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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking on the Commission's Own Motion to Adopt New Safety and Reliability Regulations for Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution Pipelines and Related Ratemaking Mechanisms.

Rulemaking 11-02-019  
(Filed February 24, 2011)

**RULING OF ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER AND  
ASSIGNED ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DIRECTING  
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY TO FILE AND SERVE  
UPDATED SAFETY CERTIFICATION FOR LINE 147 AND SETTING  
PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

**1. Background**

On November 15, 2011, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), filed and served its Supplemental Supporting Information for restoring maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) on lines 101, 132A and 147.

Pursuant to Commission Decision (D.) 11-09-006, PG&E included in the Supporting Information a Safety Certification from the PG&E officer responsible for gas system engineering. The Safety Certification was a verified statement from the PG&E officer responsible for gas system engineering that:

- a. PG&E has validated pipeline engineering and construction;
- b. PG&E has reviewed pressure test results and can confirm that a strength test was performed Line 147 in accord with 49 CFR Part 192, subpart J, or the regulations in effect at the time the pressure test was performed; and

- c. In the professional judgment of the engineering officer,  
Line 147 is safe to operate at the proposed MAOP.

PG&E's November 15, 2011, Safety Certification was verified by its Vice President of Gas Transmission Maintenance and Construction, Kirk Johnson.

The Commission relied on this Safety Certification in issuing D.11-12-048 which authorized PG&E to operate Line 147 with a maximum operating pressure of 365 pounds per square inch gauge (psig).

Since issuing D.11-12-048, additional information has come to light that has required PG&E to correct its calculated MAOP for Line 147 to 330 psig.<sup>1</sup>

## **2. Discussion**

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 451 each public utility in California must:

Furnish and maintain such adequate, efficient, just and reasonable service, instrumentalities, equipment and facilities,...as are necessary to promote the safety, health, comfort, and convenience of its patrons, employees, and the public.

The duty to furnish and maintain safe equipment and facilities falls squarely on California public utilities, including PG&E. The burden of proving that particular facilities are safe also rests with PG&E.

To supplement and update the record in this proceeding, PG&E is ordered to file and serve an updated Safety Certification no later than October 11, 2013. Such a statement must conform to the requirements set forth in D.11-09-006 and

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<sup>1</sup> This information and subsequent discovery responses have led to two Order to Show Cause Rulings in this proceeding, as well as a Temporary Restraining Order in San Mateo Superior Court.

must include any supporting information or analysis not previously provided for the record.

**3. Prehearing Conference**

In addition to the matter discussed above, several procedural issues are pending in this proceeding. To address procedural issues and set a schedule, a prehearing conference is set as follows:

**Monday, October 21, 2013  
10:00 a.m.  
Commission's Hearing Rooms  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, California**

**IT IS SO RULED.**

Dated October 8, 2013, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ Michel Peter Florio  
Michel Peter Florio  
Assigned Commissioner

/s/ Maribeth A. Bushey  
Maribeth A. Bushey  
Administrative Law Judge