The City has existing oil and gas drilling operations with ongoing agreements designed to protect human health and the environment.

For instance, on June 8, 2001, a settlement agreement was entered into between the City of Los Angeles, the City Council of the City of Los Angeles (collectively, "the City"), BreitBurn Energy Company (BreitBurn), Neighbors for a Safe Environment (NASE), Rae Drazin (an individual) and Mina Solomon (an individual) "to settle litigation relating to the approvals for the construction and operation of the West Pico Drillsite Modernization Project."

The parties mutually agreed to undertake a number of measures, including, but not limited a provision requiring a review of conditions of the drilling site to occur two years after construction, within ninety days prior to the fifth anniversary of the first review and on each five-year anniversary. BreitBurn would then request an additional review of conditions and the Zoning Administrator would conduct a review of conditions and issue a report of its review and schedule a further public hearing if warranted. Such report would be promptly forwarded to NASE, BreitBurn and the applicable Neighborhood Council.

Yet the ownership of the West Pico Drillsite has changed and questions have arisen about settlement conditions being met.

As the City Petroleum Administrator continues to update and address the City's relationship with oil and gas operations, it is important to periodically review existing agreements that may still exist and ensure, for the health and safety of the neighbors, that the City and oil and gas operators are meeting the terms of the agreements.

Since staff in City departments, in elected offices, and in oil companies often change, it is vital to have in place an effective transition plan so that new staff are made aware of and enforce existing agreements.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council direct the Petroleum Administrator to work with the Planning Department, the Department of Building and Safety, and any other relevant agencies or departments to report back within 90 days on existence or creation of an effective transition plan when City staff and/or oil and gas operator personnel change for ongoing enforcement of existing agreements with oil and gas operators, in order to effectively protect human health and the environment.

PRESENTED BY:

Councilmember, 5th District

Herb Weson

SECONDED BY: