



Date: October 7, 2019

To: Thomas B. Modica, Acting City Manager *T.M.*

From: Robert Dowell, Director of Energy Resources *Rd*

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **2019-2020 Winter Heating Season Campaign**

Sharp wholesale natural gas commodity price increases last winter led to bill increases for many Energy Resources (ER) natural gas customers. Ongoing issues related to pipeline outages, pipeline maintenance, and underground storage restrictions on the Southern California Gas Company's (SoCalGas) transmission system may again create natural gas commodity price volatility for the upcoming 2019-2020 winter heating season, potentially impacting ER customers.

Wholesale natural gas pricing has remained stable during the recent 2019 peak summer season and continues to be stable as we head into the winter heating season. However, to increase customer awareness and promote conservation, ER has taken proactive steps to notify its customers of potential natural gas commodity price increases in their winter natural gas bills. Firstly, the [Winter Natural Gas Bill Estimator](#) is prominently displayed on ER's website. A notice to each City Council District office was also sent providing ER's availability for informational material for newsletters, or opportunities to speak at community meetings regarding the upcoming winter heating season and present mitigation and conservations options available. Additionally, ER will insert winter heating season informational materials in utility bills beginning this month and will reach out to the Long Beach Press-Telegram and other local news outlets to publish information about this potential regional issue.

Should you have any questions, please contact Bob Dowell, Director of Long Beach Energy Resources, at (562) 570-2001.

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