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 To:
 ClerkoftheBoard

 Subject:
 Agenda Item 72

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My name is Francisco and I am a resident in the city of Oxnard. I am expressing my concern about the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure in Lemonwood, an environmental justice community in Ventura County. I respectfully urge the Board of Supervisors to deny ABA Energy Corporation's appeal based on the failure to comply with legal requirements and the Planning Division's erroneous issuance of the Zoning Clearances in violation of County law.

I support the Ventura County Planning Commission's decision to deny these oil and gas wells from being re-drilled in December 2022. The Planning Commission's decision reflects the need to ensure that all health and safety reviews and requirements have been addressed, and impacts on the surrounding homes and schools analyzed. I believe these are prudent measures the Board of Supervisors should also take into account and not ignore.

These two wells are in addition to twenty-one other oil and gas wells already approved for the area adjacent to homes, a school, and a park in the Lemonwood neighborhood. These twenty-one oil and gas wells are on an "antiquated" permit issued in 1957, with no environmental review required. And though these wells are within the CA 3,200-foot health and safety buffer zone, they can be approved for drilling since the buffer zone has been suspended until 2024 due to the oil industry referendum campaign. This is why it is essential that the Board of Supervisors carefully review the application within procedural compliance with County law.

The two oil and gas wells proposed by ABA Energy Corporation for permitting would add to the cumulative pollution burden of neighborhoods and schools nearby the proposed sites. This location has been identified as having the highest amount of pollution in Ventura County. The talking points pushing the need to protect oil and gas jobs by jettisoning permit compliance leaves the children of Ventura County and our neighbors vulnerable.

Thank you.

Francisco Tapia