

# WEEKLY UPDATE FEBRUARY 21 - 27, 2021

## THIS WEEK

# **ALERT**

OIL INDUSTRY UNDER ATTACK BY SANTA BARBARA STATE SENATOR MONIQUE LIMON

(PRICE CANYON OIL FIELD AT RISK- SEE PAGE 10 FOR DETAILS)

NO BOS MEETING FEB 23<sup>rd</sup>

PENSION TRUST BOARD MEETING FEB 22<sup>nd</sup>

PLANNING COMMISSION FEB 25<sup>TH</sup>
LIGHT BUT OMINOUS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY EROSION

IWMA LEFTISTS MIGHT AS WELL BAN ICE CREAM TOO (LIKE THE KILLER KLOWNS FROM OUTER SPACE



# LAST WEEK

# **NO BOS MEETING**

# LAFCO CANCELLED

### **OTHER ISSUES**

# COVID DECLINING BUT COUNTY STILL IN PURPLE TIER LOCKDOWN

# INTEGRATED WASTE BOARD SLUG FEST ON POLYSTYRENE BANS

# **COLAB IN DEPTH**

**SEE PAGE 13** 

## **DOUBLING DOWN ON DUMB**

The predictable response by the neoliberal establishment to the January 6 riot is akin to seeking relief for hypertension by taking pills that raise one's blood pressure.

BY ROBERT LOPEZ

# CALIFORNIA'S MULTIBILLIONAIRES INTEND TO CONQUER THE WORLD

To understand what the establishment (of which Joe Biden is a mere figurehead) has in mind for America, we must first understand the Golden State.

BY EDWARD RING

### **OUR DESCENT INTO COLLECTIVE MADNESS?**

An ungracious and neurotic elite whose judgment is bankrupt and whose privilege is paid for by those who don't have it threatens to drag us to the depths of unreason.

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

#### THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

#### No Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 (Not Scheduled)

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 2, 2021. It is likely to have a major policy item on exchanging and selling State Water Project "surplus" water and the potential for water banking in the Paso Basin and other water basins.

#### San Luis Obispo County Pension Trust Meeting of Monday, February 1, 2021 (Scheduled)

There is nothing earth shaking on this agenda and the system continues to benefit from the continued investment markets' growth. It appears that most retirees will get a 3% raise in May. How was your raise this year?

#### Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, February 25, 2020 (Scheduled)

This is a light meeting with only one permit item. However, it is instructive about the incremental erosion of property rights.

Item 4 - Hearing to consider a request by the Pierson Family for 1) Lot Line Adjustment/Coastal Development Permit (S000161L, COAL 01-0001) to adjust the lot lines between two parcels of 112.41 and 9.23 acres, resulting in two parcels of 20.01 (Parcel 1) and 101.63 (Parcel 2) acres, including designation of a building envelope (1.5 acre) on each resulting parcel; 2) Minor Use Permit/Coastal Development Permit (D000230P) to allow construction of two single family residences of 3,578 (Parcel 1) and 5,685 (Parcel 2) square feet including associated site improvements on each resulting adjusted parcel; and 3) Variance (DRC2017-00083) to allow grading on slopes over 30% for the driveway access to the building site on resulting Parcel 1. The proposal is to split 121 acres into 2 lots with one house to be built on each lot. Although the staff recommends approval, you would think they were trying to put in a Wal-Mart. The conditions of approval document alone contains 10 tightly packed pages with 53 separate requirements.

#### Some of our "favorites" include:

15. BIO-1 Pinnipeds/ Otter Avoidance. Construction activities shall not take place during the pinniped pupping season, March 1 through May 31st of each year. All construction

activities shall be set back from the cliff to avoid visual impacts to seals using the haul out area identified on the adjacent parcel to the northwest. The setback area and distance shall be determined by a qualified marine mammal biologist prior to construction activities.

In the two examples below, the government, in effect, seizes most of the property as open space and provides that the public can tromp through the front yard.

