

Porter Ranch Community Advisory Committee

Meeting #7

Thursday, February 11, 2016
Cal State University Northridge

DRAFT NOTES

First Posted: 2/12/16 at 11:35am

Last Updated:

Paula Cracium, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:09pm.

Members Present:

Paula Cracium
Jarrod DeGonia
Vivian Eckchian
Rana Ghadban
Tom Johnson
John Lee
Mary Melvin
Matt Pakucko
Issam Najm
Dina Sim
Jane Stanton
Andre Van der Valk

Guest Speakers:

Councilman Mitch Englander
Senator Fran Pavley
David Gevorkyan, County Assessors Office
Ron Arison, County Assessors Office
Senator Fran Pavley
Keith Knox, Treasure and Tax Collector's Office
Kathy Clauster, Treasure and Tax Collector's Office
John Budroe, OEHHA
Katherine Butler, Department of Public Health
Carrie Tayour, Department of Public Health
Gillian Wright, SoCalGas

Councilman Englander was called to the microphone. He thanked the committee for giving their time, being away from their families. He said it is the beginning of

a process and that the community has come together during the crisis. It was announced today that the well was intercepted. There are three steps: Containment, Cement, Certification. The first was achieved today. It will be several days before agencies will come in and certify that it is sealed and that it is healthy for families to return to their homes.

The reentry process has been reviewed. There are a lot of scenarios as to why people may not be able to move home right away.

Even when this well is cemented, there are 14 other wells up there that need to be reviewed and inspected.

City Council will introduce legislation to ask the PUC to look into the spiking of issues like this. Next week, the City Council will be taking it to City Council Board of Public Works and Sanitation to credit back all the sewer and trash pick up fees accrued while people weren't in their homes.

He thanked the committee for their tireless work, patience and frustration. He also recognized his staff who have been working on this and other issues.

Paula: Regarding the border testing press conference: We'd like the link to that information. Looking at the data, you can see that the levels flat line this morning.

CM Englander: You can sign up on your phone and visit the CD12 website to see the numbers of those monitors: <http://fenceline.org/porter/data.php>. It wasn't announced until this afternoon to make sure everything was tested and running smoothly. The workers out there working day in and day out.

Paula: We are thankful for the workers who have been out there.

Matt: There are plenty of times when that monitor was not working, so it is not the be-all end-all.

CM Englander: The most important thing is that we are proactive and not reactive. We need to make sure that we continue to collaborate.

Paula: and keep the community involved.

Paula: The health department put out a one sheet that helps people know whether it is safe to go back to their homes. It is available on the PRCAC website.

John Bwarie introduced the first presentation related to taxes and property values. Los Angeles County Assessor's Office David Gevorkyan and Ron Arison.

David said they are very happy with the work the committee has been doing for the community and thanked them for including the assessor. Jeffrey Prang sends heartfelt appreciation for the community

The Assessor's Office will do a comprehensive review of the properties impacted. They are working to make sure they collect valid data to make sure they understand the property values in the area. They will also be working in the north district office to answer any questions.

Andre: Originally the property impacted identified properties by zip code. Is the assessor looking at five-mile radius? Will it impact current taxes or only future taxes?

Ron: we will accept applications for "Decline in Value" for the 2016 roll year. We will also accept those from anyone who files due to calamity or misfortune. We will proactively review properties in within the principal Porter Ranch boundary. This boundary includes Desoto to the East, Reseda Blvd to the West, the 118 Freeway to the south, all the way up to the top.

Andre: Wouldn't it better represent if you took the five-mile radius into consideration?

Ron: We are not excluding anyone. We have been given the same radius map that has been released. We are focusing on the area closest to the impact area. This is what we are starting out with but we can look at other properties.

Andre: You are over 30K backlogged reviews. I have to pay my taxes first and then appeal because I am subject to fees and penalties. If you initiate a review, it is almost immediate. I ask that you look at Chatsworth and Northridge.

Ron: We are collecting market sales all the way through the end of March. We will observe from those sales if there truly has been a decline in the market value of properties. If those properties should be reduced they will be reduced.

