

Communication from Public

Name: Joshua Levine

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Council File No: 21-1025

Comments for Public Posting: Since becoming aware of the fiasco at the West Pico Drill site, I demand that the City perform a proper Environmental Review and reject the improper Categorical Exemption. The spill that surfaced on December 11, 2021 is final proof that Environmental Review is necessary. I Insist that the City review all unapproved and illegal projects at the West Pico Drill Site now in this review, especially the 24 major illegal oil well projects executed without ZA review since 2000. I demand that the City follow its own laws on the regulation of oil drilling, follow the State's CEQA law, and follow the City's own CEQA guidelines that say the drilling or redrilling or conversion of oil wells CANNOT be granted Categorical Exemption from Environmental Review. I insist that the City reverse its illegal approval of By-Right Oil Drilling in the West Pico Drill Site case because it is wrong and it endangers the entire City by signaling a green light for oil companies to do anything without applying for reviews and approvals. I do not believe that the City will ever be serious about phasing out oil drilling and production if it continues to allow illegal oil well drilling and rampant non-compliance with City laws and CEQA at oil drill sites. Stricter new laws mean nothing if there is no implementation, inspection, and enforcement by the City. I live in Council District 5 - Paul Koretz's district.