

Key, Lori

From: Diane Underhill <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, November 7, 2020 12:10 AM
To: ClerkoftheBoard
Subject: RE: Antiquated Conditional Use Permits for Oil Companies

Dear Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

Oil operators who hold "antiquated Conditional Use Permits" claim they have the right to drill new wells, expand production, or use high-risk techniques like fracking and cyclic steam – *without proper review and oversight from the county*. We must disabuse oil operators of this notion. We must hold them to modern safety and environmental standards. We must do this for public health and safety. We must do this for communities that have lower economic means that are disproportionately adversely affected by oil-industry-related pollution.

Antiquated permits should not be a blank check to pollute. Ventura County must not allow oil operations to expand indefinitely under antiquated Conditional Use Permits. These permits were handed out decades ago, *before* our current understanding of the public health, safety, and climate impacts of oil production.

Rubber-stamping new and expanded drilling under old permits is bad for Ventura County's land, air, and water as well as its residents and wildlife. We are facing a worldwide climate crisis. Ventura County must think globally and act locally. *We must do our part*. We can't accept that any industry has an unlimited right to expand in ways that pollute our land, air, or water and adversely impact the health and safety of our communities.

It is obvious that the oil companies don't want to play by the same land use rules that everyone else has to follow. It is incumbent on you, our elected representatives, to firmly recognize and legally establish that these outdated permits do not give oil companies the right to expand operations indefinitely.

All new drilling and expanded extraction should require a new permit and full compliance with current health, safety and environmental standards. Ensuring oil operators are made to follow the same modern permitting requirements that other citizens must follow will help our county's air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Thank you for your time and attention as well as your action to rectify these iniquities that have been allowed to continue far too long.

Sincerely,
Diane Underhill, President
Ventura Citizens for Hillside Preservation

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Ventura, CA 93001
[REDACTED]