We are also looking at transactions to give us an idea if the market has been impacted. We are going to try and look at it as much as we can. We are very open but appraisers traditionally look at market sales.

David: at the community meeting Mr. Prang recognized those concerns and that property owners may fill out the forms for a calamity claim with the assessor's office.

Andre: I'm not confident when you are 30K behind.

Ron: I am not sure how far we are behind. If there is a time lag involved, it is state law for taxpayers to pay ahead of time while appeals are being processed.

Andre: If those aren't file, and this is a big turmoil, and wait till they move back in and try to catch up, and they have been upset and then find out that the process could take till 2018. If they don't pay those taxes, they could have significant fees.

Issam: I represent 18 homeowner associations. Are you looking at a blanket assessment or are you looking at opening the process for individual homeowners to request assessment.

Ron: They can do both. We will be proactively assessing homes to see if we can justify a change. Our team has urged us to collect as much information as we can from lenders, homeowners and agencies. This is the process we have to go through.

Issam: This is counter to what you are hearing. Re-assessment is a double edge sword. We don't want a blanket lowering in property value. Let it be case by case. We are concerned about the long-term effect on property values.

Ron: This is basically a market value review. It is proposition 8.

Issam: You have answered it. We are not looking for an official reduction in values.

Ron: taxpayers have the right to file an assessment appeal. We are doing this proactively so people don't have to file and go through that process.

David: The Prop 8 decline in value isn't a reduction in value. It's a temporary reduction to make up for a loss in value, similar to disaster and calamity relief. Similar to what was done during the economic downturn. The community shouldn't be concerned about how it will impact their property values. Values are restored when values come back to where they should be.

Paula: So, you will go in and assess all the property is in that area and give a temporary reduction in tax until they hit the same level they were in 2015.

Ron: They are a trended base. Taxpayers would be urged to file each year.

Paula: How long is temporary? Will their property value be higher?

Ron then explains the process and policies for this process. **[See video at 27:14].**

Paula: Could they end up with higher rates at the end of it? We don't assess every year.

Ron: When you have Prop 8 on the property, we are required to assess every year until they get back up to where they were.

Issam: Can you explain Prop 8?

Ron gives an example of Prop 13 and Prop 8. **[See video at 29:17].**

Tom: I disagree with your boundary assessment. I'd like you to look at that.

Ron: It's the primary boundary, and we are open to considering their situations.

Paula: Chatsworth and Northridge, Granada Hills were all impacted.

Ron: I will need to take it back for consideration.

Andre: Regarding the 2% you referred to, can those taxes exceed what they would normally be, you are saying not beyond 2%.

Ron: Your assessed value cannot trend more than 2% a year. With Prop 8, we can increase up to the base year value if the market says. It won't exceed the trended base value. The trended base value when you bought it, 2% a year every year forward that you own your property.

Andre: If those communities aren't considered, this event is equal to other events.

Paula: When can people expect to have the evaluations done? What does the process look like?

Don: I believe we will have enough information between April and July.

Paula: So, the recommendation is to pay taxes as billed right now.

Don: We have to advise taxpayers to pay their current bill. There is a tax deferment application that may be helpful.

Paula: I know of an instance where someone filled out a calamity claim the staff doesn't know what's happening.

Don: our office will have to come up with the policy and that will take till April/July.

Paula: They haven't heard back. Could they get communication back?

John Lee: How long before we will have information about the other communities that will be included?

Ron: Concepts are going back and forth and changing every day and every week. Where we haven't made a decision on how it will be handled, that's why we haven't responded.

Jarrold: Three requests, Mr. Prang mentioned that there may need to be a legislative request. Can you provide a report back for that? Regarding backlog of appeals, if you find there are a number of applications, can you alert me to that? Also, commercial properties, do they have the same rights and process?

Ron: The filing process is exactly the same. We urge them to file for January 1st.

John Lee: Are they a part of automatic assessment?

