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Georgia Public Service Commission

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DOCKET# 37092
DOCUMENT# 221620

Docket No. 37092

City of Toccoa Natural Gas Department
(Distribution)
92 N. Alexander St
PO Box 579
Toccoa, GA 30577

REF: DIMP – Implementation Inspection # JH24-047

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Ms. Fredda Wheeler

On December 12, 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 JH24-047 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. 37092 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: JH24-047

OPERATOR: City of Toccoa Natural Gas Department (Distribution)

INVESTIGATOR: Jack Hewitt

INSPECTION DATE: December 12, 2024 REPORT MAILED DATE: February 18, 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

Violation	Description	Inspection#	Date
192.619(a)	No person may operate a segment of steel or plastic pipeline at a pressure that exceeds a maximum...	AT18-022	6/11/2018
192.181(b)	Each regulator station controlling the flow or pressure of gas in a distribution system must have...	AT18-022	6/11/2018
Consent Agreement Pending	Operator is negotiating Consent Agreement with the FPU Director	JJ19-032	6/17/2019
Consent Agreement Pending	Operator is negotiating Consent Agreement with the FPU Director	DJ20-039	12/7/2020
192.605(a)	Each operator shall prepare and follow for each pipeline, a manual of written procedures for...	DJ21-038	10/4/2021
192.465(d)	Each operator shall take prompt remedial action to correct any deficiencies indicated by the...	DJ21-038	10/4/2021
192.467(a)	Each buried or submerged pipeline must be electrically isolated from other underground metallic...	DJ21-038	10/4/2021

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

On December 12th, 2024, Commission Staff conducted a virtual inspection of the Operators Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP) (Implementation) for compliance with the minimum federal standards in 49CFR Part 192, SubPart P.

During this inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Rocky Bowen – Gas Superintendent
Brandon Wheeler – Assistant Superintendent
Rance Fleming – Compliance Manager
Bruce Bagnasco– MGAG/SRCS (Consultant)

Commission Staff was represented by:
Jack Hewitt – Lead Inspector
Brant Sweat – Pipeline Safety Inspector

At the time of this inspection the City of Toccoa was under five (5) previously existing probable violations. These violations are addressed under Follow-Up Inspection Number RS24-031, which the Operator had not yet received.

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.

Because this inspection was conducted virtually Staff did not conduct any OQ Protocol 9 field evaluations.

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 Toccoa Natural Gas Department (Distribution)	)	**DOCKET NO. 37092**
	)	
	)	
	)	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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

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

*Ms. Fredda Wheeler, City Manager
City of Toccoa Natural Gas
92 N. Alexander Street
P.O. Box 579
Toccoa, GA 30577
fwheeler@cityoftoccoa.com

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

Respectfully Submitted this 4th day of March 2025:

Cathy Nesbitt

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