03/2026. Staff verified that the individual was able to perform these covered tasks according to the procedures and was able to identify generic and task specific abnormal conditions and define the applicable actions.

Aaron Davis, Service Tech, perform Task #1211 Odorization – Periodic Sampling: qualification expiration date, 1/30/2028. Staff verified that the individual was able to perform these 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 Buford Gas System	)	**DOCKET NO. 37029**
	)	
	)	
	)	

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

*Bryan Kerlin, City Manager
City of Buford Gas System
2300 Buford Highway
Buford, GA 30518
bkerlin@cityofbuford.com

*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