

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

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March 16, 2021

The Honorable Henry Stern
Chair, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water
State Capitol, Room 5046
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 467 (Wiener) - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Stern:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors would like to state our support for Senate Bill 467, which will halt the issuance or renewal of permits for hydraulic fracturing (fracking), acid well stimulation treatments, cyclic steaming, and water and steam flooding starting January 1, 2022. Further, SB 467 will restrict all new or modified permits for oil and gas production within 2,500 feet of any residences, schools, health care facilities or long-term care institutions such as dormitories or prisons by January 1, 2022. Beginning on January 1, 2027 the bill would prohibit all use of hydraulic fracturing, acid well stimulation treatments, cyclic- steam operations and water and steam flooding to protect the health of our environment and communities.

Oil & gas development has occurred in Santa Barbara County since as early as the 1890's. A significant amount of onshore and offshore oil & gas production continues within the County today. Enhancing oil and gas production using hydraulic fracturing, acid well stimulation treatments, and cyclic-steam operations poses significant environmental and public health risks.

The Board of Supervisors adopted a 2021 Legislative Platform that includes the Community Sustainability and Environmental Protection Principle that specifically states that the County will support efforts to encourage actions to address climate change, reduce pollution, prevent and respond to disasters, protect the environment, and build countywide resiliency to prepare for future potential disaster or climate impacts, as well as the Oil and Gas Infrastructure Safety and Compliance Plank that states the public benefits of reducing the likelihood of oil spills.

For these reasons, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors is pleased to support SB 467. If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Nancy Anderson at 805-568-3407 or NAnderson@countyofsb.org. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bob Nelson, Chair
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Scott Wiener, Author
Honorable Members, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water
Katharine Moore, Consultant, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water
Todd Moffitt, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
The Honorable Senator Monique Limon, 19th Senate District
The Honorable Assemblymember Steve Bennett, 37th Assembly District
The Honorable Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, 35th Assembly District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Nancy Anderson, Legislative Coordinator, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors