
From: Katie Davis
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 6:31 PM
To: CEQA Contact
Subject: Over 400 people sign on to letter asking for zero GHG emissions threshold

Ms. Molly Pearson
Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District
260 North San Antonio Road, Suite A
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
ceqa@sbcapcd.org

Re: Updating District Environmental Review Guidelines to Address Greenhouse Gas Emissions under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Please note that over 400 people have signed on to a letter asking the Santa Barbara APCD to please bring forward the zero emissions threshold for greenhouse gas emissions. It is important to remember that you serve the people of Santa Barbara County, and we expect a zero threshold to be presented to your advisory council and board.

Please refer to some of the signatories and comments below as well as this article in The Independent:
<http://www.independent.com/news/2015/jan/13/regulatory-battle-royale/>

Regards,

Katie Davis
Grace Feldmann
Charlene Little
Sharon Broberg
Rebecca Claassen
Corrie Ellis
Vivian Stanton
Kristofer Young, DC
David Acosta
Kenneth Brinson
Rebecca Carey
joseph augustine
Kathy Stiles
Patricia Norris
Stu Sherman
sharon & earl troglin
Linda Bescrypt
Robert Wilkinson
Clifford Terry
Elizabeth Audas
Rachael Hazen
Jera Janzen
Kevin O'Malley

Joseph Robustleli
SETH & CONNIE
STEINER
Paul Ramos
Betty Songer
Ted von Eiff
Holly Higgins
SANDRA GARCIA
gerald blake
Adriana Micciulla
Bea Trenier
Margie Borchers
Linda Fay Sampson
Carrie Lombardi
Denise Marino
Marian Shapiro
virginia mariposa
Sherry Bogan
Jaime fior
John Rose
Mike Jordan
Shawn Sargent
Houston Wong
Cameron Clark
Julie Maldonado
Miguel Checa
Celeste Anacker
george craciun
Tracy Wells
Caree Prunty
Michael Frey
Lillian Carson
gail reynolds
john Ackerman, M.D.
Gail Tinsley
Michael Adcock
Elizabeth Taylor-
Schott
Jim Balter
Mary Kobe
mike organista
Elizabeth Crawford
Karissa Silver
suzanne saunders
Matt Wright
Nancy Black
Michelle Bednash
Dan Fuller

Claudia Knudson
lenore smith
Allison Gilbert
James Downey
dennis Allen
Hector Herrera
Catherine Gautier
Ted Williams
Shannon Pitts
Marilyn Scott
Jan Dietrick
Paul Langhorn
Sandy Stinson
Wayne Crislip
Astrid O'Brien
marianne tornatore
peter monteleone
jean zeibak
Carol Ann Martin
chris dickinson
Curry Sawyer
Vallee Rose
Sarah Hearon
roger simpson
Janis Carney
Kathleen Begley
H. Guh
Tristan Schmelcher
Frank Briggs
June caminiti
Mimi Shiffman
Leita Lord
Aranye Fradenburg
Terry Fernandez
Julie You
Nicholas Perocco
Concerned Citizen
sharon brazil
kathryn deputy
Eduardo Molina
John Watson
BARRY SMITH
Freddie Williams
Nicole Schauser
Jennifer Yukl
Patricia Camacho
Christopher Horner
Amber Sims

antonia robertson
mary o'connor
Jennifer Duarte
James Tyree II
Aileen Campbell
John Kelley
Cherrie Wise
miriam Slater
Victoria Greene
Elie Katzenson
Fred Frank
Camille Gilbert
Shawn Van
Valkenburgh
Terrell Hawes
anthony parent
Barbara Henry
Angeline Albright
Colin Loustalot
Pam Flynt Tambo
Kathi King
Therese Blake
Douglas Bond
Cherie Baroni
Linda Ulvaeus
Patty Taylor
Janet Blevins
Larry Bishop
Vibiana Saavedra
Sharon Rose
Adrianne Davis
Henry Weinberg
Lindsey Tavares
Walter Koch
Harold Hill
Mckenzie Rasmussen
Michael Chiacos
Gary Shapiro
Mary Wiener
Linda Stewart-Oaten
Jean Kaplan
Ben Wiener
Stan Hatch
John Fowler
robert burgess
Alex Pujo
Betty Faas
Sandy Lejeune

