



In the Matter of the Application of
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
GAS COMPANY (U 904 G) to
Amend its Certificate of Public
Convenience and Necessity for the
Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility.

Application A 09-09-020

PROTEST OF MARC HERMAN, PORTER RANCH RESIDENT

I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Rules 2.6 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Marc Herman, Porter Ranch resident, submits this protest to Application (A09-09-020) of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY (U 904 G) to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility.

II. BACKGROUND

In its Application, Southern California Gas seeks to upgrade and expand (by 50%), a facility operating in a high-wind, high-fire-risk area, without public hearing.

III. SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Per the investigation of Los Angeles County Fire Department officials, the Southern California Gas Facility at Aliso Canyon in Porter Ranch was found to be the source of the October 2008 Sesnon Fire in Porter Ranch which burned 14,703 acres, destroyed 15 residences and 63 outbuildings, and damaged 11 other residences. In addition, the fire destroyed hundreds of mature oak and pine trees along the Limekiln and Palisades recreational hiking trails. According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), the total cost of the fire amounted to \$12.6 million. CAL FIRE determined that the cause of the Sesnon Fire was a downed electrical distribution line. Furthermore, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) confirmed the electrical distribution line was owned by Southern California Gas.

IV. PROCEDURAL ISSUES

A. Need For Hearings

CPUC should insist upon a public hearing to allow community member safety, facility maintenance, and operator negligence concerns to be heard as well as to challenge false statements made in the application. Filed by Southern California Gas after the 12.6 million dollar Sesnon fire, application a-09-09-2-020 **section VIII** titled **Public Utilities Code Section 1002, (a) Community Values** falsely states; *SoCalGas has identified no impacts on the surrounding community that cannot be mitigated to a level below significant.* Under **(b) Recreations and Park Areas Not Impacted** application falsely states; *The Project will not increase or otherwise affect the use of the recreational/park areas.*

V. CONCLUSION

As a Porter Ranch resident, I respectfully request that the Southern California Gas application a09-09-020 waiver of public hearing be denied without prejudice and the Commission rule that Southern California Gas must submit to formal hearing public hearings due to safety, maintenance and operating negligence concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Marc Herman

Marc Herman

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October 28th, 2009

Certificate of Service

I, Marc Herman, hereby certify that I have on this date served by electronic mail a copy of the foregoing protest, on the service list for A0909020, below:

By email:

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Executed this 28th day of October, 2009 in Los Angeles California.

/s/ Wesley G Rogers

Wesley G Rogers