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**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**  
**OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL**  
**LEGAL ENFORCEMENT SECTION**

August 14, 2024

CITY OF SWEENY  
PO BOX 248  
SWEENY, TX 77480-0248  
*Via First Class and Certified Mail RR# 9214 8901 9403 8374 1252 71*

**Re: PIPELINE SAFETY ENFORCEMENT DOCKET NO. 00017618: ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST CITY OF SWEENY (OPERATOR NO. 154756) FOR VIOLATION OF PIPELINE SAFETY REGULATIONS AT THE SYSTEM OF COMPANY ID NO.0382(SYSTEM OF ID NO. 000093), BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS**

To Those Concerned:

This letter is to inform you that the above-referenced case has been referred to the Railroad Commission's Office of General Counsel—Legal Enforcement Section ("Legal Enforcement") to pursue administrative penalties against City of Sweeny for violations of Commission Rule § 8.209(h). Based on a Commission inspection conducted on May 1, 2024, the City of Sweeny did not provide documentation that a minimum 8% of the pipeline segments or facilities posing the greatest risk and identified for replacement for previous INSP - 71713 and current INSP - 100535.

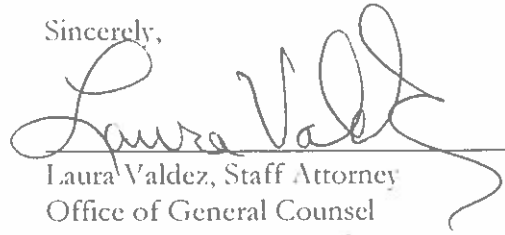
**If, by or before September 24, 2024, City of Sweeny pays a \$4,500 (FOUR THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS) penalty, resolves the violations, and signs and returns the enclosed order, Legal Enforcement will recommend that this matter be resolved without a hearing.**

The administrative penalty may be paid either by check or online via the CASES payment portal. If you choose to pay by check, the check must be made payable to the Railroad Commission of Texas, must reference Docket No. 00017618, and must be mailed my attention at the address below. To pay via the CASES payment portal, access CASES at <https://rrctx.force.com/s/> and follow the instructions provided. Please note that you must become an authenticated user to make a payment through CASES.

Please be advised that if I do not receive the penalty and signed order by no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 24, 2024, this offer will be deemed to have been rejected and a Complaint will be filed. In such event there may be no opportunity for further negotiations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Valdez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Laura Valdez, Staff Attorney  
Office of General Counsel  
Legal Enforcement Section  
Phone: (512) 463-3387  
[laura.valdez@rrc.texas.gov](mailto:laura.valdez@rrc.texas.gov)

Enclosure

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**  
**PIPELINE SAFETY ENFORCEMENT DOCKET NO. 00017618:**  
**ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST CITY OF SWEENEY (OPERATOR NO. 154756) FOR**  
**VIOLATION OF PIPELINE SAFETY REGULATIONS AT THE SYSTEM OF COMPANY ID**  
**NO.0382(SYSTEM OF ID NO. 000093), BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS**

**STIPULATION, AGREED SETTLEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER**

On this day, the above entitled and numbered docket came on for consideration by the Railroad Commission of Texas (the "Commission"). The Railroad Commission's Office of General Counsel—Legal Enforcement Section and City of Sweeney ("Respondent") have agreed to an informal disposition of the matters under this docket through this Stipulation, Agreed Settlement and Consent Order ("Order"), subject to the approval of the Commission. The Commission has authority to informally dispose of this case through a consent order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056(3).

IN SETTLEMENT OF THIS DOCKET, the Commission and Respondent do hereby agree and stipulate as follows:

1. Respondent is an "operator" as that term is defined in 16 Texas Administrative Code § 8.5(20) or a "master meter operator" as that term is defined in 16 Texas Administrative Code § 8.5(17).
2. Respondent is a "person" as that term is defined in 16 Texas Administrative Code § 8.5(21).
3. Respondent is a "gas company" as that term is defined in 16 Texas Administrative Code § 8.5(11).
4. Respondent operates the captioned system.
5. The Commission and Respondent agree that the alleged violations of Commission Rules Title 16, 8.209(h) as set forth in Pipeline Safety Docket No. 00017618 are hereby settled and compromised under the terms of this Order. This Order affects no other matters.
6. Respondent makes no admission of any alleged pipeline safety violations but wishes to address the Commission's concerns under the terms of this Order.
7. The Commission wishes to further the goal of safe operations of gas pipeline facilities within the State of Texas.
8. Respondent has elected not to avail itself of the opportunity for public hearing.
9. The Commission has jurisdiction to assess an administrative penalty against Respondent pursuant to Sections 121.206 and 121.207 of the Texas Utilities Code.
10. To the extent possible the violations alleged in Pipeline Safety Docket No. 00017618 have been placed in compliance by Respondent with the requirements of 16 Texas Administrative Code § 8.209(h).

11. An administrative penalty in the amount of \$4,500 (FOUR THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS) shall be recovered by the Commission for the violations asserted against Respondent.

12. Respondent has placed in the possession of the Commission funds in the amount of \$4,500 (FOUR THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS) in payment of administrative penalties assessed in Pipeline Safety Docket No. 00017618.

13. The person signing hereunder for Respondent has authority to represent Respondent in this matter.

Jurisdiction of this docket having been established and an agreement of the parties having been reached, it is, therefore, ORDERED by the Railroad Commission of Texas that City of Sweeny is assessed an administrative penalty in the amount of \$4,500 (FOUR THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS), and that Pipeline Safety Docket No. 00017618 is informally disposed of and closed by this Stipulation, Agreed Settlement and Consent Order.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

(Order approved and signatures affixed by Master

Agreed Order dated \_\_\_\_\_.)

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND SUBSTANCE:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
CITY OF SWEENEY