

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-030

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA , CALIFORNIA, URGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL, AND OTHER STATE AGENCIES TO MAKE A FULL AND COMPLETE REVIEW OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH, AND SAFETY ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY'S COMPRESSOR SITE LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY

WHEREAS, Southern California Gas Company ("SCGC") and its predecessors have operated a compressor station and other industrial uses for a number of years at the site located at 1555 North Olive Street within the City of San Buenaventura ("Ventura"); and,

WHEREAS, SCGC's compressor site is located next to residential properties and directly across the street from the E.P. Foster Elementary School; and,

WHEREAS, SCGC has sought approval from the State Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") to modernize the equipment at this facility which will provide the opportunity to expand or increase its operations; and,

WHEREAS, As a part of the modernization process, SCGC will be demolishing an existing structure that has prevented them from remediating contamination underneath that structure; and,

WHEREAS, SCGC has sought approval from the California Department of Toxic Substances Control ("DTSC") for permission to commence a soils cleanup program at the site; and,

WHEREAS, DTSC has given tentative approval to SCGC to conduct a soils cleanup at the site; and,

WHEREAS, City is the provider of public drinking water to residents and businesses in the City and surrounding areas; and,

WHEREAS, Both the PUC and the DTSC have completed cursory evaluation of the impact of both of SCGC's proposals on the environment, human health, and the safety of the community; and,

WHEREAS, The City Council has received a significant number of emails, telephone calls, and letters from residents on the Westside of the City expressing concern about the process used by both the PUC and DTSC to consider these requests of SCGC; and,

WHEREAS, The City Council heard from a number of residents at its City Council meeting of April 26, 2021 wherein the residents expressed concern over the operation, safety, and human health impacts associated with the SCGC compressor site, its current operation, and its proposed modernization plan; and,

WHEREAS, Residents called to the City Council's attention a recent Resolution of the Los Angeles City Council concerning another SCGC facility in the Playa del Rey area in which the Resolution notes:

“ . . . in May 2018, a study from the California Council on Science and Technology (CCST) titled 'Long-Term Viability of Underground Natural Gas Storage in California' found that the Playa del Rey Natural Gas Storage Facility 'stands out as a facility with relatively higher risk to health and safety than the other facilities in California'”; and,

WHEREAS, Similar to the Playa del Rey areas of the City of Los Angeles, the Westside of Ventura has a particularly dense population, including an elementary school directly across the street from SCGC's natural gas compressor site; and,

WHEREAS, The City Council believes that the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Westside of the City deserve priority consideration in the decision-making process by agencies of the State of California; and,

WHEREAS, The City Council calls upon and demands that both the PUC and DTSC further review the environmental consequences of SCGC's request, the risks to human health, and most of all the safety of the residents of the Westside of the City; and,

WHEREAS, The City Council calls upon the DTSC to ensure that the cleanup of the SCGC site is completed to at least the level that is protective of groundwater and public health.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of San Buenaventura does hereby resolve, find, determine and order as follows:

Section 1: The City Council hereby demands that the PUC and DTSC further review and reconsider the requests of SCGC for the Olive Street compressor site with particular focus on the environmental consequences of these requests, the impacts on human health (particularly of the health of the residents of the Westside of the City), and on safety of having such a facility across the street from an elementary school.

Section 2: The City Council hereby demands that both the PUC and DTSC hold public meetings within the Westside of the City to hear public comments and concerns regarding the requests from SCGC as well as answer questions regarding these proposals. It is the City Council's specific request that Spanish translation also be provided at such public meetings.

Section 3: The City Council, as the public drinking water provider, additionally demands that DTSC ensure the cleanup of the SCGC site is completed such that it is protective of groundwater and public health.

Section 4: The City Council specifically requests the assistance of State Assemblymember Bennett and State Senator Limon in ensuring that these State agencies address the concerns of our shared constituents. The

City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to act on the City Council's behalf in obtaining such oversight and assistance from our State Legislators.


Section 5. The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and directs the City Manager and City Clerk to ensure that the PUC and DTSC are aware of the adoption of this Resolution and the City Council's demands for action.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of May, 2021.



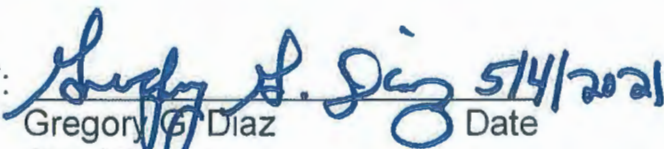
Sofia Rubalcava, Mayor

ATTEST:



Antoinette M. Mann, MMC, CRM
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM
GREGORY G. DIAZ, City Attorney

BY:  5/4/2021
Gregory G. Diaz Date
City Attorney

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF VENTURA) SS.
CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA)

I, ANTOINETTE M. MANN, City Clerk of the City of San Buenaventura, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of Resolution No. 2021-030 which was duly and regularly passed and adopted by said City Council at a regular meeting held May 10, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Sanchez-Palacios, Brown, Johnson, Halter, Friedman, Deputy Mayor Schroeder, and Mayor Rubalcava

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of San Buenaventura, California.

Antoinette Mann
Antoinette M. Mann, City Clerk
City of San Buenaventura, California

May 13, 2021
Date Attested

