

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Potential Telecommunication Ordinance Amendments Southern California Gas Co. Advanced Meter Project April 5, 2016

## RECOMMENDATION

- Receive and file the report
- Provide direction to staff regarding initiation of work and either:
  - Decline to process the requested ordinance amendment; or,
  - Initiate the ordinance amendment process.
- Determine the receive and file is not a project under CEQA Guideline Section 15378 (b)(5)



### REQUEST

- Ordinance Amendment to Exempt Data Collection Units (DCUs) from County and Montecito Land Use and Development Code
- SoCalGas seeks an entirely ministerial process in the inland area of the County
- SoCalGas would process Conditional Use Permits for DCUs in the Coastal Zone



## ADVANCED METER PROGRAM

- Upgrade to existing natural gas meters with Advanced Meter Communication Devices
- Data Collection Units to receive information from gas meters
  - 105 sites expected throughout the County
    - 90 mounted on new poles, approximately 30 feet high
    - 15 mounted on existing poles/structures



#### LOCATION OF DCUs



#### VISUALS OF DCUs









## ZONING ORDINANCE

- County Zoning Ordinances define the DCUs as telecommunications facilities:
  - "A facility that transmits or receives electromagnetic signals, for communication purposes including data transfer..."
- Conditional Use Permit required for facilities proposed
  - County's discretion limited to visual concerns and site impacts (biology, cultural resources, geology)



## ORDINANCE AMENDMENT PROCESS

- Stakeholder/Community Outreach
- Develop Ordinance Language
- Prepare Environmental Document
- Prepare Montecito and Planning Commission Staff Reports
- Complete Montecito and Planning Commission hearings
- Prepare Board Agenda Letter
- Complete Board of Supervisors Hearing





# ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TIME/COSTS

- 200 to 500 hours of staff time
- \$18,000 to \$120,000 depending on the level of environmental review and time spent in public hearings

## RECOMMENDATION

- Receive and file the report
- Provide direction to staff regarding initiation of work and either:
  - Decline to process the requested ordinance amendment; or,
  - Initiate the ordinance amendment process, either:
    - Immediately by diverting resources or adding resources
    - As part of the Long Range Planning Work Program
- Determine the receive and file is not a project under CEQA Guideline Section 15378 (b)(5)

