

**Docket No. SA-534**

**Exhibit No. 2-BE**

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD**

**Washington, D.C.**

INTERVIEW OF KEVIN ARMATO, PG&E  
(JAN-6-2011)

(13 Pages)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

\* \* \* \* \*

Investigation of:

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2010 ACCIDENT  
SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA

\* Docket No.: DCA-10-MP-008

\* \* \* \* \*

Interview of: KEVIN ARMATO

Marriott Hotel  
San Francisco Airport  
1800 Bayshore Highway  
Burlingame, California 94010

Thursday,  
January 6, 2011

The above-captioned matter convened, pursuant to  
notice.

BEFORE: RAVINDRA CHHATRE  
Investigator-in-Charge

## APPEARANCES:

RAVINDRA M. CHHATRE, Investigator-in-Charge  
National Transportation Safety Board  
490 L'Enfant Plaza East, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20594  
202-314-6644  
ravindra.chhatre@ntsb.gov

MATTHEW R. NICHOLSON, Accident Investigator  
Office of Railroad, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
Investigations  
National Transportation Safety Board  
490 L'Enfant Plaza East, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20594  
202-314-6468  
matthew.nicholson@ntsb.gov

LAWSON F. NARVELL, JR., Investigator  
Human Performance Group  
National Transportation Safety Board  
490 L'Enfant Plaza East, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20594  
202-314-6422  
narvelr@ntsb.gov

KARL GUNTHER, Pipeline Accident Investigator  
National Transportation Safety Board  
490 L'Enfant Plaza East, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20594  
202-314-6578  
karl.gunther@ntsb.gov

GEOFFREY J. CALDWELL, Police Sergeant  
City of San Bruno Police Department  
Police Plaza  
1177 Huntington Avenue  
San Bruno, CA 94066  
650-616-7100  
gcaldwell@sanbruno.ca.gov

## APPEARANCES (Cont.):

BRIAN DAUBIN, Manager  
GT&D Gas Engineering  
Pacific Gas & Electric Company  
375 North Wiget Lane  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598  
925-974-4210  
bmd5@pge.com

ROBERT FASSETT, Director  
Integrity Management and Technical Services  
Pacific Gas & Electric Company  
375 North Wiget Lane  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598  
925-974-4210  
rpf2@pge.com

CONNIE JACKSON, City Manager  
City of San Bruno  
567 El Camino Real  
San Bruno, CA 94066-4299  
650-616-7056  
cjackson@ci.sanbruno.ca.us

KLARA FABRY, Public Services Director  
City of San Bruno  
567 El Camino Real  
San Bruno, CA 94066-424  
650-616-7065

SUNIL K. SHORI, Utilities Engineer  
State of California Public Utilities Commission  
505 VanNess Avenue, 2nd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298  
415-703-2407  
sks@cpuc.ca.gov

PETER J. KATCHMAR, Accident Coordinator  
Pipeline Safety Program  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
12300 West Dakota Avenue, Suite 110  
Lakewood, CO 80228  
303-807-8458  
peter.katchmar@dot.gov

## APPEARANCES (Cont.):

DEBBIE MAZZANTI, Business Representative  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
Local 1245  
30 Orange Tree Circle  
Vacaville, CA 95687  
415-517-0317  
djmg@ibew1245.com

JOSHUA SPERRY, Senior Union Representative  
Engineers and Scientists of California  
Local 20, IFPTE AFL-CIO & CLC  
835 Howard Street, 2nd floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
415-543-8320  
jsperry@ifpte20.org

DANE B. JAQUES, ESQ.  
Dombroff, Gilmore, Jaques & French  
1676 International Drive, Penthouse  
McLean, Virginia 22102  
703-336-8709  
djaques@dglitigators.com

I N D E X

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Interview of Kevin Armato:	
By Mr. Gunther	8
By Mr. Shori	9
By Mr. Gunther	10
By Mr. Katchmar	11
By Unidentified Speaker	11
By Mr. Chhatre	12

1 I N T E R V I E W

2 MR. CHHATRE: Good afternoon, everyone. It is Thursday,  
3 January 6, 2011. We are currently in Burlingame, California, in  
4 the San Francisco Marriott, San Francisco Airport Marriott. We  
5 are meeting in regards to the investigation of pipeline rupture in  
6 San Bruno, California, that occurred on September 9, 2010. The  
7 NTSB accident number for this investigation is DCA-10-MP-008.