Ron: No

Issam: Sale prices are flat. Is that a sufficient indication?

Ron: No. One aspect we are looking at is sales. We want to be open-minded. It is still open to question. If transactions drop by 60% then it should be considered. This is an issue that the exec team is involved with. I don't have all the conclusions. Market sales is the typical way appraisers value property.

Matt: The market will decide and there is some delay. Applying to everyone and in the long run people will buy what they buy.

Jarrold: commercial property, we should invite the board of equalization in. George Runner should be invited.

Issam; Do you consider new homes in the assessment?

Ron: We adjust. We want to know if the developer is lowering the asking price. We are talking to Toll brothers. It is one indication.

Paula: Will there be taxation on benefits coming from SCG?

David. It is important that we get agencies involved. Within the law and the office of the assessor, the assessor's office is working to be able to help the community. Not just in a specific part of town but all residents impacted by this. It is very complex and the assessor has ongoing conversations about how to help the community.

Paula: Is there in the calamity a provision for the loss of use of house? Because they weren't in homes? Such as with earthquakes?

Ron: The decline in value is the only way to do that. If there is damage to a property through misfortune and calamity. Mr. Prang is looking to see if it can be enhanced. We believe that a loss of occupancy is more reflected in a decline of value.

Paula: Could you have your office weigh in? For some of our property owners it would be preferable and not impact long-term value. Having all properties assessed at a lower value wouldn't be preferable.

Paula introduced State Senator Fran Pavley.

Senator Pavley: I've seen myself as a facilitator between state agencies and making sure information is being communicated. I've met with the heads of all the agencies to make sure they are communicating with each other and see the urgency of this. I am very concerned that after the leak is stopped, the reservoir will be filled and we will hope that there won't be a leak again. Senator Huff and Assembly Member Wilk are co-authoring an urgency legislation relating to DOGGR and CPUC providing oversight to examine the older wells, that the pressure in the reservoir had to add to the problem. I'll share letter from the department of conservation what their role is.

See link for statement:

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/index/Documents/Steps%20to%20Confirm%20Aliso%20Leak%20Seal.pdf>

There is a moratorium bill and an urgency bill. With the leak being stopped support of the bill is fading. We need to insist that the older wells, that there is some integrity. I'm nervous about the wells that are similar and aging.

Assemblyman Wilk has several bills and might be able to address the tax question. When I talked to Mr. Prang it seemed like the traditional loss. I will share with AM Wilk as he introduces related bills.

Besides the moratorium, there are separate bills related to safety bills. Current standards are 300 feet to provide safety in case of explosions.

We are also putting in legislation related to assessing long-term health impact studies. I'm concerned that there hasn't been long-term analysis. There is work to be done. There will be a hearing Monday feb 22nd. It's a moratorium bill related to Governor's action. It is important for the legislature to weigh in. Protocols need to be in place for notification. We want to make sure because infrastructure is

aging. t We need a system place with the highest safety measures. I will make sure our state agencies do the right thing.

John Lee: Is infrared is part of the bill?

Sen Pavley: DOGGR has five tests for the site. It is publicly available.

John Lee: Just the one well?

Sen Pavley: Yes, but you can request other sites.

Paula: It is real time for community to be able to look at the video for the community to see that there isn't a leak.

Issam: A group of homeowners provided comment to Department of Conservation. The regulation was certified by an administrative judge. Our comments were set aside. We have sent those to your office. We would like to find a way to speak about the specifics of those comments. They are intended for the long-term comfort level to trust that we won't go through this again. Increased monitoring is moot for us.

Sen Pavley: I'll meet with you on that. I'll make sure the appropriate agency people are involved.

Matt: The moratorium bill—is that exclusively Aliso Canyon?

Sen Pavley: Will be looked at broader, but it is for aliso canyon.

Matt: Is there opposition?

Sen Pavley: It is starting. As far away as the Orange County Business Roundtable. I am sensitive to the reliability level.

Matt: Reliability seems to be important. Is that the main thing for opposition?

