Honorable Members, California Air Resources Board:

 Thank you for taking the time to accept public comment on the Aliso Canyon gas leak settlement and mitigation agreement reached by CARB and Southern California Gas, in conjunction with the California Attorney General’s Office (AGO), the City of Los Angeles, and the County of Los Angeles.

 The release of methane gas that occurred during this incident was an unfortunate accident involving a company that we have long known to be a responsible member of the business community, and an indispensable component of our energy infrastructure.

 We at the Ventura County Economic Development Association believe that the mitigation plan, utilizing methods identified in the Climate Pollutant Strategy (SLCP) to prevent the production of an equivalent amount of methane as was released in Aliso, is a complete, fair, and just response to this situation.

 This incident, the ensuing public response, breath of scrutiny, and level of investigation the company faced, and the cost of implementing this agreement, will certainly act as incentive to establish and maintain the most strict safety protocols possible.

 Sincerely,

Mr. Sandy Smith

Chair, Ventura County Economic Development Association