

April 8, 2019

**Supervisor John Zaragoza
Supervisor Kelly Long
Supervisor Bob Huber
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Ave., L#1860
Ventura, CA 93009**

Dear Supervisor,

As a former Ventura Chamber of Commerce President and now as CEO of Venturans for Responsible and Efficient Government, I urge you to reject the proposed ordinance on Tuesday that would shut down oil and gas drilling and unnecessarily rewrite the current county oil and gas permitting process.

This ordinance would stop the County Planning Division from issuing any permits for new oil and gas wells or the re-drilling of existing wells and would give the Board of Supervisors discretionary power over approvals. This measure effectively shuts down the local oil and gas industry in Ventura County — threatening jobs for working families and vital community tax revenues for education and public safety.

The Oil and Gas Industry in Ventura County employs over 900 workers. This should be seen as over 900 families. This is over \$760 million into Ventura County's economy. The \$21 million in state and local taxes pay for schools, fire and police.

Supervisor Bennett asserts oil and gas activities are impacting water supplies in the Oxnard Oil Field. The United States Geological Survey study on the Oxnard Plain explicitly stated that their study did not conclude oil field activity was the cause.

As you know, oil and gas permit applications are submitted to the planning department for consideration and undergo a rigorous vetting and approval process. This is in addition to the over 25 local, state, and federal agencies that oversee oil and gas production activities. The system works and strikes a balance between protecting the environment and allowing the industry to produce the energy California needs right here in Ventura County.

I strongly encourage you to vote NO on this harmful ordinance and protect jobs for working families.

Sincerely,


Robert J. Alviani, CEO

Venturans for Responsible and Efficient Government