SoCalGas Media Statement on the Final Report of the Interagency Task Force on Natural Gas Storage

The Interagency Task Force on Natural Gas Storage released its final report today. SoCalGas issued the following statement in response:

“We have received the Final Report of the Interagency Task Force on Natural Gas Storage that was released today, and we are reviewing it. SoCalGas has cooperated fully with the Task Force and is committed to supporting forward-looking and reasonable regulations that promote safety at natural gas storage facilities.

“Over the past year, SoCalGas has worked alongside regulators and local, state and federal officials to implement comprehensive infrastructure, technology, and safety enhancements at our Aliso Canyon natural gas storage facility.

“In accordance with new regulations and state laws, withdrawal and injection of natural gas will only occur through newly installed inner tubing of wells approved for use by the Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR). Consistent with the report’s recommendation, physical barriers, or casings, around the new inner tubing will provide a secondary layer of protection against potential leaks.

“SoCalGas has also replaced the inner tubing of every DOGGR-approved storage well with new pipe. In total, more than 40 miles of new piping has been installed.

“Additional technology and safety improvements include a fence-line infrared methane detection system, continuous well pressure monitoring, twice-daily patrols to visually examine every well, and daily infrared video scanning of the wells, all of which provide a sound approach to maintaining the integrity of the storage wells at the field.”

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About Southern California Gas Co.
Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) has been delivering clean, safe and reliable natural gas to its customers for more than 145 years. It is the nation’s largest natural gas distribution utility, providing service to 21.6 million consumers connected through 5.9 million meters in more than 500 communities. The company’s service territory encompasses approximately 20,000 square miles throughout central and Southern California, from Visalia to the Mexican border. SoCalGas is a regulated subsidiary of Sempra Energy (NYSE: SRE), a Fortune 500 energy services holding company based in San Diego.