



Press Release

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Protect Our Scarce Water Supply – April 30 Deadline

Time is Running Out—Sign the Initiative Now

San Luis Obispo, CA— April 9, 2018. . . April 30, 2018 is the deadline to get the additional 3,000 valid signatures from registered residents of San Luis Obispo, Co.

The Ballot Initiative sponsored by **The Coalition to Protect San Luis Obispo County bans the drilling of new oil wells and prevents fracking (allowing existing oil pumping to continue) thereby protecting the quality and quantity of our scarce water supply.**

Sentinel Peak Resources (an oil driller) is proposing a 480 well expansion of the Price Canyon oil field, (also called the Arroyo Grande oil field), which produces one of the most toxic and carbon-intensive crude oils in the world, and is awaiting approval of a

drinking water aquifer exemption by the Environmental Protection Agency. "Such an action would greatly increase the risk of toxic wastewater injected underground into a designated drinking water aquifer, which could pollute water wells in the Five Cities area," said Charles Varni, Environmentalist and Co-Founder of the Coalition to Protect SLO County.

North County water quality up to and beyond Monterey is Affected

Our beautiful **North County Region**, home to award-winning vineyards, wineries, and a multi-million dollar tourist economy, faces major issues around groundwater supply with local ground basins in overdraft and the region still in drought. The advent of fracking for oil in our region will further threaten groundwater due to the underground disposal of oil production wastewater and chemicals.

The initiative will amend the county's General Plan, Local Coastal Program and County Code and will prohibit using land in the county's unincorporated areas for oil well stimulation treatments such as fracking and acidizing. It will also prohibit the drilling of new oil and gas wells in unincorporated county lands. Under the initiative, existing oil extraction facilities will be allowed to continue operation. The initiative protects vested rights and allows the county to grant limited exceptions to avoid taking private property.

Call to Action

Go to http://protectslo.nationbuilder.com/sign_the_initiative. Find a location in your area where you can sign the initiative. **Go Now, Sign the Petition and Protect Your Water. Read our story, "How Residents of One California County Are Taking on Big Oil"**

published by **AlterNet**, an award-winning news magazine and online community that creates original journalism and amplifies the best of hundreds of other independent media sources. **AlterNet** receives more than 5.9 million unique monthly visitors.

[https://www.alternet.org/environment/how-residents-one-california-county-are-taking-big-oil.](https://www.alternet.org/environment/how-residents-one-california-county-are-taking-big-oil)

For more information about the effort to protect SLO County go to

[http://protectSLOcounty.org.](http://protectSLOcounty.org)

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