July 17, 2014

County of San Diego
Nick Macchione, Director, Health & Human Services Agency
1600 Pacific Highway
Room 206, MS-P501
San Diego, California 92101

Re: Live Well San Diego

Dear Mr. Macchione:

San Diego Gas & Electric Company has been a proud partner of the County of San Diego in many areas. We have collaborated on emergency preparedness, infrastructure enhancements, energy reliability improvement, safety initiatives and other programs in historically underserved areas throughout the County. To build on our many years of collaboration, it is with great pleasure that I submit SDG&E’s application to be a qualified Live Well San Diego Partner. SDG&E’s track-record to build healthy communities starts with our own employees, and extends into the customers we serve and environment we work hard to protect.

SDG&E is committed to promoting safe and healthy lifestyles to employees and their families through quality safety, health and wellness programs. These programs emphasize the importance of employee safety and wellness through education, fitness programs, and employee assistance/support programs to empower employees to thrive and enjoy the highest quality of life.

Public and employee safety is SDG&E’s priority. SDG&E has made significant strides in recent years in the safety of its employees. We have reduced employee injuries by over 50% from what they were just seven years ago. In 2007 close to 250 employees were injured on the job. In recent years we’ve had just 100 employees sustain injuries. While still too many, we continuously strive to send more and more employees home safely to their families. We believe the reductions to date are a result of our whole person view in the prevention and management of illness and injury.

SDG&E plays a key role in the ‘physical environment indicator of success’ metric, particularly in keeping our air clean. SDG&E has twice been recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for our efforts to combat climate change, including receipt of with the Supply Chain Leadership Award (February 2013) and the Organizational Leadership Award (2012), both honoring our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint through lowering greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, in 2013 – more than 23% of our energy supplies were purchased from renewable sources. A key way to reduce emissions and protect the air is by lowering energy usage. Over the last three years, our customers have reduced their electricity use by more than 911 million kilowatt hours and their gas usage by more than 1.8 million therms. That’s enough electricity to power more than 150,000 homes for one year or taking more than 135,000 cars off the road for a year. Our programs and services make these savings a reality for our communities and the environment.
Giving back is not only the right thing to do – it's also in our DNA. In 2013, SDG&E funded 579 non-profit organizations with $6M in shareholder funds. The vast majority of these resources were provided to historically underserved communities, and much of that was in the health and human services area. We have a particular passion for healthy kids, emergency/healthy food resources and shelters. Additionally, our employees gave $639K from their own paychecks to a variety of causes, much of which was matched by our parent company foundation. All of these resources are contributing to healthy, productive communities that truly live well.

We respectfully submit this nomination to become a County of San Diego Live Well community partner, and look forward to a continued productive relationship throughout the region.

Sincerely,

Jeff Martin

CC: Supervisor Greg Cox, District 1
    Supervisor Dianne Jacob, District 2
    Supervisor Dave Roberts, District 3
    Supervisor Ron Roberts, District 4
    Supervisor Bill Horn, District 5