Richard Kaplan
Richard Rosen
Susan Shields
Melissa Kelly
Tom Urban
James Heady
Marjorie Popper
Eileen Vopelak
bart woolery
Kate Connell
Frances Davis
Vicky Blum
Michelle Murchison
Robert Petty
Nancy Murdock
Robert Del Rio
Joshua Steele
Jerri Gilbert
Susan Manseau
Bryanna Ojeda
Ruth Powers
Jean Alexander
Leonard Flippen
Gar Kinson
Emma Vogan
Alexander Favacho
leonardo nunez
Gabriele Drozdowski
d goldsmith
Samantha Shepard
Shepard
al holtz
Ian Cummings
Andrew Houlik-
Ritchey
Camille Herrick
catherine mullin
Sheri Wright
Eric Schwartz
Cameron Atwood
Michael Ward
danielle acosta
Corine Fairbanks
Annette Szproch
siana stutchbury
Alexah Hart
Ally Arganbright
Maggie Gold

Sally Warner-Arnett
Carissa Hayes
Marjorie Elkin
Gilbert Loustalot
Martha Sadler
Stephen Ferry
Christina Eliason
Penelope Cooper-
Kelley
jp mendez
Heather Blancho
janice edmunds
Pamela Wall
MARIKA DAVIDEK
susanne schenck
Brian Barnett
Rebecca Anglin
Judith Bolton
Gail Hines
billy baldwin
Nathan Carlson
Rebecca Claassen
Lynnette Arnold
Silvia Tyndall
Vibiana Saavedra
Tracy Freeman
Kathleen Petty
Denise Williams
william Caprice
Jennifer Gherardi
Julian Palmisano
Liz Kelleher
Jeremy Garza
Susan Reilly
Amy Anderson
Jane Warner
Mary Louise Bland
Renée O'Neill
Laura Selken
Heather Hurwitz
Jane Sun
Marcia Burt
Nancy Withington
John Ernest
Sybil Rosen
Gail Gillies
Andrew West
annette ordas

Michelle Gobely
Javiera Barandiaran
Tara Kamath
Andrea Poole
Phoebe Alexiades
Jeanne Reeves
Jorge Manly Gil
Dorothy Littlejohn
Debbie Miles-Dutton
Patricia Krout
Kay Stevens
R. Thomas
GRIFFITH
Erica Miller
Charles Lang
Mary Johnston
Delton Johnson
Mortimer Glasgal
Mary sue Miller
Eva Anda
John and Madeleine
Peterson
Christine Jeffries
Katherine Baker
Katelynn Bishop
Shelley Gault
Bud Stuart
Leslie Edgerton
Barbara Rosen
Elizabeth Colón
Lesley Weinstock
Lila Trachtenberg
Ryan Lewis
stephanie statom
Janelle Webb
Jan McCall
Barbara Davies
Lisa Northrup
Jeremy Taylor
Judy Salviolo
Nicholas Beeson
Carmen Bree
Diane Fox
Eugenia Hoyne
Christine Milne
Terin Smith
Linda Bernson
Kerry Methner

Howard Rothman
Patricia Beal
Ella Bendrick-
Chartier
Eric Nau
A. Wolf
Miles Wallace
Nancy Schaak
Matthew Hill
Robert sipe
Maria Prado
Katherine Maynard
Anthony Biegen
Laura Francis
JuliaAnne Whitney
Michael Vergeer
charles shapiro
James Spellman
Jay Freeman
kristel garcia
Emile Millar
Marleny Albarran
Sarah Rebstock
Lori Walker
Miki Holden
Kimberly Sven-
Brown
Tanner Yould
Albert Oaten
Cheryl Snell
Anne MacDermott
Lora Barnett
Jane Fehrenbacher
James Taylor
betsy denison
Lucas Meier
Chloe Conger
Michael Ruiz
Brenda Cervantes
Tish Gainey
Paige Comaduran
Anthony Castelo
Michael Fanelli
Miranda O'Mahony
Chris Lange
Fiona Hannan
michael meredith
Kelsey Baker

Michael Lynch
Jane Baxter
Arlo Bender-Simon
john broberg
Wendy Lofland
Tillman Timothy
Lamara Heartwell
Cody Wilgus
Emily Bernath
Jay Hinkle
henry castelo
Chantal Buslot
Jeff Krieger
Caroline MacDougall
Don Schroeder
Rebecca August
Cecilia Anne Spencer
Shelley Meaney
James Mulcare
Ben Holstrom
Emily Hall
Arthur Walter
Hunter Grosse
Carole Iverson
Muffett Kaufman
JoAnn Gerfen
mary williams
Sharma Gaponoff
roland gauvin
Jerald Brown
Gloria Sefton
Kelsey lundy-freeman
Melissa Vatterott
Stefanie Shuman
Alex Fuhrer
Stephanie Hagensen
Maureen Entera
Harriette Jensen
Steve Downing
Emily Houlik-Ritchey
Chris Angel
Sheila Hutman
Ethan Turpin
Karen McChrystal
Julia Freewoman
James Webb

