

## MOTION

As the climate crisis continues to impact our region, Los Angeles continues to be a major oil producer further exacerbating these risks. In August 2023, the California Supreme Court ruled against a California county in a case regarding local government's authority to limit and prohibit oil and gas production. The following year, a judge ruled against the City of Los Angeles and overturned our own ordinance that would have protected our neighborhoods from the dangerous impacts of local oil production. Fortunately, in September 2024 Governor Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill 3233 which explicitly reaffirmed the authority of local governments to protect communities by limiting or prohibiting oil and gas production within their jurisdictions. While AB 3233 was celebrated as a win for protecting communities, it does not take effect until January 1, 2025. As a result, the City's authority to regulate oil wells in Los Angeles may be limited since our ordinance was ruled invalid and a new ordinance has not yet been presented to the City Council. Regardless of this legal shift, the oil industry is not absolved from adhering to all regulatory rules and land use conditions to maintain health and safety on their drill sites and for the adjacent communities.

One common process used in the low producing oil well industry is maintenance acidizing. This is a repeated maintenance service where chemical acids are used to dissolve rocks and other material that can restrict the flow of oil and gas. The substances used in maintenance acidizing are extremely hazardous according to chemical and fire protection industry experts. This process is used at multiple locations and within mere feet of residences or schools without much notice or protections granted to adjacent communities, and it is trucked in large quantities to the site where the site workers are in full hazmat suits and are wearing personal electronic monitors. It is unlikely that these substances fully dissipate where no harm occurs to businesses, homes, and schools that surround these sites. The neighborhoods and communities that are living in the shadows of drilling sites can be exposed to these toxic chemicals, pollutants, carbon, and odors that can inevitably affect their health.

Given a sizable increase in maintenance acidization in the aftermath of the California Supreme Court ruling, the City should explore all avenues to protect Angelenos from the impact of maintenance acidizing on communities surrounding oil sites. Significant and ongoing concerns have been raised by neighborhood organizations as to the health and safety impact to communities across the city.

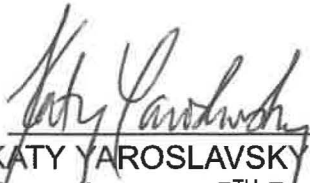
I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the Department of City Planning, with the assistance of the Los Angeles Fire Department, the Petroleum Administrator, and the City Attorney to prepare and present an interim control ordinance that would halt the practice of oil well acid maintenance.



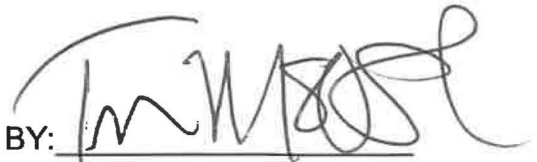
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I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the Department of City Planning report back with a timeline on when a new oil ordinance will be completed under the City's authority affirmed by AB 3233 and a timeline for a new Zoning Administrator Interpretation for well maintenance projects that would significantly expand public notification requirements and provide for discretionary review of such projects.

PRESENTED BY:

  
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PRESENTED BY:

  
TIM McOSKER  
Councilmember, 15<sup>TH</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL