

APPENDIX B: SCOPE OF CPUC INVESTIGATION INTO WELL FAILURE AT ALISO CANYON

Scope

The Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has launched an investigation into Southern California Gas Company's (SoCalGas) Aliso Canyon storage field failure. SED's investigation will include an assessment of SoCal Gas's emergency response; design, construction, operations and maintenance activities of the failed well; SoCalGas management of contractors involved in Aliso Canyon, actions both preceding and following the failure that the company took to promote the safety, health, comfort, and convenience of its patrons, employees, and the public at the Aliso Canyon storage field. SED may also incorporate information obtained by the CPUC directed third party Root Cause Analysis firm who will conduct an analysis in the failure mode and contributing factors of Aliso Canyon's Standard Sesnon 25 (SS25) well.

Methodology

SED's investigation will be conducted with a team of select investigators from the Gas Safety Branch and supported by the CPUC's legal division. The assembled investigation team will review several pieces of information related to SS25 and more broadly to Aliso Canyon and adjacent wells. Several pieces of information will be examined, such as the following:

- 1) Aliso canyon / SS25 design and construction records
- 2) Aliso canyon / SS25 operations and maintenance records
- 3) Emergency management / Safety practices
- 4) Review of previous failures, near misses, etc.
- 5) Interview of witnesses
- 6) 3rd party Root Cause Analysis
- 7) SoCalGas's Procedures
- 8) Industry best practices
- 9) Integrity tests, diagnostic tests, surveys etc.
- 10) Historical injection and withdraw records
- 11) Statements made by SoCal Gas since the incident
- 12) Notifications to nearby residents and government agencies
- 13) Contracts and field management related to stop the leak
- 14) Overall response to public and worker safety since the incident

Findings and Timeline

SED will release its official investigation report upon completion of all aspects of its investigation. SED will not release tentative findings of its investigation in order not to compromise any potential enforcement action that the CPUC may take. If any current threats to public safety are discovered in the course of the investigation, immediate actions will be taken. Additionally, SED make its best attempt to answer questions regarding the investigation

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