



Michael Dawson <savelafayettetrees@gmail.com>

Request for Immediate Response

2 messages

Gina Dawson <gdawson@gmail.com>

Wed, May 24, 2017 at 8:34 AM

To: stewart.coyle@pge.com

Cc: "Floratos, Whitney" <WXFL@pge.com>, "manderson@lovelafayette.org" <manderson@lovelafayette.org>, "Monninger, James" <J9Mq@pge.com>, cityhall@lovelafayette.org, "Guarino, Thomas" <TGG3@pge.com>, Michael Dawson <savelafayettetrees@gmail.com>

Hello Angus,

Thank you for your efforts to promote public safety in our community. My husband, Michael, and I, and fellow residents combining efforts to Save Lafayette Trees also have a vested interest in our public safety as we live here, many of us yards away from the pipeline. We believe that there are other more effective ways that the safety of our pipeline could be ensured other than removing trees. Knowing that an agreement has been struck with our city to remove 272 trees, and knowing that you have stated that tree removal will start as early as mid-June, we respectfully request immediate answers to the following prior to tree removal and prior to the next city council meeting:

1 - We have been working with Whitney Floratos, Jim Monninger, and Joey Perez on initiating a process to identify trees of community concern to exempt from the tree removal list. **Can you please confirm that exemption review is a viable process that will be acted upon as we have been lead to believe?** If so, it is imperative PG&E document the trees and process for us for mutual acknowledgement as soon as possible. Of note is the fact that trees on the arborist's report do not align with trees marked by PG&E for removal, this alone deems further review. We have not heard from Whitney since we walked the Lafayette Moraga trail and we still have other areas to review. Our initial request for this process was made on May 2nd, over three weeks ago. We understand that other communities have exempted trees from removal list and we would request the same consideration.

2 - Related to the first request, trees would be included for exemption review for reasons such as impact on soil integrity and other environmental concerns; impact on human health and safety; some trees have cultural and historic significance. Normally, removal of trees to this extent in one area, let alone across the city, would be subject to EIR and CEQA review. The Lafayette Moraga trail runs along a riparian corridor and this area alone implies unique concerns. Reservoir ridgeline area will lose almost 100 trees, one neighborhood area will lose up to 80 trees. As there is not an imminent public safety threat currently posed by these trees individually nor collectively and as this initiative is not an emergency response program, it seems there would be time to perform these reviews so the community's safety and welfare is best served. **Please confirm whether or not PG&E will be performing EIR and CEQA reviews** and if so, please document the process and schedule for us. **If PG&E is not pursuing EIR and CEQA review, please provide documentation that exempts PG&E from this process outside of city waiver of ordinances.**

3 - **Please provide information as to tree removal schedules** in specific areas of tree removal (i.e. Lafayette reservoir ridgeline rim trail; Lafayette-Moraga trail, and creek environs; residential neighborhoods; downtown Lafayette; city right of way areas). We request at least a 30 day public notice of tree removal on the trees to be removed.

4 - **Please document the tree removal process - how reductive is tree removal, will roots be left intact?** Will stumps be ground? Will herbicides be used in any manner? If so, what would those chemicals be, in each instance of tree removal? How will the trees be disposed of or re-cycled?

5 - **Can you please provide third party documentation and corroboration on the facts that trees have caused corrosion of pipeline?** We have scoured the internet for research and have only been able to find one study paid for by PG&E and it seems those results were inconclusive. What other documentation is available to us so we, and citizens and officials across the state, could possibly be more resigned to this drastic, seemingly last resort action of

cutting thousands of trees along 6,750 miles of pipeline in the interest of public safety?

