

Filling the Void

The Value of New Technology to Reduce Air Pollution and Improve Information at Oil and Gas Sites in California

A BASIC APPROACH TO CUTTING AIR POLLUTION FROM THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY THROUGH THE USE OF MONITORING TECHNOLOGY

- **Enact rules and regulations for long-term protection:** Reassess and develop new local, regional and state regulations, ordinances and permits to include stationary or mobile monitoring at production sites.
- **Get the ball rolling now, wherever possible:** Ensure communities and government agencies have access to public and private resources to test, certify and deploy monitors now.
- **Improve knowledge and prioritize efforts:** Dedicate government resources to perform transparent on-the-ground surveys of all production sites and prioritize monitoring where people are over-burdened by pollution and production is in close proximity.
- **Ensure a coordinated effort:** Increase coordination between government, communities, and companies to share lessons and best practices, and ensure a participatory and inclusive approach to monitoring deployments.

11 COMMON SENSE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

1. Develop new local rules by regional Air Pollution Control Districts (APCDs) to incorporate stationary or mobile monitoring of oil and gas production facilities, prioritizing active sites in closest proximity to people and/or in underserved communities.
2. Reassess current oil and gas regulations at the state agency level to include real-time stationary or mobile monitoring at oil and gas production facilities, prioritizing active sites in closest proximity to people and/or in underserved communities.
3. Develop and distribute resources for communities to launch community-based monitoring, data analysis, and data visualization projects centered on oil and gas production facilities.
4. Recognizing that regulatory enactments take time, state and local agencies should independently deploy government-managed real-time stationary and mobile monitoring systems at key oil and gas production facilities that operate in close proximity to sensitive receptors and have been reported to produce impacts on nearby residents, prioritizing communities located within and near the top 25% of the CalEnviroScreen 3.0.

5. Ensure implementation of new legislation in California (AB 617) includes provisions for real-time stationary and mobile monitoring of oil and gas production operations located in close proximity to underserved communities.
6. Modify local zoning laws, codes, and land-use processes to incorporate real-time monitoring at new and modified oil and gas facilities prior to commencement of operation, while also incorporating real-time monitoring conditions on annual reauthorizations of existing operations located in close proximity to people.
7. Establish findings by city and county planning and public health departments related to the hazards of unmonitored oil and gas production sites located near sensitive receptors.
8. Increase inter-agency collaboration with communities to develop coordinated systems for monitoring, data analysis and visualization, and sharing of best practices on company, community, and regulatory approaches.
9. Follow Los Angeles County's lead and survey all oil and gas wells in the state of California.
10. Ensure the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center (AQ Spec) supports the development, testing, and certification of monitors for pollutants regularly emitted by oil and gas sites.
11. Engage with oil and gas operators and technology providers with real world experience employing advanced monitoring strategies.

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