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| Title: Southern California Gas Co. - Playa del Rey Storage Facility | Item No. |
| Meeting Date: August 1, 2017 | |
| Agendized By: Mark Redick, Chair, Government Affairs & City Services | |
| Contact Person: Mark Redick | Phone Number: |
| Committee Vote (if appropriate): 3-0 | |
| Does this item have a fiscal impact on the Neighborhood Council? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Additional documents attached? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

RECOMMENDATION:

Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa supports the current operation of the Playa del Rey Natural Gas Storage Facility by the Southern California Gas Company.

BACKGROUND:

The Playa del Rey storage field was originally an oil field that produced during the 1930's. Following more than a decade of production, the pressure in the field dropped to a level that was less viable for oil production, but very suitable for natural gas storage. In 1942, the U.S. government initiated underground storage of natural gas as part of the war effort to ensure that a dependable energy source was available. Pacific Lighting, a predecessor of today's Southern California Gas Company, operated the reservoir and purchased it from the U.S. government in 1955. The sandstone formation holding the gas is around 6,100 feet below ground level. This formation is covered by 1,500 feet of impermeable shale, sealing the porous storage area.

Centrally located in the heart of the metropolitan service area, the Playa del Rey facility provides natural gas to residential, commercial and industrial customers as well as electric utilities.

DISCUSSION:

Since the natural gas leak that occurred with the Aliso Canyon natural gas storage facility, there has been concern expressed by some in the community as to the safety of the Playa del Rey storage location. Southern California Gas Company has responded with some of the most modern methods available for real-time monitoring of natural gas wells located in Playa del Rey. Additionally, the firm operates 54 wells, of which 29 are actually known as "observation wells" for augmented safety purposes. The Gas Company added 31 surface valves and 9 sub-surface valves to ensure an immediate response to any leak, if necessary. This undertaking exceeds the requirements of both state and federal authority mandates. The Gas Company also formed the Westside Community Advisory Council to receive feedback from residents and businesses in the area as well as provide notifications of material information relating to the Playa del Rey facility. Notifications are also available from the Gas Company to members of the general public at anytime.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

None

MOTION:

That the Neighborhood Council:

In recognition of the vital role that the Southern California Gas Company's Playa del Rey facility plays within our regional energy infrastructure, through the delivery of natural gas to homes and businesses, as well as clean burning fuel to nearby electrical generating plants, the NCWP considers the Playa del Rey operation critical to the well-being of the people of Los Angeles, particularly to the stakeholders of Playa del Rey, Playa Vista and Westchester. Therefore , the Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa recommends and fully endorses Southern California Gas Company's continued safe and efficient operation of its Playa del Rey storage location.