



SAFETY OMBUDSMAN

**Virtual Townhall Meeting
Annual Report Review**

Richard J. Gentges



Overview

1. Experience/Background
2. Safety Ombudsman Role
3. Work of the Safety Ombudsman
4. Work of the Well and Storage Operations Safety Committee (WSOC)
5. Recommendation for Improvement



Safety Ombudsman Role

Experience/Background of Richard J Gentges

- Technical Expertise
- Industry Committees
- Industry Papers
- Safety Record
- Prior Role with SoCalGas



Safety Ombudsman Role

Key Elements of Role

- Safety/Transparency Advocate
- Totally Independent of SoCalGas
- Investigate and Respond to Safety/Integrity Concerns
- Public/Regulatory Interface
- Interface with SoCalGas Aliso Canyon Safety Committee

Work of the Safety Ombudsman

Key Elements

- Attend and Participate in Quarterly WSOC Meetings
- November 2, 2020 Virtual Public Meeting
 - Provided overview of 2020 Safety Ombudsman Reports: <https://j07280socialaliso.azurewebsites.net/>
- Safety Ombudsman Data Requests
 - Focus on well and reservoir integrity issues
 - Obtain access to key information – Operational and Programmatic
 - Facilitates review/assessment of conditions at the Facility

Work of the Safety Ombudsman – cont.

Key Elements

- CPUC and CalGEM Safety Inspections/Audits
- Methane Emission Incidents Above Threshold Levels
 - Relates to SoCalGas' Fence Line Methane Monitors
 - Website:
<https://sem.secmcs.com/MethaneMonitoring/>
 - 25 ppm averaged over 30 minutes
 - One Event in February 2021
- Safety-related Concerns/Complaints Submitted by the Public
 - Three concerns/complaints received

Work of the Safety Ombudsman – cont.

Key Elements

- Safety-related Concerns/Complaints Submitted by the Public
- Concerns/complaints received; issues included:
 - “I have problems breathing when I am on the hill adjacent to your Aliso Canyon Facility. Please tell me what chemicals are escaping into the air so that I may give to my pulmonologist. Thank you.”

Work of the WSOC

Key Elements

- Roles and Responsibilities
 - Eight Year Commitment - Quarterly Meetings
 - Focus on Well Integrity and Leak Prevention
 - Make Recommendations for Repairs/Improvements and Policies
 - Facilitate Role of and Work Cooperatively With Ombudsman
- WSOC Charter
- WSOC Meetings
- CPUC and CalGEM Safety Inspections



Recommendations for Improvements

WSOC Recommendations

- Two recommendations developed by WSOC in 2019-2020.
 - Both were implemented in October 2020.
- No additional recommendations developed by the WSOC in 2020-2021.

Recommendations for Improvements

Safety Ombudsman Recommendations

- Complete WSOC sub-committee audit of compliance with Gas Standard 224.106, Casing and Tubing Inspection Field Procedure as soon as possible
 - Develop action plan to address gaps/deficiencies, tracking process, and closure report.
- Accelerate completion of third-party expert corrosion study, develop and implement risk-based formula for determining condition-based well casing integrity re-assessment intervals
- Inventory Verification process not consistent from year to year. Six specific recommendations provided to improve process
 - Retain independent third-party reservoir engineering expert to review/confirm in-house results



Recommendations for Improvements – cont.

Safety Ombudsman Recommendations

- Include Safety Ombudsman in annual Aliso Canyon community meeting. This will facilitate transparency and aid in addressing public concerns.
- Issue WSOC meeting minutes timely and provide Safety Ombudsman the opportunity to review draft minutes prior to issuance.



Next Steps

- Review feedback from virtual public meeting
 - Incorporate recommendations for improving utility of future reports
- Ongoing attendance at WSOC Meetings
- Responding to issues/concerns posted to Safety Ombudsman Website



Questions?

<https://safetyombudsman.com/>
Ombudsman@SafetyOmbudsman.com