



City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Office of Gerrie Schipske, R.N.P., J.D.
Councilwoman, Fifth District
Memorandum

R-8

Date: December 18, 2012

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske, Fifth District *GS*

Subject: Report on Strong Noxious Odor in East Long Beach

Discussion:

Periodically, especially when it is overcast or has just rained, there will be a strong, noxious odor with a smell that is described as natural gas, rotten egg or oil burning. When residents on the east side of Long Beach call 9-1-1 they are told a number of things concerning the source of the odor: "It's AES burning off oil; it's the oil operations at the oil islands burning off oil or it's an oil tanker burning off its fuel in the harbor."

It would be helpful if: a) the source of the smell could be confirmed; b) an assessment could be done to determine if the odor is harmful and 3) the reverse 9-1-1 be used whenever the odor occurs to alert residents that it is not harmful.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Recommendation:

By motion of the City Council, request a report from the Fire Department, Gas and Oil Properties and the AQMD regarding the source of this odor and confirmation that the odor is not harmful. Additionally, request that the reverse 9-1-1 system be used to alert residents on the eastside of the City whenever the odor occurs.