

**Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
June 21, 2013**

Re: Southern California Gas Company Enhancement Project

Dear Supervisors:

I am not pleased with the Planning Commission's willingness to throw all sense aside to recommend this project to you. I was disappointed at the June 5th hearing that SoCal Gas had front row seats, so to speak, and after the public's 3 minute a piece allowance, we had no chance at rebuttal.

I am opposed to amending the Santa Barbara County Article II Coastal Zoning Ordinance of Chapter 35, Zoning, of the County Code, "to allow for exploration and production, without the use of hydraulic fracturing, of native natural gas at the Southern California Gas Company La Goleta site." AS IS, this article protects the fragile coastal environment and the safety of its wildlife and human citizens.

If you choose to amend this article to allow drilling and expanded storage, you will be opening a Pandora's Box to SoCal Gas and other companies in the future who will want to do the same thing somewhere else along our protected coast. We are already vulnerable to possible accidents in the channel with Platform Holly and its pipeline to shore. We do not need an accident waiting to happen like the BP oil spill or San Bruno. I don't care what the negligible percentage of incidents SoCal Gas proclaims. It only takes ONE accident to create an explosion. Human error is inevitable. We already have enough pipeline above and underground along the bike path, near the airport and Goleta Beach. To add 2800 more feet along with four wells, a new dehydration plant and 2 10,000 gallon hazardous waste storage tanks is asking for BIG TROUBLE.

I also don't believe that more storage is necessary. Industry always talks about how much ratepayers will save. Price fixing and holding back supplies in order to raise rates is a game we know all too well. And I don't for a minute believe what SoCal Gas claimed at the June 5th hearing that the expanded storage is for our benefit and will not be shipped overseas. There are 35,000 natural gas wells in the nation. By

2030, there is hope by the industry that there will be 100,000. We already have a glut of natural gas. They can't pull the wool over our eyes and say it's not going overseas. Sempra Energy, SoCal's mother company, is a global organization. The Goleta Storage facility is already the largest on the central coast. If it expands, our peace of heaven will be feeding the energy hungry foreign market.

I also am concerned about the 19 injection wells that are already on the property. Were they permitted? If more gas is found, more will be drilled for sure. SoCal is on the More Ranch Fault. Research is discovering that there is more correlation between drilling and earthquake activity than heretofore expected. It is mainly in areas where effluent brine water is injected into the ground; however, it is not inconceivable, although SoCal Gas says otherwise, that the exploration could trigger earthquake activity, especially since one of the directional drills will go right across the fault line toward the airport.

I will act as a Cassandra and predict that if this project is not stopped that 1) the camel's nose will be in the tent and it will wreak havoc along our coastline by SoCal Gas and others in the future 2) an accident of some magnitude will occur which will irreparably damage human health and the environment.

Please consider carefully your decision and choose the rights of you and your constituency to clean air, clean water, and public safety over the flighty promises of SoCal Gas. They already have four substantial storage facilities in Santa Barbara County. They don't need more. Let's concentrate on developing renewable energy, not energy based on fossil fuel.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Naneki Elliott", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

**Naneki Elliott
945 Ward Drive #26
Santa Barbara, CA 93111**