

MOTION

The City of Los Angeles has recently been addressing the myriad problems associated with active oil and gas production and abandoned wells in and around densely-populated neighborhoods.

Environmental public health and occupational health hazards associated with direct and indirect proximity to oil and gas production and may expose people to toxic chemicals, such as benzene and formaldehyde, in water, air or soil. These potential chemical exposures have been identified and documented.

While oil and gas production continue to exist in the City, the first line of defense for the protection of human health is to make multiple risk assessments of active or abandoned oil and gas wells, including hazard identification, exposure assessment, dose-response assessment, cumulative burden assessment, and endocrine disrupter exposure assessment, to form a risk characterization.

To safely regulate development and construction in the City, the Department of Building and Safety and the Department of City Planning rely upon maps provided by the Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR), the state agency responsible for primary oversight of oil and gas operations in California. As sometimes may be the case with DOGGR resources, these maps are not complete and may be inaccurate by several hundred feet.

In order to ensure the residents and property owners of Los Angeles are properly protected from the chemicals associated with current and former oil and gas operations, the City should adapt its regulations in order to manage the degree of uncertainty found in DOGGR resources and create a mechanism by which residents and property owners can assist the City in managing their own possible exposure to these toxins.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Office of Petroleum and Natural Gas Administration in coordination with the Department of City Planning, the Department of Building and Safety and the Fire Department to: a) create or update and maintain, in coordination with DOGGR, the City's existing mapping database of oil and gas infrastructure, in order to more accurately verify the location and status of this existing infrastructure and therefore prevent the potential environmental impacts that inadvertently results in fugitive emissions that can affect the health and safety of nearby residents; b) identify a funding source in order to achieve this.

PRESENTED BY:



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SECONDED BY:



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