

13-1454

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

MOTION

OCT 25 2013

In September 2013, extreme flooding in Colorado resulted in eight confirmed deaths, hundreds unaccounted for and untold damage to property and infrastructure. Oil and gas wells were damaged resulting in ruptured lines and storage tanks. Concerns of contamination were raised when it was reported that approximately 37,000 gallons of oil spilled into regional creeks and rivers.

The City of Los Angeles has experienced extreme flooding events in the past. It is possible that an extreme flooding event can occur in the near future.

Some of the firms that engage in oil and gas activities in the City and region utilize various intrusive extraction practices such as hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and acidizing. Various chemicals are used to facilitate the fracking and acidizing practices.

In the event of a flood, the chemicals used in these extraction practices may spread throughout the region and harm the environment. Given this, the City should be prepared to address any potential contamination associated with flooding and oil and gas extraction activity.

I THEREFORE MOVE that Bureau of Sanitation, in conjunction with the Department of Building and Safety and the Department of City Planning, report to the Council in 30 days on approaches to mitigate harmful flooding impacts and the potential spread of contaminants used by oil and gas extraction/fracking activities.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Koretz
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5TH District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

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OFFICE