Sen. Pavley: Yes, it is hard to define. Shouldn't we check the oldest well before increasing pressure in the wells? Some suggest using plastic tubing to reduce likelihood of cracking? I don't know why they aren't already doing that and I don't know why they aren't already starting the investigation. We are gambling that this won't happen again. If the scare tactic is that people wont get water or electricity, then we don't care about the people who live in the well areas. I need your help to put a face on the issue. I want energy to be successful but they can't be good neighbors unless they do everything to insure safety.

Matt: Is the issue the Assembly?

Sen. Pavley: Wilk seems committed as well as others are committed. A 2/3 vote is hard. 2/3 is needed for an emergency bill to enact earlier than January 1 of 2017.

Andree: Chatsworth is also a recipient of the problem. So is Granada Hills and Northridge. I ask that we be included in everything that is being considered. I asked SCG if the new project is on hold. They said it is still moving forward.

Sen. Pavley: They have stopped injecting. They have been working on compressors.

Andre: I ask that it isn't prudent to turn it on. I ask that the old wells from back to the 50s with all the rigs and technology and come to us to tell us what you are going to do. You need that space. It makes sense.

Sen. Pavley: I agree with you and would be disappointed if they weren't completely cooperative. They want to stay there a long time so they need to make sure they operate to the maximum safety capacity. We can make some assumptions but aging is probably a factor and too high of pressure.

Jarrold: Thank you for your cooperation in this effort and SB380 support. They admitted that they don't have a contingency plan. He was also able to have a motion approved that stated that any legislation introduced would be supported by the board. That was done intentionally for your package that was introduced.

Sen. Pavley: I appreciate the unanimous support.

John Lee: The councilmember is also in support. Your staff has been great working with us.

Sen. Pavley: We'd like a letter to that effect. I'd also like him to come to Sacramento. I'm sensitive to your situation. My background is in home-owners activism.

Paula: DOGGR sent out information today.

John Bwarie went over the notice from DOGGR. See text at the following link:

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/index/Documents/Steps%20to%20Confirm%20Aliso%20Leak%20Seal.pdf>

Paula: The challenge is that there will still be gas leaking out that is intended to be leaking out. We may be right at the end of their time period. There is no qualification on it other than there will be gas seeping out.

Keith Knox Chief Tax Collector on behalf of Joseph Kelly then spoke to the tax collection processes stating that the assessor drives their work. He introduced Kathy Clauster who explained their process with the Department of Public Health to send out information to homeowners on how to apply for Prop 8 relief. They are also providing a replacement tax bill.

The Tax Collector has set up an email address specifically for Porter Ranch residents to deal with their cases.

Kathy: We are in the process with DPH to send out information to homeowners to include information on how to apply for Prop 8. We will also provide a replacement tax bill. We also have an email address to specifically help Porter Ranch residents. Alisocanyon@ttc.lacounty.gov

Andre: Will you be reacting to the 91311 zip code if on April 1 people need help with their appeal?

Kathy: We will respond to anyone who contacts us at this address.

Andre: it's cut and dried that if you don't pay your tax bill when owed, you aren't going to back off. There will be some problems regarding what has transpired. It will be in your hands.

Kathy: that's why we have this email box. We will be releasing information. There is no provision on providing additional time other than filing for disaster and calamity. You can also apply for installments. We will put information about that on our website.

Andre: What about penalty and fees.

Kathy: if a taxpayer fails to pay second installment, we must apply a penalty. There are very few instances where we have the ability to make exceptions.

John Budroe, Senior Toxicologist OEHHA, then spoke.

Some of our programs include Prop 65, we list chemicals that cause cancer or reproductive problems. Air districts can do risk assessment regarding toxicity in the air. We don't have responsibility for Porter Ranch. We took on our risk assessment at the request of the Governor's Office. We have evaluated the LAUSD monitoring data, SCAQMD data, and data from SCG. We feel that the

actions taken by the county to protect public health are entirely appropriate. We commend them in their efforts to protect the health in these communities.

