

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, on October 23, 2015 Southern California Gas Company discovered a leak at a natural gas well in the Aliso Canyon storage facility which to date has released over 91,683 metric tons of methane gas and mercaptans into the environment, endangering the health and safety of thousands of residents in the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Governor Brown issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency on January 6, 2016, establishing a command structure within the Governor's Office of Emergency Services to coordinate local, state, and federal response; and

WHEREAS, the state has launched a multi-agency response, federal involvement in the investigation of and response to the Aliso Canyon leak has been limited; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the United States Senate is S.2012, also known as the Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2015; and

WHEREAS, Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein have proposed the introduction of an amendment to this legislation which would direct the Secretary of Energy to conduct a federal review of the causes and response to the leak occurring at the Aliso Canyon storage facility; and

WHEREAS, the amendment would require the formation of an intergovernmental task force, consisting of representatives from the Energy Department, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Commerce, and the Department of the Interior, to investigate this matter; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment to S.2012 would result in invaluable federal involvement in this ongoing crisis and federal recommendations concerning the continued use of the Aliso Canyon storage facility and all storage facilities located near residential areas;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-16 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for the introduction of an amendment, by Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, to S.2012, directing United States Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz to conduct a federal review of the causes and response to the ongoing natural gas leak at the Aliso Canyon storage facility.

PRESENTED BY:


MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY:




FEB 3 2016
jmq

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