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REECE McALISTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MICHELLE THEBERT
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
psc.ga.gov

Docket No. 37029

DOCKET# 37029
DOCUMENT# 221397

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

REF: DIMP – Implementation Inspection # DJ24-017

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Bryan Kerlin

On April 9, 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 DJ24-017 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: DJ24-017

OPERATOR: City of Buford Gas System

INVESTIGATOR: Daphne Jones

INSPECTION DATE: April 9, 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 implementation of their Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP) for compliance with the minimum federal standards in 49CFR Part 192, Subpart P.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

From April 8-9, 2024, Staff reported to the City of Buford's Gas Department to perform a Distribution Integrity Management Plan (DIMP IMP) Implementation Inspection on the Operator's DIMP plans, records, and pipeline facilities for compliance with the minimum federal safety standards and conduct Protocol 9 inspections for compliance with the minimum federal safety standards. An exit meeting was performed on April 9, 2024.

During this inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Jason Higgins – Program Coordinator
Alex Philmon – Administrator Assistant
Leroy Kellam Jr. – Administrator Assistant
Maurice Walker – LP Supervisor
Jeff Hanna – Leak Survey Technician
Josey Sanders – Service Technician
Bruce Bagnasco– MGAG/SRCS (Consultant)

Commission Staff was represented by:
Daphne Jones – Lead Inspector
Daniel Clemmons – 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 performed a DIMP IMP Inspection of the Operator's written DIMP plan and, records, and gas facilities for compliance with 49 CFR Parts 191 and 192, and the GPSC rules for safe operation of a natural gas distribution system.

During this inspection, The Operator had records on file to demonstrate they collected all the required data on any new pipeline and components installed from 2014 thru 2023. Staff verified that the Operator has documented the following: • Location • Material type and size • Wall thickness or SDR • Manufacturer • Lot or production number. The operator has documented all new construction and maintenance, and existing facilities, as it is exposed, by capturing the data on their work order specification sheet.

During the field evaluation, Staff also observed the Operator's personnel perform three Protocol 9 inspections in Buford, Ga. The Operator provided the individual qualifications for Maurice Walker, LP Supervisor, perform Task #1291 Locate Underground Pipelines: qualification expiration date, 1/30/2025. Staff observed also observed Jeff Hanna, Leak Survey Tech, perform Task #1241 Outside Gas Leak Investigation: qualification expiration date, 3/25/2025. Staff also observed Josey Sanders, Service Tech, perform Task #1231 Inside Gas Leak Investigation: qualification expiration date, 6/8/2026. Staff examined the individual records before observing the performance in the field. Staff verified that qualification records for these individuals were current.

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.

COMMISSIONERS

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TIM G. ECHOLS, Vice-Chairman
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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 19th day of February 2025:

Cathy Nesbitt

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