The adverse effects of the methane leak are due to the odors in the odorants in natural gas to make them detectable. We do not expect long-term effects from those odorants because the levels are far lower than those in studies of long-term effects. Also, long term effects have not been found in other areas with similar methane exposure.

Cases in Alabama and Georgia showed instances of abdominal discomfort and nausea and some issues with pets. There were no long-term effects in pets. Sawmill workers have been exposed to higher levels and have not had long term effects. We do not expect to see long-term impacts.

He explained the use of Reference Exposure Level REL: They monitor acute RELs, short term RELS, and long term RELs, covering a year or greater.

Methane is not toxic at and far above the levels found at Porter Ranch. Hydrogen Sulfide is also not an issue. Their RELs are based on odor detection, not on toxicity.

Benzene was assessed. Benzene RELs were always lower than chronic RELs. They don't expect cancer or toxicity due to Porter Ranch exposures. The Benzene levels are low, close to or at background and exposures were relatively short. They have put together an independent panel of experts and their findings will be released tomorrow.

Matt: what is released tomorrow?

Budroe: the expert's opinions will be released on website tomorrow.

OEHHA agrees with county health's recommendations on re-entry of homes. They suggest opening the windows for two hours. In regard to oily spots on exteriors, they suggest getting those cleaned.

He also discussed that SCAQMD has issued abatement order requiring SCG to pay for the long-term health study.

Paula: Do you have data of the oldest study (looking at methane exposure)? Do you have the dates of those? We are concerned about long-term. What is the oldest?

Budroe: Most recent happened 10 years ago. I'd have to go back for dates. They happened long enough ago that health effects would have popped up.

Paula: is it continually being evaluated? It would help to know if they have seen any long-term effects.

Budroe: I can send that to you.

Paula: Radon, are there any risks?

Budroe: LAUSD didn't find any radon leaks. There weren't any levels that exceeded the normal levels. Radon does not appear to be an issue.

Paula: How long will the testing continue?

Budroe: we are not doing any air monitoring. We are evaluating data that has been collected. We are dependent on data that is being generated.

John Lee: the oily residue is a big concern. Is it enough to just get them cleaned? Has it been tested?

Budroe: Some of the tests on the oily spots tested at PAH's. They came up negative. They could have been crude oil. Sometimes PAH's in crude oil. To exercise caution, go ahead and get it cleaned.

Matt: Did you evaluate oily substance?

Budroe: We looked at SCG analysis. There wasn't anything remarkable.

Paula: Is the soil safe?

Budroe: There weren't many households asking to have the oily residue cleaned. SCG put up misting screens. It looked like it was fairly effective because it was hard to get oily substance samples.

Matt: Was it tested?

Budroe: There weren't many samples because there wasn't available to test.

Matt: So, you haven't tested.

Paula: At the site, were there higher levels of radon that the workers were exposed to?

Jarrold: The health department didn't see high levels.

Andre: H2s would drop you in a few seconds without a mask. How is H2s not a problem or a long-term effects.

Budroe: Lethal H2s levels are high. Most levels in this instance were undetected.

Tom: Northridge is concerned about health effects. Those of us who didn't relocate will be relying on the health impact study. We need to have an assurance from an agency that we get a study that is inclusive.

Budroe: We do not have a statutory requirement to be involved. We came in at the request of the governor's office.

Tom: Will you still be engaged? We want an agency that has the expertise.

Budroe: The SCAQMD will have the major say in how that study is done.

Jarrold: SCAQMD and public health will have the long term oversight of the study. OEHHA is the icing on the cake to say it makes sense according to the data.

Tom: Will Public Health analyze data?

Jarrold: We have asked that they do.

Tom: So, public health will draw a conclusion.

Jarrold: Yes.

Paula: when the emergency is lifted, does that end OEHHA's involvement?

Budroe: We would likely continue at the request of the Governor.

Issam: Benzene. You looked at specific levels. We are looking at the relationship to Methane and Benzene. There is a strong correlation with the two. Would it give you pause that there was 5000 lbs of benzene released over the community.

