January 10, 2018

Mr. Michael Picker, President  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102

Dear President Picker:1

The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) thanks the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for all the support we continue to receive as we navigate the challenges associated with the Aliso Canyon gas storage facility. After two years of uncertainty since the infamous blowout of October 2015, our community was greatly encouraged in July 2017 when Governor Brown requested that the California Energy Commission (CEC) “...plan for the permanent closure of the Aliso Canyon natural gas storage facility”, and the CEC urged the CPUC to do the same. You were recently copied on a letter we submitted to CEC Chair Weisenmiller checking on the status of the Aliso Canyon facility closure plan, and to express our strong desire to participate in its implementation.

In our letter to Chair Weisenmiller, we articulated a number of reasons that make this closure plan necessary for the good of our community, and the entire southern California region. We do not wish to repeat these reasons herein, but a copy of the letter to Chair Weisenmiller is attached herewith.

However, we wish to impress on the CPUC that the closure of the Aliso Canyon gas facility is a necessary step in the effort to protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of hundreds of thousands of California citizens who live and raise their children within an unsafe proximity of this facility. Another catastrophic failure of this facility is not a matter of if, but only a matter of when, and it is incumbent on the CPUC to work on averting such a failure and its consequences by properly planning for and implementing a responsible closure of the facility.

We urge the CPUC to work hand-in-hand with the CEC, Los Angeles County, and others to expeditiously develop and implement an Aliso Canyon facility closure plan that addresses our community's health and safety concerns while ensuring that the energy needs of Southern California are adequately met by the time the facility is permanently closed.

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1 This letter represents the opinion of the PRNC, and not necessarily that of the City of Los Angeles.
We look forward to hearing from you about the CPUC’s response to the CEC’s request, and we hope to work with you on achieving the goal of permanent closure of the Aliso Canyon Facility.

Sincerely,
Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council

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

cc: Mr. Kevin De Léon, President Pro Tempore, California State Senate
    Mr. Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the Assembly, California State Assembly
    Mr. Henry Stern, California State Senator, District 27
    Mr. Dante Acosta, California Assemblyman, District 38
    Ms. Nancy McFadden, Executive Secretary to California Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
    Mr. Richard Corey, Executive Director, California Air Resources Board
    Dr. Robert Weisenmiller, Chair, California Energy Commission
    Ms. Kathryn Barger, Los Angeles County Supervisor
    Mr. Angelo Bellomo, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
    Mr. Wayne Nastri, Executive Director, South Coast Air Quality Management District
    Mr. Mitchell Englander, Los Angeles City Councilman
    Mr. Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles