

**Key, Lori**

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**From:** James Merrill <James.Merrill.37181640@p2a.co>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 6, 2020 11:55 AM  
**To:** ClerkoftheBoard  
**Subject:** Protect Our Communities and Environment from Antiquated Oil Approval Standards

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Dear Ventura County Supervisors,

I'm writing in support of efforts to amend the County's Zoning Ordinances so that your Planning Division and the public will have better oversight over new oil wells and facilities.

In Ventura County, thousands of oil wells operate under antiquated permits, and more continue to be drilled without an evaluation of environmental impacts and little to no consideration of nearby natural resources and communities. Antiquated permits present a grave risk to the environment, our climate, precious water supplies, and public health.

All new wells in Ventura County should abide by the same modern standards. Oil companies must not be allowed to drill an unlimited number of wells, for an unlimited amount of time, and without an evaluation of impacts on public health and the environment.

Please vote to amend the Zoning Ordinance to ensure that new wells and facilities under antiquated permits are subject to environmental review and public notice and hearings.

Regards,  
James Merrill

  
Oxnard, CA 93033