

**MOTION**

On October 23, Southern California Gas Company 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.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LADPH) was notified on October 28. Odors related to the gas leak have been affecting residents in the Porter Ranch area. LADPH advised that methane gas itself poses little direct health threat upon inhalation in an outdoor space. However, mercaptans, the odorants added to natural gas, 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.

The City Attorney has filed suit against SoCal Gas and recently, the County of Los Angeles joined that effort. In addition, the City went to court to guarantee an expedited relocation process, provide accommodations for those with special needs and to provide for pet boarding costs.

The South Coast AQMD has entered into a Stipulated Order of Abatement with SoCal Gas that requires on site monitoring, enhanced inspections, additional air quality monitoring, carbon absorption and thermal oxidation. They have joined the City Council in asking for a third-party Health Study.

In response to the Council's request, the Porter Ranch Community Advisory Committee has been formed and has been meeting regularly.

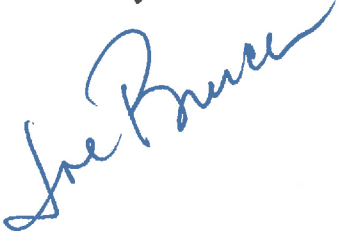
So Cal Gas' most recent estimate is that it may take 2-3 more months before the actual leak is found and repaired. In the meantime, more than 4,674 households have requested relocation with 2,855 households placed and 1,819 households in process. Additionally, Porter Ranch Community School and Castlebay Elementary have been closed by LAUSD.

Last week, Governor Gerry Brown issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency for the Aliso Canyon Gas Leak.


Overwhelmingly, many residents of the adjacent communities Chatsworth, Northridge and Granada Hills are reporting that they too are experiencing symptoms related to mercaptans exposure. Unlike residents of Porter Ranch, however, they report that they have tried to take advantage of relocation assistance and have either been denied or relegated to a "non-priority" status, or simply have not received return phone calls, thereby extending their considerable exposure and suffering. Recognizing that odors don't recognize community lines or zip code boundaries, it is important that all reasonable relocation requests be accommodated.



I THEREFORE MOVE that the SoCal Gas Company be requested to recognize and extend their relocation efforts to include the immediately adjacent communities of Granada Hills, Chatsworth and Northridge and that residents requesting relocation from those communities be treated with the same respect and priority as anyone with a reasonable relocation request.

Presented by:   
MITCHELL ENGLANDER  
Councilmember, 12<sup>th</sup> District

Seconded by: 

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