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SENT VIA EMAIL AND US MAIL

December 4, 2018

Ms. Elizaveta Malashenko
Director
Safety and Enforcement Division
California Public Utilities Commission
320 W. Fourth Street, Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Subject: SoCalGas Self-Reporting of Potential Late Incident Reporting to the CPUC

Dear Ms. Malashenko:

This notice is to inform you of an item that meets Southern California Gas Company's ("SoCalGas") self-reporting requirements per applicable company policy. This self-report arises out of a structure fire and explosion that occurred on November 24, 2018 at 493 Lemar Ave., Oxnard ("Incident") and the on-going investigation into the Incident. Prior to this letter, SoCalGas had notified California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") Safety and Enforcement Division ("SED") officials on November 26, 2018 of the Incident and our plans to investigate the cause of this Incident. In addition, SoCalGas provided an update to SED officials via email on November 27, 2018 regarding the Incident, our ongoing investigation, actions taken to date, and additional information we learned.

Incident Background

On Saturday, November 24, 2018, SoCalGas was notified by Ventura County Fire Department ("Ventura County Fire") of a structure fire and explosion at 493 Lemar Ave, Oxnard. The cause of the Incident is unknown but was believed to be propane related, based upon information provided to SoCalGas by Ventura County Fire. At the time, there were no indications that natural gas was involved in the Incident and the field supervisor notified dispatch who sent out a message via the Message Center Report ("MCR") about the Incident, indicating no SoCalGas involvement.

Although the gas meter assembly ("MSA") did not sustain damage from the fire, Ventura County Fire requested the service be abandoned due to extensive property damage and the potential of the weakened structure falling onto the MSA. Later on November 24, 2018, once the area around the Incident was safe and accessible, a SoCalGas crew began abandoning the service. In the process, the crew found a small leak at the service-to-main-connection ("SMC"), which is located across the street from the Incident. The crew then proceeded to conduct leak survey and bar hole survey of the general area, per our procedures – 184.0245 *Leak Investigation* and 183.03 *Field Guidelines - Emergency Incident*

Distribution / Customer Service. Through these activities, the crew located a second leak on a 2-inch plastic main installed under the street. The crew isolated approximately 100 feet of the main to cut-off supply to that portion of the main. At this point, per gas procedure 183.05 *Message Center Reporting (MCR)*, the field supervisor should have updated the MCR to indicate that natural gas had been identified. The field supervisor, however, did not include this additional information in the MCR.

On Monday, November 26, 2018, Pipeline Safety, Compliance and Emergency Management became aware that natural gas indications were identified near the Incident and, although the Incident remains under investigation and no cause has been determined, a Pipeline Safety, Compliance and Emergency Management representative promptly notified the Department of Transportation and reported the Incident to the CPUC. Pipeline Safety, Compliance and Emergency Management is the SoCalGas department responsible for making appropriate reports to agencies based on information provided through MCRs. However, because the field supervisor did not fully update the MCR on Saturday, Pipeline Safety, Compliance and Emergency Management was not aware, and the Incident was not reported to the CPUC until Monday. Although there were no hazards created because of the timing of this reporting, SoCalGas is self-reporting this item due to a potential violation of General Order 112-F.

Corrective Actions to Date


In response, SoCalGas has taken or will take the following corrective actions:

- SoCalGas has counseled the field supervisor that updated the MCR on Saturday.
- SoCalGas will provide the field supervisor and other gas operation employees with a refresher training on the MCR reporting and updating requirements.
- SoCalGas is following up with enhanced MCR refresher training for company personnel with MCR responsibilities.
- SoCalGas sent out a communication to *all* company personnel with responsibility for MCR reporting on the MCR process and the importance of updating the MCR properly and on a timely basis.

It should go without saying that no issues are of greater importance to SoCalGas and the Sempra Energy family of companies than safety and quality of work. Our safety culture rightly demands that we conduct our business in such a way as to maximize our adherence to the best safety and quality practices of our industry.

Should you have any questions or need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Gina Orozco
Vice President
Gas Distribution