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What's in the Boxes?



Photo Cathy Dausman

Looking a bit like something from a sci-fi movie set, these 12 steel containers actually hold only water. Pacific Gas and Electric is using them in a process called hydrostatic pressure testing. A section of gas pipe is pressurized with water to test its strength. Each single walled "frac tank" holds up to 21,000 gallons of water, and will be linked together with piping. The tanks will remain in place until testing is complete sometime in early September, said PG&E spokesperson Tamar Sarkissian. Questions about the testing should be directed to PG&E at (800)743-5000. For more information, go online to <http://www.pge.com/myhome/edusafety/systemworks/gas/pipelinesafety/hydrostatictesting/index.shtml>.

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