

August 31, 2018

California Air Resources Board 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SUPPORT - Proposed Aliso Canyon Settlement Agreement

To Whom It May Concern:

Central City Association (CCA) is committed to advancing policies and projects that enhance Downtown Los Angeles' vibrancy and increase investment in the region. CCA represents more than 400 businesses, trade associations, and nonprofit organizations, and we support efforts that incentivize improved energy reliability and resilience, limiting greenhouse gas emissions and pollution, and reducing costs for residents and businesses.

CCA would like to extend its strong support of the proposed Aliso Canyon Settlement Agreement between The Southern California Gas Company ("SoCal Gas") and the California Air Resources Board, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, County of Los Angeles, and the California Office of the Attorney General.

The Aliso Canyon Climate Impacts Mitigation Program that will be established through the Settlement Agreement is a positive step forward; it will fully mitigate at least 109,000 metric tons of methane emissions – equal to the amount released during the Aliso Canyon leak. As outlined in the Mitigation Program the following critical goals will be accomplished:

- Generate significant and quantifiable reductions in methane emissions within the agriculture and waste sectors;
- Promote a more sustainable energy infrastructure by promoting energy efficiency and decreasing reliance on fossil fuels; and
- Address emissions from methane "hot spots" not presently targeted under federal, state or local laws.

Additionally, SoCal Gas will pay \$26.5 million to create a loan program to fund the construction of 12 dairy digester projects, three conditioning facilities and interconnection pipelines. With dairies being responsible for close to 50 percent of California's methane emissions, it's important to address this problem directly.

The loan program is a step toward our collective goal of reducing methane emissions statewide and improving the environment. Once the loans are repaid, SoCal Gas has committed to reinvest the original \$26.5 million, plus interest, into the local projects that will reduce emissions and benefit the residents of Porter Ranch. These benefits will go above and beyond the mitigation of at least 109,000 metric tons of methane emissions noted above.

The Aliso Canyon leak adversely impacted many residents and businesses in the Porter Ranch area; however, the proposed Settlement Agreement and accompanying Mitigation Program will make significant strides toward reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions and will implement programs that can reverse the adverse impact of those emissions while also investing in the most directly affected communities.

Thank you for your consideration, and we strongly urge you to support the proposed Settlement Agreement.

Sincerely,

Jessica Lall

President & CEO, Central City Association of Los Angeles