

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Resolution Opposing the Leasing of Federal Public Lands
In Santa Barbara County for Oil and Gas Development
As Part of the Bureau of Land Management's
Resource Management Plan for the Bakersfield Region

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management of the US Department of the Interior oversees the leasing of federal lands and mineral estates in California for oil and gas production; and

WHEREAS, in April of 2019, the Bureau of Land Management announced plans to initiate the leasing of federal public lands for new oil and gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing projects as part of an amendment to the Resource Management Plan for the Bakersfield Region; and

WHEREAS, if approved, this will end a five year moratorium on the leasing of federal public lands in California for new oil and gas development projects; and

WHEREAS, the Bakersfield Region includes the counties of Santa Barbara, Ventura, San Luis Obisbo, Madera, Kern, Kings, Fresno, and Tulare; and

WHEREAS, 122,000 acres of federal public land in Santa Barbara County are being considered for new oil and gas development, including parcels adjacent to the Los Padres National Forest, and near Lake Cachuma, Jalama Beach, Refugio Pass, and Nojoqui County Park; and

WHEREAS, making federal public lands available for new oil and gas development leases that may include hydraulic fracturing poses a risk for the quality of Santa Barbara County's water, air, open spaces, and public health; and

WHEREAS, opening up federal public lands for new oil and gas development leases will further exacerbate local greenhouse gas emissions, which is contrary to the County's Energy and Climate Action Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED, that the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors opposes the Bureau of Land Management's proposed amendment to the Resource Management Plan for the Bakersfield Region that would allow for up to 122,000 acres of new leasing of federal public lands for oil and gas development, including hydraulic fracturing, within Santa Barbara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 15th Day of October 2019, by a majority vote of all members present.

