

South Davis Metro Fire Agency

Proudly Serving the Communities of

Bountiful - Centerville - Davis County - North Salt Lake - West Bountiful - Woods Cross

Office of the Fire Chief

To Whom It May Concern,

10/18/2018

On 10/15/2018, I was contacted by Mr. Dustin Lance in regards to a letter he received from Dominion Energy pertaining to Dominion's concerns for reconnecting the natural gas line at 2003 S. 1640 W. in Woods Cross, Utah. This response is being written with the assumption that those reading this response have access to and have read the correspondence (hereafter referred to as the Dominion letter) between Dominion Energy and Mr. Lance.

As is stated in paragraph 2 of the Dominion letter, South Davis Metro Fire Service Area (hereafter referred to as SDMF) responded to the initial discovery of high levels of flammable gas at the above address (hereafter referred to as the Hangers). Upon further investigation, it was found that the elevated readings of flammable gas were located only outside the Hangers; no dangerous readings were found in the Hangers. I advised the occupants of the Hangers to install flammable gas detectors in each suite, which would alert occupants to the presence and danger of flammable gases entering into the suites. The flammable gas detectors were installed, at which time the occupants were again allowed to occupy/use the building. It was also determined that the occupants would need to work with Woods Cross City, Davis County Health Department and any other necessary entities in order to locate and mitigate the cause of the elevated flammable gas present.

On 7/3/2018, SDMF was present when Dominion Energy retested the area outside of the Hangers for persistent flammable gas readings. According to Dominion Energy and the SDMF Captain (Chad Willey) who was present at the time, the elevated flammable gas levels were still present. According to Captain Willey, Dominion Energy asked Captain Willey what his opinion was, as far as Dominion reconnecting the system. Captain Willey deferred back to Dominion, as they are the gas experts, and asked what the Dominion policy/practice is in those situations. Captain Willey was informed that Dominion believed that it would be dangerous to reconnect the gas line and that according to Dominion policy that the Hangers should be evacuated until the flammable gas problem had been mitigated. Captain Willey agreed that Dominion should follow their policies.

While speaking with Captain Willey on 10/17/2018, I explained that SDMF and Woods Cross City had recommended/required that the Hangers install the flammable gas detectors in each suite. It was also discussed that, pending the introduction of flammable gas inside the Hangers, the life safety level is such that SDMF will not require the Hangers to be evacuated. Should the flammable gas levels be detected at dangerous levels at any point in time within the Hangers, an immediate evacuation would be in order.

Based upon the current absence of elevated flammable gas readings within the Hangers, it is the opinion of SDMF that the occupants can occupy the Hangers. As to the decision of whether to reconnecting the natural gas service to the Hangers, SDMF has no authority or jurisdiction to make that decision on behalf of Dominion Energy or any other involved agency.

Sincerely,

Casey T. Vorwaller
Fire Marshal
South Davis Metro Fire Service Area