



June 27, 2013

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for hearing this important issue today. My office received calls from many concerned residents on the Westchester Bluffs who are concerned about their safety.

On January 6, the Sempra Energy Southern California Gas Company's natural gas storage facility located in Playa del Rey experienced a high pressure gas leak which ignited and shot a flame approximately 100 feet into the air. Gas Company staff were able to stop the flow of the gas, and with the assistance of our fire and police units, the flame was fully extinguished within an hour.

Following the incident, the Gas Company shut down this facility to perform an internal investigation. Now that the investigation is complete and the facility has reopened, we need to make sure the facility is safe. It's my understanding that the Gas Company, the Air Quality Management District and California Public Utilities Commission performed investigations. I would like to know those facts.

There are also a few specific questions I'd like answered:

- What caused the blast, and what are the chances that this or something similar could ever happen again?
- Were any toxic chemicals released into the air?
- Debris was collected (and cleaned) from many of my constituents' homes following this incident. What was this substance exactly?
- Were LAFD or LAPD personnel ever at risk when they arrived on the scene? And, is there an emergency plan if a more significant event like this happens again?

We can never allow another incident like what happened in San Bruno ever happen in Los Angeles. I hope today's conversation ensures the safety of our citizens and would appreciate a report back to your committee which answers the aforementioned questions. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

BILL ROSENDAHL
Councilmember, 11th District

Date: 6-28-13
 Submitted in PS Committee
 Council File No: 13-0568
 Item No.: 4
 Deputy: [Signature]