8 My name is Ravi Chhatre. I'm with the National  
9 Transportation Safety Board in Washington, D.C., and I'm the  
10 investigator-in-charge of this accident.

11 I would like to start by notifying everyone present in  
12 this room that we are recording this interview for future  
13 transcription at a later date. All party members will have a  
14 chance to review the transcripts when they are completed.

15 Also, I'd like to inform Mr. Armato -- did I say it  
16 correct?

17 MR. ARMATO: Uh-huh.

18 MR. CHHATRE: -- that you are permitted to have one  
19 person present with you in the interview. That person is of your  
20 choice. It can be a friend, family member, supervisor or, if you  
21 choose, no one at all.

22 So for the record, please state your full name, spelling  
23 of your name, contact information, such as phone, e-mail address,  
24 mailing address and whom you have chosen to be present with you  
25 during this interview.

1           MR. ARMATO: Kevin Armato, K-e-v-i-n, A-r-m-a-t-o.  
2 Contact information: work phone number is (925) 974-4304, work  
3 address is 375 North Wiget Lane, W I G E T, that's in Walnut  
4 Creek, California 94598. I've chosen Dane to be with me today.

5           MR. CHHATRE: Thanks for that.

6           MR. ARMATO: Uh-huh.

7           MR. CHHATRE: Now we'll go around the room and have each  
8 person introduce themselves. Please state your name, spelling,  
9 your title, organization you represent, your business e-mail and  
10 phone number, starting with the City.

11           MR. CALDWELL: City of San Bruno, Geoffrey Caldwell. My  
12 information's on the card provided.

13           MR. DAUBIN: Brian Daubin, PG&E, information is on the  
14 card provided.

15           MR. FASSETT: Bob Fassett, PG&E, information is on the  
16 card.

17           MS. JACKSON: Connie Jackson, City of San Bruno. My  
18 information's on my card.

19           MS. FABRY: Klara Fabry, City of San Bruno, information  
20 on the card provided.

21           MR. SHORI: Sunil Shori, California Public Utilities  
22 Commission. Information is on the card I provided.

23           MR. KATCHMAR: Peter Katchmar, United States Department  
24 of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety  
25 Administration. I submitted a business card.



1 MR. GUNTHER: Karl Gunther, NTSB, Operations Group  
2 Chairman, karl.gunther@ntsb.gov; phone: (202) 314-6478.

3 MS. MAZZANTI: Debbie Mazzanti, International  
4 Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and my information is on the  
5 card.

6 MR. SPERRY: Joshua Sperry, Engineers and Scientists of  
7 California, Local 20, IFPTE. My information's been submitted.

8 MR. NICHOLSON: Matthew Nicholson, NTSB, engineer,  
9 spelled Matthew, M-a-t-t-h-e-w, Nicholson, N-i-c-h-o-l-s-o-n,  
10 matthew.nicholson@ntsb.gov.

11 MR. CHHATRE: Ravi Chhatre, NTSB. My e-mail is  
12 ravindra.chhatre@ntsb.gov. Telephone is (202) 314-6644.

13 MR. NARVELL: Rick Narvell, Human Performance  
14 Investigator for NTSB. Telephone is (202) 314-6422; e-mail  
15 narvelr@ntsb.gov.

16 MR. JAQUES: Dane Jaques on behalf of the witness, and  
17 my information is on the card provided.

18 MR. CHHATRE: Thanks all. Would you like to begin,  
19 Karl?

20 MR. GUNTHER: Yes, I would.

21 MR. CHHATRE: Okay.

22 MR. GUNTHER: Karl Gunther, NTSB.

23 INTERVIEW OF KEVIN ARMATO

24 BY MR. GUNTHER:

25 Q. Please give us your job title and affiliation.

1           A.    My job title is supervising engineer.  Affiliation is  
2 Pacific Gas & Electric.

3           Q.    And what are your duties?

4           A.    My current duties is I supervise a group of engineers  
5 called System Integrity.

6           Q.    Okay.  And what do you do?  What do you do as far as  
7 system integrity?

8           A.    Oh, okay.  I supervise, like I said, some engineers.  
9 Some of them are what we call process owners.  There's a couple  
10 that are called asset leads and also the lead DIMP engineer.

