



# COUNTY *of* VENTURA

---

April 15, 2022

The Honorable Ben Hueso, Chair  
Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee  
1021 O Street, Room 3350  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **SB 1119 (Limón): Public utilities: gas corporations: gas plants: new construction or substantial modification**  
**As amended 3/31/22 – SUPPORT**  
**Set for hearing 4/26/22 – Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee**

Dear Senator Hueso:

On behalf of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of SB 1119, Senator Monique Limón's measure that that will give the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) authority to establish permitting requirements for new and existing gas infrastructure projects that are being substantially modified. The Legislature has already provided similar authority to the CPUC for electric utilities.

Recently, the Board approved a resolution requesting that the CPUC assess the neighborhood compatibility of the proposed modernization and expansion of a Southern California Gas facility in Ventura County. The facility is nearly 100 years old and located in a disadvantaged community. The planned and unplanned releases of gas from the facility are understandably a cause for concern for the neighborhood. There are 1,100 residents who live within a quarter-mile of the facility and another 5,300 residents who live within a half-mile, as well as a school nearby. These residents have serious health and safety concerns and deserve a thorough environmental review before the project proceeds.

SB 1119 ensures that the CPUC have the appropriate regulatory authority to require an environmental review for new and substantially modified gas projects. This is a reasonable and appropriate mechanism to ensure that surrounding communities are aware of risks and proposed mitigations of such risks. To that end, we respectfully urge your 'aye' vote on SB 1119 when it comes before you in committee.

Sincerely,



Jean Kinney Hurst  
Legislative Advocate

cc: Members and consultants, Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee  
The Honorable Monique Limón, California State Senate  
Ventura County Legislative Delegation  
Ventura County Board of Supervisors