Title: Oil and Gas wells in California

The detrimental effect to the most vulnerable

Introduction:

Brief Introduction to CALPIRG and EOD Campaign:

CALPIRG:

From the SB 467’s defeat to the Newsom to ban new fracking permits in California by 2024. 2500ft buffer to those around the drilling site.

More context

Slide 1:

When we talk about stop fracking, we often relate it to climate change, but in other aspects, which sometimes people might disregard, have a more direct impact to the people live near the oil and gas facility.

Slide 2:

People live in a proximity to those gas and oil wells might face dangerous hazards include air pollution, contamination of drinking water, noise and light pollution, and potential risk in seismic activity and public safety.

A study conducted in 2016 by researchers in the Yale School of Medicine found that “49 water and 20 air pollutants were known, probable, or possible human carcinogens” in fracking sites.

Then how many are those active oil and gas sites in California?

Slide 3:

By today, there are still 60638 active wells here in California along. And about 5456 new wells are being built. In the table on the right-hand side, it ranks the top counties that have the most active wells.

Kern is ranked the top having 47000 active wells. Followed by Los Angeles, which is one of the most densely populated regions in California. And we shall see in the next slide, it affects the minority and vulnerable groups in our state disproportionately.

Slide 4:

Within one mile of oil and gas development, nearly 92 % are people of color. And if we take a closer look in the case of Los Angeles, when we break down the most vulnerable and the less vulnerable communities within a quarter of mile away from the gas well, we can see how the proportion of the vulnerable from minority group is much higher than those of white.

Slide 5:

If we plot the map of the low-income group with the distribution of the gas wells, we will see a pattern of correlation between the low-income group with the gas well distribution. Looking at the map on right-hand side, the darker blue regions represent the economically vulnerable and the red dot represents the location of the gas and oil wells. We could see, majority of the gas and oil wells in Los Angeles located in the bottom portion of the map where most of the resident live. If we draw a cycle around those wells congregate, we noticed the color enclosed is mostly dark, suggesting that people live around the wells are more economically vulnerable.

Slide 6:

Taking look at another map. This shows the distribution of the non-white with the location of the gas wells. The map on right-hand side clearly shows how the gas and wells location correlates with the minority group in L.A county.

Conclusion: