

Dear Supervisors,

While you cant run till you learn to walk, the same goes for replacing fossil fuels. You cant replace fossil fuels till you find a substitute. California Energy Commission reports the state imported 58% our oil last year from foreign countries, 359 Million barrels, which cost the state over \$20 billion and required over 200 oceanic tankers. I raise my kids with the philosophy of hard work and the notion that it is better to provide for one's self than to rely on others. The world cant survive without oil. Relying on other countries for something this essential is irresponsible. We need to keep those hard-earned jobs and dollars local rather than sending them overseas.

Environmentally, shipping accounts for roughly 3% of global CO2 and GHG emissions. Every drop of oil not produced locally further contributes to increased tanker use and increased risk to the environment. California maintains the strictest environment and safety regulations for oil operators in the world. Relying on foreign countries who employ less regulations to produce our oil adds further risk.

Ventura County should be leading the world in renewable energy innovation, utilizing our proximity to the ocean and its continuous tide movements, abundance of daily wind and almost year-round sunshine. We should be producing as much oil as we can and using those tax dollars to subsidize this energy revolution and do it locally.

As a taxpayer I believe moving forward with this anti-oil general plan is fiscally and environmentally irresponsible.

Eric Kroh

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