November 17, 2016

The Honorable Michael Picker  Mr. Timothy Sullivan
President, California Public Utilities Commission  Executive Director, California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue  505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102  San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear President Picker and Director Sullivan:

As you are aware, the Southern California Gas Company has requested through the Division of Oil, Gas and Geo-Thermal Resources (DOGGR) and the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to begin the re-injection of natural gas into the Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Storage Facility. The process for the application is specified under SB 380 (Pavley) and requires a community meeting hosted by DOGGR to solicit public input before a decision is made on the re-injection request.

I have learned that the PUC has tentatively identified a timeline for the public meeting to take place one to two weeks after the Thanksgiving Holiday on November 24. I am writing today to strongly urge the PUC to delay the public meeting until January of 2017, after the holiday season.

The gas blow out in October of 2015 displaced and disrupted thousands of lives. Children were forced to vacate schools and families left their homes at a time when they should have been preparing to celebrate the holiday season together. Thanksgiving, Hanukah, Christmas, New Years were all holidays impacted by the displaced families of the North San Fernando Valley. Now, a critical public meeting, and significant deliberations impacting the future of the area, has been scheduled to take place in the middle of those same holidays.

In addition, the timing of the meeting is set to take place in the middle of many transitions of representation for Porter Ranch. On December 5, Porter Ranch will have a new State Senator, new Assembly Member, and new County Supervisor just taking office when this meeting could take place. It is not fair to these newly elected officials or the community as it was not the intent of Senator Pavley’s legislation to incorporate a community vetting process that fails short of allowing the public to consume and offer important thoughts at the forum which will ultimately affect these residents.

Thank you for hearing my request and I thank you for your time and dedication.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Supervisor, 5th District
November 17, 2016

Kenneth A. Harris, Jr., State Oil and Gas Supervisor
California Department of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources
801 K Street, MS 18-05
Sacramento, CA 95814-3530

Dear Mr. Harris:

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