

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER DISMISSING
COMMISSION PIPELINE SAFETY STAFF)	COMPLAINT AND
FOR APPROVAL OF A PENALTY FOR A)	CLOSING DOCKET
PIPELINE SAFETY VIOLATION BY)	
HUMBOLDT MUNICIPAL GAS UTILITIES)	PS15-001

On August 13, 2015, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by Pipeline Safety Staff (Staff) alleging violations discovered during a March 2015 inspection of the Humboldt Municipal Gas Utility (Humboldt). In the complaint, Staff sought penalties for the violations.

On August 20, 2015, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv with an answer deadline of September 2, 2015. No parties sought intervention.

The deadline to answer the complaint was September 2, 2015. Humboldt did not file an answer to the complaint. This matter came before the Commission on September 15, 2015. The Commission deferred the docket at that time as no members of the Humboldt Natural Gas Board were available to answer questions. This docket was discussed at an Ad Hoc Commission meeting on September 24, 2015. On October 5, 2015, Humboldt filed a letter in the docket detailing their plan for compliance. On October 13, 2015, this docket was discussed at the regular Commission meeting. At that time, the Commission posed several questions to Humboldt and requested this matter be placed on the next agenda to give Humboldt time to gather more information. On October 20, 2015, Staff filed a Stipulation and Agreement (Stipulation) detailing steps that Humboldt would take to maintain compliance. On November 2, 2015, the Commission issued an Order Approving Stipulation. Since that time, Humboldt has made regular informational filings pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation. On October 30, 2017, as agreed to in the Stipulation, Staff filed a Request to Dismiss and Close Docket after Humboldt satisfactorily filed updates for two years.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34B.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 7, 2017, the Commission considered this matter. Staff recommended dismissing the complaint and closing the docket. Finding that Humboldt satisfactorily met the terms of the Stipulation, the Commission voted unanimously to grant the Motion to Dismiss and close the docket. It is therefore

ORDERED that the complaint is dismissed and the docket is closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15th day of November, 2017.

<p>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.</p> <p>By: <u>Karen E. Cremer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>11/15/17</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

<u>Kristie Fiegen</u>
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson
<u>Gary Hanson</u>
GARY HANSON, Commissioner
<u>Chris Nelson</u>
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner