
From: JOHN WEGRZYNEK <lwegrzynek@cableone.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 11, 2017 5:27 PM
To: Sidney Hill
Subject: Comments on the Proposed Sandoval County Oil and Gas Ordinance
Attachments: Comments on the Proposed Sandoval County Oil and Gas Ordinance.pdf; Comments on the Proposed Sandoval County Oil and Gas Ordinance.docx

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find attached a letter in regards to the proposed Sandoval County Oil and Gas Ordinance, I have attached it in both Word and PDF file for your convenience. Please let me know if you have any problem pulling it up or if you have any questions. Thank you for your time. Most Sincerely, Leslie Wegrzynek

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Mr. and Mrs. John Wegrzynek
811 Villa Verde Drive SE
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124
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November 11, 2017

Re: Comments on the Proposed Sandoval County Oil and Gas Ordinance

To Whom It May Concern:

We are current residents of Corrales Heights, in Rio Rancho, NM. My husband has been in the same home since the late 70's and I myself, a native of Albuquerque, have lived and worked here in Rio Rancho since the early 90's. We are both registered voters and love our home here in New Mexico.

We are writing to you in regards to the proposed Sandoval County Oil and Gas Ordinance. We realize that there is a huge amount of information out there in regards to both the pros and cons for the industry coming to our neck of the woods. We are also confident that you have the most current and accurate, non-biased information in regards to any benefits or ill effects the industry would have on our daily lives.

We went to Carlsbad Caverns on Spring Break this year, and we have also been to this area several times during our lives. The air quality was markedly worse than our last visit and my asthma was much harder to control. The street traffic was flooded with water and oil tankers, and workers and our opinion is they didn't seem to care much about traffic laws. This seemed to be happening 24/7. The restaurants and businesses we visited seemed to solely depend on the workers themselves as the primary customers, other than, of course, the Cavern visitors, and some longtime residents of the small town. The town did not seem to be booming by any means. At night, as far as the eye could see the flares from the many wells was an eerie sight, and during the day you could see the haze on the horizon from the burn off and never a blue sky or fresh air the entire week we were visiting. The air in the cavern was actually a relief. From White's City you could hear a constant drumming, kind of like a radio in the car next to you with the bass turned up way too high and the windows up. According to our hotel manager this was the fracking noise. For the first time in our lives we drove through a stretch of Highway 137 that had warning signs and lights posted, stating that if conditions were present, the air was toxic and that we needed to stop, turn around immediately and proceed back from where we came. To be honest with you, it was hard to believe what we were seeing. It was like something out of a Science Fiction Movie.

We would like to ask you, if you haven't already, please take the time to visit an area that has allowed this industry in. Somewhere like Carlsbad or the 4 corners and ask yourself is this what we want for our City? Is this what we want for our children or grandchildren? Let's try to think beyond the immediate future and monetary needs and look to the longer term. Let's take the time to look at other more progressive, more successful cities across the nation. Are they investing in gas and oil or are they investing in other technology and industry? What truly is the best for the future of our children, grandchildren and city? We would love for them to enjoy the same blue skies that we have become so used to. We are so lucky to enjoy so much beautiful landscape here. What about our balloon fiesta? Look what the fires to the west of us have done to our valley this past summer. Personally, we don't think a continual haze will be attractive to tourists or to our city. The air quality is affected by the industry, we have experienced it first hand, and unfortunately, how many people will that impact? We know many residents move here for health reasons. The CO methane plume that will be created will be continual.

Please also ask yourself could this industry potentially devastate the economic growth of Sandoval County for anything other than the industry itself? We wonder what sound industry with good paying jobs would knowingly come here with the above described environmental and living conditions. As parents, who would want to raise their children in that environment? Indeed, the influx of cash generated from this proposal will no doubt boost schools, and in good times add substantial monies for the county and state. However, we do believe the schools are doing a pretty good job at the present with what they have, there is overcrowding and it could be alleviated with new schools built. However, the situation has to start at home with parent involvement no matter how many schools you have. Don't forget there are a lot of good kids, not just troubled ones. Teachers and staff are doing their best and should not bear the brunt of the nationwide low ranking. If as much energy which is being put into this oil and gas regulatory discussion would be put into education and campaigns aimed at parents being more involved and responsible for their children, we would see a greater change. Political will tends to follow money, and understandably, but this could be an opportunity to take the next step in a more progressive direction for our state and long term solution to our problems. It may not be the easy way, but what good ever came from easy?

When you take away all the rhetoric on both sides, the decision to allow the entry of this industry without tough regulations will truly pollute and change our environment for our lifetime and for future generations. No matter how much money is involved there is just no denying it. We ask that you please just contemplate that on a personal level. Thank you for your time and in advance for your thoughtful and careful consideration in this matter. We look forward to your response.

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW FOR PERMITS TO BE ADMINISTERED THROUGH PERMISSIVE USE, BUT RATHER SPECIAL USE. PLEASE DO NOT TAKE AWAY OUR FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

Most Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. John Wegrzynek