February 3, 2017

Senator Henry Stern, 27th District
State Capitol, Room 3070
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Support of SB 57

Dear Senator Stern:

The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) represents 30,000 residents and businesses in the Porter Ranch community located in the north end of the San Fernando Valley in the City of Los Angeles. On October 23, 2015, one well at the Aliso Canyon gas storage facility ruptured and released 100,000 tons of methane, and other chemicals, into the air we breathe over a period of four months. These chemicals blanketed our homes, streets, schools, and entire community. Thousands of our residents had to flee their homes as they suffered through a myriad of health problems caused by this release. The PRNC has strong concerns over the re-opening of the facility and its operation in such close proximity to our community, and has already taken the position that this facility must be shut down to protect the health and well being of our people.

To that end, the PRNC strongly supports Senate Bill 57 (SB 57) as amended on February 2, 2017. This bill aims to do the sensible thing of ensuring that the reason for the rupture of Well SS25 at the Aliso Canyon gas storage facility in October 2015 is clearly understood before the facility can be put back in service. While we continue to call on the Gas Company and State regulatory agencies to permanently close the facility, we believe that your bill will help protect our community from a repeat well blowout if the facility were to reopen.

Thank you for your continued support of our community, and we are ready to assist you whichever way we can in securing the passage of SB 57.

Respectfully Yours,
Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council

Issam Najm, Ph.D., P.E.
President