

MOTION

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 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.

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.**

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.

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

There have been many shortcomings with the current relocation process that have been brought to the attention of the Twelfth Council District Office, including but not limited to: The insufficiency of the per diem; lack of availability of comparable housing; up front expenses without certainty as to when or how much will be reimbursed; and, concerns as to the security and maintenance of now-vacant homes, not to mention the special difficulties encountered by large families, senior citizens, persons with disabilities and those with pets.

SoCal Gas intends to submit their Relocation Plan on December 14th or 15th. At this time, it is pertinent to examine some of the difficulties that the residents and businesses of Porter Ranch have had to endure in the relocation process and ask SoCal Gas to offer remedies as part of their relocation plan.



DEC 15 2015

2

I THEREFORE MOVE 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.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas provide professional relocation assistance to comparable housing. Since few, if any, landlords will rent for 3-4 month terms, SoCal Gas should offer to pay the premium necessary above the normal rent and a large security deposit in return for month-to-month leases.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas commence the immediate evacuation, on request, for all residents and, to the extent they cannot be provided right away with comparable housing, daily substantial cash compensation be made available immediately.

I FURTHER MOVE that householders who have moved in with relatives should also receive similar weekly cash amounts (in real time) as compensation for the disruption to their lives.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas provide out-of-pocket health-related costs to relocated residents, or those declining relocation, including but not limited to office visits, tests, and prescriptions as deemed necessary to assess current or on-going health effects or to receive physician second opinions.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas provide reasonable per diem food allowances for evacuated families, irrespective of whether or not the new accommodations have cooking facilities. Current gas company food compensation rates are unrealistically low and further diminish living standards of evacuated residents.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas retain professional moving companies to assist residents in transferring their belongings to new accommodations (as requested) and returning those belongings when the gas leak is ultimately repaired.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas provide a reasonable per diem for pet accommodations in the event that comparable housing is not available that allows pets.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas retain professional private security companies to ensure homes left unoccupied by departing residents are secured by 24/7 private patrols. LAPD's resources are limited, its other obligations are numerous, and it cannot provide the level of security residents deserve under current conditions.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas retain professional cleaning companies to assist residents with restoring their property, including automobiles, to pre-gas leak conditions.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas retain professional maintenance and or landscaping companies to assist residents with maintaining their properties through an extended absence.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas provide particular assistance for seniors or the disabled, who may not be able to drive, thereby limiting their access to and ability to assess relocation properties as to their propriety for special needs. In particular, the Tesoro Senior Apartments is a 400-unit apartment building in direct proximity to the well site and as many as 50 percent of the residents cannot drive, lift, walk without assistance, reach/carry, nor have family nearby.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas provide monetary consideration and accommodation for senior or disabled residents that receive assisted nursing services in their homes in order that they may continue to maintain their existing providers and therapies.

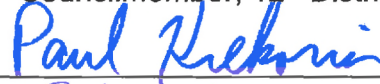
I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas provide reimbursement for relocated persons for additional transportation costs if they are now further from their employment or from their childrens' schools.

I FURTHER MOVE that SoCal Gas should, for the duration of this event, cease billing all residents in the area for natural gas service.

PRESENTED BY:


MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY:









ORIGINAL