

## **Natural Gas Storage Safety and New Energy Storage**

**WHEREAS**, Sempra's Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Storage Facility on the edge of the City of Los Angeles had a massive blowout in 2015 that continued for months; that spewed 100,000 tons of natural gas containing poisons; that continues to make residents of the San Fernando Valley sick; that was the largest methane leak in U.S. history, producing massive climate damage; and that hurts California's ability to meet our climate goals; and

**WHEREAS**, the state Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources has cleared the facility as supposedly safe for reopening even without trying to determine the root cause of the disaster or doing a seismic study; yet the former manager of the site has testified he is concerned that movement on the Santa Susana fault would 'almost surely sever the casing' and tubing of every gas well, 'resulting in release of gas at a rate of 100 to 1,000 times the rate' of the 2015 blowout; and

**WHEREAS**, every study other than ones written by Sempra has confirmed that energy reliability can currently be assured without using any natural gas from Aliso, 18% of Aliso's full capacity remains available in case of emergency need, the Governor has emergency authority to order replenishing or increasing Aliso's reserve, and more energy storage that is not based on natural gas would improve our ability to meet future needs as well as help with our plans to deploy more renewable energy;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party calls on the legislature and regulators to take all steps necessary to keep Aliso closed until it can be determined to be safe based on a root cause analysis of the 2015 disaster and on a seismic study, to require that Sempra pay for its environmental and public health damage and for a study on long-term health impacts, to improve safety at all similar facilities in California, and to take steps to phase out the need for any natural gas storage including expanding the use of renewable energy sources and alternative energy storage as called for in the Platform of the California Democratic Party; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution will be sent to the Governor and to the Democratic members of the State Legislature.

Submitted by and Authored: Richard Mathews, E-Board, AD45

Co-sponsors:

Senator Henry Stern

Assembly Member Matthew Dababneh

CDP Region 10 (North and South)

CDP Region 12

CDP Region 15

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Save Porter Ranch, North Valley Democratic Club, Simi Valley Democratic Club  
and Democratic Alliance for Action