

RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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 government body or agency must have first 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, threatening the health and safety of thousands of residents in Porter Ranch and the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the leak was successfully capped on February 18, 2016. However, residents have yet to return home and air quality concerns in residential areas impacted by the leak and the safety of continued operations at the Aliso Canyon storage facility; and

WHEREAS, current Federal law fails to define “underground natural gas storage facility” and fails to establish standard safety guidelines for such facilities; and


WHEREAS, currently pending in the United States House of Representatives Legislature is HR 4429 (Knight), the Natural Gas Leak Prevention Act of 2016, which would require the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the heads of relevant Federal agencies, to create minimum uniform safety standards for the operation, environmental protection, and integrity management of underground natural gas storage facilities, within two years of the bill’s enactment; and

WHEREAS, HR 4429 would define an underground natural gas storage facility as a gas pipeline facility that stores gas in an underground facility, including a depleted hydrocarbon reservoir, an aquifer reservoir, or a solution mined salt cavern reservoir; and

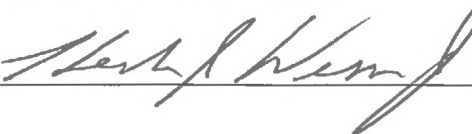
WHEREAS, HR 4429 would require that a fee be imposed on all entities operating an underground storage facility, to be deposited in an underground natural gas storage facility safety account within the Pipeline Safety Fund, for use on activities related to underground storage safety;

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 HR 4429 (Knight) which would result in the creation of minimum uniform safety standards for the operation, environmental protection, and integrity management of underground natural gas storage facilities.

PRESENTED BY:


MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

MAR 22 2016


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