6 - It seems that the CPSI is a broad program intended to address public safety across the state but it does not particularly address our city of Lafayette's unique pipeline safety concerns. **Can you please provide information as to the implementation of safety measures specific to our city?** What is the status of installation of automatic shut-off valves in the city, how far apart are they placed, and where are they located? Parts of our pipeline are over 50 years old and we've learned segments may not have been hydro tested since installation. What are the ages of our pipeline segments and what is their size, composition, and pressure ranges? Can you please provide proof to us that all segments of the pipeline have been tested to meet regulated standards using the best, least invasive, technology available to do so? How do you identify and inspect areas of pipelines that may have welds? Where are those segments located in our city? How often are bury depths measured? Can you confirm if there are any areas of inadequate cathodic protection (CP) left unattended in our city? We would like to receive confirmation and documentation for implementation and/or planned implementation of federal and CPUC pipeline safety regulations put in place since 2010, particularly since the federal court rulings this past year, specific to our city.

7 - I understand from local first responders, including the Fire Marshall of Contra Costa County, that in event of natural gas leak or rupture, first responders would necessarily contact the pipeline operator for information relative to gas exposure - specifically pipeline diameter (which may imply amounts of gas released in the area) and to confirm gas shut off. It seems that PG&E's thorough knowledge of Lafayette pipeline infrastructure would be paramount to enabling our first responders to most expediently, efficiently, and safely respond to protect human lives and property. **Does PG&E have detailed specifications of the existing pipeline infrastructure from transmission lines down to service lines on updated record?** Aside from first responders, we believe city officials charged with public safety would benefit from having this information on record to ensure all safety and integrity management procedures are taking place as necessary to our specific pipeline infrastructure.

8 - Residents have noticed helicopters which we believe are PG&E operated, they are labelled "pipeline inspection", hovering over their homes. We understand this may be part of the aerial monitoring PG&E performs. It seems tree removal could be a benefit to this type of pipeline monitoring as tree canopy would be reduced. **How often will aerial pipeline monitoring take place?** It is quite disruptive and helicopters seem to be flying quite low over these residential neighborhoods.

9 - Lastly, **can you tell us why it is OK for an almost four feet area of pipeline that runs along the Lafayette Moraga trail, behind our homes, to be exposed to the elements?** There are markers nearby where the bury line is off by almost half of a foot. It was very concerning to us this is an obvious occurrence of pipeline being exposed to corrosive forces. If PG&E is regularly patrolling our pipeline, why has this not been addressed previously? In fact, Whitney, Jim, and Joey told us this issue would be a priority to address but I do not believe it is in process as of yet. **How often has PG&E patrolled our pipeline and moreover where is this and other integrity management testing procedures and schedules documented for city access and confirmation?**

Thank you Angus for your consideration and prompt response to these questions and requests. We value our fellow residents safety as much as we value our own families' safety. We also value integrity of effort in terms of that public safety being ensured by the most effective and least environmentally impactful means. Lafayette has a unique topography and we believe there are other more effective pipeline safety implementations that would better serve our community than removing the trees. As you have relayed that tree removal will start in a few weeks, it is imperative to our community that we get these answers beforehand.

Sincere Regards,
Gina Dawson

Coyle, Angus <S2CR@pge.com>

Thu, May 25, 2017 at 11:12 AM

To: Gina Dawson <gdawson@gmail.com>

Cc: "Floratos, Whitney" <WXFL@pge.com>, "manderson@lovelafayette.org" <manderson@lovelafayette.org>, "Monninger, James" <J9Mq@pge.com>, "cityhall@lovelafayette.org" <cityhall@lovelafayette.org>, "Guarino, Thomas" <TGG3@pge.com>, Michael Dawson <savelafayettetrees@gmail.com>

Hi Gina,

Thanks for reaching out. My team will be following up.

Angus

From: Gina Dawson [mailto:gdawson@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 8:34 AM

To: Coyle, Angus

Cc: Floratos, Whitney; manderson@lovelafayette.org; Monninger, James; cityhall@lovelafayette.org; Guarino, Thomas; Michael Dawson

Subject: Request for Immediate Response

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. Stop and think before clicking links or opening attachments.

[Quoted text hidden]