

March 1, 2021

Senator Ben Allen, Chair
Senate Environmental Quality Committee
State Capitol, Room 2205
Sacramento, CA 95814
Submitted via web portal

Senator Henry Stern, Chair
Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee
State Capitol, Room 5046
Sacramento, CA 95814
Submitted via web portal

Re: SB 467 (Wiener/Limón) - STRONG SUPPORT

Dear Chair Allen and Chair Stern:

We, the undersigned organizations, are proud to join frontline communities across the state in strong support of SB 467 (Wiener/Limón). As proposed to be amended, SB 467 creates a phase-out of well stimulation treatments and neighborhood drilling while directing the California Geological Energy Management Division (CalGEM) to provide a pathway for workers to transition into oil and gas well remediation jobs. This bill is sponsored and led by frontline groups who are most impacted by oil drilling in Kern County and Los Angeles, and is supported by labor, environmental, and social justice groups from across California. We urge you to vote YES on this important and long overdue measure.

Despite being praised as an international climate leader, California has failed to take meaningful action on oil extraction in our communities. The negative impacts of oil extraction - from poor air quality to contaminated water - are more often felt by communities of color, and are compounding the health impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

With an escalating public health and climate crisis, and the inevitable decline of fossil fuel production in California, SB 467 provides an intentional, thoughtful process to protect communities and workers. SB 467 focuses on the most dangerous forms of drilling first, and mandates that agencies make a plan for the transition of workers already vulnerable to employment fluctuations based on changes in the global market. The economic imperative to plan for an orderly transition, in conjunction with our state mandates to aggressively reduce greenhouse gas emissions, makes this the right time and the right way to plan for declining fossil fuel production in California.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important proposal. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Katie Valenzuela (kbvale@gmail.com) or Ingrid Brostrom (ibrostrom@crpe-ej.org).

Sincerely:

Ingrid Brostrom

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Voices in Solidarity Against Oil in Neighborhoods (VISIÓN) - SPONSOR

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FracTracker Alliance

Amanda Millstein

Climate Health Now

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Mi Familia Vota

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Cc: Members, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
Senator Scott Wiener
Senator Monique Limón