

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-R

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENT TO EVALUATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN APPROXIMATE FIVE-YEAR PHASE-OUT PERIOD FOR THE AMORTIZATION OF NONCONFORMING OIL AND GAS USES WITHIN THE CITY.

WHEREAS, on August 13, 2020, the City Council received and considered information contained in the Capital Investment Amortization Study for the Culver City Portion of the Inglewood Oil Field ("Amortization Study"), as well as public input concerning the future of the Culver City portion of the Inglewood Oil Field ("City IOF"). The City Council voted unanimously to move forward with further study of the City IOF and authorized the City Council Oil Drilling Subcommittee ("Subcommittee") to work directly with staff to prepare an Amortization Program that resolves the incompatibility of oil and gas uses with the surrounding community and considers options to phase-out the nonconforming oil and gas activities within the City IOF; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further requested the Subcommittee and staff to study and consider several factors relevant to the preparation of an Amortization Program, including, but not limited to: (1) just transition of workers; (2) adequate bonding; (3) adequate plug and abandonment procedures; (4) complete remediation; (5) thoughtful implementation plan and schedule; (6) outreach to clean-energy partners; (7) cost sharing opportunities; and (8) engagement of stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the Subcommittee recommends the City Council initiate the amortization and phase-out of nonconforming oil and gas activities within the City IOF in an expedited manner, balancing the protection of the public health, safety and welfare and the

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environment, and other stated objectives, while concurrently considering important logistical issues to ensure a thoughtful implementation plan and appropriate timeframe; and

WHEREAS, based on information provided by staff and the Subcommittee, and relevant studies and discussion, the City Council believes an approximate five-year amortization period, commencing on the effective date of the Amortization Program and ending five years thereafter, would (1) offer a reasonable time period for the oil field operator to wind down production activities, schedule appropriate resources for the plug and abandonment of nonconforming oil wells and removal of nonconforming productionrelated equipment, and secure requisite bonding prior to initiating any decommissioning work; (2) provide for an adequate time period to facilitate "just transition" (i.e., training of workers and installation of clean-energy programs), completion of environmental assessment and remediation studies and opportunity to outreach with oil field stakeholders (e.g. land owners and mineral rights holders); and (3) allow for a reasonable timeframe during which the logistics necessary to decommission the City IOF in a safe and secure manner can be coordinated and balanced with the urgent concerns and objectives expressed at the August 13, 2020 City Council meeting, which include:

- Desire to eliminate long-standing nonconforming oil and gas
- Improve land use consistency and compatibility issues between those activities conducted in the City IOF area and other surrounding community uses;
- Eliminate growing concern and lack of continuity resulting from a continuous change of oil field operators, as experienced in recent history, that may have limited interest to invest in maximizing compliance and compatibility with Culver City standards and objectives;
- Desire to replace obsolete industrialized oil-production uses with modern urban uses that are determined by the City to be

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- compatible and more directly beneficial with the current urban context and evolving character of the adjacent community;
- Acknowledge and affirm the role of the City's comprehensive General Plan Update, which is currently underway, and seek to accommodate a shift in policy through reevaluation of longrange objectives for the oil field area;
- Enhance public health, welfare and safety, and protection of the environment by eliminating and safely removing aged and outdated infrastructure that is vulnerable to failure and poses a threat to public safety and damage to the environment;
- Prioritize the public health, safety and welfare of the community and develop a strategy for end-of-life considerations for the City IOF;
- Embrace State-wide trends that include plans to transition to clean, renewable energy by 2045 and to reduce reliance on fossil-fuels and vehicles that utilize fossil-fuels by 2035;
- Minimize unproductive use of City staff and financial resources spent toward enforcement of regulations applicable to the City IOF.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Culver City DOES HEREBY RESOLVE as follows:

- 1. The City Council hereby declares its intent to evaluate a future Amortization Program, including the evaluation of the establishment of an approximate five-year phase-out period for the amortization and removal of nonconforming oil and gas activities within the City IOF, commencing on the effective date of such Amortization Program and ending five years thereafter.
- 2. The City Council hereby directs the City Council Oil Drilling Subcommittee, under its current and future membership, to continue to work with staff to develop and refine the components of a proposed Amortization Program to bring to the public and the future City Council. The Program should reflect a thoughtful implementation plan and appropriate timeframe, and provide for the just and reasonable transition away from nonconforming oil and gas activities in a safe and secure manner, based on an

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11	APPROVED and
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17	ATTEST:
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19	JEREMY GREEN, City Clerk
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approximate five-year phase-out period, as may be adjusted to balance other objectives and reflect further investigation.

3. The City Council finds this Resolution is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, §15060(c)(2) [the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment] and §15060(c)(3) [the activity is not a project as defined in §15378], because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2020.

this	day of	2020.	
	AN ERIKSSON, Ma f Culver City, Califor		
APPROVED AS TO FORM: CAROL A. SCHWAB, City Attorney			