

Health Harms of Oil & Gas

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WHO IS PSR-LA?

Physicians for Social Responsibility - LA champions environmental justice and nuclear abolition by uniting the credible voices of health professionals and impacted communities to protect public health and foster a regenerative economy.

- Air quality
- Land use
- Water
- Energy
- Toxics
- Climate
- Nuclear
- Listen to Community and Know the Community
- Build Trust with a Community (Don't Parachute In)
- Co-power the Community through Education
- Community Owned Health Research
- Advocacy Grounded in Community Experience

WHO IS STAND-LA?

STAND-L.A. is a racial and environmental justice coalition of community groups working for and with Angelenos on the front lines of urban oil extraction to uphold their human right to health and safety by eliminating neighborhood oil drilling, holding the oil industry accountable, and ensuring a just transition to an equitable, health-promoting economy.



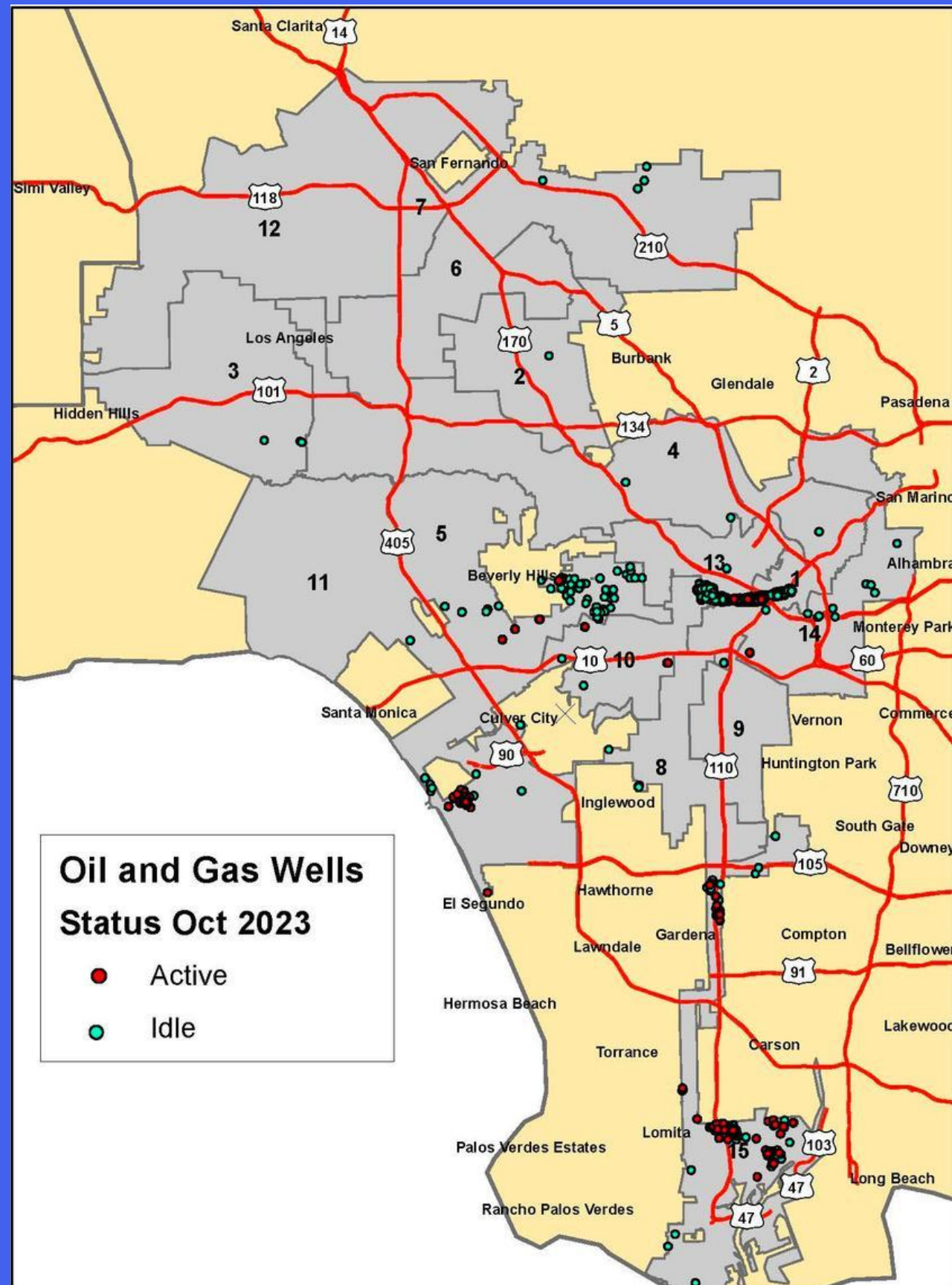
- Over 100+ community-based, faith, environmental and environmental justice, health, and social justice groups and labor unions
- Over 43 Neighborhood Councils
- Over 10k+ grassroots

