

RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO AMERIGAS

Adopted August 9, 2004

WHEREAS, AmeriGas conducts a terminal operation on North Gaffey Street capable of storing up to 24,000,000 gallons of liquid butane for the British Petroleum (BP) Carson and Valero Wilmington refineries; and

WHEREAS, the AmeriGas terminal is connected by a pipeline to Berth 120 in Los Angeles Harbor; and

WHEREAS, the right of way permit has expired although AmeriGas has been allowed to remain on holdover status for the purpose of removing its pipeline but also to continue transporting butane to Berth 120; and

WHEREAS, if AmeriGas loses its pipeline access to Berth 120, it has indicated it will transport butane by rail or truck in approximately 4200 trucks or 1200 rail cars in order to move the same quantity that is currently being moved in 5 ships per year; and

WHEREAS, according to statistics produced by AmeriGas at the community forum conducted on July 18, the transportation of butane by truck and rail is significantly more dangerous than transport by pipeline and ship; and

WHEREAS, the threatened increases in truck and/or rail traffic will increase air pollution and add to existing traffic congestion on North Gaffey Street; and

WHEREAS, the AmeriGas facility on N. Gaffey Street is adjacent to soccer and baseball fields, close to two schools, and generally incompatible with the residential nature of the local community; and

WHEREAS, the events of September 11 have magnified the focus on the potential for a catastrophic incident at this site; and

WHEREAS, BP and Valero can develop alternatives for storage and removal of butane; and

WHEREAS, technical matters should be dealt with by the refineries and AmeriGas, and not the community or Neighborhood Council; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council has placed a high priority on the beautification of North Gaffey and the establishment of the North Gaffey Corridor as a boundary between our residential community and port-related industrial uses;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that:

1. NWSPNC recommends to the PCAC and the Board of Harbor Commissioners that the pipeline lease with AmeriGas be terminated effective immediately and that AmeriGas be given a fixed deadline to submit plans for removal of its pipeline. Thereafter, if British Petroleum and Valero want to use the AmeriGas facility temporarily for storage of their butane and shipment via Berth 120, the City of Los Angeles and Board of Harbor Commissioners should require them to collectively develop and submit an acceptable schedule for moving the butane and propane away from the residential community in Northwest San Pedro. A person appointed by the Board of the NWSPNC should be involved in developing any plans for temporary use. Additionally, any such temporary use should include consideration of appropriate safety matters.
2. NWSPNC opposes any efforts by AmeriGas to increase the movement of butane or propane from the facility by truck or trains and requests immediate notification from the City of any permit application by AmeriGas.
3. NWSPNC requests that it be notified by the City if they receive any request for permits to make any alterations to the AmeriGas facility and/or continued use of the expired pipeline right of way, and that sufficient documentation be required for an adequate environmental assessment of the proposed changes.
4. NWSPNC also requests that AmeriGas immediately repair its perimeter fencing, install concrete barriers, and post a 24 hour security guard.