



The Honorable Eric Garcetti, Mayor
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring St., Room 303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

July 29, 2019

Subject: Rancho LPG Butane and Propane Storage in San Pedro - Oppose

Dear Mr. Mayor,

We, representing the **San Pedro Democratic Club**, demand you take all action within your power to protect our public from the extreme hazards posed by Plains All American Pipeline owned, Rancho LPG LLC, a 46 year old, 25 million gallon liquefied petroleum gas storage facility storing highly explosive butane and propane gases located at 2110 N. Gaffey St., San Pedro, 90731.

The previous LPG storage facility, Petrolane, was originally granted "emergency exemptions" in 1973 from regulations during the Nixon administration based on the misguided notion that highly explosive LP gas would gain broad use and become America's energy source of the future. Sitting within the only active "earthquake rupture zone" in the Los Angeles Harbor area, (mag. 7.3 potential) in "non-permitted" 12.5 million gallon tanks, built to a seismic substandard of 5.5 mag., (with each butane tank having a blast radius of 3+ miles) we believe something should be done immediately! This facility sits on the literal doorsteps of homes, schools, shopping centers, busy traffic corridors and on the precipice of our cargo terminals constantly filled with our longshore workers.

Since the failure of the Nixon energy policies, the US government allowed the company to be assumed by Amerigas who changed its operation entirely to serve, as it does now, as an offsite butane gas storage facility for the distant refineries of Valero and Tesoro/Marathon oil companies. A pipeline was installed to facilitate the transfer of these refiner's (miles away) most explosive commodity, butane, to the San Pedro site. That pipeline traverses "public trust land" under the direct control of the City, Port of Los Angeles, and the California State Lands Commission. The transport of propane gas is also facilitated by a rail that is also an asset of the Port of Los Angeles, thereby under the same controls of the Port, the City of LA, and the State.

Currently under the ownership of Plains All American Pipeline, (criminally convicted for the Santa Barbara oil spill) the antiquated and seismically vulnerable facility relies entirely upon the approvals of that land use by the Port, City and State to conduct its business. A revocation of permitted pipeline and rail uses would render the Rancho facility inoperable, forcing the refiners to store their own gas upon their own highly regulated premises. This appears to be the most rationale tact to employ in order to restore a safer environment to the public.

Whether it is an earthquake, a terrorist attack, antiquated infrastructure failure or simple human error, the risks at this site are far too great to continue to be ignored. We implore your immediate action.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carrie Scoville". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carrie Scoville
President

cc: Governor Gavin Newsom, Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis, Controller Betty Yee, Rep. Nanette Barragán, Rep. Ted Lieu, Senator Steven Bradford, Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell, Supervisor Janice Hahn, Councilmember Joe Buscaino, Mr. Gene Seroka