Some of the comments regarding the GHG threshold:

Sharon Broberg	We need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and a good start is to set a cap.
Vivian Stanton	I'm signing because I believe that taking local action in order to be part of a positive response to climate change is the only way we can act with integrity towards a global solution to this crisis.
Kristofer Young	I'm pro life.
David Acosta	Save the world!
Patricia Norris	There is no need more urgent than reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and zero net increase is a step in the right direction.
SETH & CONNIE STEINER	We can't allow the oil companies to buy their way with our county as well as the state.
Paul Ramos	No increase in emissions.
SANDRA GARCIA	This is the most important issue in our country
Bea Trenier	industries do not truly regulate themselves. oversight is needed.
Marian Shapiro	We need to act now if we hope to make a safe environment for our children and grandchildren.
Sherry Bogan	We've got to start curbing greenhouse emissions NOW, it is almost too late. There won't be any "do overs", it's now or never.
Jaime Fior	I support efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, climate change is real and we must act.
Shawn Sargent	America: Needs a " zero net increase " threshold set to curb greenhouse gas emissions now !
John Ackerman, M.D.	It's obvious: significant threat to S.B. County residents re: their Public Health
Michael Adcock	Are we going to let the Fox guard the henhouse. It is critically urgent that we be LOWERING emissions in all aspects of our greenhouse emissions, especially the most polluting industries such as coal fired power plants and the oil companies.
Elizabeth Crawford	1) I care about the future 2) no increases of any kind above "net zero" should be allowed 3) I am a live organism and I live there...
James Downey	We can't wait another minute to address climate change in a serious manner. In SB County we can no longer permit oil companies to have a free ride in their lust for profit, while they poison our atmosphere and doom our children to climate disaster.
Dennis Allen	Reducing emissions and mitigating climate change is our most important task for now and for future generations.
Hector Herrera	I want to live in a clean environment now and for future generations
Jan Dietrick	The oil industry's atmospheric pollution is egregious.
Sarah Hearon	I want our children and grandchildren to have clean air now and into the future. Their health is at stake.
Roger Simpson	profits at the expense of the earth and its creatures is not acceptable
Leita Lord	I believe we can achieve energy production through less harmful means. It is time to invest in alternative, sustainable, energy.
kathryn deputy	we are being polluted by oilfield h2s gas releases , on a regular bases from oil company ERG Resources .
John Watson	... the Greenhouse Effect is irrefutable.
Cherrie Wise	Our county make enough money from tourism and agriculture. We have a decent economy and a beautiful place to live. If the oil industry developes with "no holds barred", we will have nothing but a poisonous wasteland. I remember Casmalia, California. Is that what we want for our pristine coast?