OIL & GAS INFRASTRUCTURE IN LOS ANGELES



OIL DRILLING IN

- **LA:** Oil drilling started in the 1890s
- 26 oil and gas fields
 - STAND-LA organizes residents impacted by drilling in South LA and Wilmington
- Approximately 5,000 total wells (active, idle, and abandoned) in the City of LA
 - Between 590-900 active and idle wells
 - 23-25 operators
- When considering oil and gas production citywide in 2024, on average a well produces 2.37 barrels per day
- Oil wells in the City of LA produced only 1.3%

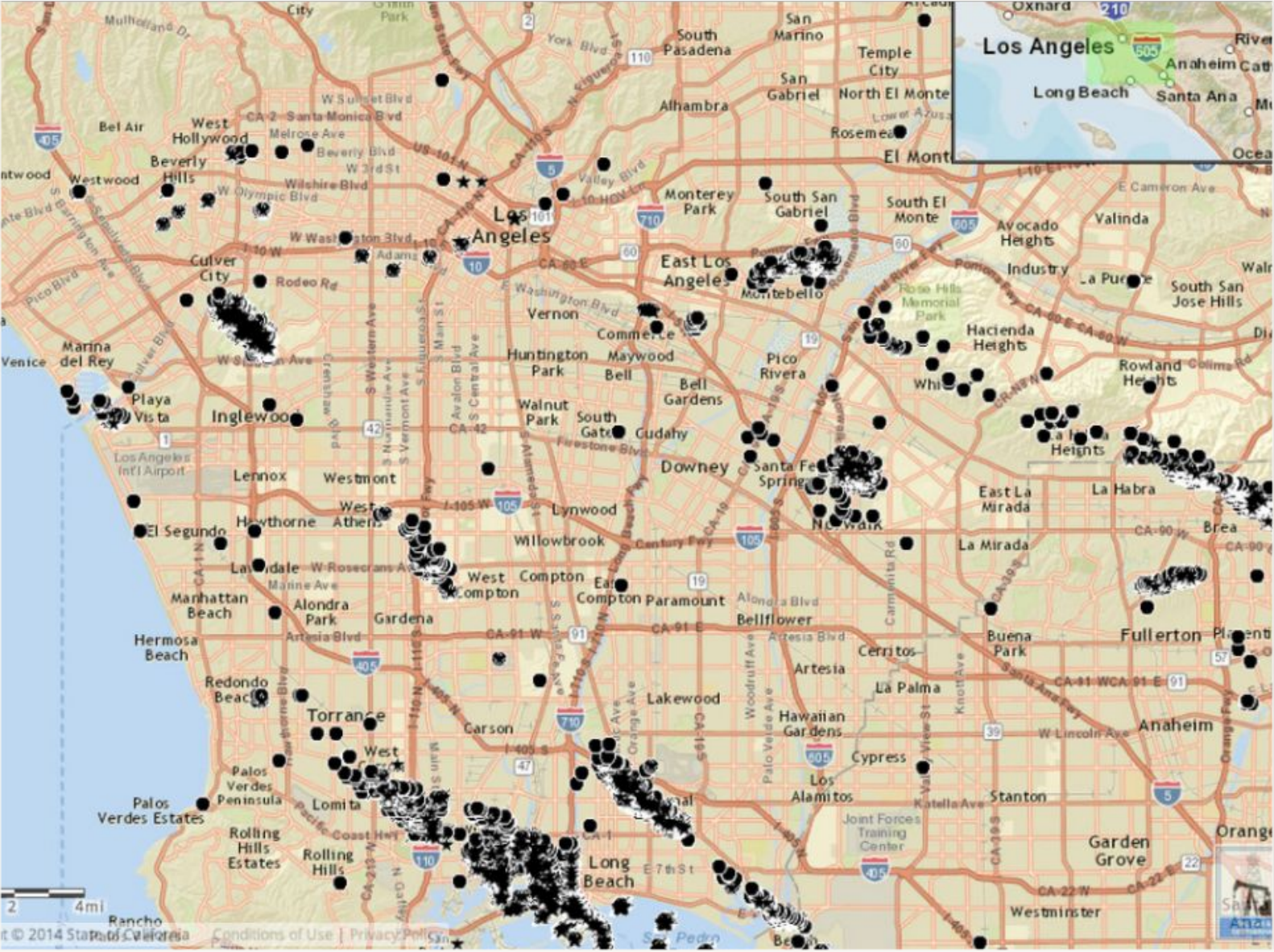


SITING OF OIL SITES

Impact to BIPOC Communities

- 74% of residents living within 1,500 ft of active LA City oil wells are people of color, 42% live 200% below the Federal Poverty Line, and 56% are renters
- Low-income communities and communities of color are disproportionately impacted by oil drilling:
 - Live near greater well density
 - Live next to wells with fewer protections (lack of electrification





HEALTH IMPACTS OF OIL DRILLING

Oil drilling operations release toxic chemicals like hydrogen sulfide, methane and benzene. These chemicals are carcinogens and endocrine disruptors. As these dangerous emissions are pumped into the air that our families breathe, our community's health

suffers from:

- Headaches
- Upper respiratory illness
- Asthma
- Nausea
- Nosebleeds



MAJOR CALIFORNIA HEALTH STUDIES ON OIL DRILLING AND PUBLIC HEALTH

