



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

12300 W. Dakota Ave., Suite 110
Lakewood, CO 80228

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT

VIA E-MAIL TO MR. GARRETT EVANS

October 16, 2020

Mr. Garrett Evans
City Manager
City of Pittsburg
65 Civic Avenue
Pittsburg, CA 94565

CPF 5-2020-003-NOA

Dear Mr. Evans:

On February 24 through 28, 2020, representatives of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) on behalf of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), pursuant to Chapter 601 of 49 United States Code (U.S.C.), inspected your natural gas distribution system (Island Energy) on Mare Island in Vallejo, California.

On the basis of the inspection, PHMSA has identified an apparent inadequacy found within Island Energy's plans or procedures, as described below:

1. §192.805 Qualification program.

Each operator shall have and follow a written qualification program. The program shall include provisions to:

(a) ...

(i) After December 16, 2004, notify the Administrator or a state agency participating under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 601 if the operator significantly modifies the program

after the administrator or state agency has verified that it complies with this section. Notifications to PHMSA may be submitted by electronic mail to *InformationResourcesManager@dot.gov*, or by mail to ATTN: Information Resources Manager DOT/PHMSA/OPS, East Building, 2nd Floor, E22-321, New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

The Island Energy Operator Qualifications manual does not contain a procedure for notifying the CPUC, a state agency participating under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 601, if the operator significantly modifies the program after the CPUC has verified that it complies with Section 192.805.

In the Reporting/Notification section of the Island Energy Operator Qualification manual, it states that, “All Plan revisions that effect operations, maintenance and emergency response procedures are to be communicated to all appropriate personnel at the earliest opportunity.” Island Energy should revise this section to clearly state that the CPUC must be notified and how to make such notifications for significant OQ program changes.

Response to this Notice

This Notice is provided pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 60108(a) and 49 C.F.R. § 190.206. Enclosed as part of this Notice is a document entitled *Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Compliance Proceedings*. Please refer to this document and note the response options. Be advised that all material you submit in response to this enforcement action is subject to being made publicly available. If you believe that any portion of your responsive material qualifies for confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b), along with the complete original document you must provide a second copy of the document with the portions you believe qualify for confidential treatment redacted and an explanation of why you believe the redacted information qualifies for confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b).

Following the receipt of this Notice, you have 30 days to submit written comments, revised procedures, or a request for a hearing under §190.211. If you do not respond within 30 days of receipt of this Notice, this constitutes a waiver of your right to contest the allegations in this Notice and authorizes the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety to find facts as alleged in this Notice without further notice to you and to issue an Order Directing Amendment. If your plans or procedures are found inadequate as alleged in this Notice, you may be ordered to amend your plans or procedures to correct the inadequacies (49 C.F.R. § 190.206). If you are not contesting this Notice, we propose that you submit your amended procedures to my office within 30 days of receipt of this Notice. This period may be extended by written request for good cause. Once the inadequacies identified herein have been addressed in your amended procedures, this enforcement action will be closed.

It is requested (not mandated) that Island Energy maintain documentation of the safety improvement costs associated with fulfilling this Notice of Amendment (preparation/revision of plans, procedures) and submit the total to Dustin Hubbard, Director, Western Region, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. In correspondence concerning this matter, please refer to **CPF 5-2020-003-NOA** and, for each document you submit, please provide a copy

in electronic format whenever possible. Please copy the CPUC Program Manager on all correspondence.

Sincerely,

Dustin Hubbard
Director, Western Region
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Enclosure: *Response Options for Pipeline Operators in Compliance Proceedings*

cc: PHP-60 Compliance Registry
PHP-500 J. Dunphy (#20-173118)
Terrence Eng, Program Manager, Gas Safety and Reliability Branch, California Public Utilities Commission
Doug Buchanan, General Manager Island Energy, 995 Walnut Ave., Vallejo, CA 94592