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**From:** Kathy Cooper <[knjinm@gmail.com](mailto:knjinm@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** December 10, 2017 at 1:12:02 PM MST  
**To:** "David J. Heil" <[dheil@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:dheil@sandovalcountynm.gov)>, "Don G. Chapman" <[dchapman@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:dchapman@sandovalcountynm.gov)>, "F. Kenneth Eichwald" <[keichwald@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:keichwald@sandovalcountynm.gov)>, "Dr. James Holden-Rhodes" <[jholden-rhodes@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:jholden-rhodes@sandovalcountynm.gov)>, Jay Block <[jblock@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:jblock@sandovalcountynm.gov)>, Michael Springfield <[mspringfield@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:mspringfield@sandovalcountynm.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Please VOTE NO on the proposed Oil Drilling Ordinance in Sandoval County.

Dear Sandoval County Commissioners,

Please **VOTE NO** on the proposed Oil Drilling Ordinance in Sandoval County. We are opposed to the oil drilling ordinance which would allow "permissive" drilling access to land in the East Mountain area of Sandoval County.

Are you also aware of our lawsuit (<http://www.deepwellprotest.org/contact.htm>) to protect our water resources on the east side of the Sandias. The communities of San Pedro Creek Estates and The Knolls; along with many individual homeowner contributors, have spent tens of thousands of dollars to fight a developer (Cambell Ranch) and a water speculation company (Viddler) from installing deep wells for a massive new development. Our wells are dropping steadily and we were told by the former State Hydrologist that our water, in its totality, was already over-committed to the current residents. Lots of shallower wells have already gone dry and people have needed to re-drill at much deeper depths (300-600 feet).

Water is a scarce resource here in NM (as highlighted in your Comprehensive Plan) and we can't risk horizontal drilling and / or fracking in and around our aquifers. We don't even have the huge amount of water required for oil extraction operations, much less a site for the waste. As part of your due diligence, you must review cases of fracking effects on ground water in other parts of the country/world, and use these as a strong examples of what may happen. Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Groningen (in Europe) all come to mind.

Huge oil companies with lots of assets and personnel still make big mistakes, like BP in the Gulf of Mexico. All we need is for a small oil company to take shortcuts or have an accident. Given that water from the East Mountains does find its way to the Rio Grande Basin; Albuquerque, Bernalillo County and every town downstream will also suffer from an accident or just the voluminous uptake of fresh water needed for Fracking. And where will the oilers dispose of their huge amounts of processing wastewater, proppants and chemicals?

Our area is not suitable for fracking and/or horizontal oil drilling, and if you look at the available geologic maps, you will see how easily the water table could be contaminated via existing faults. Further, fracking can cause new faults and earthquakes. Is it worth the risk for a small amount of county revenue? If our water is contaminated, then our property values will undoubtedly plummet. We will have to source water from distant areas and many of our lives will be destroyed.

**Please VOTE NO on the proposed Oil Drilling Ordinance in Sandoval County.**

Respectfully,

Kathy and Joe Cooper  
1 Los Cedros  
Sandia Park, NM 87047  
[knjinNM@gmail.com](mailto:knjinNM@gmail.com)