



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Tuesday, January 26, 2016

ENGLANDER CALLS FOR SEWER AND TRASH VACANCY ADJUSTMENTS FOR AFFECTED RESIDENTS OF ALISO CANYON GAS LEAK

LOS ANGELES— Today Councilmember Mitchell Englander submitted a motion requesting LA Sanitation be instructed to provide Sewer Service Charge (SSC) vacancy adjustments and Solid Waste Resource Refuse Fee refund credits for the full period of displacement to customers displaced from their homes due to the Aliso Canyon Gas Leak.

“Over 3600 families have now been relocated due to the Aliso Canyon Gas Leak,” said Councilmember Mitchell Englander. “These are residents whose homes are vacant and are not utilizing the sewer, refuse collection and recycling services provided by the City. I appreciate the Bureau of Sanitation’s acknowledgment of this and their efforts to reduce these fees for our displaced residents.”

“LA Sanitation is available 24/7 to assist residents relocated due to the Aliso Canyon Gas Leak with service and billing adjustments as necessary,” said Enrique Zaldivar, Director of the Bureau of Sanitation. “Call us at 800 773-2489 or 311.”

Customers are only eligible for refund credits if they no longer place any of their collection containers out for service. Requests should be submitted to LA Sanitation rather than the Office of Finance and may be submitted within one year of the date of the charge rather than the six months specified in the Code.

On October 23, 2015, a gas leak in Southern California Gas Company’s facility in Aliso Canyon area was discovered. The continuing natural gas leak in the Aliso Canyon area above Porter Ranch has resulted in the displacement of area residents from their homes. The temporary relocation of these residents within the 5 mile relocation radius is expected to continue until the Southern California Gas Company fixes the leak, which may take up to several months.

See attached motion.

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MOTION

On October 23, 2015, a gas leak in Southern California Gas Company's facility in Aliso Canyon area was discovered. The continuing natural gas leak in the Aliso Canyon area above Porter Ranch has resulted in the displacement of area residents from their homes. The temporary relocation of these residents within the 5 mile relocation radius is expected to continue until the Southern California Gas Company fixes the leak, which may take up to several months.

During the time these residents are displaced from their homes, the sewer, refuse collection and recycling services provided by the LA Sanitation will be greatly reduced.

I THEREFORE MOVE that LA Sanitation be instructed to provide Sewer Service Charge (SSC) vacancy adjustments as provided by Municipal Code Section 64.41.07(b)(3) for the full period of displacement to customers displaced from their homes. The SSC vacancy adjusted rate established in the Rules and Regulations for the Administration of Sewer Service Charges is 15% of the normally calculated SSC.

I FURTHER MOVE that LA Sanitation be instructed to provide Solid Waste Resources Fee refund credits as provided by Municipal Code Section 66.47 for the full period of displacement to customers displaced from their homes. Customers are only eligible for refund credits if they no longer place any of their collection containers out for service. Requests should be submitted to LA Sanitation rather than the Office of Finance and may be submitted within one year of the date of the charge rather than the six months specified in the Code.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of Water and Power (DWP) be instructed to work with LA Sanitation to incorporate the Sewer Service Charge adjustments and the Solid Waste Resources Fee refund credits for the relocated customers into DWP's billing services as expeditiously as possible.

PRESENTED BY: _____

MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY: _____