END OF AN ERA:
Phasing Out Oil in California

ANN ALEXANDER
Senior Attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council

Beyond Fossil Fuels - Los Angeles, California
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CALIFORNIA: IT’S ABOUT OIL

Only one currently operating coal-fired power plant in CA.
CALIFORNIA: IT’S ABOUT OIL

California natural gas production < 1% of US supply
CALIFORNIA: IT’S ABOUT OIL

California is 7th largest producer of crude oil in the US
CALIFORNIA: IT’S ABOUT OIL
A CENTURY AND A HALF OF CALIFORNIA OIL DRILLING

- 1848: Prospectors discovered oil seeps in California
- 1865: First oil well drilled in California
- 1900: California largest oil producer in the nation
- 1910: Lakeview Gusher spill
- 1912: First oil drilling regulations enacted
- 1915: Chevron El Segundo (LA) refinery established
- 1970: Environment regulatory authority added to statute
- 2014: California 3rd largest oil producer in the nation
- 2021: California 7th largest oil producer in the nation

Venice, CA oil wells in the early 20th Century (Library of Congress)
California Field Production of Crude Oil

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

This series is available through the EIA open data API and can be downloaded to Excel or embedded as an interactive chart or map on your website.

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<th>Decade</th>
<th>Year-0</th>
<th>Year-1</th>
<th>Year-2</th>
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DRIVING THE DECLINE

- California’s remaining oil requires enhanced oil recovery
- Other states benefitted from fracking boom
MANAGING THE DECLINE

- **November 2019**: Executive order requiring:
  - Partial fracking and cyclic steaming moratoria
  - Initiation of public health rulemaking
- **September 2020**: Newsom calls for an end to fracking by 2024
- **Early April 2021**: Fracking ban bill dies in California legislature
- **Late April 2021**: Executive order calling for:
  - Fracking ban (rule proposed May 2021)
  - Evaluating phaseout of oil extraction by 2045
- **July 2021**: CalGEM begins denying fracking permits
- **June/September 2021**: Culver City and LA County vote to phase out oil drilling.
- **October 2021**: draft public health rulemaking calls for 2300’ setback buffers
CONSEQUENCE OF THE DECLINE: ORPHAN WELLS

5540 wells: at “high risk” of becoming orphaned ($500 million cleanup cost)

69,425 wells: “economically marginal and idle”

106,687 wells: total number of wells that will need to be plugged and abandoned

Source: CCST Orphan Wells in California, 2018
IN TANDEM WITH THE DECLINE: REFINERY BIOFUEL CONVERSION

Phillips 66, Rodeo
Marathon, Martinez
Alon, Bakersfield
AltAir, Paramount
THE FUTURE IS BEV

- CA: 100% electric automobile fleet by 2035
- CA: all-electric public bus fleet by 2040
- Los Angeles: Fossil-Free Streets Declaration
- Multiple Bay Area local governments: “Diesel Free by ‘33” pledge