



April 8, 2024

Assemblymember Laura Friedman  
 1021 O Street, Suite 5150  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Assembly Bill (AB) 3155 – Oil and gas wells: health protection zones: civil liability

Dear Assemblymember Friedman,

We, the undersigned, write to express our strong support for Assembly Bill 3155 (Friedman). This important bill holds the oil and gas industry accountable. AB 3155 creates a liability

presumption for a respiratory ailment, a pre-natal defect, and a person's cancer diagnosis if they lived for 2 years within 3200 feet of an oil and gas production facility that failed to use the most effective pollution control technology.

Living near oil wells and gas production facilities increases one's risk of asthma, respiratory problems, pre-term births, high-risk pregnancies, and cancer. That is why the legislature passed, and in 2022 the Governor signed, SB 1137 (Gonzalez) to establish health protection zones of 3,200 feet around oil and gas wells to protect the health of all Californians.

More than 2.7 million Californians live within 3200 feet of an existing operational oil or gas well, and that number will continue to increase with the addition of new wells. Moreover, environmental impacts disproportionately affect communities that are low-income and largely of color.

If oil and gas companies are going to continue to endanger the health of California residents, it is only fair they pay the costs when those residents get sick.

AB 3155 creates the presumption that the harms caused to the health of children, the elderly, and pregnant people who have lived near oil wells for the past two years were caused by exposure to an oil or gas well if the most effective pollution technology was not deployed. The oil well operator can rebut that presumption if the person's health problems were caused in another way, such as by genetics or another toxic exposure.

We need AB 3155 to protect our most vulnerable residents from our most powerful polluters. We believe oil companies should be held accountable for the health harms they cause. Therefore, we urge your support of AB 3155.

Sincerely,

Susan Penner  
Co-Chair, Legislative Working Group  
1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations

Valerie Ventre-Hutton  
Legislative Analyst  
350 Bay Area Action

Alan Weiner  
Chapter lead  
350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley

Sherry Lear  
Organizer  
350 South Bay Los Angeles

Jan Dietrick

Policy Team Leader  
350 Ventura County Climate Hub

Tomas Valadez  
CA Policy Associate  
Azul

Zoë Christopher  
Program Officer  
Breast Cancer Action

Janet Nudelman  
Sr. Director of Program and Policy  
Breast Cancer Prevention Partners

Melissa Romero  
Deputy Legislative Director  
California Environmental Voters

Katie Bolin  
RN MPH  
California Nurses for Environmental Health & Justice

Barbara Sattler  
Leadership Council  
California Nurses for Environmental Health and Nursing

Jenn Engstrom  
State Director  
CALPIRG

Jason Pfeifle  
Senior Campaigner  
Center for Biological Diversity

Marven Norman  
Policy Coordinator  
Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice

Kayla Kamiri  
Staff Attorney  
Center on Race, Poverty, & the Environment

Nayamin Martinez  
Executive Director  
Central California Environmental Justice Network

Katie Valenzuela  
Senior Policy Advocate  
Central Valley Air Quality Coalition (CVAQ)

Lynda Marin  
chapter lead  
Citizens' Climate Lobby Santa Cruz

Janet Cox  
CEO  
Climate Action California

Haley Ehlers  
Executive Director  
Climate First: Replacing Oil & Gas (CFROG)

RL Miller  
Political director  
Climate Hawks Vote

Tyler Earl  
Senior Staff Attorney  
Communities for a Better Environment

Nancy Peverini  
Legislative Director  
Consumer Attorneys of California

Jamie Court  
President  
Consumer Watchdog

Todd Weber  
Volunteer, Chapter Co-Leader  
Elders Climate Action (ECA) Northern California (NorCal) Chapter

Richard Burke  
Founder, Chapter Leader  
Elders Climate Action (ECA) Southern California (SoCal) Chapter

Meghan Sahli-Wells  
California Director  
Elected Officials to Protect America - Code Blue

Steven King

Clean Energy Advocate  
Environment California

Linda Krop  
Chief Counsel  
Environmental Defense Center

Bill Allayaud  
Calif. Director of Gov't Affairs  
Environmental Working Group

Leah Redwood  
Action Coordinator  
Extinction Rebellion San Francisco Bay Area

Chirag Bhakta  
California Director  
Food & Water Watch

Luis Angel Martinez  
Campaigns Organizer  
Fossil Free California

Kyle Ferrar  
Western Program Director  
FracTracker Alliance

Nicole Ghio  
Senior Fossil Fuels Program Manager  
Friends of the Earth

Elise Kalfayan  
Board Member  
Glendale Environmental Coalition

Zachary Norris  
California Climate Director  
Greenpeace USA

Susan Morgan  
Founder and director  
Indivisible Marin

Bonnie Lockhart  
Organizer  
Labor Rise Climate Jobs Action Group

Ann Alexander  
Senior Attorney  
Natural Resources Defense Council

Ilonka Zlatar  
Climate Justice Organizer  
Oil and Gas Action Network

Melissa Bumstead  
Founder, Co-Director  
Parents Against SSFL

Alison Huyett  
Campaigns Director  
Patagonia

Maro Kakoussian  
Director of Climate and Health Programs  
Physicians for Social Responsibility Los Angeles

Harry Wang, MD  
President  
Physicians for Social Responsibility/Sacramento

Matt Nelson  
Executive Director  
Presente.org

Faith Myhra  
Member  
Protect Playa Now

Richard Parks  
President  
Redeemer Community Partnership

Chance Cutrano  
Director of Programs  
Resource Renewal Institute

Robert M. Gould, MD  
President  
San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility

Erika Alfaro, BSN, RN, PHN

Chapter president  
San Francisco NAHN

Pauline Seales  
Organizer  
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network

Jeff Hart  
Co-founder  
Save EPA

Sakereh Carter  
Senior Policy Strategist  
Sierra Club CA

Jack Eidt  
Co-Founder  
SoCal 350 Climate Action

Michael Eisenscher  
Publisher  
SolidarityINFOService

Nathan Taft  
Senior Digital Campaigner  
Stand.earth

Shoshana Wechsler  
Co-Coordinator  
Sunflower Alliance

Marilyn Price  
Co-Chair  
Sustainable Mill Valley

Ellie Cohen  
Chief Executive Officer  
The Climate Center

Allan Moskowitz CFP  
CEO  
Transformative Wealth Management, LLC

Clair Brown  
Economics Professor  
UC Berkeley

Andrea Leon-Grossmann  
Deputy Program Director - West  
Vote Solar

Janice Schroeder  
Core Member  
West Berkeley Alliance for Clean Air and Safe Jobs