



County of Santa Barbara

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Minute Order

May 13, 2025

Present: 4 - Supervisor Lee, Supervisor Capps, Supervisor Hartmann, and Supervisor Nelson
Absent 1 - Supervisor Lavagnino

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

File Reference No. 25-00399

RE: HEARING - Consider recommendations regarding options to address emissions from Oil & Gas Operations, as follows: (EST. TIME: 1 HR. 30 MIN.)

a) Provide direction to staff regarding potential actions to address emissions from oil and gas operations, including:

i) Preparation of ordinance amendments prohibiting new drilling, or

ii) Maintain status quo and allow acceptance of permits applications for new drilling; or

iii) Provide other direction to staff, as appropriate;

b) Direct staff to maintain status quo and exclude oil and gas operations from the 2030 Climate Action Plan; and

c) Determine that the proposed actions are not a project pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines (CEQA Guidelines) Section 15378(b)(5) because providing direction to staff is an organizational or administrative activity of the government that itself will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION: POLICY

HEARING TIME: 1:40 PM - 3:55 (2 HR. 15 MIN.)



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Received and filed staff presentation and conducted a public hearing.

Janet Blevins, Jonathan Ullman, Maureen Ellenberger, Brooke Balthaser, Karin Hauenstein, Melissa Munoz, Ken Hough, Paasha Mahdavi, Charles Katherman, Seth Steiner, Abrah Steward, Larry Bishop, Edward Hazard, Katie Davis, Sigrid Wright, Tara Rengifo, Caleb Hersh, Bill Woodbridge, Jenna McGovern, Emily Engel and Molly Troup addressed the Board.

A motion was made by Supervisor Hartmann, seconded by Supervisor Lee, that this matter be acted on as follows:

a) i) and ii) No action taken;

a) iii) Provided direction to staff regarding potential actions to address emissions from oil and gas operations, with the following directives: (1) Develop and return to the Board with a framework by October 2025; (2) Prohibit new oil and gas operations and phase out existing operations within the county; (3) Re-examine the current long-range work plan priorities; (4) Provide detailed cost estimates and timelines for conducting an Environmental Impact Review and an amortization study; (5) Outline the necessary steps and resources required for the development of an Ordinance to implement the proposed changes; and (6) Estimate the overall project scope;

b) Directed; and

c) Approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 - Supervisor Lee, Supervisor Capps, and Supervisor Hartmann

Noes: 1 - Supervisor Nelson

Absent: 1 - Supervisor Lavagnino