



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 28, 2016 – LOS ANGELES

**ALISO CANYON GAS LEAK – INCIDENT UPDATE – JANUARY 28, 2016**

**Los Angeles County Department of Public Health**

*Public Health Continues to Monitor Health Effects of People and Pets*

Just like people, animals may also have symptoms due to the odors from the Aliso Canyon Gas Leak. In addition to providing health information to residents, Public Health also tracks potential effects on pet health.

Veterinary Public Health is conducting active surveillance at local veterinary clinics and animal boarding locations near the gas leak. Veterinarians and residents are encouraged to report if they have pets who experience symptoms. Questions can be directed to the Veterinary Public Health Program at 213-989-7060 (M-F 8 am – 5 pm).

Residents who live in the area affected by the gas leak are encouraged to keep pets indoors when gas smell is present. When adverse health effects in pets are present, residents should contact their local veterinarian. Symptoms may vary depending on the exposure to the odor and will generally go away once the odor is gone.

In addition, Public Health visited the Southern California Gas Company's Community Resource Center and is exploring various ways to provide accurate information on health effects to the Porter Ranch and other nearby communities.

To report complaints and learn more about the Aliso Canyon Gas Leak, visit:  
[www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/gasleak/](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/gasleak/).

**Los Angeles County Fire Department**

*LACoFD Strives to Meet Incident Objectives*

LACoFD continues to meet the incident objectives which include providing for the safety and security of the public and those involved with the incident and limiting the effects of the natural gas leak to the community and the environment.

Here are some updates as of January 27, 2016:

- Sampling activities both on and off site continue to be monitored for the safety of personnel and the community.
- Incident Information Officers are reaching out to all agencies, evaluating the flow of information ensuring that accurate and timely information is received.
- Communication enhanced to improve interoperability. Fire personnel have radio communication linked to operations personnel at the incident location.
- An Assisting and Cooperating Agencies meeting was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 to discuss coordination and communication issues. Key representatives from Federal, State, and local agencies attended.
- The Remote Automatic Weather Station (RAWS) system ordered to provide real time weather for the incident location and is due to be onsite Thursday.

## **Media Inquiries**

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## **About Los Angeles County Department of Public Health**

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is committed to protecting and improving the health of the nearly 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, Public Health oversees environmental health, disease control, and community and family health. Public Health comprises nearly 4,000 employees and has an annual budget exceeding \$900 million. To learn more about the LA County Department of Public Health and the work they do, visit [PublicHealth.LACounty.gov](http://PublicHealth.LACounty.gov), and follow Public Health on social media at [twitter.com/LAPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/LAPublicHealth), [facebook.com/LAPublicHealth](https://facebook.com/LAPublicHealth), and [youtube.com/LAPublicHealth](https://youtube.com/LAPublicHealth).

## **About The Los Angeles County Fire Department**

The Los Angeles County Fire Department is committed to protecting lives, the environment, and property by providing prompt, skillful, and cost-effective fire protection and life safety services. LACoFD's ability to develop new techniques and equipment to fight fires of all kinds has benefited not only the residents we serve, but the fire service in general, both nationally and internationally. LACoFD's Health Hazardous Materials Division protects the public health and the environment throughout Los Angeles County from accidental releases and improper handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes through coordinated efforts of inspections, emergency response, enforcement, and site mitigation oversight.



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### **Southern California Gas Company Update**

#### *Statement Regarding Reports on Closure of 18 Wells at Aliso Canyon*

It is not correct that Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) has committed to permanently shutting down 18 wells. These wells, however, have been identified as the top priority for inspection. To conduct such inspections, it is necessary to install temporary plugs to prevent the flow of gas. Once an inspection is completed, an assessment will be made on future course of actions, including a determination if the well is safe to put back into service.

#### *SoCalGas Operations Update*

SoCalGas continues progress on Relief Well 1 and Relief Well 2. As noted earlier, this final phase requires precision and accuracy which takes time.



Once the drill bit reaches the target well, the crew will transition from drilling operations to pumping heavy fluids and drilling mud into the target well to stop the flow of gas.

The pad for Relief Well 2 is completed and equipment is being mobilized to that site.

Updated emissions estimates: The California Air Resources Board estimates that the emissions from the leak have declined by nearly 70% since November. As of January 26, 2016:

- Data collected during the ARB flyover on Jan. 21 indicates that methane emissions rate has decreased by roughly 68% from November 28, from 58,000kg methane/hour to 19,600kg methane/hour.
- The ARB-estimated cumulative Aliso leak total is 2.1MMCO<sub>2</sub>e, or less than one percent of annual California GHG emissions. SoCalGas continues to monitor the air in the community twice daily and has added six 12-hour samples to the monitoring program at the facility perimeter closest to the community as well as at three other locations within the facility.

For information on the Phases of the Relief Well Operations, and a video, visit:

<https://www.alisoupdates.com/what-we-are-doing>

### **Media Inquiries**

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### **About Southern California Gas Company**

Southern California Gas Co. has been delivering clean, safe and reliable natural gas to its customers for more than 140 years. It is the nation's largest natural gas distribution utility, providing service to 21.4 million consumers connected through 5.9 million meters in more than 500 communities. The company's service territory encompasses approximately 20,000 square miles throughout central and Southern California, from Visalia to the Mexican border. Southern California Gas Co. is a regulated subsidiary of Sempra Energy (NYSE: SRE), a Fortune 500 energy services holding company based in San Diego.