Budroe: I'd have to calculate out what that would be in the Porter Ranch area. You get a lot in Los Angeles. Not all of the Benzene is from the leak. It is also from vehicles.

Issam: wouldn't you conclude that the leak is a higher disbursement?

Budroe: It was high at the beginning and it is now to level of background.

Issam: It was 1ppd last night.

Budroe: There was a housepainter nearby.

Issam: It is one thing to look at it from a non-point source. From the community's perspective.

Budroe: The highest levels taken for Porter Ranch are less or non-detect. If you are looking at cancer risk, you need long-term exposure. The levels haven't been high enough for acute toxicity.

Matt: Save Porter Ranch is dialed into social media. Flint Michigan is on our minds. Agencies said reassuring things and we saw how that turned out. We have a lot of people reporting symptoms even when they don't smell anything. I've had some of my worst sickness when the level is flatlined. What could be making people sick?

Budroe: There are a limited number of sampling stations. You could have a higher level one hour and lower another from block to block. With the well controlled that problem will go away.

Matt: So, people being sick could be caused by something else?

Matt: you cited technical things. Only some things would be on the website. You aren't putting the Alabama instance on the website?

Budroe: I am sending those over to share with the committee.

Matt: Why can't you put them on the website?

Budroe: Some of those things are cited on the CDC website. To put a literature page on our website is not something we do. It can be an issue of copyright.

Matt: If you are going to refer to it without any document then it should be dismissed.

Matt: The health department issued the return home information. Do you agree with it?

Budroe: I agree with it.

Matt: When people were asked to leave, was that appropriate?

Budroe: Yes.

Matt: For odors to not be causing symptoms, shouldn't there be some testing to see if there are substances that will cause symptoms?

Budroe: I can't talk about the relocation period.

Paula: We will put a link to the website of the results. And we look forward to the data.

Katherine Butler, Carrie Tayour, Department of Public Health, were introduced and explained their efforts to collect data. With SCG achieving well control, the Department of Public Health is focused on two key pieces of information. 1. Air quality. 2. Observation of odors.

They are looking at the odors that people have been suffering from. The odors are so low that instruments can't detect but our noses are great instruments. This is just the first step of controlling the well. There are many in this room who haven't relocated.

SCAQMD will continue to receive complaints of odors. Proactively, DPH wants residents involved in this effort. They will conduct an odor surveillance. They ask community members who go outside regularly to keep up with the department via real time data. Send a text, email, directly from your smart phone. It will give DPH your GPS coordinates. They want you to tell them how strong the odor is. Each person smells things differently. Is it a constant stream or a fleeting whiff? They want to know about all of these odors. They ask residents to be Key Informants for at least 30 days after the leak has stopped.

Paula: How many community members are you looking for?

Carrie: we are hoping for a good coverage of the area. At least a few dozen covering each community.

Paula: Can you put a link to it for us to look at? We would like a lot of communities to participate.

Katherine: If we have areas with not many signed up, we'd like to recruit. We want to make this as easy as possible to sign up.

Issam: It's limited to odor responses? People are having health reactions even when they aren't smelling an odor.

Carrie: we could collect it but we couldn't provide medical advice.

Paula: The question we don't get a great question on, we'd like to know, can there be effects physiological effects if you aren't smelling the odor? Does the odor have to be present to cause a reaction?

Carrie: We aren't medical doctors. I would follow up with a physician.

Katherine: Surveillance could help us with that. Do symptoms occur without odor being present?

Issam: I am a skeptic. I don't need an opinion to tell me what I am observing. I don't feel anything but members of my family are experiencing symptoms without smelling anything.

Paula: I want to know if there is a correlation between odor and symptoms or not. If they are poo poo-ing it then we need to go and push it if there are too many experiences to ignoring it.

Jarrod: I have to disagree. They have done significant analysis.

Paula: I feel like they have not answered the question.

Jarrod: I feel like they have put in the effort to answer the question.

Paula: we have data and we have effects that may not be matching.

