

Enforcement Orders Signed September 17, 2014

TEXAS GAS SERVICE

Docket No. GUD 10193

System Name: Austin Area Distribution System (System id 410098)

Rules violated:

Violation Code: 16C-207-120

The following leak was not graded, or re-graded to determine the degree or extent of the potential hazard resulting from gas leakage and to prescribe remedial actions.

Requirement: Title 16, 8.207(a)(1)

Violation Notes		
<u>Evaluation ID</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Note</u>
20120775	Gas leak reported at 1712 Payne Avenue on November 25, 2011	<p>Leak Investigation Report, Form 6000 (5-11) dated November 25, 2011 indicated gas readings were detected in the driveway of 1712 Payne Avenue at the apparent service tap to 1713 Payne Avenue, the house across the street. According to records reviewed, the leak was classified by onsite personnel as a Grade 2 with gas concentrations under wall-to-wall driveway. It appears the leak was later downgraded to a Grade 3 leak by Texas Gas Service Supervisory personnel.</p> <p>An attempt to repair the leak was made on December 29, 2011 by Texas Gas Service's contractor; H & T Construction Co. H & T excavated the service tap to 1712 Payne Avenue and did not discover any gas leakage. Further investigation by H & T revealed the leak to be under the driveway of 1712 Payne Avenue, and requiring a permit to cut the driveway.</p> <p>At this point, the leak was rescheduled for repair but was not monitored to ensure it remained non-hazardous.</p>

Violation Code: 16C-207-005

Individuals grading leaks lacked training, experience, and/or knowledge of leak classification and investigation in the following areas listed in the attached notes.

Requirement: Title 16, 8.207(a)(2)

Violation Notes

<u>Evaluation ID</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Note</u>
20120775	1712 Payne Ave. Austin, Texas	It appears the leak discovered on November 25, 2011 at 1712 Payne Avenue was downgraded from a Grade 2 leak to a Grade 3 leak by Texas Gas Service personnel not present at the site during the leak investigation. Additionally, no documentation of the original grade 2 leak, drawn up by the service tech, was provided.

Violation Code: 192-617-002

Procedures for analyzing accidents and failures did not include collecting samples of the failed equipment or facilities for a laboratory examination.

Requirement: 49 CFR 192.617

Violation Notes

<u>Evaluation ID</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Note</u>
20120775	1712 Payne Ave. Austin, Texas	The operator failed to conduct a metallurgical examination of the section of cast iron pipe main that failed along 1712 Payne Avenue.

Penalty paid: \$150,000.00