

DOCKETED

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January 10, 2018

Mr. Richard Corey, Executive Director
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Corey:¹

The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) thanks the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for all the work you have done to keep our community informed about the air quality in the aftermath of the Aliso Canyon gas facility well blowout of October 2015. At that time, CARB installed online methane and benzene monitors in the community and made their results publicly accessible and searchable online.² The information provided by those analyzers was invaluable to our understanding of the quality of the air in our community during that disaster.

While the well was certified to have been “sealed” in February 2016, our community continues to be gravely concerned about the recurring releases of gas and other chemicals from the facility into the air we breathe. CARB’s own flyover results have shown that the facility releases methane at levels exceeding the 250 kg/hr limit even when it remains in a standby mode. Our community believes that continued online monitoring is very important to understanding the impact of the facility on our community as long as this facility is used to store and process gas.

Unfortunately, CARB’s online monitoring instruments were removed in 2016, which leaves us with no reliable and trust-worthy means of tracking the quality of the air around the facility. Yet, we are encouraged by the fact that the data presentation and downloading website is still active, its online charts are still available, and all its data mining functions are still accessible.

With this letter, we respectfully ask the Board to consider reinstalling the online methane and benzene monitors in the community and re-connecting their output to the existing online website. The PRNC is ready to assist in any way possible to implement such an effort.

¹ This letter represents the opinion of the PRNC, and not necessarily that of the City of Los Angeles.

² https://www.arb.ca.gov/research/aliso_canyon/community_methane_monitoring.htm

Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council

We look forward to further discussing this matter with you and hope that the Board will grant us our request. You can reach me at IssamNajm@prnc.org, and you can reach the entire board at board@prnc.org.

Sincerely,
Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Issam Najm". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'I' and a long, sweeping underline.

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

cc: Mr. Saul Gomez, Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Office of Governor Edmund G. Brown
Mr. Michael Picker, President, California Public Utilities Commission
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 Natri, Executive Director, South Coast Air Quality Management District