Matt: We have another number to call for another reason. How difficult do you need to make this? You can't get data from SCAQMD? You want a new project? People are already going through hell. We need you to take the data and do something with it. This seems like a joke.

Jarrod: Our office has been trying to be proactive. One thing I agree with you on is having one contact, coordinating efforts. There are many agencies to contact. I do want to stress that the DPH project will supplement the long-term health study that will be taking place. They think this can help them with their long-term monitoring.

Issam: I appreciate that you are doing this study and we are grateful that you are getting involved. Everyone will go away and back to their normal thing. I just wish this had started in October, November. SCAQMD is focused on their topics. This is focused on health.

Matt: I have to deal with living my life and dealing with symptoms. This is just another number to call.

Paula: I think there are a lot of people who are analytical and would like to be involved.

Carrie: we started this now that the levels have dropped. We don't want people going out to participate and getting sick. We know that there are still areas with odors. We want to know at what point the odors are down.

Matt: Call AQMD

Carrie: That is air quality data and complaint driven. This is health data.

Tom: We need to have this health impact study to date from day one. I appreciate the data you are collecting but we need to have this study address the entire timeframe. We want to tell our constituents that this is what the experts have stated. We need to have some report that includes all of this data so we can build the trust for those reading it as gospel.

Paula: Is there any way to corroborate the data with the information that is already out there?

Katherine: Our department published a report with a map of complaint locations and that matched up with the air data.

Matt: Alabama has been referenced. The Daily News did an analysis and no one recorded nose-bleeds there?

Carrie: I am not here to speculate.

Matt: Even though you are comparing it and using it as an example.

Katherine: We are noting that it is different. The only chemical they emitted was Turt Mertyl Mercaptan. There is another chemical used here which may be worth studying.

Matt: Hydrogen Sulfide has nosebleeds as a symptom.

Katherine: We agree with OEHHA that the levels are not a problem because the levels are so low. If they were high enough to cause nosebleeds we would see other problems.

Paula: if there is something globally we can fix, one source of communication would help.

Gillian Wright from SCG reported to the committee that they have achieved a critical first step, control. The three C's in this process are Control, Cement, Confirm. They were able to control the leak in the morning but didn't announce until the afternoon in order to see a state of stability.

The next stage is Cementing. Each stage is deliberate. Cementing may take a day or two and then cure for 24-48 hours. Following that, measurements will be done. DOGGR has a list of measurements. They easily have 3-5 days before the DOGGR confirmation. SCG will continue to provide updates on progress.

Gillian addressed a number of questions from last week.

Q: What do the Terms on website waive?

A: Same as the SCG website. We transferred from main page to the Aliso Updates page. It only states that we can't guarantee the information. It is not intended to restrict people from submitting claims. It is similar to iTunes terms and conditions.

Q: What's the Health study timing?

A: This is according to the SCAQMD abatement order. SCG will pay for the study but not manage it. A third party has not been selected but we are in the beginning of the process. The study does require several months of data so it could be several months before study can be initiated.

Q: How many wells are there that use casing withdrawal?

A: In 2015, there were 72 wells were used for casing withdrawal.

Q: Can you provide a heat map for relocation numbers?

A: We do have a graphic for that. (SEE VIDEO FOR MAP at 2:27:12) Over time, we have seen requests from farther and farther away.

Andre: The red marks (high concentration): there is no red south of the 118?

Gillian: Correct. There isn't a dense number of people requesting. That is reflected in green.

Andre: It looks like it is as far as Nordhoff.

Gillian: The southern most we have seen is Plummer. One or two south of Plummer. There are a few as far south as Nordhoff.

The winds are the most strong hitting the areas that you see the most relocation.

Issam: Having windy conditions since October has been a saving grace. It has been hot and not much wind. Yesterday was the highest recorded on the community gas station.

Paula: That pushed in to other communities.

Gillian: There is an infrared video about the control process itself showing the plume and the disappearance of the plume. I clarified with Senator Pavley, concerned about accelerating inspection of 18 similar wells. They are all undergoing accelerated inspection. You may be able to see them from the street. We are already doing those inspections.