11          Q.    Do you work in the risk management group?

12          A.    No.

13          Q.    All right.  And then -- okay.  So you're in the  
14 distribution integrity management end or both ends?

15          A.    Mainly distribution integrity management.

16          Q.    Okay.  All right.  In that case, I'll go ahead and pass  
17 at this point.

18               MR. CALDWELL:  Geoff Caldwell.  No questions at this  
19 time.

20               MR. DAUBIN:  Brian Daubin, no questions.

21               MR. FASSETT:  Bob Fassett, no questions.

22               MS. JACKSON:  Connie Jackson, no questions.

23               MS. FABRY:  Klara Fabry, no questions.

24               MR. SHORI:  Sunil Shori, California PUC.

25               BY MR. SHORI:

1 Q. Kevin, can you name the people you manage?

2 A. Yes. Gene Muse, Christine Adams, Mary Muse, Debbie  
3 Zierbaugh (ph.), Mateo Rossi (ph.), Tim Huckabay (ph.) and Dave  
4 Pruitt.

5 Q. Are all of these folks in integrity management? Are  
6 they all part of the Integrity Management Group?

7 A. They're part of the System Integrity Group.

8 MR. CHHATRE: Off the record.

9 (Off the record.)

10 (On the record.)

11 MR. CHHATRE: Back on the record.

12 MR. GUNTHER: Karl Gunther, NTSB.

13 BY MR. GUNTHER:

14 Q. You're involved in the DIMP, program which is the  
15 Distribution Integrity Management Program. How far along are you  
16 in your program at PG&E?

17 A. With regards to which part of the --

18 Q. Have you completed your baseline assessments? I mean --

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There isn't a requirement for  
20 baseline assessment.

21 MR. GUNTHER: All right. Well, I mean, you know.

22 MR. ARMATO: We haven't done baseline assessments.

23 BY MR. GUNTHER:

24 Q. Well, then, what are you doing in the DIMP plan?

25 A. We're just finishing up our documentation for how we're

1 going to implement the program.

2 Q. Okay. And when do you figure you're be able to  
3 implement it?

4 A. Definitely before August of this year.

5 Q. Okay.

6 MR. GUNTHER: That's really all I wanted to get out.

7 MR. KATCHMAR: Peter Katchmar with U.S. DOT.

8 BY MR. KATCHMAR:

9 Q. Is August the effective date of the role --

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. -- distribution integrity management role?

12 MR. CHHATRE: Any questions?

13 MR. SPERRY: No questions.

14 MR. NICHOLSON: No questions.

15 MR. CHHATRE: I have no questions.

16 MR. NARVELL: No questions of this gentleman.

17 MR. CHHATRE: There's no follow-up questions. Thank you  
18 for coming.

19 BY UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:

20 Q. Just one second. Are you no longer involved with  
21 transmission CP issues?

22 A. No.

23 Q. No longer at all?

24 A. No.

25 MR. CHHATRE: Let me ask one question for the record

1 here.

2 BY MR. CHHATRE:

3 Q. You said you are now supervisor. What was your position  
4 on September 9, 2010?

5 A. The same.

6 Q. Okay.

7 MR. CHHATRE: No further questions, and thanks for  
8 coming. We're off the record.

9 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:           PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY  
                                  SEPTEMBER 9, 2010 ACCIDENT  
                                  SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA  
                                  Interview of Kevin Armato

DOCKET NUMBER:           DCA-10-MP-008

PLACE:                      Burlingame, California

DATE:                        January 6, 2011

was held according to the record, and that this is the original,  
complete, true and accurate transcript which has been compared to  
the recording accomplished at the hearing.

---

Kathryn A. Mirfin  
Transcriber