

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



January 22, 2016

Jimmie Cho, Senior Vice President  
Southern California Gas Company  
Gas Operations and System Integrity  
555 W 5th Street, GT21C3  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

**SUBJECT: CPUC / DOGGR Selection of RCA firm**

To Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas):

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), in consultation with the Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and the Department of Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR), has selected Blade Energy Partners (Blade) to perform the independent Root Cause Analysis (RCA) that was directed in my December 14, 2015 letter. Please ensure the following details are executed:

1. Blade shall be brought under contract and provided access to the incident site at Aliso Canyon no later than January 29<sup>th</sup> 2016
2. SoCalGas shall make the incident site at Aliso Canyon available to Blade
3. SoCalGas shall equip an office trailer on site that has adequate space and internet access and printers for the Blade team and CPUC investigators
4. SoCalGas shall preserve all physical evidence needed for the RCA, including the well casing – SoCalGas shall not seal the top of the well with concrete until Blade extracts the casing for examination
5. SoCalGas shall not direct the work of Blade
6. SoCalGas shall promptly respond to all inquiries, data requests, and additional resource requests, including providing specialists, as needed to support the RCA
7. Please provide a copy of the final contract with Blade once executed
8. SoCalGas shall ensure that all Blade's findings and recommendations (including drafts) are submitted to the CPUC, DOGGR, and SoCalGas simultaneously

Contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Elizaveta Malashenko".

Elizaveta Malashenko  
Director - Safety and Enforcement Division  
California Public Utilities Commission

Cc: Kenneth Bruno – Program Manager - Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC  
Ken Harris – State Oil and Gas Supervisor, CA Department of Conservation, DOGGR