

Key, Lori

From: James Bennett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, November 6, 2020 11:02 AM
To: ClerkoftheBoard
Subject: Abandoned wells in the upper Ojai

Dear Clerk,

There is a serious problem in our little beautiful part of the planet...and it exists in lots of places in Ventura County too. Abandoned oil wells. It has just come to my attention that the holders of these old well permits...even if they are unused, think they can...by right...expand the intensity of their use...including fracking and additional drilling. We have only lived here for ten years...but the seriousness of the problem with old wells has become quite apparent over time to me.

I know that Ventura doesn't let abandoned water wells be used after abandonment...you require a new permit if one wants to drill a new well. And that well must be up to current environmental standards. The same should be true for old oil wells.

I understand that the operators of many of these wells are seeing their rights as expandable rights in perpetuity. Surely new drilling and expanded extraction should require new permits...and full compliance with current health and environmental standards.

I appreciate all you do to bring this problem into control and leave our county a beautiful, healthy place to live.

My best wishes,

Jamie Bennett