





April 2, 2024

ASSEMBLY NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

1020 N Street, Room 164

Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 3233 – The Local Environmental Choice and Safety Act – SUPPORT

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources ~ Chair Bryan, Vice Chair Flora, and Assembly Members Bauer-Kahan, Friedman, Hoover, Kalra, Mathis, Muratsuchi, Pellerin, Wicks, and Wood:

We are writing to express our strong support for [AB 3233](#) (Addis), the Local Environmental Choice and Safety Act, which would safeguard the longstanding authority of local governments to regulate and phase out oil and gas operations in their jurisdictions and affirm the state’s commitment to protect the public from oil and gas pollution.

Local governments in California have always had the authority to regulate oil and gas operations to protect the public and the environment from harmful pollution. Cities and counties can prohibit, restrict, or regulate oil and gas development in all or part of the areas under their jurisdiction. They also help the state achieve its climate, health, and environmental goals. Oil produced in California is among the dirtiest and most climate-damaging in the world.

AB 3233
SUPPORT

Many cities and counties have decades-old ordinances that impose such restrictions. These local measures have served a vital role in protecting residents' health and safety. Other jurisdictions have passed oil and gas laws more recently or are in the process of enacting them.

But recent efforts to enact local protections have been under attack by the oil industry. In an attempt to intimidate local officials, the industry asserts that a recent decision by the California Supreme Court eliminated a local government's power to restrict oil and gas production. Even though the Court's decision was narrowly focused on a single local ordinance and a statute enacted in 1961, the industry has distorted the ruling to sow confusion regarding how authority is split between local and state governments when regulating oil and gas. This attack on other lawful ordinances has had a chilling effect on the ability of local governments to take action to limit oil and gas pollution and protect local communities.

The bill clarifies the state's oil and gas law to affirm the right of cities and counties to impose regulations, limits, or prohibitions on oil and gas development, and specify that cities and counties may prohibit any extraction technique, such as fracking, wastewater disposal, or steam injection. It will also confirm that the state's oil and gas supervisor must prioritize the health and safety of Californians and protect the environment and climate as the state moves toward a cleaner and sustainable future.

Signed,

1000 Grandmothers for Future
Generations
350 Bay Area Action
350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley
350 Humboldt
350 Petaluma
350 Sacramento
350 Santa Barbara
Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet
Asian Pacific Environmental Network
Azul
Bay Area-System Change not Climate
Change
Bicycling Monterey
Black Women for Wellness Action
Project
California Climate Voters
California Environmental Voters

California Nurses for Environmental
Health and Justice
California Youth vs. Big Oil
Californians for Disability Rights Inc.
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Community Action and
Environmental Justice
Center for Food Safety
Center on Race, Poverty & the
Environment
Central California Environmental Justice
Network
Central Coast Alliance United for a
Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)
Central Coast Environmental Voters
(CCEV)
Central Valley Air Quality Coalition
Central Valley Partnership
CERBAT

CleanEarth4Kids.org
Climate Action California
Climate Breakthrough
Climate Brunch
Climate First: Replacing Oil & Gas (CFROG)
Climate Hawks Vote
Climate Health Now
Climate Reality Bay Area Chapter
Climate Reality Project Monterey Bay
Climate Reality Project Orange County Chapter
Climate Reality Project Riverside County Chapter
Climate Reality Project San Fernando Valley Chapter
Climate Reality Project Silicon Valley
Coalition for Clean Air
Communities for a Better Environment
Consumer Watchdog
Corporate Ethics International
Earthjustice
Earthworks
ECO Team
EcoEquity
Ecology Center
Elders Climate Action (ECA) Northern California (NorCal) Chapter
Elders Climate Action (ECA) Southern California (SoCal) Chapter
Elected Officials To Protect America - Code Blue
Endangered Habitats League
Environmental Defense Center
Environmental Protection Information Center
Environmental Working Group
Esperanza Community Housing
Extinction Rebellion San Francisco Bay Area
Food & Water Watch
Fossil Free California

FracTracker Alliance
Fresnans against Fracking
Fridays for Future Fresno
Fridays For Future Sacramento
Friends of the Earth
Glendale Environmental Coalition
Good Neighbor Steering Committee of Benicia
Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
Greenpeace USA
Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club
Holman United Methodist Church
Idle No More SF Bay
Indivisible Marin
Indivisible San Jose
Indivisible San Francisco
Indivisible South Bay LA
La Jolla Environmental Action
Local Clean Energy Alliance
Los Angeles Climate Reality Project
Los Padres ForestWatch
Manhattan Beach Huddle
Methane Action
MLK Coalition of Greater Los Angeles
Mothers Out Front
Natural Resources Defense Council
NextGen California
Oil and Gas Action Network
Oil Change International
Pacific Environment
Physicians for Social Responsibility Los Angeles
Physicians for Social Responsibility Sacramento
Planning and Conservation League
Protect Monterey County
Protect Playa Now
Queers X Climate
Redeemer Community Partnership
Rising Communities
RootsAction.org

San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social
Responsibility
San Francisco Baykeeper
San Joaquin Valley Democratic Club
SanDiego350
Santa Barbara Standing Rock Coalition
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network
Sequoia ForestKeeper
Sierra Club California
Society of Fearless Grandmothers-Santa
Barbara
Stand Together Against Neighborhood
Drilling (STAND-LA)
Stand.earth
Sunflower Alliance
Sunrise Movement LA
Sunrise Santa Barbara
Sustainable Mill Valley
The Climate Alliance of Santa Cruz
County
The Climate Center
The Climate Reality Project: California
Coalition
The Phoenix Group
Voting 4 Climate & Health
West Berkeley Alliance for Clean Air
and Safe Jobs
Women's Earth and Climate Action
Network
Youth For Earth
Youth v. Oil