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Georgia Public Service Commission

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DOCKET# 37024
DOCUMENT# 226280

Docket No. 37024

AGL - Operations and Engineering
Ten Peachtree Place, NE Suite 1000
Location 1365
Atlanta, GA 30309

REF: Comprehensive Inspection # BS25-017

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Walt Farrell

On October 20, 2025, a representative of the Georgia Public Service Commission Pipeline/Facilities Safety Office conducted an inspection of your gas system. The enclosed inspection report numbered BS25-017 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. 37024 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: BS25-017

OPERATOR: AGL - Atlanta

INVESTIGATOR: Brant Sweat

INSPECTION DATE: October 20, 2025 REPORT MAILED DATE: April 15, 2026

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

1. PURPOSE OF INSPECTION

To conduct a comprehensive inspection of the Operators plans, programs, procedures, pipeline, and pipeline facilities for compliance with the minimum federal safety standards in 49CFR Parts 191 and 192.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

Violation	Description	Inspection#	Date
192.465	External corrosion control: Monitoring	JL15-014	3/2/2015
192.615(a)(3)(ii)	Prompt and effective response to a notice of each type of emergency, including the following...	JB21-021	8/5/2021
192.605(a)	Each operator shall prepare and follow for each pipeline, a manual of written procedures for...	JH22-001	1/10/2022
192.615(c)	Each operator shall establish and maintain liaison with appropriate fire, police, and other...	JH22-001	1/10/2022
192.181(b)	Each regulator station controlling the flow or pressure of gas in a distribution system must have...	JH22-001	1/10/2022
192.605(a)	Each operator shall prepare and follow for each pipeline, a manual of written procedures for...	JJ23-037	9/20/2023
192.605(a)	Each operator shall prepare and follow for each pipeline, a manual of written procedures for...	JH25-006	11/6/2024

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

Violation	Description	Inspection#	Date
192.465(d)	Each operator shall take prompt remedial action to correct any deficiencies indicated by the...	BS25-017	10/20/2025
192.613(b)	Continuing Surveillance - If a segment of pipeline is determined to be in unsatisfactory condition..	BS25-017	10/20/2025
192.465(a)	Each pipeline that is under cathodic protection must be tested at least once each calendar year...	BS25-017	10/20/2025
192.479(a)	Each operator must clean and coat each pipeline or portion of pipeline that is exposed to the...	BS25-017	10/20/2025

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

SEE ATTACHED INSPECTION REPORT

ATLANTA GAS LIGHT COMPANY – ATLANTA SERVICE CENTER / COMP INSPECTION
INSPECTION NUMBER BS25-017 / DOCKET NUMBER 37024

Between October 20th, 2025, through October 23rd, 2025, Staff met with representatives from the Atlanta Gas Light Company to review records of operations and maintenance activities in preparation for comprehensive inspections of the Atlanta Service Center.

From October 27th, 2025, through October 30th, 2025, Staff performed a review of emergency response plans and records, and field evaluations of facilities in the Atlanta Service Center territory. (Dekalb and Fulton Counties) An exit interview was conducted with local Service Center personnel at the conclusion of this inspection. A final exit interview with AGLC corporate management was conducted via a Teams Meeting on November 6th, 2025.

During this inspection, the Operator was represented by:
Joe Caubo - Manager, Compliance and QA, Regulatory Compliance
Ralph McCollum - Principal Compliance Engineer
Judge Gardner – Regional Operations Director
Demetrious Ward – Manager Leak Survey Operations
Carlos James – Supervisor, Asset Protection
Nick Kitzmiller – Manager, Corrosion Control
Brodie Farrar – Supervisor, Corrosion Control
Shayaa Baksh – Operations Manager
Darryl King - Operations Supervisor
Jeremy Perry – Superintendent, System Operations
Tim Conner – Superintendent, System Operations
Patrick Daniecki – Operations Supervisor
Cody Holcomb – Operations Foreman
Noah Chester – Corrosion Tech
Chris Barcot – Corrosion Tech
Ned Thompson – Pressure Control Specialist
Toriano Dixon – Pressure Control Tech
David Reyes – ROW Inspector
Joe Lacroix – Superintendent Measurement

Commission Staff were represented by:
Brant Sweat – Lead Inspector
Daniel Clemmons – Pipeline Safety Inspector
Jack Hewitt – Pipeline Safety Inspector
Glen Murph – Pipeline Safety Inspector

At the time of this inspection the AGLC Atlanta Service Center had six(6) previously existing probable violations. All these violations will be addressed during Corporate Headquarters follow-up.

NOTICE OF PROBABLE VIOLATION

As a result of this inspection Staff found that the AGLC Peachtree Service Center was in probable violation of the minimum federal safety standards; specifically:

1. §192.613 Continuing surveillance.
   (b) If a segment of pipeline is determined to be in unsatisfactory condition but no immediate hazard exists, the operator shall initiate a program to recondition or phase out the segment involved, or, if the segment cannot be reconditioned or phased out, reduce the maximum allowable operating pressure in accordance with §192.619 (a) and (b).

STAFFS COMMENTS: General and Continuing Surveillance is addressed in Division II, Section 1 of the AGLC Operations and Procedures Manual, which states: "Included in this Division are procedures for the continuing surveillance of the Company's gas system(s) and instructions concerned with safety of the general public. Company policy requires that personnel make every effort to identify and report factors or conditions that may adversely affect the safe operation of Company facilities."

