

MOTION

ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

On October 23rd, 2015 the largest methane gas leak in US history occurred at the Aliso Canyon Storage Field operated by Southern California Gas Company. Located in unincorporated Los Angeles County, the leak released 100,000 metric tons of methane gas into the atmosphere forcing thousands of residents from Porter Ranch and surrounding neighborhoods to evacuate. Furthermore, the 112 day methane leak caused the temporary closure of two schools and impacted businesses and property values throughout the region.

After several months, the well responsible for the leak was finally sealed on February 17, 2016. On July 31, 2017 the Aliso Canyon Storage Field reopened with the clearance from the California Department of Conservation's Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources and the California Public Utilities Commission.

On Saturday October 14, 2017, Dr. Jeffrey Nordell presented an independent physician report on the effects of the Aliso Canyon Gas Leak. His report tested urine and hair samples of 106 Porter Ranch residents. Dr. Nordell claims that urine samples showed elevated levels of styrene and ethylbenzene, while hair samples revealed statistically significantly higher levels of uranium and lithium "compared to averages in the rest of California as well as the United States".

Moreover, the report claims that lithium was detected in the water of homes with LADWP water supply while homes with non-LADWP water had no detectable levels of lithium. While the actual report of this independent health study has yet to be released, it is important that City look into these allegations.

I THEREFORE INSTRUCT that the Department of Water and Power (LADWP) report on any and all testing conducted before, during, and after the Aliso Canyon gas leak.

FURTHERMORE, I INSTRUCT the LADWP to report on lithium levels of the water in the areas around the Aliso Canyon Storage Field and compare it to both the rest of the City and adjacent municipalities and on the standard guidelines of lithium levels.

PRESENTED BY:


MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

OCT 17 2017

SECONDED BY:

