

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2025031377

Project Title: Revised Oil Well Ordinance (ROWO)

Lead Agency: Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

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Project Location: All unincorporated communities
City

Los Angeles
County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project includes: i) Amendments to Title 22 – Planning & Zoning of the Los Angeles County Code to prohibit new oil wells and production facilities, designate existing oil wells and production facilities as nonconforming due to use, and modify standards for oil wells during the amortization period; ii) Amendments to the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD) to be consistent with countywide prohibition of oil wells and production facilities and standards for oil wells during the amortization period; iii) Amendments to Title 12 – Environmental Protection of the Los Angeles County Code to remove noise exemptions for oil wells; and iv) Amendments to the County of Los Angeles General Plan in support of sustainability and environmental justice goals by phasing out oil production in unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The project would result in two significant and unavoidable environmental impacts related to mineral resources including Loss of a Known Mineral Resource of Value and Loss of a Locally Delineated Mineral Resource Recovery Site. All other environmental factors, including Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire, would result in less than significant impacts or no impacts.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

- **Socioeconomic Effects:** Concerns regarding the potential economic effects of phasing out oil and gas operations, including the displacement of skilled workers, effects on the local property tax base, and the financial burden of decommissioning on operators.
- **Mineral and Energy Resources:** The fundamental conflict between the Project's public health objectives and the continued extraction of a valuable energy resource, including effects on local energy supply and mineral rights holders.
- **Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** A key area of controversy involves the Project's net effect on regional and global emissions. Some stakeholders raised concerns that phasing out local production would increase reliance on imported oil, potentially increasing the global carbon footprint of the fuel supply (a phenomenon known as "carbon leakage") and exacerbating air quality impacts in communities near the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Conversely, other commenters argued that the permanent elimination of local operational and fugitive emissions, particularly methane, would result in a significant net benefit for local air quality and a reduction in overall greenhouse emissions.
- **Amortization Period:** The appropriateness of the 20-year amortization period, with some stakeholders advocating for a much shorter timeline to accelerate public health benefits, and others advocating for a longer period to reduce economic disruption.
- **Land Use and Property Rights:** Legal and policy questions regarding the Project's designation of a legally established land use as nonconforming, the County's authority to regulate land use for public health and safety purposes, and the potential future reuse of existing oil and gas sites.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Lead Agency: County of Los Angeles

- Department of Regional Planning
- Amy Bodek, Director of Regional Planning
- Connie Chung, Deputy Director, Advance Planning
- Edward Rojas, Assistant Administrator, Advance Planning
- Bruce Durbin, Supervising Regional Planner
- Kenneth Warner, Regional Planner
- Paulina Somosa, Regional Planner
- Office of the County Counsel
- Kathy Park, Deputy County Counsel
- Lisa Jacobs, Deputy County Counsel