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PETTY F. SANTOS
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Council and Public Services Division
200 N. Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012
General Information - (213) 978-1133
FAX: (213) 978-1079

When making inquiries relative to
this matter, please refer to the
Council File No. 17-0447



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

PATRICE Y. LATTIMORE
DIVISION MANAGER

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May 7, 2021

Councilmember John S. Lee, Chair
Arts, Parks, Health, Education, and Neighborhoods (APHEN) Committee
Attention: Eric Villanueva and Michael Espinosa, Legislative Assistants

Councilmember Paul Krekorian, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee
Attention: Mandy Morales, Legislative Assistant

RE: TRANSMITTAL FOR COUNCIL FILE NO. 17-0447

On April 20, 2021, the Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee considered the Board of Public Works (BPW) report dated July 29, 2019, and the recommendations approved by the Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice (ECCEJ) Committee on December 20, 2020, attached to Council file No. 17-0447, relative to the feasibility of amending current City Land Use Codes in connection with health impacts at oil and gas wells and drill sites. Representatives of the Department of City Planning (DCP), BPW, and the Office of the City Attorney provided an overview and comments regarding the matter. After providing an opportunity for public comment, the PLUM Committee concurred with the recommendations of the ECCEJ Committee, dated December 20, 2020, as amended; and, added Recommendations 7, 8, and 9, as follows:

1. INSTRUCT the DCP, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), to report on the necessary budget and staff needs to further address oil wells in urban residential neighborhoods in the City, including:
 - a. Hiring an expert to conduct an amortization study of drill sites in residential neighborhoods of the City to determine a legally justifiable amortization period for the establishment of health and safety buffers for existing wells, including the development of parameters for this study.
 - b. Developing changes to the zoning code, upon completion of an amortization study, to codify restrictions, processes, and requirements with respect to drill sites in residential neighborhoods, particularly in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

2. INSTRUCT the DCP, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to prepare and present an Ordinance in the interim to prohibit oil and gas extraction, and make extraction activities a nonconforming use in all zones, contingent on the results of the amortization study and the proposed revisions to the zoning code.
3. INSTRUCT the Office of Petroleum and Natural Gas Administration and Safety (OPNGAS) to report on the types of health assessments available, and on the costs necessary to conduct health assessments at oil and gas drill sites in residential neighborhoods in the City.
4. INSTRUCT the OPNGAS to participate in the California Air Resources Board's Study of Neighborhood Air near Petroleum Sources (SNAPS) programs and studies, and utilize the findings to develop air monitoring and community notification programs for drill sites in residential neighborhoods in the City.
5. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to report on the necessary budget and staff needs if designated with Health Officer Authority, and/or to transfer the Hazardous Waste Generator Program to the LAFD from the County of Los Angeles.
6. ADOPT Recommendations 6 and 10 of the OPNGAS report dated July 29, 2019, attached to Council File No. 17-0447, as follows:
 - a. INSTRUCT the Petroleum Administrator and other relevant City staff to report back on possible measures to establish Community Emergency Preparedness and Comprehensive Safety Plans at oil and gas drills sites across the City.
 - b. INSTRUCT the Chief Legislative Officer (CLA) to add to the City's Legislative Agenda the funding for additional oil and gas health studies to be conducted by the State of California, Southern California Air Quality Management District, and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.
7. INSTRUCT the Economic and Workforce Development Department, with the assistance of the DCP, to prepare a report on the job impacts associated with the Ordinance prohibiting oil and gas extraction.
8. DIRECT the Director of Planning, DCP, in coordination with the City Attorney, to take necessary steps to ensure that drilling is no longer allowed by-right in any zone.
9. DIRECT the OPNGAS to organize a Strike Team comprised of representatives from the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety and LAFD, in coordination with other County and State regulatory entities, to proactively visit oil and gas extraction facilities on a regular basis to ensure the facilities are in compliance with existing regulations, which should be a full cost-recovery undertaking modeled on other collaborative efforts such as the Administrative Citation Enforcement (ACE) Program; and, modeled after the existing County of Los Angeles Strike Team.

Pursuant to the multiple referral of this matter, the subject Council File is hereby transmitted to the APHEN and Budget and Finance Committees for consideration. This matter awaits consideration by the APHEN Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee.

Sincerely,



Armando X. Bencomo, Legislative Assistant
Planning and Land Use Management Committee

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
HARRIS-DAWSON:	YES
CEDILLO:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
RIDLEY-THOMAS:	YES
LEE:	YES