

## ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

### MOTION

Allenco Energy recently informed the City that it plans to restart operations of an oil drilling site located at 814 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. The site has been inactive for more than four years due to regulatory oversight restricting its operation related to its impact on the local community. The site is located in a densely populated area of the City near low-income housing, schools, a daycare center and a college.

The site is owned by the Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles and the land is leased to Allenco for its operations.

During its operation, the oil drilling activity caused significant harm on the residents of the area. The residents complained of headaches, nosebleeds and respiratory illnesses associated with the toxic fumes derived from the drilling site.

As a result of complaints, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) investigated the site and cited Allenco for various violations. The EPA ultimately issued Allenco a Consent Order for violations of the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts and presenting a substantial threat to the public health and welfare. Oil drilling operations at the site ceased in 2014 pending corrective measures.

The site has also been investigated and cited by the state's Department of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources and the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

The site's close proximity to a residential area which contains small children, and other vulnerable populations, raises strong concerns about corporate responsibility and environmental justice.

If oil drilling operations at the Allenco site are allowed to restart it is clear that these operations will pose a significant risk to the local community. Given this, it is imperative that the City exhaust all options to protect the public health and welfare and ensure that the site ceases oil drilling operations on a permanent basis.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to *immediately* report to the City Council in *CLOSED SESSION*, as appropriate, on all available legal options the City may employ, including eminent domain and condemnation proceedings, to permanently cease oil drilling operations conducted by Allenco Energy at 814 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street in order to protect the public health and welfare.

PRESENTED BY:

  
GILBERT A. CEDILLO  
Councilmember, 1<sup>st</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



**ORIGINAL**

SEP 21 2018

