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# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**MONIQUE LIMÓN**  
NINETEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



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SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON THE NONPROFIT SECTOR  
CHAIR

Feb 9, 2023

California Public Utilities Commission

## Re: Natural Gas January 2023 Price Surge

Dear Public Utilities Commissioners,

I urge the Public Utilities Commission to inquire into the recent surge in natural gas prices. My office has received a significant amount of comments from constituents expressing their concern regarding their January gas bills from SoCalGas. The sudden and sharp price increase had a significant impact on constituents in Senate District 19, with many noting they are unable to pay their bill or having to cut down on their other essential needs. I appreciate your quickly organized meetings on the issue on Feb 2nd and Feb 7th to inform and engage the public on this important issue. I also support the bill credit approved on Feb 2nd to work to ameliorate the impact of these charges.

I understand that there were several factors that contributed to this price increase but I would ask the commission to require a price warning to customers with enough time for them to adjust their usage to lessen the impact of a surge like this one. SoCalGas did give a warning but it was not early enough for constituents to adjust their usage. I ask that the CPUC also investigate whether there is market manipulation involved in these sharp price increases.

Thank you for your work on this issue so far and your efforts to protect all Californians from surging natural gas prices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monique Limón".

**MONIQUE LIMÓN**  
Senator, 19<sup>th</sup> District