

Hall, Anna

From: Strickland WR (Walter) at Aera <WRStrickland@aeraenergy.com>
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 8:48 AM
To: ClerkoftheBoard
Subject: November 10 Legacy Permit Amendments

Honorable Supervisors,

I urge you to reject the amendments to the coastal and non-coastal zoning ordinances before you today. The proposed amendments will hurt my job and the industry that affords me the opportunity to live and work in Ventura County. Oil and gas employees and contractors work every day to ensure our community and state at large has a safe, affordable and reliable energy supply.

The move to require discretionary review of legacy CUPs is part of a concerted effort by some Board members to shut down all oil and natural gas operations in Ventura County and with it thousands of jobs and lost tax revenue.

Proponents of such shutdowns often claim that job losses in the oil and natural gas industry are acceptable because oil and gas workers can simply find jobs in green energy. The truth is that green jobs in California pay less than oil and gas jobs, and a great majority of green energy infrastructure is produced out of state. According to a recent report released by the State Building and Construction Trades Council, green jobs in Ventura County, as defined by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, paid on average 35 percent less than oil and gas jobs. A forced career change to a job that pays less is simply not acceptable.

Our companies operate under the strictest environmental regulations in the world. We all share a commitment to clean air and water in our community. Responsible oil and gas production must be part of the equation for affordable, reliable and equitable energy policies.

Please support our local workforce, local economy, and the energy needs of today. I urge you to reject this radical and unnecessary policy change.

Walter Strickland

