

This EIR should analyze impacts for this project that includes 12 producing oil wells and a facility that can process 2400 barrels per day of fluids from those wells, including the heating of over 60,000 gallons of water each day for the extraction and separation of oil.

Most of the applicant-funded studies being used for this EIR analyze a four well scenario with only additional comments made regarding the full 12 well development scenario. The facility has been designed and engineered for full production from 12 wells and whether or not the project may have a speculative nature this EIR should analyze the fully developed facility operating at its full capacity.

Any less analysis will be worthless and will ultimately be challenged in court at a great cost to our community and county taxpayers.

This project is in its third year of analysis by the county Planning staff and I am wondering how much of our county taxpayers' dollars have gone into this project to date and how much more money our deeply in debt county will continue to invest in it.

My understanding is that the applicant has paid less than twenty thousand dollars in application fees while county staff has probably spent well over a hundred thousand dollars in staff time to date in their analysis of this project.

And now the county is conducting an EIR using applicant-funded studies in order to save the applicant money. Who decided to do that?

When the public opposes conclusions based on these applicant funded studies at the draft EIR stage, new studies will have to go through a second round of evaluation by all the county agencies and it will be the county taxpayers that once again pick up the tab for staff time.

This EIR should use only independent studies and the Board of Supervisors ought to launch an investigation into the economics of this project before the county taxpayers lose more of their hard earned cash!