

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/15/2019 03:02 PM

Council File No: 17-0447

Comments for Public Posting: Re: I oppose new proposed oil & gas setbacks I am writing to express my strong opposition to the regressive recommendations made by the Petroleum Administrator to increase setback distances and impose additional restrictions on local oil and gas production. If implemented, the proposed distances and restrictions would threaten the local economy, eliminate good-paying, middle-class jobs for thousands of Angelenos from diverse communities and also impose exorbitant costs on Los Angeles' residents and businesses. Increasing setbacks to 600 feet from the nearest residence to existing oil and gas wells and to 1,500 feet for future oil and gas development could cost the City upwards of \$90 billion it doesn't have. At a time when City leaders should be focused on making Los Angeles more affordable, ending the homelessness crisis and creating more jobs, it seems contradictory to pursue the setback recommendations and additional restrictions made in the report. These proposed policies would also have the unintended consequence of pushing our diverse and disadvantaged communities out of their neighborhoods, as more residents living on the financial brink would be forced to leave the Los Angeles region for areas where their families can afford to thrive. It is essential we embrace an "all of the above" energy strategy which incorporates all forms of energy. Shutting down oil and gas production will make us more dependent on foreign oil and imports. More than 70% of oil is currently imported from other sources, mainly foreign countries, and this percentage will drastically increase with an expanded setback distance, disadvantaging local residents. If we don't produce energy locally, we are forced to import more of it from countries that don't hire Californians, pay California taxes or apply our stringent safety, labor, and environmental standards. These policy proposals will threaten the livelihoods of thousands of working families and the businesses that employ them in Southern California. I urge you to instead pursue policies that favor an all of the above energy strategy that does not eliminate thousands of jobs and devastate Los Angeles' working families' budgets or the local economy. Regards, PAUL Flick