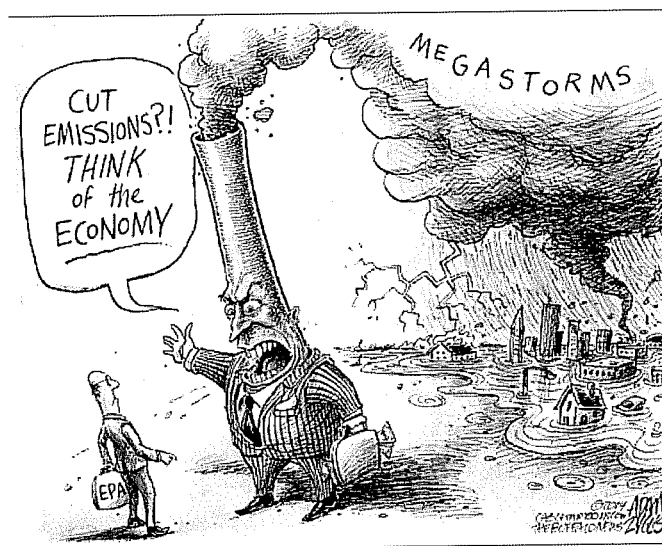
	I am outraged at the amount big oil spent to defeat our local anti fracking proposition P and now they intend to frack off shore!
Terrell Hawes	I abhor the assault on our local environment and the savage incorrect tactics of threat with job losses, etc. to continue polluting our environment. Our children and grandchildren will pay a steep price for this in poor health, contaminated foods and ground water, etc.
Larry Bishop	We must act now in the face of an oil industry owned congress.
Sharon Rose	We need to reduce emissions for climate and public health and shift away from fossil fuels to clean renewables.
Adrianne Davis	I am signing this petition because the possible allowance by the APCD given to the oil companies will be incrementally fatal to this county and beyond. This land is ALL of ours NOT to be taken over by blinded-by-short term-greedy polluters of great scale. Extreme oil extraction of all types must be stopped here and everywhere.
Harold Hill	We must all do our part to eliminate green house gas emissions to save the planet.
Linda Stewart-Oaten	We need to continue to push back against the Big Oil interests, who value profits over the health of our planet and our children.
Richard Kaplan	Stop climate change, please!
Frances Davis	Oil extraction, especially enhanced operations like fracking and cyclic steam, produce prodigious amounts of green house gas. This is unconscionable given the state of our planet.
Vicky Blum	I'm signing the petition because I believe that climate change is the most challenging issue that the world is facing.
Nancy Murdock	This is SO important
d goldsmith	pollution hurts us all
Camille Herrick	as a steward for future generations
Eric Schwartz	I want a future for the children of this community
Corine Fairbanks	I care
Carissa Hayes	We need to lower our Carbon Emissions to secure a future for humans
Gilbert Loustalot	With increased pressure on our ecosystems from every quarter, we urgently need action reduce pollution of every type.
Pam Wall	We must do our share to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the devastation climate change will bring if we don't take action NOW! We cannot leave the consequences for our future generations.
Gail Hines	I believe we can make a difference and create a world that is healthy for all life on our planet.
Amy Anderson	Climate change is not only real, but the greatest threat to our community in Santa Barbara County - to our lives and livelihoods. Please support the "zero net increase."
Mary Louise Bland	I'm signing because I want Santa Barbara to be part of the solution.
Renee O'Neill	I want our state to be the leader in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Let's set an example for the rest of the world.
Nancy Withington	To allow greed to end life on earth is beyond stupidity - it is heinous!
Javiera Barandiaran	I am concerned about our current environment, as well as our future environment. Economic opportunities will never be lacking, but clean air, water, and soils are increasingly scarce.
Phoebe Alexiades	There has already been tremendous global destruction created by humans. There's no time left for discussion, only quick and effective action NOW.
Dorothy Littlejohn	I am concerned about the air quality on our planet.
john dutton	Santa Barbara should be a leader of conservation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions as well as reducing our reliance on oil! Keep SB green, help our planet and DECREASE GHG!

mary sue miller	Oil Companies MUST figure out how to pollute less; keep the cap at zero for healthy lungs and overall environment.
Shelley Gault	More emissions is unacceptable. Climate change is real, let's not keep making it worse!
Janelle Webb	I'm signing because I have grand children & a great granddaughter. I want them along with all the children to grow up in then live in a world with clean water and clean air. Fracking can & will ruin both the air & the water. If we citizens do not stop the fracking madness who will?!?!?
Judy Salviolo	Protect our air!
Miles Wallace	We need zero immissions increase
Matthew Hill	I care about the future of this world and the generations
Laura Francis	we are at a critical juncture in human history where we can choose to keep the environment safe and healthy for our children. We need to reduce, not increase greenhouse gas emissions now.
Miki Holden	We may be heading into a water crisis, an air pollution crisis, a climate crisis. What other reasons do you want?
Kimberly Sven-Brown	We can't wait any longer to reduce carbon emissions.
Tanner Yould	I care about our future
Chloe Conger	I care about air quality and reversing climate change
Brenda Cervantes	I care for future generations
Paige Comaduran	I care.
Michael Fanelli	I'd like a few more generations to be able to enjoy a habitable planet.
Fiona Hannan	I care about my children's children
Arlo Bender-Simon	I love Santa barbara and don't want to see it become polluted by dirty business!
Timothy Tillman	I care
Lamara Heartwell	I Care
Shelley Meaney	I'm signing this because I care about the future of this planet more than I care about profits for corporations.
Carole Iverson	We will not benefit from increased emissions. We need to regulate the oil companies very carefully. It should be very clear that increasing emissions in Santa Barbara County is absolutely unacceptable.
JoAnn Gerfen	Big Oil is not good for our area -Fracking is a threat to our wellbeing everywhere in SB County. Zero is right for greenhouse gas emissions!
Jerald Brown	If we do not stop climate change, we imperil all species, including our own.
Maureen Entera	I care.
Harriette Jensen	Climate change needs to be treated like the emergency it is. We need to eliminate as many greenhouse gas emissions as possible in order to have a fighting chance for a livable world for our children and grandchildren.
Emily Houlik-Ritchey	As a parent and teacher, I am committed to maintaining a healthy environment for the young.
Hannah French	Our planet and the life on it are more important than profits or politics.
Max kaffel	I'm signing because this issue is extremely important, not just for Santa Barbara, but to set a precedent for other cities and states.
Kia Medina	This is our environment for or children...
Robert Domingos	i want my children and grandchildren to be able to breathe in the land of their ancestors.
Susie Gomez	I care about our planet, our health, our livelihood .
September Bowman	I'm signing because I want my grandchildren to have a world they can exist in

