

September 12, 2018

Mary Nichols
Chair, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Comments on Southern California Gas Company Aliso Canyon Settlement Agreement

Dear Chairwoman Nichols,

Anacapa Engineering and Design, Inc. (Anacapa) would like to express its strong support for the Aliso Canyon Methane Leak Climate Impacts Mitigation Program which is part of the Aliso Canyon Settlement Agreement between the Southern California Gas Company (“SoCalGas”) and the California Air Resources Board, Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office, County of Los Angeles, and California Office of the Attorney General.

Our California-based company is relatively new, being formed in 2017. Since inception, we have been working on these very important climate pollutant reduction projects. Our staff members came from various engineering firms and energy producers, where the majority of our former clients were operators in the oil and gas industry. Anacapa’s principals and staff members are thrilled to be using our many decades of energy-industry knowledge and expertise on a true green energy program.

As stated in ARB’s Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy, methane has nearly 84 times the heat-trapping power of carbon dioxide over a 20-year period. Given the magnitude of the methane leak, we applaud ARB’s efforts to come up with a mitigation program which not only corrects for these emissions, but also returns the funds with interest to benefit the Porter Ranch community.

Dairy digesters are a proven technology that captures methane from livestock manure that would otherwise be emitted into the atmosphere. This renewable source of biogas is then injected into the pipeline for use as a vehicle fuel where it displaces dirtier fossil-fuel derived diesel. The technology has many environmental and social benefits and our company is committed to the projects’ success.

Reducing methane at dairies by installing a covered lagoon biogas capture system is one of the most beneficial and cost-effective ways of reducing methane. We have worked in collaboration with the state, the dairies, other project partners, and the academic community to ensure that the projects deliver clean, renewable fuel. The Mitigation Program is critical for the development of these three clusters which will benefit Californians by reducing GHGs, creating jobs, improving air quality, and helping California meet its emission reduction targets.

The Mitigation Program enables these vital projects. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Best regards,

Stuart M. Heisler, PE
Sr. Technical Director
Principal