

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



May 18, 2021

Non-DOT Q1-2021

Mr. Rodger Schwecke  
Senior Vice President and Chief Infrastructure Officer  
San Diego Gas and Electric Company  
555 West 5th Street, GT21C3  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Gas Incident Violation for San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E)

Dear Mr. Schwecke:

The Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) of the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) submits the following Notice of Probable Violations (NOPV) for non-DOT reportable incident investigation completed in Q1-2021. This letter serves as notification to you that as a result of our investigation, SED found SDG&E in violation of the following:

**1. General Order (G.O.) 112-F, Reference Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 192, §192.614(c)(5) states in part:**

- (c) *“The damage prevention program required by paragraph (a) of this section must, at a minimum...*  
(5) *Provide for temporary marking of buried pipelines in the area of excavation activity before, as far as practical, the activity begins.”*

The summary of the identified violation is listed in the Attachment A of this letter. Please provide a written response within 30 days of the date of this letter indicating the measures taken by SDG&E to address the violation noted in the “Attachment A” of this letter.

Thank you for your cooperation in this investigation. If you have any questions, please contact M. 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

Attachment

cc: See next page

Troy Bauer, Manager  
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Kan-Wai Tong, P.E.  
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Gas Safety and Reliability Branch  
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Claudia Almengor  
Associate Governmental Program Analyst  
Gas Safety and Reliability Branch  
Safety and Enforcement Division

**Attachment A**  
**List of Incident with Probable Violation**

PUC ID	Date	Address	Utility	Third Party Entity	Investigative Finding	Code Violation(s)
G20201110-3141	11/10/2020	<div style="background-color: black; width: 20px; height: 10px; display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"></div> Redwood St San Diego, CA County: San Diego	SDG&E	Lekos Electric	<p>On November 10, 2020, at approximately 1000 hours, a third-party contractor, Lekos Electric, struck an SDG&amp;E' 1½ -inch steel gas main with a wheel trencher while trenching for traffic light signals. This resulted in release of gas into the atmosphere, service interruption, and damage to the gas main. There were no injuries, fatalities, or third-party damage reported as the result of this incident. This incident was reported to the CPUC due to release of gas and major media coverage. SED's investigation found that the incident was caused by SDG&amp;E's failure to locate and field mark its 1½ -inch steel gas main within the area of excavation activity before the start of excavations (as described in a valid USA ticket). Therefore, SED finds SDG&amp;E in violation of G.O. 112-F, Reference Title 49 CFR, Part 192, §192.614(c)(5) for failure to provide for temporary marking of its buried pipeline within the area delineated for excavation.</p>	G.O. 112-F, Reference Title 49 CFR, Part 192, §192.614(c)(5)