

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment - Group 6

#2



From: lohwasser@protonmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 10:50 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: August 27 BOS meeting on the 2030 Climate Action Plan

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

Thank you for the intensive work that made the development of the County of Santa Barbara 2030 Climate Action possible. The plan aptly emphasizes that it is not only the County's plan but the community's plan as well. I strongly support the county and community's efforts to secure a livable future for all creatures.

On page 11, you also write: "County staff worked with the Equity Advisory & Outreach Committee, to develop a set of equity guardrails that ensures the CAP measures and actions prioritize benefits for historically marginalized populations and that no CAP action or measure exacerbates existing inequities." I applaud this effort, but don't see it come to full fruition in this plan. Failing to include current and potential future greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the oil and gas industries means we are not assigning an equitable burden to all GHG producers and emitters. Wouldn't the ability to estimate and measure GHG emissions and other pollution from all potential emitters provide important evidence and tools for regulating industries? Isn't the purpose of this CAP to reduce the emission of gases that are harmful to humans, other living organisms, and the thin climate-regulating atmosphere now and in the future? We cannot afford to leave this loophole in the plan. History has shown us that any loophole will eventually be exploited. We cannot grant the fossil fuel industry this power over Santa Barbara County.

Thank you for taking the important step of amending the climate action plan accordingly.

Sincerely,

Dr. K. Lohwasser
Educator

Katherine Douglas

From: Javiera Barandiaran <javiera.barandiaran@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 10:52 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: August 27 BOS meeting on the 2030 Climate Action Plan.

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I write to share my appreciation to the County staff and elected officials for developing a Climate Action Plan which on matters of public transit and energy efficiency makes meaningful progress. More such plans and actions are sorely needed, as the world literally burns. Every year, every month, and every week now set new records and show us climate change unfolding all around us - in droughts, fires, extreme heat, unusual storms, and generally surprising weather patterns. Climate change is a reality that is affecting us all right now, and plans like this are essential to try to confront this new reality.

The Climate Action Plan does a great job helping us to adapt to Climate Change. But Climate Change will only be stopped if all oil, gas and coal are left underground, no new fossil infrastructure is built, and we collectively move fast towards decommissioning fossil fuels. Our county is full of abandoned, idle and low producing wells that contribute directly, every day, to making climate change worse.

Therefore the County Climate Action Plan MUST include strict, fast and ambitious carbon reduction targets for the fossil fuel industry. Leaving them out of the plan is a major concession, a capitulation to the industry, much like asking an old lady to walk to the shop to save a little carbon while Exxon CEOs (e.g., Sable) make millions spewing out enormous quantities of carbon. In other words, to exclude emissions from fossil fuel facilities in the GHG inventory is duplicitous and ineffective. It renders every other aspect of the plan meaningless, which is a great shame and show of disrespect for all those County staff who have worked hard to craft this plan.

Please include emissions from fossil fuel facilities in the Climate Action Plan's greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory and emissions reduction measures. This amendment is necessary to meet our climate goals.

Best
Javiera Barandiaran