

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



May 22th, 2023,

Non-DOT completed in Q1-2023

Rodger Schwecke,  
Senior Vice President and Chief Infrastructure Officer  
Southern California Gas Company  
555 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, GT21C3  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Dear Mr. Schwecke,

The Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) of the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) reviewed San Diego Gas and Electric Company (SDG&E)'s response letter dated May 5th, 2023, addressing one (1) probable violation identified by SED during its investigation of a Non-DOT reportable incident that occurred on October 15th, 2022, in the city of La Jolla in San Diego County.

Attached is a summary of SED's investigation findings, SDG&E's response to SED's findings, and SED's evaluation of SDG&E's response to the probable violation.

This letter serves as official closure and any matters that are being considered for enforcement will be processed through the Commission's Citation Program or formal proceeding.

Thank you for your cooperation in these investigations. If you have any questions, please contact Mohammad Ali, Senior Utilities Engineer (Supervisor), at (916) 928-2109 or by email at [ma5@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:ma5@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mahmoud Intably".

Mahmoud (Steve) Intably, P.E.  
Program and Project Supervisor  
Gas Safety and Reliability Branch  
Safety and Enforcement Division

cc: See next page

Alex Hughes, Pipeline Safety and Risk Mitigation Manager  
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## **Non-DOT Reportable Incidents on October 15th, 2022**

### **Identified Probable Violations**

#### **1. G.O. 112-F, Reference Title 49 CFR, Part 192, §192.353(a) states in part:**

*“Each meter and service regulator, whether inside or outside a building, must be installed in a readily accessible location and be protected from corrosion and other damage, including, if installed outside a building, vehicular damage that may be anticipated. However, the upstream regulator in a series may be buried.”*

On October 15th, 2022, at approximately 1014 hours, a vehicle struck an SDG&E meter set assembly (MSA) resulting in a release of natural gas into the atmosphere, service interruption, and damage to the MSA. SED’s investigation found that the incident was caused by SDG&E failing to protect its MSA subject to vehicular damage prior to the incident. Therefore, SDG&E is in violation of G.O, 112-F, Reference Title 49 of Code of Federal Regulation (CFR), Part 192, § 192.353(a).

#### **SDG&E’s Response:**

SDG&E strives to learn from any incident, in order to ensure the safety of the public and our employees. SDG&E acknowledges the meter set assembly located within a potential vehicular parking area was not adequately protected to prevent vehicular damage.

#### **Corrective Actions:**

- The meter set assembly location was evaluated, and protection has been installed, per Work Order #530000297109.
- SDG&E investigated the incident to determine why it occurred, who was responsible, and what actions to take next.
- Leakage Mitigation supervision reviewed the gas standard D7115 – *Barricades for Gas Meters* with all patrollers and emphasized the importance of reporting locations requiring protection in accordance with the gas standard.
- The incident was shared and discussed with all applicable company employees to stress the importance of properly reporting and remediating abnormal operating conditions.

#### **SED’s Conclusion:**

SED has reviewed SDG&E’s response and accepts the investigation and corrective actions. SED acknowledges that the corrective actions will promote and foster strong safety culture, and sufficiently address the probable violations. SED recommends no fine or penalty be imposed at this time. However, SED may review the implementation of the stated corrective actions during future inspections.