

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on October 23, 2015, Southern California Gas Company (SoCal Gas) crews discovered a leak at one of its natural gas wells located in its Aliso Canyon storage field in the Los Angeles County Unincorporated Area adjacent to the Porter Ranch Community. L.A. City and County Fire and Hazmat Departments, the L.A. County Department of Health, the California Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources, and the South Coast Air Quality Management District have been onsite regularly; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LADPH) was notified on October 28, 2015. Odors related to the gas leak have been affecting residents in the Porter Ranch area. According to LADPH, a community meeting hosted by SoCal Gas focused on exposure to methane gas and mercaptans, which are odorants added to natural gas. LADPH advised that methane gas itself poses little direct health threat upon inhalation in an outdoor space. Mercaptans, however, do pose a health threat to the community, including short-term neurological, gastrointestinal, and respiratory symptoms that may result from inhalation. Community complaints of nosebleeds, headaches, nausea and other symptoms persist; and

WHEREAS, in their November 19, 2015 Directive to SoCal Gas, Dr. Cyrus Rangan, Director of the Bureau of Toxicology and Environmental Assessment and Angelo J. Bellomo, Deputy Director for Health Protection stated:

Southern California Gas Company should continue the abatement process to characterize and repair the subject gas leak, and eliminate odorous emissions, on an expedited basis in consultation with the appropriate regulatory agencies. All mitigation plans should cite public health protection as the highest priority.

In the interim, Southern California Gas Company is to offer free, temporary relocation to any area residents affected by odors from the Aliso Canyon site; and

WHEREAS, as of December 14, 2015 the relocation numbers are:

- 3,948 inquiries
- 1,883 relocated
- 1,433 in process
- 149 to be contacted
- 90 opted out; and

WHEREAS, today, the County Board of Supervisors is scheduled to consider a "Proclamation of Existence of a Local Emergency by the Chair of the County Board of Supervisors and Request for a State Proclamation;" and due to the mass relocation of residents, short term health effects experienced and the poor air quality in the vicinity of the gas leak, compounded by the uncertainty as to when a solution will be reached, it is imperative that the City of Los Angeles support the County in this effort;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council determine, as provided in Section 54954.2(b)(2) of the Government Code, and pursuant to **Rule 23** of the Rules of the City Council, that there is a need to take immediate action on this matter AND that the need for action came to the attention of the City Council subsequent to the posting of the agenda for today's Council meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution the City of Los Angeles hereby SUPPORTS the Los Angeles County "Proclamation of Existence of a Local Emergency by the Chair of the County Board of Supervisors and Request for a State Proclamation;" and

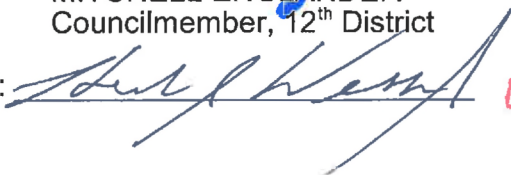
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City request the Governor to declare an emergency in Los Angeles County; and that the State expedite access to State and Federal resources and any other appropriate Federal Disaster Relief programs.

PRESENTED BY:



MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY:



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