



December 26, 2016
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SoCalGas Statement on Methane Detected Near SS25 Wellhead at Aliso Canyon

On Saturday, December 24, 2016, as part of daily patrols and inspections, crews using infra-red camera technology observed intermittent indications of very slight releases of methane from a 2-inch opening near the SS25 wellhead at the Aliso Canyon Storage facility. The company issued the following statement:

“The methane releases detected at Aliso Canyon are very slight and not sufficient to pose a present or potential hazard to human health, safety or the environment. The highly sensitive infra-red camera images indicate an amount similar to the wisping vapors of a single table candle. The small amount is below levels that can be measured at this time.

“There is no detectable odor at the site or elsewhere at the facility. Methane levels are normal as measured by infrared fence-line monitors and mobile detection equipment technology. Monitoring activities indicate that the very slight methane releases are localized to the well site and that levels in the community remain normal.

“Observations indicate that recent intense rain storms triggered the very slight releases of methane previously trapped in the soil following last year’s leak at the site.

“A statement issued by the Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) after the leak was permanently sealed in February anticipated that some methane may emit from the soil around the site. According to the statement, *‘Some amount of residual methane trapped in the soil is expected to seep out of the ground around the leaking well after the well is successfully controlled and then sealed.’*

“SoCalGas promptly notified appropriate agencies, including the Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources, California Public Utilities Commission, and the California Office of Emergency Service, and continues to work with regulators to monitor the condition.”

###

Contact: SoCalGas | 24-Hour Media Hotline: 877.643.2331 | socialgas.com/newsroom