



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –Thursday, February 18, 2016

ENGLANDER STATEMENT ON CERTIFICATION OF CLOSURE OF THE ALISO CANYON GAS LEAK

LOS ANGELES— Today Councilmember Mitchell Englander released the following statement regarding the certification by the Department of Oil Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) of the closure of the Aliso Canyon Gas Leak which has persisted for 119 days.

“This is not the end of this catastrophic disaster, this is the beginning of the next chapter,” said Councilmember Mitchell Englander. “The next chapter is yet to be written but it must include the safe return home for the thousands of affected families, a thorough investigation of the leak, an overhaul of regulatory responsibilities in the oil and gas industry, and a comprehensive study of potential health impacts to this community, families and our environment.”

Councilmember Englander has called for the following from SoCal Gas, and both state and local agencies following the closure of the leak:

- Ensure that this community is safe
- Ensure the entire SoCal Gas storage facility is safe
- Make sure that people return safely to their homes
- Complete a full investigation of the causes of the leak
- Strengthen the rules, regulations, communications, responsibilities and regulatory roles
- Hold accountable those responsible
- Mitigate the damage and injury to this community, families, businesses, and environment.
- Complete a thorough and independent comprehensive health study

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