



Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council Holiday Party, December 7

## **PRNC Addresses Proposed Expansion of Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility**

Join us for this year's holiday party which will be held at the Musashi Restaurant in the Porter Ranch Towne Center near Ralphs at 6pm on Tuesday, December 7, 2010. This is an excellent opportunity to meet your board members and neighbors. Come early for delicious appetizers and desserts!

At our November 9, 2010 meeting the board discussed a proposed amendment to the City's animal services code to increase the amount of allowed dogs and or cats a resident may own from three to five. Board members raised concerns that they did not have enough information about what limitations might apply regarding how the amount of pets might be allowed depending upon available space to house them. Others pointed out there were no specifics currently on the amount of space required for the 3 dogs/cats limit now. In a straw poll of attendees, the board found the preponderance of people were against an increase.

The board heard a substantial presentation about a proposed expansion to the Sempra Energy Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility housed at the top of the mountain in Porter Ranch based on information presented at a public meeting on November 6, 2010. There is concern that the proposed expansion which requires additional power transmission lines to be run from Newhall would increase Porter Ranch's fire risk, as stakeholders contend that Sempra does not clear brush under their power lines. Downed power lines may have hit un-cleared brush October 2008 sparking the Sesnon Fire. The PRNC plans to have Sempra representatives at the board's meeting on January 4, 2010, 6pm at Shepherd of the Hills. See [www.PRNC.org](http://www.PRNC.org) for more information.

The meeting continued with Cameron Smyth's District Director Jarrod DeGonia who brought news to the PRNC about state issues. He commented that the California budget would probably be revisited in January with the arrival of the new governor, especially as the budget is expected to be in deficit territory. With fire a hot topic during the meeting, DeGonia emphasized that Smyth voted against the current budget because it included a 4.8% surcharge on residential and commercial property insurance premiums to pay for CAL FIRE (expected to generate \$238 million). This is effectively subsidizing counties that have chosen not to fund their own fire departments such as San Diego and Riverside and penalizing those that have, such as Los Angeles.

Stakeholders voiced concerns about foreign and out of state students getting higher priority at UC and CSU school admissions and about Smyth not supporting the state law that would allow cities to specifically regulate and eliminate billboard trailers.

DeGonia specifically mentioned that Smyth, the first Republican in a long time, had been tapped to head a Local Government Policy Committee and that he has already been contacted by Governor-elect Brown in an effort to bridge bi-partisan political gaps.

*The PRNC: Helping You Make Porter Ranch a Better Place to Live, Work and Grow. Join us December 7 and January 4. Find out more at [www.PRNC.org](http://www.PRNC.org).*