A Regulatory Battle Royale

By Katie Davis

Tuesday, January 13, 2015



Adam Zyglis, The Buffalo News

Greenhouse Gas Emission Levels at Stake Again

Santa Barbara County is quietly deciding one of the most important environmental regulations it's ever had to develop in the face of intense pressure by the most powerful polluters in the county. The question is simple: What amount of greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) from new stationary, industrial sources — like new oil drilling projects — is significant?

On one hand, it's clear that any increase is significant. We need to reduce emissions, not increase them. On the other hand, oil companies don't want any limit at all. They favor shaving a percentage off expected emissions and calling the rest insignificant. The practical effect of such a policy would be huge increases in county emissions while regulators turn a blind eye.

Why does this matter? Oil companies are planning to expand high-pressure steam injection operations in Santa Barbara County. This type of oil extraction requires massive engines to heat the earth hundreds of degrees, making it the most emissions-intensive form of oil production in the world. The resulting increase in GHG emissions from these operations threatens all other progress in Santa Barbara County in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

For example, the County Climate Action Plan calls for a 15 percent reduction in GHG emission levels by 2020. That reduction — 186,900 tons per year — would be achieved through heroic efforts from commuter rail to mandatory energy audits to establishing a community choice energy utility to finance, build, and sell renewable power.

But applications already submitted by Pacific Coast Energy for 96 steam-injection wells and by ERG, currently being sold to a Chinese company, for 233 wells — just those two projects — could wipe out all the emissions savings in the County Climate Action Plan entirely. And these two projects are just the beginning. The county is expecting an application for 300 steam injection wells by AERA, a company owned by Shell and Exxon. And other oil companies have stated plans for thousands of additional steam-injection wells in the coming years.

In short, all the energy savings from those of us who have changed our light bulbs, put solar panels on our houses, chosen to drive electric cars or bike to work — everything that any of us have done to reduce our energy use as well as the most ambitious plans put forward by county planners — all that savings could be wiped out many times over by increased unconventional oil production in our county.

The science is clear. The latest report from the IPCC, the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, states that we need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40 to 70 percent within the next 30 years to avoid "severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems." It is very clear that we need to reduce emissions if we want to keep global climate change to a level that might be manageable. The alternative is catastrophic and, according to the IPCC, "irreversible." We get one shot, right now, to do the right thing.

The California State Lands Commission has also weighed in on this question and came to the same conclusion. For projects that it oversee, such as a recent proposal to restart drilling for oil on the beach in Goleta, they assume any increase in greenhouse gas emissions is significant. "Until such time as the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) establishes GHG thresholds, the threshold of 'zero net increase' for GHG emissions recommended by California State Lands Commission staff would require mitigation and would be less than significant," reads that EIR.

This goal of "zero net increase" in emissions makes a lot of sense. If we must reduce emissions, any project that increases them is a concern. Everyone who showed up at the community meetings hosted by the Santa Barbara County APCD on this subject agreed.

The APCD's mission is to protect the people and environment of Santa Barbara County, not oil industry profits. If it resists industry pressure and sets a policy of a zero net increase in emissions, then at least oil companies will not have a license to pollute for free. The county can seek remedies to reduce or offset their pollution.

The oil companies can well afford to pay for their pollution. It would likely cost around two cents per gallon. And it might be in their interest to do so. The more the oil companies bully regulators and interfere in elections, the more likely they will be to push citizens to fight back and ban these extreme forms of oil extraction entirely. Measure P lost in November, but a revised attempt in a higher-turnout election might yet succeed.

The APCD is accepting public comment until this Friday, January 16. Write to ceqa@sbcapcd.org or sign the online petition and tell them to say "no" to increased greenhouse gas emissions in Santa Barbara County.

Katie Davis is chair of Santa Barbara's chapter of the Sierra Club and one of the founders of Water Guardians environmental group, which created Measure P, a 2014 ballot measure to ban fracking, acidizing, and steam-injection oil extraction techniques in Santa Barbara County.

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