PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
505 VAN NESS AVENUE | SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102

June 26, 2025 VIA EMAIL

Ms. Stella Rangel
Regulatory Case Manager
Southern California Gas Company
555 West 5th Street, GT14D6
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Mr. Albert Garcia
Director - Environmental Services
Southern California Gas Company
555 West 5th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Subject: Ventura Compressor Modernization Project (A.23-08-019) – Data Request #2

Dear Ms. Rangel and Mr. Garcia,

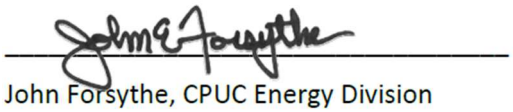
The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Energy Division, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Energy Permitting Section is conducting a review of the Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) and formal application (A.23-08-019) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the Ventura Compressor Modernization Project (Proposed Project).

The following questions pertain to the Supplemental Electric-Driven Compressor Installation Only Alternative (Supplemental EDC Alternative) described by SoCalGas in PEA Section 4.3.1 and Section 6.2.2. The Supplemental EDC Alternative would retain the existing compressor station in its current state and install two new electric compressors and associated infrastructure at the existing site.

The CPUC CEQA team requires the following additional information to evaluate the environmental impacts of the Supplemental EDC Alternative to support our comparative analysis of effects. Please note that as the environmental review progresses, the CEQA team may submit clarifying questions or request additional data, as necessary, to prepare a complete and adequate analysis of the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Project in accordance with the requirements of CEQA.

Please respond to this request within two weeks with a proposed approach and provide a copy to our CEQA consultant, Brewster Birdsall (BBirdsall@aspeneg.com). Any questions on this data request should be directed to me at (916) 217-5073 or by email (john.forsythe@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



John Forsythe, CPUC Energy Division

CPUC Project Manager for the Ventura Compressor Modernization Project

cc: Michelle Wilson, CPUC CEQA Program Supervisor
Brewster Birdsall, Aspen Environmental Group

Ventura Compressor Modernization Project (A.23-08-019)
Data Request No. 2

For the CPUC CEQA review of the proposed Ventura Compressor Modernization Project (A.23-08-019), this Data Request (DR) No. 2 is related to the following issue(s):

- Comparison of Alternatives
- Hazards and Public Safety

Data Request (DR) 2.1: General Information about Supplemental EDC Alternative

The CPUC requests additional details and plans identifying the necessary site improvements for the Supplemental Electric-Driven Compressor Installation Only Alternative (Supplemental EDC Alternative) described by SoCalGas in PEA Section 4.3.1.

The conceptual site plan for the Supplemental EDC Alternative provided (November 2023) in response to the PEA completeness review indicates up to three electric-driven compressor units and an on-site electrical substation. The PEA comparison of alternatives indicates two electric-driven compressor units would be included.

- Under the Supplemental EDC Alternative, please confirm the number of and specifications for the electric-driven compressor units included with this alternative, including the design power rating for each of the electric compressors and the design summer and winter daily volume flow rate capacities for the electric units and the station as a whole.
- Under the Supplemental EDC Alternative, please confirm the scope of other necessary site improvements, where different from those of the Proposed Project, including but not limited to the square-footage and height of the compressor building, the square-footage and components of the on-site electrical substation, blowdown stack dimensions, and standby generator enclosure.
- Please provide an updated conceptual site plan for the Supplemental EDC Alternative depicting the components.
- Please describe the scope and identify the location of any off-site electrical system upgrades that would be needed by the electric utility or SoCalGas to provide reliable electric service to the Supplemental EDC Alternative.
- Please identify the necessary backup generator technology and the generator engine power rating that would be needed for site standby power under the Supplemental EDC Alternative.

DR 2.2: Effects of Operating the Supplemental EDC Alternative

The CPUC requests additional details on the anticipated operations of the Supplemental EDC Alternative to refine the PEA comparison of alternatives.

- Please describe foreseeable changes in operations of the existing compressor engines that would be retained under the Supplemental EDC Alternative. This should provide quantification of foreseeable changes in baseline annual-total hours of operation relative to the foreseeable annual hours of operation for these engines after the potential installation of electric-driven compressor units at the site.

- Please quantify the foreseeable changes under the Supplemental EDC Alternative for criteria pollutant emissions rates and toxic air pollutant scores relative to 2021-2022 operations (PEA Table 5.3-4a and Table 5.3-4b), greenhouse gas emissions (PEA Table 5.8-3), and noise levels.
- Please quantify foreseeable changes in consumption of electricity at the site and indirectly-generated greenhouse gas emissions related to the power supply for the electric-driven compressors in the Supplemental EDC Alternative.
- Please quantify if the potential explosion site (PES) scenarios would change, and provide risk quantification due to the changes in operating hours of the natural gas engines for the Supplemental EDC Alternative.
- Please provide risk quantification for the foreseeable changes in hazard impacts for the full Project Site under the Supplemental EDC Alternative. This should amend or update the Quantitative Risk Analysis (QRA) to cover the Supplemental EDC Alternative, including figures depicting Location Specific Individual Risk (LSIR) contours and explosion overpressure injury risk.

DR 2.3: Additional Emission Controls for the Supplemental EDC Alternative

The CPUC requests additional information on emission control options for the engines that would be retained under the Supplemental EDC Alternative.

- Please evaluate and describe the feasibility of modifying the three 1,100 horsepower existing compressor engines that would be retained under the Supplemental EDC Alternative to include retrofit air pollution control devices. This should describe the existing engines, controls, and performance relative to existing permitted emission limits. For rich-burn natural gas engines, a retrofit option for reducing nitrogen oxides (NOx) appears to be demonstrated as 'best available control technology' at the SoCalGas Aliso Canyon gas storage facility (South Coast Air Quality Management District, Application No. 571478).[1]

DR 2.4: Risk Contour Mapping for Comparison of Alternatives

The CPUC requests additional data to facilitate mapping potential impacts related to hazards and public safety.

- Please provide grid data in electronic format from "CANARY" for mapping each of these development scenarios: the existing compressor station (No Project Alternative), the Proposed Project, and the Supplemental EDC Alternative:
    - Annual Fatality Location-Specific Risk for Outdoor Persons (high flow case, described in Risk Assessment prepared by Quest Consultants, July 2024)
    - Annual Fatality Location-Specific Risk for Outdoor Persons ("combined" flow modes, described in Risk Assessment prepared by Quest Consultants, July 2024)
    - 1.0 psi Overpressure Injury Risk Contours (described in SoCalGas Response to Second PEA Completeness Review, July 2024)

[1] Available at: https://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/bact/bact-guidelines/bact-guidelines-2021-test/part-b---socalgas_571478-ic-enginestatnonemergelecgen.pdf