

Myths vs Facts

About Hydrogen Blending in Orange Cove

Myths



Hydrogen blending is not safe. This is a dangerous project for my family, household and the Orange Cove community.



This demonstration project is an experiment or test, and the Orange Cove community members are test subjects. SoCalGas is taking advantage of the city.



The Orange Cove community had no role in the approval of this project.

Facts

Hydrogen blending is safe and proven. Hydrogen blending has been safely done in the U.S. and around the world for decades. Since 1974, Hawai'i Gas has been powering homes and businesses with a fuel mix of up to 15% hydrogen, and its customers have been using hydrogen blended gas in their stoves and heaters. SoCalGas has also been safely blending hydrogen with natural gas for a decade, including on the University of California, Irvine campus and on our own properties.

The demonstration project in Orange Cove is not an experiment or a pilot project. Hydrogen blending is a proven technology that has been safely used in other places for years. The demonstration projects are meant to fill in gaps in our knowledge about how blending works in the specific infrastructure that exists here in Southern California. The city's support came after much research, careful consideration of the technology and direct engagement with SoCalGas.

Clean energy projects are being built throughout the Central Valley and these communities are leading the state's energy evolution. Cities like Orange Cove deserve to benefit from the projects that are being built. These projects don't just bring clean renewable energy. They bring with them investments, jobs, opportunities for local businesses and more, all to benefit the Orange Cove community. This is an environmental justice project.

Orange Cove has a long and positive track-record working with SoCalGas. The utility is very involved in the community as a trusted energy provider. The city was aware that SoCalGas was looking for a home for this project and, given the economic benefits, the city sought this partnership with SoCalGas.

Before Orange Cove supported the project, SoCalGas and the City of Orange Cove held community meetings where residents received information about the project and shared their input. Orange Cove city officials have been working closely with SoCalGas to confirm this project serves the entire community. There was and continues to be widespread support for this project in Orange Cove.



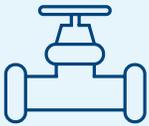
There are limited benefits to hydrogen blending, especially for Orange Cove residents. This will only benefit SoCalGas.

This is an important clean energy project for California's climate goals. This project could demonstrate that renewable fuels such as clean renewable hydrogen can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel use in our natural gas infrastructure. It will also help support the Orange Cove community's health and prosperity. The project will bring jobs for individuals in Orange Cove and opportunities for local businesses, can attract additional investment into the city, and will raise awareness of the city. SoCalGas also intends to donate equipment, specifically the solar panels, to the City of Orange Cove for local community use after the demonstration is complete. The panels will power a water well on the south side of town to solve a long-existing water issue for the city.



SoCalGas does not have the appropriate experience to guide this project.

SoCalGas has safely and reliably delivered energy to customers for over 150 years and has been safely blending hydrogen with natural gas for a decade. SoCalGas brings institutional knowledge and expertise safely producing and delivering energy to power our communities.



SoCalGas will not be monitoring the project for safety, leaving Orange Cove residents vulnerable to leaks and damages.

SoCalGas promotes and enhances the residents' safety through a robust safety plan that includes:

- Appliance inspections, which will be free of charge to anyone who accepts one, to confirm home appliances like stoves and water heaters are in safe, working order
- Regular leak checks to the Orange Cove natural gas system before and throughout the project and will perform any repairs, if necessary
- Remote monitors and automatic shutdowns installed at the start of the project for leak detection and response
- Close coordination with local fire department and city staff, including educational briefings for hydrogen safety procedures and developing emergency response plans

Message funded by shareholders



Find out more at:
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