During field evaluations Staff noted multiple instances where the Operators' facilities were found to have deteriorated coating, atmospheric corrosion, exposures from loss of cover, or other unusual operating and maintenance conditions that were not being addressed. (See attached photos)

PROBABLE VIOLATION: AGLC personnel have failed to identify and report factors or conditions that could affect the safe operation of the company's facilities so that they can be remediated in a timely manner.

2. §192.479 - Atmospheric corrosion control; General.
   (a) Each operator must clean and coat each pipeline or portion of pipeline that is exposed to the atmosphere, except pipelines under paragraph (c) of this section.

STAFFS COMMENTS: In Division II, Section 8, Item 8.22, of the Operators OPM it states: "Each pipeline or portion of pipeline that is exposed to the atmosphere must be cleaned and applied with a coating suitable for the prevention of atmospheric corrosion. Coatings shall be in accordance with Division III, Section "7.5 Protective Coating Requirements" on page 9."

Staff performed field audits of the Operator's pipeline and found that they failed to clean and coat their facilities that are exposed to the atmosphere at commercial meter sets, meter sets that have meter bars that support multiple meters, these locations are being visited but atmospheric corrosion issues are not being addressed as required by their procedures.

PROBABLE VIOLATION: The Atlanta Gas Light Company SE-GA Service Center failed to clean and coat each pipeline or portion of pipeline that is exposed to the atmosphere, as required by §192.479(a) and their OPM procedures.

WARNING LETTER

1. §192.465 External corrosion control: Monitoring and remediation.
   (a) Each pipeline that is under cathodic protection must be tested at least once each calendar year, but with intervals not exceeding 15 months, to determine whether cathodic protection meets the requirements of §192.463. However, if tests at those intervals are impractical for separately protected short sections of mains or transmission lines, not in excess of 100 feet (30 meters), or separately protected service lines, these pipelines may be surveyed on a sampling basis. At least 10 percent of these protected structures, distributed over the entire system must be surveyed each calendar year, with a different 10 percent checked each subsequent year, so that the entire system is tested in each 10-year period.

STAFFS COMMENTS: The Operators procedure for compliance with §192.465(a) is in Division 2, Section 8, Item 8.2 of their Operations and Procedures Manual. During this inspection, Staff reviewed records which indicated that isolated services were not read on schedule, in CY 2021, the address is 1070 Oak Tree Rd, 2050 Lawrenceville Hwy, 3711 N. Decatur Rd, Hank Aaron Blvd, 376 Nelson Dr,

Mattress Factory Lofts, Allure Atlanta, Publix Shopping Center LaVista Chesire Bridge Rd, Northlake Manor Master Meter,

Because cathodic protection is not under the direct control of the service center Staff will address this issue with AGLC corporate separately.

PROBABLE VIOLATION: Atlanta Gas Light Company failed to monitor each pipeline that was under cathodic protection as required by §192.465 and their OPM procedures.

2. §192.465 External corrosion control: Monitoring and remediation.
   (d) Each operator must promptly correct any deficiencies indicated by the inspection and testing required by paragraphs (a) through (c) of this section. For onshore gas transmission pipelines, each operator must develop a remedial action plan and apply for any necessary permits within 6 months of completing the inspection or testing that identified the deficiency. Remedial action must be completed promptly, but no later than the earliest of the following: prior to the next inspection or test interval required by this section; within 1 year, not to exceed 15 months of the inspection or test that identified the deficiency; or as soon as practicable, not to exceed 6 months, after obtaining any necessary permits.

STAFFS COMMENTS: In Division II, Section 8, Item 8.1.3 of the AGLC Operations and Procedures Manual it states: "Prompt action shall be taken to correct any deficiencies indicated by these monitoring and inspection procedures. Remediation shall be completed no later than the next required inspection."

During this inspection Staff reviewed records which indicated that Anode System ID Name Saffron Way NE system was down CY 2020, CY 2021, and CY 2024. Staff also noted Anode System ID Name Spalding system was down CY 2022, CY 2023 and CY 2024. Staff also found that the Peachtree Industry BLVD at Peachtree Square rectifier was down CY 2020, CY 2021, CY 2022, CY 2023, and CY 2024.

Because cathodic protection is not under the direct control of the service center Staff will address this issue with AGLC corporate separately at a later date.

PROBABLE VIOLATION: Atlanta Gas light Company failed to take prompt remedial action to correct the deficiencies noted during their monitoring.

OPERATOR QUALIFICATION FIELD EVALUATIONS

During this inspection Staff conducted three (3) OQ Protocol 9 field evaluations.

- Nedric Thompson - Pressure Control Specialist performed Installing, Operating, Inspecting, and Testing Pressure Limiting Devices (Regulator Station) Task #OQ028A / Qualifications verified as current - Qualifications good through 12/31/2025

- Toriano Dixon - Pressure Control Tech. III performed Valve Inspection Task #OQ052A / Qualifications verified as current – Qualifications good through 08/25/2026

- Brent Goring - Pressure Control Tech. I performed Atmospheric (Aboveground Pipelines) – Task #OQ005A-ECC; CC / Qualifications verified as current / Qualifications good through 11/9/2030

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.

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:	)	
	)	
Atlanta Gas Light Company	)	**DOCKET NO. 37024**
	)	
	)	
	)	

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

* Walt Farrell, President and CEO
Southern Company Gas
Ten Peachtree Place, NE,
Atlanta, GA 30309
wffarell@southernco.com

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

Respectfully Submitted this 23rd day of April 2026:

Cathy Nesbitt

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