Gillian shared the details of the agreement with the City Attorney's Office decision on relocation. The Return timeframe on hotels is 8 days, 7 nights starting the day after DOGGR confirmation.

CORRECTION on 2/12/16: The 8 day count starts *on* the day of DOGGR confirmation, not the day after.

For people in leased and rental housing, short term rentals are either through March 31st or April 30th. Some have agreed to longer leases on their own choice. They generally allowed for a little bit longer time frame because it opened up more housing options. There are a handful of exceptions, usually medically based.

Paula: Can those exceptions be made now?

Gillian: Those can be filed tomorrow. Case by case and medically based. We are generally looking at six weeks in lease situations. It is generally mobility based, equipment that needs to be relocated or a medical condition that requires them to be immobile. Or, if they are in a medical facility and need time to be discharged.

Issam: One resident asked if that covers people on oxygen who are nervous about coming back too quickly. Would that be covered?

Gillian: If their doctor requires them to not move, that would be considered. Nervousness is not considered. I am confident that the data will confirm that the gas is no longer escaping or appearing. I think when we get to that 8th day it will be almost 2 weeks.

There are a number of parents who enrolled students in other schools. Those parents are asking for longer-term accommodations. From the beginning we did not provide that option. We will pay for mileage but not for housing leases. It was discussed up front and made clear to families.

Paula: Can you put this information on a form so we can put it on the website?

Gillian: Yes.

John Lee: Is SCG paying for pool clean up?

Gillian: We will pay to clean oily spots from exteriors and cars. As far as interiors and duct work, OEHHA stated that it is not necessary. Running the AC or opening doors and windows will be enough. You may also put a capturing filter on your system to capture any mercaptan. There will be a form online.

John Lee: What about public places?

Gillian: We can work with LA Parks and Rec. We can also do a special inspection at the schools.

Matt: Using the weatherizing as a benchmark; people were disappointed with the contractors who performed the work.

Gillian: We don't select contractors for clean up of the oily residue. You select your own.

Issam: People's mileage reimbursement for people who came to check on their house every day. You said it was based on school, work and home. I don't think the assumption was that people were driving back every day to their homes that were vacated.

Gillian: With the standard mileage reimbursement, many use home as their work location. Up to four work addresses were allowed. One round trip commute per day per work address. Two round trip routes to per school per day. We don't assume a route. It is a very simple calculation. For home, we could apply a similar rule. Is there a way to assume that every resident takes three trips home per week?

Issam: Please consider that everyone needs to go home to check on their homes and not limited to 4-5 days a week. Please assess one trip per day to people's homes. It's a simple calculation.

Gillian: 7 days a week, one trip for one adult to home. We will take that under advisement. We have some spectacular mileage numbers. Some that would show people traveling 300 miles per day.

Andre: My thoughts were with that drilling crew when we've had the winds over the last few days. Despite our technology, the fact is that there's a lot of vibration going on, on top of that rig. There were no accidents. My hat is off to them. No one wants to hear what the army does or police department does. As far as I am concerned they were every bit as good.

Gillian: I appreciate that recognition. We had no injuries and intend to keep it that way.

Paula: We keep pushing the boundaries of our time (for ending the meeting).

Gillian: As far as relocation services, we have had service providers interested in offering discounts. We will not hand over names in order to protect their privacy. We will give those business names to residents so they can contact those moving service providers.

Rana: What is the status of business claims? No businesses have been reimbursed.

Gillian: Those applications are being evaluated. It will take some time. We are still evaluating what claims can be paid and at what time.

Matt: Is there a cut off date for filing for reimbursements?

Gillian: There will be, but after the move-back date.

Matt: What about medical claims?

Gillian: They are being considered.

Issam: Is there well drilling on the east side at night?

Gillian: I would have to check on the specific rigs in that area. There are work-over rigs for the inspections. I don't believe they are being inspected at night. I would have to check on any well drilling.

Ended at 9:02PM