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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# 37020
DOCUMENT# 226328

Docket No. 37020

City of Albany
1726 Lily Pond Road
Albany, GA 31701

REF: Abandonment Inspection # CW25-055

☐ Certified Mail ☐ Regular Mail ☒ Email

Attention: Mr. Derrick Brown

On December 9, 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 CW25-055 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

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REPORT OF NATURAL GAS SAFETY

INSPECTION NO: CW25-055

OPERATOR: City of Albany

INVESTIGATOR: Chuck Whitaker

INSPECTION DATE: December 9, 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 an inspection of the Operators construction project for compliance with the minimum federal standards in 49CFR Part 192.

2. CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

Violation	Description	Inspection#	Date
192.616(b)	The operator's program must follow the general program recommendations of API RP 1162 and assess...	JJ25-070	12/8/2025
192.616(d)	The operator's program must specifically include provisions to educate the public, appropriate...	JJ25-070	12/8/2025

3. CLEARED VIOLATIONS

4. NEW VIOLATIONS

5. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS

SEE ATTACHED INSPECTION REPORT

CITY OF ALBANY / CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION
INSPECTION NUMBER CW25-055 DOCKET NUMBER 37020

On December 9 through 10, 2025 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 625 Corn Ave, Albany Georgia. The gas crew was performing procedures to 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 / Foreman

Staff was represented by:
Chuck Whitaker – Lead Inspector
Ed Luebke – Pipeline Safety Inspector

NO VIOLATIONS FOUND:

During this inspection, Staff conducted an unannounced visit to the City of Albany's construction site located at 625 Corn Avenue, Albany, Georgia. Upon arrival, staff observed that approximately 75 feet of 1-inch steel service line was being abandoned on a 2-inch steel main. This action was taken due to the demolition of a previously abandoned building. Staff conducted a comprehensive review of the materials being used, the pipeline excavation process, damage prevention procedures, and personnel qualification records. As part of the oversight, an Operator Qualification (OQ) field inspection was performed for individuals engaged in construction activities.

During the site visit, the Albany Gas Construction crew successfully demonstrated their ability to produce all required procedures and Abnormal Operating Condition (AOC) documentation. Additionally, staff completed six OQ Protocol 9 field verification inspections. These inspections confirmed that the operator maintained a written qualification program and that all covered tasks were being executed in accordance with approved procedures. The relevant procedures were readily available at the job site, and personnel were properly qualified and adhered to the procedures as written.

Trevor Williams, Gas Technician – City of Albany Performed:
Task 1651 – Perform Purging of Pipeline Facilities ; Qualified Through 8/12/2028
Task 0301– Opening and Closing Valves Manually ; Qualified Through 3/18/2028

Antwuan Cheeks, Gas Technician – City of Albany Performed:
Task 0591 – Perform Leak Test at Operating Pressure; Qualified Through 5/20/2028
Task 1011 – Apply or Repair Wrapped Coatings; Qualified Through 2/7/2026

Alec Pitts, Gas Foreman – City of Albany Performed:
Task 0801 – Perform Welding; Qualified Through 10/14/2026

Task 0811 – Perform Visual Inspection of Welding and Welds; Qualified Through 9/16/2028

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.

OPERATOR RESPONSE FORM

Operator Name: City of Albany

Informal Conference Requested: Yes ☐ No ☐

Docket Number: 37020

Responses required within **30 days of electronic mail.** Provide the following information for this report:

Response to Inspection Number:_____

Type of Enforcement Action(s) cited in report:			Informal Conference Requested	
☐ Notice of Probable Violation (NOPV)	☐ New	☐Continuing	☐ Yes	☐ No
☐ Notice of Amendment (NOA)	☐ New	☐Continuing	☐ Yes	☐ No
☐ Warning Letter	☐ New	☐Continuing	☐ Yes	☐ No
☐ Letter of Concern	☐ New	☐Continuing	☐ Yes	☐ No
☐ Observed Issue	☐ New	☐Continuing	☐ Yes	☐ No
☐ Proposed Civil Penalty	$ _____ PCP $ Amount (Total for report)			

Indicate below (A-E) based on the type of Enforcement Actions in this report: (Check all that apply)
Complete a separate copy of Page 2, Operator Response to Enforcement Action, for each cited item.

A. Response for **Notice of Probable Violation** (with and without proposed civil penalty):
   1. ☐ Written statement indicating that corrective measures have achieved Compliance or
   2. ☐ Written plan of action outlining the corrective measures that will be taken to achieve compliance and when compliance is anticipated.

