



# CITY OF CULVER CITY

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ANDREW WEISSMAN  
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VICE MAYOR  
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JIM B. CLARKE  
MICHEÁL O'LEARY  
MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

March 7, 2013

The Honorable Fran Pavley  
Member of the State Senate  
Chair, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water

The Honorable Ted Gaines  
Member of the State Senate  
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Environmental Quality

**Subject: February 12, 2013 Joint Hearing on "The Regulation of Hydraulic Fracturing in Oil and Gas Production in California"**

Dear Senators Pavley and Gaines:

The City of Culver City would like to go on record with its concerns regarding the practice of hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") in oil and gas production.

Currently, and over the next several years, hundreds of new oil wells will be drilled in the Inglewood Oil Field (the "Oil Field"), which spans across the jurisdictions of the City of Culver City and unincorporated Los Angeles County and is located in a heavily populated urban area. The neighborhoods and communities surrounding the Oil Field, including Culver City residents, have already stated their concerns regarding the ongoing and future effects of oil and gas operations. They have also expressed alarm about the potential impacts of fracking on the public health and safety and the environment, including risks to air quality, water quality and ground movement.

On July 12, 2012, the City Council of the City of Culver City adopted a Resolution Urging Governor Jerry Brown and the California State Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources ("DOGGR") to place a ban on fracking and the disposal of fracking wastewater by injection wells, until DOGGR takes all necessary and appropriate actions to adopt, implement and enforce comprehensive regulations concerning the practice of fracking that will ensure that public health and safety and the environment will be adequately protected (copy attached).

Members of the City Council of the City of Culver City and City staff have actively participated in information sessions held by DOGGR regarding fracking and its proposed regulations. The City intends to submit detailed comments on the specific DOGGR fracking regulations, during the formal rulemaking process, which DOGGR anticipates will begin in April 2013. Your Committees may also be interested in receiving information from other agencies that are considering issues relating to

**Senator Fran Pavley, Chair, Committee on Natural Resources and Water**  
**Senator Ted Gaines, Vice Chair, Committee on Environmental Quality**  
**March 7, 2013**  
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fracking, including the South Coast Air Quality Management District and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Culver City respectfully urges you, as Chairs of the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Water and Environmental Quality, to support a ban on fracking until such time as comprehensive regulations are in place that will ensure adequate protection of the health and safety of our communities and the environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Weissman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Andrew Weissman  
Mayor

cc: The Honorable Members of the City Council  
John M. Nachbar, City Manager

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-R057**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, URGING THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION, DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES (DOGGR) TO PLACE A BAN ON HYDRAULIC FRACTURING ("FRACKING").

WHEREAS, currently, and over the next several years, hundreds of new oil wells will be drilled in the Inglewood Oil Field (the "Oil Field"), which spans across the jurisdictions of the City of Culver City and unincorporated Los Angeles County and is located in a heavily populated urban area; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing, also known as "fracking," is generally a technique to increase oil and gas production by injecting fluids at pressures sufficient to create fractures in subsurface rock or other tight geological formations in order to release petroleum or natural gas for extraction; and

WHEREAS, the neighborhoods and communities surrounding the Oil Field, including Culver City residents, have expressed alarm about the potential impacts of fracking on the public health and safety and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the California State Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) is currently engaged in the process of studying potential regulations on fracking. As part of this effort, DOGGR has held several community meetings throughout the State seeking public comment relating to potential regulation of fracking; and

WHEREAS, On June 12, 2012, DOGGR held one such community meeting in the City of Culver City, during which a significant number of people in the Los Angeles County Region, including Culver City residents and the Culver City City Council (the "City

1 Council"), provided testimony regarding the potential risks of fracking, the concern that  
2 fracking is generally unregulated and that no further fracking should occur, at least until  
3 DOGGR has adopted fracking regulations that can ensure protection against the risks to  
4 air quality, water quality and ground movement; and

5 WHEREAS, at the community meeting, little or no evidence or testimony was  
6 offered that fracking was safe in the absence of such regulations while numerous members  
7 of the public offered considerable testimony that fracking posed a substantial risk to the  
8 community and the environment; and  
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10 WHEREAS, at the City Council meeting of June 18, 2012, in response to the  
11 community's concerns, the Council directed staff to agendize the consideration of a  
12 resolution urging DOGGR to place a ban on fracking and the disposal of fracking  
13 wastewater by injection wells until such time as DOGGR enacts legislation to regulate  
14 fracking.  
15

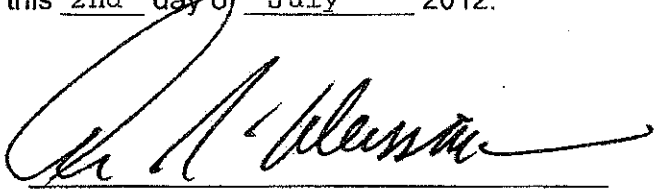
16 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Culver City DOES  
17 HEREBY RESOLVE as follows:

18 1. The City of Culver City urges Governor Jerry Brown and the California  
19 State Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources  
20 (DOGGR), to immediately place a ban on hydraulic fracturing and on the disposal of  
21 fracking wastewater by injection wells until DOGGR takes all necessary and appropriate  
22 actions to adopt, implement and enforce comprehensive regulations concerning the  
23 practice of fracking that will ensure that public health and safety and the environment will  
24 be adequately protected.  
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26 2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution  
27 to Governor Jerry Brown and DOGGR.  
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APPROVED and ADOPTED this 2nd day of July 2012.



ANDREW WEISSMAN, MAYOR  
City of Culver City, California

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
MARTIN R. COLE, City Clerk  
CAROL A. SCHWAB, City Attorney

A12-00521