

Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure Z

Big Oil is spending millions to convince voters to protect their profits while they pollute our water. Don't be fooled. Know the facts:

Big Oil is Contaminating Our Water:

- Chevron, ExxonMobil and Shell are injecting toxic wastewater into our aquifers, endangering the groundwater supply for Salinas Valley's farms and cities.

"Let me be clear, so that it's not a misunderstanding: We believe that any injection into these aquifers has contaminated those aquifers."

-- Jonathan Bishop, chief deputy director of State Water Board
(testimony to State Legislature, 2015)

Oil "Shut Down" is a Lie:

- Measure Z allows Monterey County's existing 1,500 oil wells to continue operating (see Section 1B of Initiative).

A Bit Player is Putting Monterey County's Economy At Risk:

- Monterey County's oil industry provides less than 300 jobs and about 1% of County taxes.
- They're endangering our water, our families' health, and the pillars of our local economy—agriculture and tourism—which contribute 95,000 local jobs and \$10.5 billion annual revenue.

Big Oil is Bullying Voters with Empty Threats of Lawsuits:

- Santa Cruz, San Benito, Mendocino and Butte counties all banned fracking or risky oil operations. But none faced lawsuits.

Oil Companies Don't Care About Energy Independence:

- They convinced Congress to lift the ban on oil exports to maximize their profits. Now, Monterey County's oil is sold on the world market.

Measure Z stops oil companies from passing the risks of fracking and wastewater injection on to the people of Monterey County.

Protect Our Water, not Big Oil's Profits... Vote YES on Measure Z.

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