

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	12-AFC-03
Project Title:	Redondo Beach Energy Project
TN #:	206005
Document Title:	Letter from City of Redondo Beach to AES regarding uncontrolled release of natural gas
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Jon Welner
Organization:	Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP
Submitter Role:	Intervenor Representative
Submission Date:	9/3/2015 1:44:52 PM
Docketed Date:	9/3/2015



Steve Aspel
Mayor

415 Diamond Street, P.O. Box 270
Redondo Beach, California 90277-0270
www.redondo.org

tel 310 937-6619
fax 310 379-9268

September 1, 2015

Jennifer Didlo
Stephen O'Kane
AES Southland Development, LLC
690 Studebaker Road
Long Beach, CA 90803

Eric Pendergraft
Jose Perez
AES Redondo Beach
1100 North Harbor Drive
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

RE: Uncontrolled Natural Gas from AES Redondo Beach

The City has received a report from the Chief of the Redondo Beach Fire Department describing a serious, uncontrolled release of natural gas from the AES power plant in Redondo Beach on the night of Friday, August 28, 2015. A copy of the report is attached.

The City is deeply concerned about this incident. The uncontrolled release of natural gas apparently lasted for 39 minutes and was detected by residents throughout Redondo Beach and Hermosa Beach. Residents have reported being fearful of a potential catastrophic explosion, experiencing physical symptoms including dizziness and nausea, and evacuating their homes.

A major release of explosive gas in the heart of Redondo Beach is, of course, completely unacceptable. We are, of course, alarmed at the possibility of a major catastrophe, such as occurred at the Exxon Mobile refinery in Torrance on February 18, 2015.

The City is also gravely concerned that at no point during the incident did it receive any notice from the facility. The Fire Chief reports that he learned about the incident from citizen reports, and was unable to reach anyone from AES by phone or at the security gate for a significant period of time.

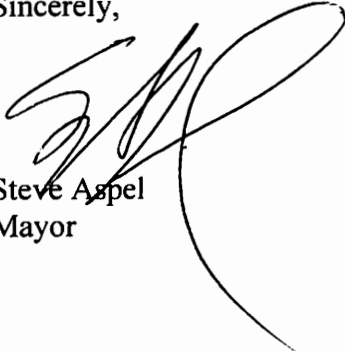
The City requires a full and complete written explanation of this incident within 48 hours of receipt of this letter. The document should include:

- A detailed, minute-by-minute description of the incident and AES' response.

- A detailed description of AES' existing protocols to respond to such an incident and to notify the City, the public, and appropriate agencies.
- A list of all agencies that must legally be notified of such an event.
- A specific, detailed description of any attempt by AES to notify the public.
- A specific, detailed description of any attempt by AES to notify or communicate with the City, the Fire Department, or any local, state, or federal agency regarding this incident.
- An explanation as to why AES was not reachable by phone during the incident.
- An explanation as to why no one was available at the security gate when the Fire Department arrived to investigate the incident.
- A detailed description of steps being taken by AES to ensure that this type of incident does not occur again, and that the City, the public, and all relevant agencies are immediately notified in case of a future emergency.
- An estimate of the amount of natural gas that was released during the incident.
- An analysis of the risk of explosion posed by the incident.
- An analysis of any potential health risks to the workers or the public, as a result of exposure to the gas.
- An analysis of the risk to workers posed by the incident, including a discussion of potential OSHA and CalOSHA violations.

Please contact City Manager Joe Hoefgen if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Steve Aspel
Mayor