

ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the regulation and inspection of below-ground storage facilities for natural gas and other hazardous materials.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Englander - Bonin):

INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Fire Department, with the assistance of the Office of Petroleum and Natural Gas Administration and Safety, the Emergency Management Department and the City Attorney's Office, to report on what ability and authority the City should have to regulate and inspect below-ground storage facilities for natural gas and other hazardous materials, and on what actions the City can take to ensure that it has the authority for permitting and inspecting these facilities with said regulations to be formed under the franchise agreement structure.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For:
Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council

Summary:

On April 17, 2018, your Committee considered a Motion (Englander - Bonin) relative to regulation and inspection of below-ground for natural gas and other hazardous materials. According to the Motion, below-ground storage tanks for natural gas or other volatile substances are located throughout the City. These tanks can pose a significant threat to the health and safety of the residents of the City, as exemplified by the Aliso Canyon natural gas leak, where massive amounts of methane gas were released into the atmosphere over months before the leak was contained. The State is responsible for the regulation of these tanks. However, when one of these tanks fails, the City bears the burden of managing significant parts of the cleanup and relocation of residents, not to mention the environmental and health impacts caused by a leak. Further, State regulation of below-ground storage is fragmented, with no one department or agency fully responsible for safety inspections or for issuing operations permits. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion as detailed in the above recommendation. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE



MEMBER **VOTE**
MARTINEZ: YES

KORETZ: YES
KREKORIAN: YES
CEDILLO: ABSENT
O'FARRELL: YES

ARL
4/17/18

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-