

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

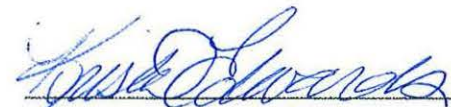
IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	
COMMISSION PIPELINE SAFETY STAFF FOR)	STIPULATION AND
APPROVAL OF A PENALTY FOR A PIPELINE)	AGREEMENT
SAFETY VIOLATION BY HUMBOLDT)	
MUNICIPAL GAS UTILITIES)	PS15-001
)	

The parties to this docket, Staff ("Staff") of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") and Humboldt Municipal Gas Utilities ("Humboldt") hereby stipulate and agree to the following as a resolution of this docket:

1. Humboldt shall hire an additional employee who will work a minimum of twenty hours per week. The parties understand that at the time this agreement was filed, Humboldt has hired said employee. This employee shall be dedicated to natural gas issues, including field work and paper work. Hereafter in this document, this position is referred to as Employee 2.
2. Daryl Seiverding will continue in his role with the natural gas utilities and will work a minimum of 15 hours per week on natural gas issues. Should Mr. Seiverding vacate this position for any reason, a replacement will be found within a reasonable time period. However, at no point will Humboldt be without a qualified person located within 30 miles of Humboldt to shut down the system. Hereafter in this document, this position is referred to as Employee 1.
3. Both Employee 1 and Employee 2 shall obtain and maintain the required certifications.
4. Contact information for all members of the Humboldt Municipal Gas Board ("Board") shall be provided to Staff, specifically Mary Zanter.
5. Humboldt will remain in compliance with relevant state and federal laws, including but not limited to open meetings laws and regulations of the Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration.
6. The Board shall conduct in-house training for its members. Documentation of such training shall be filed in the docket. Staff is willing to assist in this training.
7. At least one member of the Board or an employee shall attend a Spring Damage Prevention Meeting hosted by South Dakota One Call.
8. At least one member of the Board or an employee shall attend the emergency response meeting for public awareness hosted by the South Dakota Pipeline Association.
9. The Board will maintain regular communication with both Employee 1 and Employee 2, as well as any additional employees performing natural gas duties.
10. Humboldt shall maintain qualified operators necessary to maintain the safety of the natural gas system.

11. One month after the execution of this agreement, Humboldt shall review the time dedicated to natural gas duties by Employee 1 and Employee 2 and file an update with the Commission.
12. Humboldt shall have a backup plan in place for the absence of either Employee to ensure that a person qualified to shut down the system is always within 30 miles of Humboldt.
13. Humboldt shall keep the public adequately informed of meetings of the Board.
14. For a period of one year after the execution of this agreement, Humboldt shall submit monthly reports to the Commission including but not limited to details of the number of employee hours dedicated natural gas issues, any Board meetings, any leaks and the response time, and any employee changes.
15. Humboldt shall remain in compliance with all state and federal regulations regarding natural gas.
16. Staff will assist Humboldt if requested by Humboldt to the best of Staff's ability.
17. Staff agrees to recommend the Commission hold this docket in abeyance and dismiss the complaint should Humboldt remain in compliance with all terms of this agreement and have no further violations within one year.
18. Humboldt shall provide the information requested by Commissioners, specifically the following:
 - a. Facts of the negotiations with NorthWestern;
 - b. An explanation of payment for on-call hours; and
 - c. Additional information on the gas line hit that occurred on September 26, 2015. Humboldt shall file a One Call complaint should the Board president deem a violation occurred.
19. The parties understand that they are requesting the Commission hold this docket in abeyance and should any of the terms of this agreement not be fulfilled, Staff may request the Commission act on the docket. However, if the terms are satisfied, Staff will request dismissal of the Complaint after one year.

COMMISSION STAFF


Kristen Edwards
Staff Attorney

Date: 20 October 2015

HUMBOLDT MUNICIPAL GAS UTILITIES


Mike Garrey,
President, Humboldt Municipal Gas Board

Date: 10/19/2015