



Idaho Public Utilities Commission

P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074

Brad Little, Governor

Eric Anderson, President
John Chatburn, Commissioner
John R. Hammond, Jr., Commissioner

10/26/2022

Report # D202203

Mr. Steven Ridge
VP & General Manager, Western Distribution
Dominion Energy
PO Box 45360
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0360

Dear Mr. Ridge:

On October 21, 2022, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, Pipeline Safety Division, pursuant to Chapter 601 of Title 49, United States Code, conducted the Preston field inspection of Dominion Energy's equipment in Franklin County.

Some of the Idaho natural gas transmission and distribution system owned and operated by Dominion Energy was identified as being out of compliance. These findings resulted in probable violations of the pipeline safety regulations Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 192. The probable violations are as follows:

PROBABLE VIOLATION(S)

1. 49 CFR § 192.739 Pressure limiting and regulation stations: Inspection and testing.

(a) Each pressure limiting station, relief device (except rupture discs), and pressure regulating station and its equipment must be subjected at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year, to inspections and tests to determine that it is -

(1) In good mechanical condition.

(2) Adequate from the standpoint of capacity and reliability of operation for the service in which it is employed.

49 CFR § 192.201 Required capacity of pressure relieving and limiting stations.

(c) Relief valves or other pressure limiting devices must be installed at or near each regulator station in a low-pressure distribution system, with a capacity to limit the maximum pressure in the main to a pressure that will not exceed the safe operating pressure for any connected and properly adjusted gas utilization equipment.

Finding(s): During the inspection it was noted that regulator station (PS0001) failed to lock-up when tested, and 3 other regulator stations (FC0006, FC0005 and FC0004) were not plumbed for lock-up, thereby Measurement and Control Technicians were unable to demonstrate that the regulators were functioning properly and were able to lock-up when the necessity arises.

REQUESTED ACTIONS

A reply to this correspondence, as outlined below, is required no later than 45 days from the date of this letter. Please send all documents to our office at 11331 W Chinden Blvd, Boise, Idaho 83714-1021. Be advised that all material you submit in response to this enforcement action may be a public record, subject to disclosure under Idaho's Public Records Law. See Idaho Code §§74-101 et seq.

You have a right to appear before the Pipeline Safety Division in an informal conference before December 10, 2022, at the Commission's offices at 11331 W. Chinden Blvd, Bldg. 8, Ste 201-A, Boise, ID 83714. You have the right to present relevant documents to the Pipeline Safety Division at that conference. The Pipeline Safety Division will make available to you any evidence which indicates that you may have violated the law, and you will have the opportunity to rebut this evidence. See Commission Order 35095 and 35334 which can be found at <https://puc.idaho.gov/>. If you intend to request an informal conference, please contact the Pipeline Safety Division no later than November 28, 2022.

If you wish to dispute the allegations in this Notice, but do not want an informal conference, you may send the Pipeline Safety Division a written reply to this notice. This written reply must be filed with the Commission on or before December 12, 2022 and must be signed by a Dominion Energy official with authority to bind the company. The reply must include a complete statement of all relevant facts including a complete description of the corrective action(s) taken and any and all actions to be taken to prevent future failures in these areas of concern.

If you do not respond to this notice by November 28, 2022 you may be subject to statutory civil penalties and further enforcement, as allowed under Idaho law. Idaho Code §61-712A states that "[a]ny person who violates or fails to comply with, or who procures, aids or abets any violation of title 61, Idaho Code, governing safety of pipeline facilities and the transportation of gas, or of any order, decision, rule or regulation duly issued by the Idaho public utilities commission governing the safety of pipeline facilities and the transportation of gas, shall be subject to a civil penalty of not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each violation for each day that the violation persists. However, the maximum civil penalty shall not exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for any related series of violation."

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact me at (208) 334-0333. Also, all written responses should be addressed to me at the above address, or you may fax your response to (208) 334-3762.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and your effort to promote pipeline safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Brooks', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeff Brooks
Pipeline Safety, Program Manager
Idaho Public Utility Commission