B. Response for **NOA**:
   1. ☐ Contested: Attach written explanation, information, or other material in answer to the allegations in the Notice of Amendment stating your reasons for objecting to the NOA, in whole or in part; or
   2. ☐ Not Contested: Explanation, information, or other material believed to warrant modification of the NOA in whole or in part; or
   3. ☐ Written request for clarification. (Attached)

C. Response for **Continuing** and/or **Existing** violations:
   Current status, updates, expected completion dates, proposed modifications, etc., of the continuing and/or existing violations, even if this information was previously provided. Referencing a previously filed response letter, as status, updates, etc. alone is not sufficient for this response. Failure to provide this information may result in formal interrogatories from the Director through data requests.

D. Response for ☐ **Letter of Concern** / ☐ **Warning Letter**
   I acknowledge receipt of the Letter of Concern/Warning Letter:_____
   SIGNATURE / TITLE

   Additional Comments: (Optional)_____

   _____

   _____

E. Response for **Observed Issue** and **No Violation**: (Optional Response)
   Staff requests that the Operator acknowledge receipt of the Observed Issue/No Violation in writing, or by submitting an email to the FPU Director

Operator Response to Enforcement Action

Enforcement Action for:_____ ☐ New Violation ☐ Continuing Violation

Enter Code / Commission Rule (Complete a separate attachment for each enforcement action)

Enforcement Action(s) cited in report:	Conference Requested:
☐ Notice of Probable Violation (NOPV)	☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ Notice of Amendment (NOA)	☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ Warning Letter	☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ Letter of Concern	☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ Observed Issue	☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ Proposed Civil Penalty	☐ Yes ☐ No

$_____
Proposed Penalty for this violation

OPERATORS RESPONSE: _____

Response Provided by: _____ Date:_____
Name / Title

Internal use only:

Lead Inspector: _____ Date Response Reviewed:_____

Actions Acceptable: ☐ Yes ☐No Re-inspection Needed:☐ Yes ☐ No Clear Violation:☐ Yes ☐ No

Supervisor Review by:_____ Date Reviewed:_____

Additional Enforcement Recommended: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Director Review

Approved: ☐ Yes ☐No Schedule Special Follow-up Inspection: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Cleared Violation: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Comments:_____

Filings:
For all written responses or any other official correspondence, the Operator shall file the response at the following address:

Ms. Sallie Tanner, Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

The Operator must file **five (5)** copies of any response and/or official correspondence, as well as a CD with an electronic version of the response in Microsoft Word and/or a PDF, if applicable.

Informal Conference:
Any Operator who chooses to request an informal conference shall request such a conference through emailing the Director (michellet@psc.state.ga.us), calling the Director (404-463-2765), or selecting the "Request Conference" choice.

Civil Penalty Payments:
Certified check for the full amount of the recommended civil penalty or consent agreement amount made payable to the Georgia Public Service Commission. The Operator's name, applicable Docket No., and Inspection Report No. must be included on the certified check. Mail payment to:

Ms. Michelle Thebert, Director, Facilities Protection Unit
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Hearing Requests:
The Operator has the right to request a hearing before the full Commission to contest the alleged probable violations, recommended civil penalties, and all other proposed actions of enforcement. A request for a hearing must be submitted in writing and in accordance with Commission Rule 515-2-1-.04. The Operator must include a statement of the issues that you intend to raise at the hearing. The issues may relate to the allegations, new information, proposed compliance order, proposed civil penalty, or any other recommendation for enforcement action. Please refer to Commission Rule 515-9-3-.11 and O.C.G.A. § 46-2-91 for assessment considerations upon which civil penalties are based. An operator's failure to specify an issue may result in a waiver of the right to raise that issue at hearing. The request must also indicate whether or not the Operator will be represented by counsel at the hearing.

Open Records and Trade Secret Filings:
The Operator is advised that any material provided to the Commission, and all materials prepared by the Commission, including the Notice of Probable Violations and any Orders issued in this case, may be considered public information and subject to disclosure under the Georgia Open Records Act (O.C.G.A. § 50-18-70 et seq.). If you believe that any portion of your response material is security sensitive, privileged, confidential or may cause your company competitive disadvantages and would qualify for protection under the Commission's "Trade Secret Rule" (Commission Rule 515-3-1-.11), you must, along with the complete original document clearly marked "TRADE SECRET" on each page, provide a second copy of the document with the portions you believe qualify for trade secret treatment redacted, and an explanation of why you believe the redacted information qualifies for such trade secret treatment. Should the Commission receive a request for disclosure of any "TRADE SECRET" material, you will be notified, if after review, the materials and your provided justification are deemed not to meet any exemptions provided in the Georgia Open Records Act. You may appeal the Commission's decision to release material at that time. Your appeal will stay the release of those materials until a final decision is made.

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 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