

## DOCKETED

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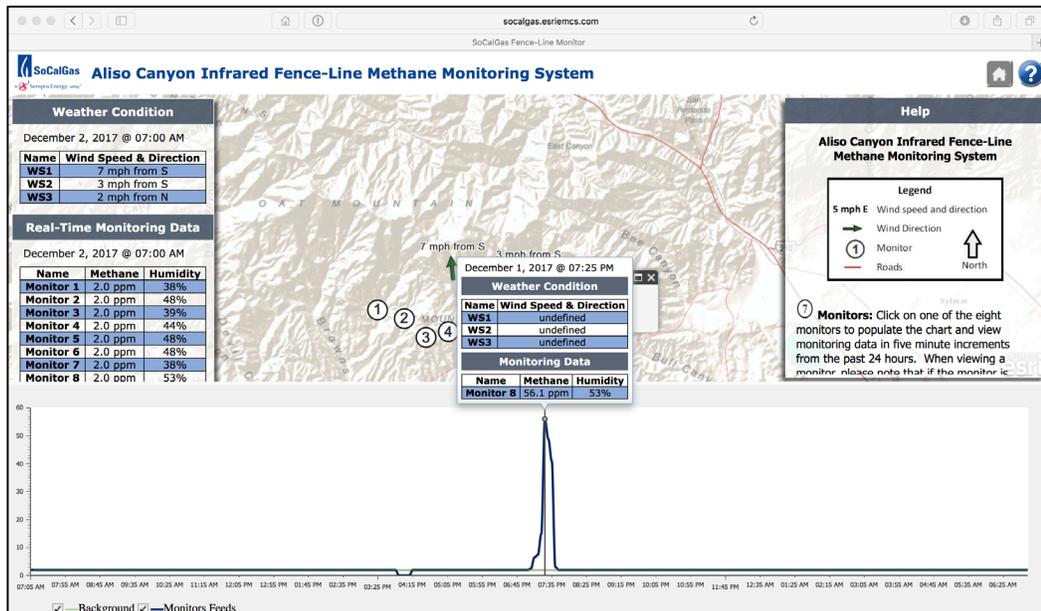
- Issam Najm,  
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December 6, 2017

Ms. Patricia Wagner  
Chief Executive Officer  
Southern California Gas Company  
555 West Fifth Street  
Los Angeles CA 90013-1037

Dear Ms. Wagner:<sup>1</sup>

On the morning of December 2, the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) and residents of the North San Fernando Valley received notice from the Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) explaining the prior evening’s high spike in methane levels recorded by SoCalGas’ fenceline monitors around the Aliso Canyon gas storage facility, and the community’s independent methane monitor. The notice explained that this spike was caused by “...*planned venting associated with maintenance work being conducted at the facility.*” The notice goes on to state that “*The...elevated methane levels...do not present a health or safety risk to the community.*” A screenshot of the fenceline monitor is shown below to give you a sense of the magnitude of this spike.



The PRNC is greatly disappointed in SoCalGas’ continued callous disregard to the health and wellbeing of our community and the very same people that pay your bills. The fact that you find it acceptable to intentionally dump a poisonous gas into the air we breathe and state it as

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

## Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council

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simply part of the normal course of doing business, and then dismiss your action as having no impact on the community, is utterly inexcusable.

How many tons of methane, mercaptans, and who-knows-what-else was intentionally released that evening to cause a spike 25 times the background methane levels in the air all the way at the fenceline?

Why is it that you make no attempt to capture that gas and dispose of it safely and legally instead of just venting it into the air and hope no one notices?

Why is it that you did not issue a community notice until after residents contacted you about the spike and demanded an explanation?

How many other times did you vent gas into the air as part of your “maintenance” work at the facility without informing the community?

On what basis do you claim that this intentional release does not present a health risk to the community?

We know that you will not provide any meaningful answers to our questions, and you will continue to do whatever you want at this facility with no regard to the community’s wellbeing. We are sure you are comforted by the fact that the fenceline monitors that you installed only after a legal settlement with the County of Los Angeles will be removed in less than two years when the settlement term expires. At that time, *if there are no monitors to record it, was there really a gas release?* We will never know.

To all the City, County, and State officials receiving this letter, how much more of this will it take for you to say “enough is enough!”, and demand the closure of this facility sooner rather than later?

Respectfully,  
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. Michael Picker, President, California Public Utilities Commission  
Dr. Robert Weisenmiller, Chair, California Energy Commission  
Mr. Edward Randolph, Energy Division Director, CPUC  
Ms. Kathryn Barger, Los Angeles County Supervisor  
Mr. Mitchell Englander, Los Angeles City Councilman, District 12  
Mr. Angelo Bellomo, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  
Dr. Jo Kay Ghosh, South Coast Air Quality Management District