

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



January 14, 2020

Mr. Jerry Schmitz, Vice President
Southwest Gas Corporation
P.O. Box 98510, LVA-581
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8510

SUBJECT: Notice of Gas Incident Violation for Southwest Gas Corporation

Dear Mr. Schmitz:

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 investigations completed in the First (1st) Quarter of 2019. This letter serves as notification to you that as a result of our investigations, SED found Southwest Gas Corporation (SWG) in violation of the following:

Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §192.605(b)(1) states in part:

“(b) Maintenance and normal operations. The manual required by paragraph (a) of this section must include procedures for the following, if applicable, to provide safety during maintenance and operations.”

“(1) Operating, maintaining, and repairing the pipeline in accordance with each of the requirements of this subpart and subpart M of this part.”

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

For any questions, please contact Mohammad Ali (916) 928-2109 or by email at ma5@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dennis Lee".

Dennis Lee, P.E.
Program and Project Supervisor
Gas Safety and Reliability Branch
Safety and Enforcement Division

CC: Laurie Brown / SWG
Mohammad Ali / SED-GSRB
Terence Eng / SED-GSRB

ATTACHMENT: List of Incident(s) with Probable Violation(s)

Attachment A
List of Incident(s) with Probable Violation(s)

PUC ID	Date	Address	Utility	Third Party Entity	Investigative Findings	Code Violation(s)
G20180928-2351	9/28/2018	Chippewa St./Iroquois Circle, South Lake Tahoe	SWG	NA	A SWG contractor performing a 2 inch Aldyl-A gas main replacement work on 9/28/2018 incorrectly thought that the mains were two-way fed and did not tie in to remaining one-way line resulting in an outage for 8 hours and affected 88 customers. SED found SWG in violation of 49 CFR §192.605(b)(1)) for failure to follow SWG's Main and Service Installation procedure as detailed in drawing # 16_3535360.	49 CFR §192.605(b)(1)