- Gonzalez et al. (2020). California study linking residential proximity to active oil and gas wells with adverse birth outcomes, including **low birth weight and small for gestational age births**.
- Tran et al. (2021). California study finding prenatal exposure to hydraulically fractured wells was associated with adverse fetal growth outcomes, including **low birth weight and preterm birth**.
- Johnston et al. (2021). South Los Angeles study finding that **living near and downwind of urban oil drilling sites was associated with lower lung function**.
- Shamasunder et al. (2018). Community based South Los Angeles study documenting reported symptoms such as **headaches, asthma, and irritation** among residents living near urban oil development.
- California Oil and Gas Public Health Panel Final Report (2024). State expert panel concluding that oil

REGULATORY FAILURE

Case Study: Methane Leak at Wilmington Soccer Field

Initial detection and reporting

- Leak first documented on October 28, 2024 using a FLIR camera and methane monitor.
Our methane monitor recorded a spike of 130 ppm
- Leak was reported to South Coast AQMD

Agency inspection and response

- South Coast AQMD inspected the site and detected 10,000 ppm
- The operator was notified and directed to fix the leak

Follow up and regulatory gap

- On November 12, 2024, AQMD returned and detected 1,000 ppm
- AQMD determined the leak was "small" and did not warrant further follow up
- Inspector stated AQMD did not have authority to regulate methane and referred us to CARB

What happened next