

## Communication from Public

**Name:** sandy cajas

**Date Submitted:** 11/30/2020 10:42 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** SUBJECT: Item#3-17-0447- Recommendations in the Petroleum Administrator's Report on Land Use Codes Relative to Oil & Gas Development SUBJECT: Item#3-17-0447- Recommendations in the Petroleum Administrator's Report on Land Use Codes Relative to Oil & Gas Development November 30,2020 Re: Recommendations in the Petroleum Administrator's Report on Land Use Codes Relative to Oil & Gas Development Dear Council President Martinez and Honorable Councilmembers:

Today, The Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce stands with the oil and gas industry, which employs thousands of essential oil and natural gas workers in LA City and County who safely operate Southern California's critical infrastructure everyday. The industry provides reliable local oil, natural gas and electricity to our fellow Angelenos when we need it the most. With the upcoming discussions related to advancing the recommendations within the Petroleum Administrator's report, we continue to be deeply concerned about the negative impacts of any further restrictions on local oil and gas operations hard working diverse families in Los Angeles – without providing any health benefits. The Petroleum Administrator's report identified the numerous safeguards and comprehensive regulations that already govern local production and concluded that “there is a lack of empirical evidence correlating oil and gas operations within the City of Los Angeles to widespread negative health impacts.” Our community is deeply impacted by an actual public health crisis in the COVID-19 pandemic and we are suffering from an economic and unemployment crisis, the likes of which we haven't seen since the Great Depression. Numerous businesses large and small have been forced to close their doors and thousands of people have lost their jobs and livelihoods, leaving so many more vulnerable families on the verge of homelessness. Additionally, the City Attorney's Office has highlighted significant costs and litigation risks to the City associated with further regulating the oil industry. I urge the Committee to consider the fiscal impacts of your proposals and the economic health of the City. The oil and gas industry here in LA City continues to produce reliable and affordable energy under the most stringent regulations in the world. Every day 10 million Angelenos need enough energy to heat and cool their homes, store and cook their food, and use their

cars to get to where they need to go. We've learned during recent power outages and COVID-19 shortages the importance of having local supplies of goods and energy to keep us healthy and safe. We are concerned the report's recommendations will cause a reduction in local production, and as a result, increase Angelenos' dependence on imported oil from countries that do not value human rights, labor and environmental standards like we do. Now more than ever, every job is precious. The oil and natural gas industry has been and continues to be an important source of stable, good paying blue-collar careers that support thousands of families in Los Angeles and beyond. We respectfully request you, as an honorable member of the LA City Council, not to further restrict local oil and gas production and instead work to preserve and expand local jobs that can contribute to restarting Los Angeles' decimated economy. Before taking any action that will eliminate critical jobs and industries, please consider our community, our jobs, our families and our livelihoods. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Sandy Cajas  
Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
[www.RegionalHispaniccc.org](http://www.RegionalHispaniccc.org) 562-212-2889

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michael Sullivan

**Date Submitted:** 11/16/2020 09:25 AM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to provide the Council a legal analysis of the Petroleum Administrator's proposed recommendations outlined in its July 29, 2019 report entitled Feasibility of Amending Current City Land Use Codes in Connection with Health Impacts and Oil and Gas Wells and Drill Sites (CF# 17-0447), including an opinion of financial considerations expressed in the report, and an analysis of risks and exposures, as well as due process considerations for setback requirements as recommended in the report or at other distances. In making decisions regarding financial costs & benefits, please give due consideration to the following: Given the ravaging effects of oil & gas production & storage (O&G) in Los Angeles, all who live or breathe here are at exceptionally higher risk (eg, Porter Ranch) of suffering and death from our extremely close proximity to both oil wells and gas storage facilities. Not only are we exposed to cancers from ongoing fugitive emissions, we also suffer more deaths from Covid due to this proximity. Air pollution linked with higher COVID-19 death rates: People with COVID-19 who live in U.S. regions with high levels of air pollution are more likely to die from the disease than people who live in less polluted areas, according to a new nationwide study from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. We trust that the following precedents will help each of you, our Electeds, to make long overdue and critically needed changes to protect your constituents and all who visit or work in the City. Thus Whereas the State of California now has Reach Codes to address climate and energy efficiency, and Governor Newsom has recently set standards to electrify all vehicles in our State. And Whereas the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted Our County (2019), considered the most ambitious Sustainability Plan in the nation, incorporating Goal 7 to bring about a fossil fuel-free LA County, consonant with the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 7. Whereas LA County also recently (March 2020) updated its 2015 climate risk assessment plan. Whereas Culver City has already committed to prioritizing the ending of urban drilling via amortization to address our need to live and breathe in a safer and healthier environment, Whereas President-elect Biden has committed to ending subsidies to oil & gas interests. Although not banning fracking, he is in effect taking

away the monetary lifeline on which O&G is dependent. And Whereas we expect that as our elected officials you will uphold your fiduciary responsibility to prioritize our human needs given the precedents listed above, we Therefore make the following request that given The rapidity with which climate disasters are occurring in California due to Our desiccated forests have become like tinder, escalating Wildfires that are making our air unbreathable, especially for sensitive receptors, In turn worsening not only our physical health (Covid, asthma, COPD, etc), But may also in effect be contributing to the rapidly growing mental health crisis and suicide rates. AND KNOWING THAT YOU HAVE THE POWER TO BRING ABOUT the NEEDED CHANGE, We respectfully ask that the City Attorney's legal analysis of what's permissible adequately address by taking into account and factoring in all the costs implicit in the list above and makes explicit who ends up paying the price of your decisions. Thus we request that the City of Los Angeles (1) Require that all oil wells within 2500' of inhabited areas be sunsetted within 5 years via a just transition using the oil company's revenue to retrain their workers to do so. (2) That all oil and gas storage and/or production facilities provide adequate bonding to protect residents within a half-mile of their operations by demanding an escrow account funded by 1/4 of their quarterly gross revenue. And if not needed to address costs of a disaster or other risks incurred, that the money remains in escrow to be used for properly plugging their abandoned & end-of-life wells. (3) If any owner/operator cannot afford to carry out the above two requirements, they thereby go into receivership to address these critical needs for the well-being of the climate, of their workers, and of all who reside in or come within a half-mile of their operations. Respectfully submitted on behalf of Frack Free LA County by Michael Sullivan November 16, 2020

## Communication from Public

**Name:** David Rosenstein  
**Date Submitted:** 11/25/2020 09:49 AM  
**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear ECCEJ Committee and Mayor Garcetti, My name is David Rosenstein and I am a resident of West Los Angeles. I am writing to you today to urge you to pass a buffer of 2,500 feet between all fossil fuel infrastructure and the places where people live, work, and learn in order to protect the health and safety of our communities. In Los Angeles, over 750 oil wells are located within dangerous distances from people's homes, schools, and workplaces. This places all of those people at risk of developing severe health consequences as well as soil and water contamination due to the toxic chemicals emitted by fossil fuel extraction. Most of these oil drill sites are placed in low income and BIPOC communities. This is outrageous. LA city council must take action and enact a 2500 ft buffer zone to protect Los Angeles residents. I am a small business owner with a larger middle class Latino work force. Many of them and their families suffer ill health effects from their proximity to these oil wells which is some of the only housing they can afford. Once again, I am asking you to enact a 2500 foot health and safety buffer zone between fossil fuel infrastructure and the places where people live. Your inaction costs lives when the health of so many Angelenos is on the line. Sincerely, David Rosenstein