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Emphasize Mitigation Strategies that Promote Long-term Shifts Away from Natural Gas Use, Rather Than Temporary Stopgaps

Dear agencies,

My name is Loraine Lundquist, and I am a resident of Northridge.

The present closure of Aliso Canyon and necessary mitigation measures represent a unique opportunity to execute strategies facilitating southern California's transition away from natural gas use. Every author of this report recognizes the need for such a transition, as well as the reality that this transition is not happening rapidly enough as compared with the need for climate action. For example, as signatories of the Paris Agreement from the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference, the United States has agreed to reduce its carbon output "as soon as possible" and do its best to keep global warming to "well below 2 degrees C."

Therefore, I urge the agencies implementing this action plan to lean heavily towards mitigation measures that will permanently reduce our natural gas use. Efficiency, demand response, electric storage, solar thermal heating, renewable electric generation, and other mitigation measures are far preferable to measures such as LNG and calls for temporary conservation.

On a personal note, our community of Northridge and many students I teach at CSUN were devastated by the gas blowout and would be well-served by mitigation measures enabling Los Angeles to transition away from natural gas use so definitively that Aliso Canyon becomes obsolete.

Additional detailed comments are below:

* The executive summary highlights that moving electric generation out of basin would result in increased prices. It does not compare these costs to the costs of opening and operating Aliso Canyon. Would rate payers in the LA area expect to pay more or less with Aliso canyon open?

* I was not able to find an explanation of where the 5.2bcfd design criteria came from, beyond that statement that it is a 1-in-10-year peak demand. Does this number incorporate current trends such as changes in gas use over time or trends in weather patterns over time? Also, how does this number compare to our gas use in the last 10 years? When was the last time we had a peak demand that high? How often in the last 10 years has demand exceeded the 4.5bcfd and 4.2bcfd limits?

* LADWP is offering free Nest thermostats with its AC-tuneup strategy, yet the "Rush Hour Incentives" demand response program built into Nest services is listed as not currently available in this area. This seems like an easy mitigation strategy to consider.

* Oil refineries should be curtailed before electric generation.

* LNG shipment should be removed from the list of mitigation strategies. We can mobilize to meet our needs in better ways than this.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dr. Loraine Lundquist