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## **SoCalGas responds to media inquiries with details regarding milestone reached on December 27**

In response to numerous media inquiries, SoCalGas would like to clarify the reporting of our progress in the relief well operations aimed at stopping the flow of gas from a leaking well at our Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Storage Facility.

We are in the third of five phases of relief well operations and the work remains on schedule to be in position to stop the leak in the late-February-to-late-March timeframe.

One of the challenges in drilling this relief well is to find a seven-inch pipe from about 1,500 feet away, several thousands of feet below ground – while avoiding others nearby. Using active magnetic ranging technology to target our drilling, we have now identified the underground location of the leaking well. This allows us to continue to target drilling to connect the relief well to the leaking well.

This is an expected milestone in the relief well process.

The next challenge, faced in Phase Four, Follow Phase, will be to maintain drilling at the proper distance, orientation and angle to the leaking well to follow it down to below 8,000 feet of measured depth. The Follow Phase will involve successive operations of drilling for depth and ranging to maintain the proper position.

In Phase Five, after we intercept the well at more than 8,500 feet of measured depth, we will pump heavy fluids and drilling mud into the bottom of the leaking well to stop the flow of gas up from its source, the reservoir. Once the flow of gas has been stopped, we will pump cement into the well to permanently seal the leak.

SoCalGas is committed to stopping the gas leak as quickly as possible. To that end, we are working to establish a secondary relief well as backup to our ongoing drilling of the primary relief well. Grading of the drilling pad for the secondary well should be complete in early January. At that point a drilling rig will be moved in and set up. Drilling of the second relief well is slated to begin in late January and should take about three to four months. The secondary relief well drilling will operate independently from the primary relief well.

For additional information, contact our media hotline at 877-643-2331.

