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To: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Salud Carbajal, Chair, 1st District
Janet Wolf, 2nd District
Brooks Firestone, 3rd District
Joni Gray, 4th District
Joe Centeno, Vice Chair, 5th District

Agenda Item D1
Energy Crisis
Aug. 26, 2008



Dear Supervisors:

The solution to our problem is in the mirror. Within the past three months, a barrel of oil fluctuated from \$147 to \$111. Why? For one thing, Americans are driving less and opting for alternative transportation. Less traffic, less pollution, less aggravation, fewer accidents.

How much long-term benefit from more oil and gas production would the county and its citizens actually realize? How much of California's oil would be exported to China, India and other emerging nations? How much energy would be left for our users? Plus implementation could take years. By that time, another "crisis" will have manifested.

If we continue to knee-jerk whenever we feel deprived, we will never break our addiction to oil, which is what oil companies, shareholders and lobbyists want. More production will only lead to more consumption. Oil is America's drug of choice.

Clean alternative energies could add, not delete, profits of forward looking companies and investors. Even oilman T. Boone Pickens is on board: "THIS IS ONE EMERGENCY (AMERICA) CAN'T DRILL OUR WAY OUT OF."

Please vote no to more drilling, off-shore or otherwise. A quick fix is not a long-term solution.

Thank you.

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS