



**Mar Vista  
Community Council**  
P.O. Box 66871  
Mar Vista, CA 90066

**Board of Directors  
2011-2012**

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Sharon Commins  
[smcommins@marvista.org](mailto:smcommins@marvista.org)

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair**  
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[billk@marvista.org](mailto:billk@marvista.org)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair**  
Chuck Ray  
[chuck@marvista.org](mailto:chuck@marvista.org)

**Secretary**  
Michael Millman  
[michael@marvista.org](mailto:michael@marvista.org)

**Treasurer**  
Bill Scheduling  
[wls@marvista.org](mailto:wls@marvista.org)

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Bill Koontz

**Zone 3**  
Kate Anderson

**Zone 4**  
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Geoffrey Forgione  
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Bill Scheduling

**Community Director**  
Alex Thompson



Certified Neighborhood Council  
August 13, 2002

August 7, 2012

**Governor Jerry Brown  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814**

**The Mayor of the City of Los Angeles  
Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa  
200 North Spring St., Room 303  
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

**County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors**

**Los Angeles City Council  
City Hall Office  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 410  
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

**RE: Council File: 12-0002-S61, Fracking in California**

Dear Governor Brown:

CC: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; The County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors; Los Angeles City Council

In order to protect California public health and environment, the Mar Vista Community Council urges you to place an immediate ban on fracking in California. Culver City Council has already unanimously passed a resolution calling on the state to ban fracking. The Los Angeles City Council has introduced the same resolution which the Mar Vista Community Council wholeheartedly endorses. The mere disclosure of where fracking is occurring and the chemicals used in the process does not prevent them from polluting our air and water. The fracking process is simply too dangerous to be properly regulated. As fracking operations continue to threaten California, we urge you to take swift action and issue an immediate ban on all fracking operations in California.

From the Sacramento Valley to Los Angeles County, the oil and gas industry has only just begun to frack California. Next generation fracking is now here, and will affect the Mar Vista Community.

Millions of gallons of a mixture of water, sand and chemicals can now be injected deep underground at high pressure to fracture shale and other tight rock formations, allowing oil or gas to flow. This is a radical departure from the fracking traditionally done in California to "rework" wells, wringing out more production after wells were first drilled.

While modern drilling and fracking may be an engineering marvel, it results in millions of gallons of toxic wastewater and thousands of tons of solid waste for each new well. It causes serious air pollution problems and creates serious short- and long-term risks to drinking water resources. And it compounds the already alarming threats that global climate change poses to the California economy.

**Fracking pollutes water**

Known and suspected carcinogens, including naphthalene, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and acrylamide, have been consistently used in fracking fluid. In a draft report published in December 2011, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently found that fracking likely explained groundwater contamination in Pavilion, WY. In addition to fracking chemicals, fracking wastewater contains potentially extreme levels of naturally occurring but harmful contaminants, such as toxic metals and radioactive material.

CF #12-0002-561

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
2012 NOV 28 PM 4:13  
CITY CLERK  
BY Egg DEPUTY

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In 2002, California agencies reviewed oil exploration and production wastes to consider whether such wastes should continue to be considered "non-hazardous". Thanks to a special oil and gas industry exemption, the non-hazardous status was maintained. However, waste from fracking was not considered in this review.

In California, wastewater from fracking and conventional drilling is often injected underground into wells not designed to hold fracking wastewater. In 2008 oil companies in Kern County pumped 425 million barrels of wastewater into such wells. These wells have been known to leak, resulting in groundwater pollution. One farmer in Kern County suffered \$2 billion in economic loss when his crops died as a result of groundwater contaminated from oil drilling wastewater. In 2011 alone, industry wastewater from the Inglewood Oil Field of Los Angeles produced over 126 million barrels of wastewater that was then pumped back into over 200 wells.

#### **Fracking pollutes air**

Fracking is resulting in serious local and regional air pollution problems across the country. Hazardous air pollutants found near fracking sites include methanol, formaldehyde, and carbon disulfide. Volatile organic compounds, including nitrogen oxides, benzene and toluene, are also discharged during fracking. These compounds mix with emissions from heavy-duty truck traffic, large generators and compressors at well sites and contribute to smog formation. A recent study by the University of Colorado found rates of air pollutants five times above a federal hazard standard near fracking sites in Colorado. Increased air pollution from fracking is of particular concern in California, with many areas having some of the worst air quality in our nation.

In addition, widespread drilling and fracking in California will only undermine the state's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, pursuant to AB 32. In addition to emissions generated by producing, refining and burning shale oil, drilling and fracking for shale oil can result in significant uncontrolled emissions of methane; a potent greenhouse gas often associated underground with oil.

#### **Fracking: earthquakes and ground movement**

What is known is that oil and gas extraction has caused earthquakes in California in the past, most notably in Wilmington, California from 1947 to 1961, and more recently a dozen small earthquakes shook Eastern Ohio due to fracking wastewater being disposed of in underground injection disposal wells. What is unknown is whether the modern fracking in California, and the disposal of massive volumes of fracking wastewater, will end up causing potentially destructive earthquakes in California's future.

The Inglewood Oil Field, situated in a community of 300,000 people, lies over two earthquake faults. One of the fault lines is already expected to

have a 7.4 earthquake. Since PXP escalated its drilling in 2006, local residents in communities such as Culver City and Baldwin Hills have seen their homes crack and their land sink. Ever more powerful and intense fracking could result in much greater and more costly property damages for these local residents.

**Fracking and property values**

In addition fracking is causing further economic woes for communities across the country, leaving plummeting property values in its wake. A homeowner in Pennsylvania was recently denied a mortgage based on fracking underway on his neighbor's property and Quicken Loans has cited plummeting values near fracking sites as consideration in its loan-making decisions. If PXP moves ahead with increasing fracking operations on the Inglewood Oil Field, and in and under Culver City, this could have a real impact on the Mar Vista Community.

Because of these severe consequences, a ban is essential to protect California.

Sincerely,



Sharon Commins, Chair  
Mar Vista Community Council

**MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**Tuesday, JULY 10, 2012, at 7:00 PM**  
**Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium**  
**11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA 90066**  
[www.marvista.org](http://www.marvista.org)

The audience is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the Agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that are within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the public comment period. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Mar Vista Community Council meetings will follow Rosenberg's Rules of Order, the latest edition. For more information, please visit the MVCC web site.

**AGENDA**

1. **Call to Order and Welcome – Chair** (1 min.)
2. **Presentation of the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance** (1 min)
3. **Approval of Minutes** (public comment permitted) (2 min)
4. **Public Comment & Announcements** for items not on the agenda (max 1 min each)
5. **Elected Officials and City Department Reports** (max 1 min. each)
  - a. DWP Neighborhood Council Liaison Victoria Cross [Victoria.Cross@WATER.LADWP.com](mailto:Victoria.Cross@WATER.LADWP.com)
  - b. Mar Vista Recreation Center – Jason Kitahara, Director
  - c. CD 11 - Bill Rosendahl, rep. by Len Nguyen [Len.Nguyen@lacity.org](mailto:Len.Nguyen@lacity.org) , Field Deputy
  - d. CD 5 – Paul Koretz, rep. by David Giron [David.Giron@lacity.org](mailto:David.Giron@lacity.org) , Field Deputy
  - e. US 36 – Janice Hahn
  - f. CA Senate 28 – Ted Lieu, rep. by Robert Pullen-Miles [Robert.Pullen-Miles@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Pullen-Miles@sen.ca.gov)
  - g. CA Assembly 47 – Holly Mitchell
  - h. CA Assembly 62 – Steven Bradford
  - i. 2nd Dist. L. A. County Board Super. – Mark Ridley Thomas, rep. by Karly Katona [Karly.Katona@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:Karly.Katona@bos.lacounty.gov)
  - j. Mayor of Los Angeles – Antonio Villaraigosa, rep. by Joe Hari [Joseph.Hari@lacity.org](mailto:Joseph.Hari@lacity.org)
6. **Officers and Liaison Reports** (Action items included with public comment permitted, 1 min per speaker)
  - a. **Chair**-Sharon Commins
  - b. **First Vice Chair**-Bill Koontz
  - c. **Second Vice Chair**-Chuck Ray
  - d. **Secretary**-Michael Millman
  - e. **Treasurer**-Bill Scheduling
    - i. Approval of JUNE 2012 US Bank Card Statement
    - ii. **FUNDING MOTION:** Executive Committee: Motion to allocate up to \$250 towards the costs of the annual Congress of Neighborhoods event calendared for September 22, 2012. Funds must be spent in Fiscal year 2012-13 and must conform to all Empower funding guidelines
    - iii. **FUNDING MOTION:** Outreach Committee [via email]: The MVCC will allocate up to \$200 for the Hilltop Neighbors Association Block party to be held in September 2012. Funds will be used to pay for a "bounce house" for the children, food for the barbeque (hot dogs, buns, condiments, etc.) supplies for the food service (paper goods, water, soft drinks, charcoal, etc.), as well as supplies for other community festivities such as face painting for children. Funds must be spent in Fiscal year 2012-13 and must conform to all Empower funding guidelines. See Attachment A.
  - f. **Animal Welfare Agencies and Organizations** – Curt Steindler
  - g. **DWP MOU** – Chuck Ray
  - h. **DWP/BOS Recycled Water Advisory Group**-Christopher McKinnon
  - i. **Mar Vista Bi Monthly LADOT/CD11/LAPD Traffic Committee** - Linda Guagliano
  - j. **LANCC Delegate Report** – Maritza Przekop, Chuck Ray
    - i. **POLICY MOTION:** Neighborhood Council Performance [LANCC] See Attachment B.
7. **Committee reports - Action items included** (public comment permitted, 1 min per speaker) ; **items** may be received and filed by consent if no discussion or public comment
  - a. **Executive & Finance Committee**-Chair Sharon Commins
    - i. **POLICY MOTION:** Amend Standing Rules: Grants Funding Policies: See Attachment C for full text
  - b. **Election & Bylaws Committee** – Bob Fitzpatrick & Geoff Forgione, Co-Chairs
    - i. Election update and future committee meeting schedule
  - c. **Green Committee** – Sherri Akers & Jeanne Kuntz, Co-Chairs
    - i. **POLICY MOTION:** Fracking: The Mar Vista Community Council supports a ban on fracking and approves the text of the attached letters to be sent to the Governor, the LA City Council, the LA Board of Supervisors and the Mayor. See Attachment D
    - ii. **POLICY MOTION:** California Homemade Food Act, AB 1616: The MVCC supports AB 1616, the California Homemade Food Act and approves the attached letter to be sent to the State Assembly and the Governor. See Attachment E.

## **Attachment D: Text of Fracking Letters**

Governor Jerry Brown  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
RE: Fracking in California/Los Angeles-Ban

Dear Governor Brown:

From the Sacramento Valley to Los Angeles County, the oil and gas industry has only just begun to frack California. Next generation fracking is now here.

Millions of gallons of a mixture of water, sand and chemicals can now be injected deep underground at high pressure to fracture shale and other tight rock formations, allowing oil or gas to flow. This is a radical departure from the fracking traditionally done in California to "rework" wells, wringing out more production after wells were first drilled.

While modern drilling and fracking may be an engineering marvel, it results in millions of gallons of toxic wastewater and thousands of tons of solid waste for each new well. It causes serious air pollution problems and creates serious short- and long-term risks to drinking water resources. And it compounds the already alarming threats that global climate change poses to the California economy.

In order to protect California public health and environment, for the reasons listed below, we urge you to place an immediate ban on fracking in California.

### Fracking pollutes water

Many of the industry's targeted wells are in the Sacramento River watershed and San Francisco Bay Delta areas, a source of drinking water for over 23 million Californians.

Known and suspected carcinogens, including naphthalene, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and acrylamide, have been consistently used in fracking fluid. In a draft report published in December 2011, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently found that fracking likely explained groundwater contamination in Pavilion, WY. In addition to fracking chemicals, fracking wastewater contains potentially extreme levels of naturally occurring but harmful contaminants, such as toxic metals and radioactive material.

In 2002, California agencies reviewed oil exploration and production wastes to consider whether such wastes should continue to be considered "non-hazardous". Thanks to a special oil and gas industry exemption, the non-hazardous status was maintained. However, waste from fracking was not considered in this review.

In California, wastewater from fracking and conventional drilling is often injected underground into wells not designed to hold fracking wastewater. In 2008 oil companies in Kern County pumped 425 million barrels of wastewater into such wells. These wells have been known to leak, resulting in groundwater pollution. One farmer in Kern County suffered \$2 billion in economic loss when his crops died as a result of groundwater contaminated from oil drilling wastewater. In 2011 alone, industry wastewater from the Inglewood Oil Field of Los Angeles produced over 126 million barrels of wastewater that was then pumped back into over 200 wells. The Plains Exploration and Production Corporation (PXP) has already fracked two wells at the Inglewood Field and plans to continue the practice, which threatens to contaminate local groundwater and Ballona Creek, which discharges into Santa Monica Bay. In June of 2011, the EPA found that the Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) is not adequately safeguarding California's water from pollution from faulty wells citing inadequate staffing among other problems.

### Fracking pollutes air

Fracking is resulting in serious local and regional air pollution problems across the country. Hazardous air pollutants found near fracking sites include methanol, formaldehyde, and carbon disulfide. Volatile organic compounds, including nitrogen oxides, benzene and toluene, are also discharged during fracking. These compounds mix with emissions from heavy-duty truck traffic, large generators and compressors at well sites and contribute to smog formation. A recent study by the University of Colorado found rates of air pollutants five times above a federal hazard standard near fracking sites in Colorado. Increased air pollution from fracking is of particular concern in California, with many areas having some of the worst air quality in our nation.

In addition, widespread drilling and fracking in California will only undermine the state's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, pursuant to AB 32. In addition to emissions generated by producing, refining and burning shale oil, drilling and fracking for shale oil can result in significant uncontrolled emissions of methane; a potent greenhouse gas often associated underground with oil.

### Fracking and earthquakes

What is known is that oil and gas extraction has caused earthquakes in California in the past, most notably in Wilmington, California from 1947 to 1961, and more recently a dozen small earthquakes shook Eastern Ohio due to fracking wastewater being disposed of in underground injection disposal wells. What is unknown is whether the modern fracking in California, and the disposal of massive volumes of fracking wastewater, will end up causing potentially destructive earthquakes in California's future. The Inglewood Oil Field, situated in a community of 300,000 people, lies over two earthquake faults. Since PXP escalated its drilling in 2006, local residents have seen their homes crack and their land sink. Ever more powerful and intense fracking could result in much greater and more costly property damages for these local residents and for all the residents of Los Angeles.

### Conclusion

Because of these severe consequences, a ban is essential to protect California. The mere disclosure of where fracking is occurring and the chemicals used in the process does not prevent them from polluting our air and water. The fracking process is simply too dangerous to be properly regulated. As fracking operations continue to threaten California, we urge you to take swift action and issue an immediate ban on all fracking operations in California.

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#### **Attachment E: California Homemade Food Act**

Christina Oatfield  
Sustainable Economies Law Center  
436 14th St., Suite 1120  
Oakland, CA, 94612

June 2012

Dear Members of the California Legislature:

On behalf of the Mar Vista Community Council, I am writing to officially express our support for AB 1616, the California Homemade Food Act, authored by Assembly member Mike Gatto. The California Homemade Food Act will legalize artisanal food production and promote neighborhood-based economic opportunities for micro-entrepreneurs.

We recognize the Act's potential to help residents more easily launch small businesses by using their home kitchens and encourages the use of fresh, locally sourced ingredients like those available at our Mar Vista Farmer's Market on Grandview Boulevard. We believe this will enhance our neighborhood's food environment and is aligned with the efforts of the Los Angeles Food Policy Council.

By helping return food production to the local level, the Homemade Food Act represents an effort to strengthen bonds between local residents and businesses as neighbors produce food specifically for their community. We believe that those who prepare food for loved ones, friends and neighbors naturally hold themselves to a high standard and level of accountability for the health and safety of those they feed and that the human connection is an important ingredient in food prepared by local residents for local residents. At the same time, we recognize the importance of protecting the public against food-borne illness, and we are confident that the education, training, registration, permitting, and inspection provisions of the California Homemade Food Act will enable California's Environmental Health Departments to safeguard the public's health as these not-potentially-hazardous foods enter the marketplace.

We also support the California Homemade Food Act's stance on zoning laws. It will require local governments to classify such operations as an allowable use of residential property in accordance with local zoning ordinances and in no way create an inappropriate public use of a residential community.

Thank you for giving the California Homemade Food Act, AB1616, the strongest consideration at a time when our economy and our food system would benefit greatly from it.

Sincerely,