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*Passionately and responsibly working to
improve the quality of life for all San Diegans*

NEWS RELEASE

Faulconer, Sanders announce unique environmental project in Point Loma

Councilman worked with community to find safe alternative to transporting methane gas

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After numerous months of planning, construction is set to begin on a unique environmental project in Point Loma that will set a new standard in our region.

Today, Council President Pro Tem Kevin Faulconer joined Mayor Jerry Sanders and others at the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant to announce the good news. You may recall that this methane gas recycling project became a controversial issue in Point Loma. Councilman Faulconer worked with homeowners there [to find an alternative](#) to transporting the methane gas in trucks.

Below are the councilman's remarks from today's news conference:

"We would not be here today if not for the community members who stepped up and worked closely with us to find a way to safely transport this methane gas.

"I want to thank all of those involved, especially Point Loma residents John Pedersen and Jim Gilhooly and members of the Point Loma Association.

"This groundbreaking project – the first of its kind in our region – is truly an extraordinary win for the environment, for Point Loma residents and the City of San Diego.

"This methane gas recycling program will use existing SDG&E fuel lines to transport excess methane gas from the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant that will be recycled and used as renewable energy, earning the City a small amount of money for the gas and stopping excess methane from being flared into the environment.

"Let me give you just a little more background on what truly is an extraordinary win for the environment, for Point Loma residents and the City of San Diego.



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“The San Diego City Council adopted a revolutionary environmental plan in December 2009 when it voted unanimously to amend a contract that calls for recycling methane gas from the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plant. The contract has been in place for a while. What changed is how the gas will be transferred once construction is complete, and this project begins in October.

“The original plan called for using trucks to haul compressed natural gas – 85 percent methane and 15 percent carbon dioxide, which is flared each day at the treatment plant – from the plant.

“Two local sites (UCSD & the South Bay Water Reclamation Plant) will take the gas and use it to create ultra clean fuel cells that will generate renewable energy.

“Numerous residents, however, expressed concern about trucking the gas through Point Loma, which is why I worked with Mr. Pedersen, Mr. Gilhooly and others to develop a better plan.

“That plan recently took effect. Methane gas will still be captured from the treatment plant, but it will be moved through existing SDG&E fuel lines. Trucks will not be used!

“This project is expected to eliminate the release of 1.1 million cubic feet of global warming gases each day and generate a small amount of revenue for the City. (\$2.6 million in revenues over 10 years, and save \$780,000 over 10 years at the South Bay Water Plant).

“I want to thank the Mayor, city staff, BioFuels, SDG&E, SCS Engineers and New Energy Capital.”