COMMISSIONERS

JASON SHAW , Chairman
TIM G. ECHOLS , Vice-Chairman
FITZ JOHNSON
LAUREN "BUBBA" McDONALD
TRICIA PRIDEMORE

FILED
FEB 27 2025
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
GPSC



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. 37020

DOCKET# 37020
DOCUMENT# 221638

City of Albany
1726 Lily Pond Road
Albany, GA 31701

REF: Abandonment Inspection # JJ24-031

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Derrick Brown

On June 26, 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 JJ24-031 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. 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

COMMISSIONERS

JASON SHAW , Chairman
TIM G. ECHOLS , Vice-Chairman
FITZ JOHNSON
LAUREN "BUBBA" McDONALD
TRICIA PRIDEMORE

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

REPORT OF NATURAL GAS SAFETY

INSPECTION NO: JJ24-031

OPERATOR: City of Albany

INVESTIGATOR: Joe Jones

INSPECTION DATE: June 26, 2024 REPORT MAILED DATE: February 19, 2025

Any questions concerning this report may be directed to the above address or by telephoning (404) 463-6526.

1. PURPOSE OF INSPECTION

To observe Albany Natural Gas crew perform an abandonment of a gas facility due to a building demolition.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

On June 26 through 27, 2024 Staff reported to the City of Albany Gas Department to conduct an unannounced field inspection of the Operator's construction site. The location of the construction site was 1414 North Jackson Street Albany Georgia. The gas crew was performing procedures on abandon gas facility due to a building demolition. Commission Staff conducted an inspection of the construction materials, components, construction maps, and construction methods. Staff conducted an OQ protocol 9 inspection on the City of Albany's personnel as well.

During this inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Ronnie Bowers – Gas Superintendent
Jammie Brown - Crew Foreman
Alex Pitts – Welder
Bernard Haynes – Foreman

Staff was represented by:
Joseph Jones – Lead Inspector
Jack Hewitt – Pipeline Safety Inspector
Eric Atkins - Pipeline Safety Inspector
Chuck Whitaker – Pipeline Safety Inspector

NO VIOLATIONS FOUND

During this inspection Staff made an unannounced visit to the City of Albany's construction site located on 1414 north Jackson Street. Staff observed the crew abandoned approximately 50ft, of 1 inch steel service line on a 2" steel main at 1414 North Jackson Street Albany Georgia. This was due to the demolition on abandon building. Staff reviewed the materials being used, excavation for the pipe, damage prevention procedures, and qualification records along with an operator qualification field inspection on personnel performing construction tasks. The Albany Gas Construction crew was able to demonstrate and verify they could produce all procedures and AOC documentation while staff was on the construction site.

During this inspection, Staff conducted OQ Protocol 9 field verification inspections to ensure that covered task(s) were being performed in accordance with appropriate Operator-approved procedures, the procedures were available at the job site, and that the individuals performing the observed covered task(s) were adhering to the operator-approved procedures as written.

During the field evaluations, Staff observed the Operators personnel perform each task. . Staff also verified OQ requirements for each individual. Staff observed Jammie Brown (Gas Foreman,) performing Task #0151 Visual inspection of buried pipe and components when exposed 06/25/2024 Through 06/25/2027 and Task #0981 Backfilling 11/2/2021 through 11/2/2024. Alex Pitts (Welder), performing Task #1651 Purge Gas Flammable or Inert Gas 10/4/2022 through 10/4/2025 and Task #0801 Welding 8/8/2023 through 8/8/2024. Benard Haynes (Gas Foreman) performing Task #1011 External coating application repair- wrapped 2/26/2023 through 2/26/2026 Staff also noted that each individual was cognizant of abnormal operating conditions that could be encountered with their task.

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:	)	
	)	
Albany Water, Gas & Light Commission	)	**DOCKET NO. 37020**
	)	
	)	
	)	

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

*Derrick Brown, Interim City Manager
Albany Water, Gas & Light Commission
1726 Lily Pond Road
Albany, GA 31701
khodge@albanyga.gov

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

Respectfully Submitted this 4th day of ~~February~~ March 2025:

Cathy Nesbitt

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