



County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AND PUBLIC HEARING ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE

La Goleta Storage Field Enhancement Project

Case Numbers: 12RVP-00000-00056, 08CDP-00000-00185, 08ORD-00000-00018, 10EIR-00000-00001, and SCH#2010021069

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Southern California Gas Company (SoCal Gas) proposes to drill for and produce natural gas at the existing La Goleta gas storage facility site and convert the gas reservoirs to provide additional gas storage capacity, following depletion of the native gas.

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located in the unincorporated area of Santa Barbara County, near the intersection of South Patterson Road and More Ranch Road, commonly known as 1171 S. More Ranch Road, APN 071-210-001, near the City of Goleta, 2nd Supervisorial District.

PUBLIC WORKSHOP: Santa Barbara County will hold a public workshop to present an overview of the proposed project and the Revised Draft EIR, and to address questions from the public. **The workshop will be held on Monday, December 17, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at Goleta City Hall, 130 Cremona Drive, Suite B, Goleta, CA, 93117.**

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENTS: Santa Barbara County P&D is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis and proposed mitigation measures described in the Revised Draft EIR. **You may comment on the Revised Draft EIR by providing written and/or oral testimony at the public hearing on Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Santa Barbara County Planning Commission Hearing Room, 123 East Anapamu Street, Room 17, Santa Barbara, CA, 93101, and/or by submitting written comments to the project planner identified below prior to the close of public comment on Wednesday, January 30, 2013 at 5 p.m.**

PROJECT DETAILS: The proposed project involves drilling four new wells and production of native gas from an onshore gas field near the existing La Goleta Storage Field. The produced native gas would be treated and placed into the SoCal Gas transmission pipeline system. The withdrawal of native gas would enhance the existing storage field operations by expanding the total reservoir storage capacity at the facility by up to 3-5 billion cubic feet. The enhanced capacity would provide for future increases in gas consumption in the SoCal Gas service territory. SoCal Gas has applied for a Revised Development Plan, a Coastal Development Permit, and an Ordinance Amendment to Article II of Chapter 35 of the Santa Barbara County Code (the Coastal Zoning Ordinance) for this project.

REVISED DRAFT EIR: Due to the potential for unavoidable, significant adverse effects to result from project implementation, Santa Barbara County Planning and Development (P&D) Dept., Energy Division prepared a Draft EIR pursuant to requirements of the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County of Santa Barbara Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA. This Draft EIR was circulated for public review from May 24 through July 8, 2011. Substantial

revisions have been made to the Draft EIR in response to comments received from the public regarding risk of upset, noise impacts and mitigation measures, and alternatives, and to address a modification of the project description (proposed ordinance amendment). P&D has determined that the extent of revisions to the Draft EIR warrant further public review and the Revised Draft EIR was prepared to provide for this additional review. The Revised Draft EIR identifies and discusses potential impacts, mitigation measures, residual impacts and monitoring requirements for identified subject areas and was prepared in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5 which sets forth the requirements for circulating a revised EIR before the EIR has been certified by the decision-making body.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS: Potentially significant effects on the environment are anticipated in the following areas: **Aesthetics/Visual, Biology, Cultural Resources, Fire; Geology, Noise, Public Facilities, Traffic, and Water Resources.** **Aesthetics/Visual** impacts were the only potentially significant impacts identified that cannot be mitigated to less than significant (i.e., *Class I impacts*). Visual impacts, though temporary, remain classified as significant and not mitigable (*Class I*), as presented in the 2011 Draft EIR. The Revised Draft EIR identifies feasible mitigation measures that can be required to reduce potentially significant noise impacts to less than significant (*Class II*). Risk impacts would not be significant (*Class III*), pursuant to the County's established public risk thresholds. A new alternative identified as the Consolidated Drilling and Gas Processing Area was evaluated for risk and noise impacts. This analysis concluded that implementation of this alternative would not reduce any significant impacts identified for the proposed project.

If you challenge this environmental document in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues raised by you or others in written correspondence or in hearings on the proposed project.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: If a copy of the Revised Draft EIR is not included with this Notice, it may be obtained, and all documents referenced in it may be reviewed, at the Planning & Development, Energy Division office located at 123 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara. The Revised Draft EIR is also available for review at the Santa Barbara Public Library (40 E Anapamu St., Santa Barbara CA 93101), Goleta Branch Library (500 North Fairview Ave., Goleta CA 93117), and at the University of California, Santa Barbara Library. The Revised Draft EIR will be posted shortly on the Energy Division web site at: <http://www.countyofsb.org/energy/projects/SoCalGasStorage.asp>

HOW TO COMMENT: Please provide comments to the project planner:

Nancy Minick
County of Santa Barbara, Planning & Development Dept.
123 E. Anapamu St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Phone: (805) 884-8050
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prior to the close of public comment on January 30, 2013 at 5 p.m.

Please limit comments to the adequacy of the environmental analyses presented in the Revised Draft EIR. Comments previously submitted on the 2011 Draft EIR are part of the administrative record. These comments have been addressed and are provided in Appendix 1 of the Revised Draft EIR. Please note that the County will respond in the Final EIR only to comments submitted on the Revised Draft EIR.

If you received this notice in the mail, you will receive notice of the dates of future public hearings to consider project approval or denial.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the public hearing, please contact Hearing Support Staff (805) 568-2000. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the hearing will enable Hearing Support Staff to make reasonable arrangements.