BIO-7 Open Space Easement. Prior to issuance of a grading permit, the applicant shall execute and record an open space easement for all areas outside the building envelopes and driveways, in a form approved by County Counsel and the Executive Director of California Coastal Commission in conformance with applicable Coastal Act regulations. The open space easement shall include a formal legal description and graphic depiction of subject properties including Ellysly Creek habitat area and the designation of a building envelope on each parcel. Development shall be prohibited in the open space area except for:

- a. Restoration, protection, and enhancement of native riparian habitat and grassland habitat consistent with the terms of the final Native Grassland and San Luis County Morning Glory restoration and revegetation plan and
- b. Associated improvements for the California Coastal Trail.
- c. Associated improvements for the proposed residential developments including and not limited to, wastewater system and leach field, water storage, driveway and/or access road improvements.

#### Coastal Trail Easement

43. Prior to occupancy of the Parcel 2 residence, the applicant shall execute and record an easement for the California Coastal Trail, in a form approved by County Counsel and the Executive Director of California Coastal Commission.

#### Liability

32. Prior to issuance of any grading or construction permits, the property owner shall execute and record a deed restriction which acknowledges and assumes the risks of wave action, erosion, flooding, landslides, or other hazards associated with development on a beach or bluff and waives any future claims of damage or liability against the permitting agency and agrees to indemnify the permitting agency against any liability, claims, damages or expenses arising from any injury or damage due to such hazards.

Note in regard to the liability condition, the site plan shows that the seaward home is hundreds of feet set back from the bluff, which itself is formidable. No waves will be hitting or undercutting the house.

And if the Sierra Club, Coastal Commission, or any enviro-socialist comes after the County for approving the permit, you're on your own. Why even have a County government in the first place if it abandons its own decisions and constituents when superior levels of government and/or socialists attack them?

The applicant shall as a condition of approval of this conditional use permit at his sole expense, any action brought against the County of San Luis Obispo, its present or former officers, agents, or employees, by a third party challenging either its decision to approve this conditional use permit or the manner in which the County is interpreting or enforcing the conditions of this conditional use permit, or any other action by a third party relating to

approval or implementation of this conditional use permit. The applicant shall reimburse the County for any court costs and attorney fees that the County may be required by a court to pay as a result of such action, but such participation shall not relieve the applicant of his obligation under this condition.

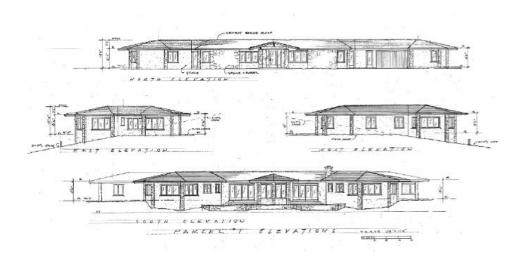
Wonder what the Coastal Commission will do to these poor people?

All this for 2 nice looking houses? Remember there are 10 pages of this stuff to build 2 homes!

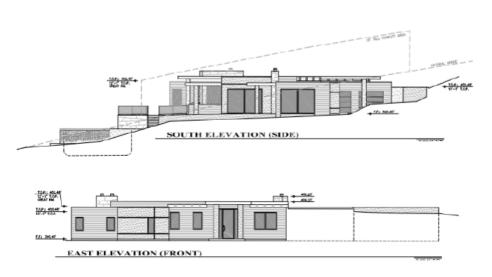
Big Picture: Day by day governments are eroding and eliminating private property incrementally. What'ch you gonna do when they come for you?







Proposed Residence Parcel 1



Proposed Residence Parcel 2

# EARLY WARNING COASTAL COMMISSION TO CONSIDER DUNES RIDING PHASE-OUT AT MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup> MEETING (SEE ARTICLE IMMEDIATELY BELOW)

# LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Dunes Status – BE READY FOR MARCH 18, 2021 AS DISCUSSED IN DETAIL LAST WEEK**

On March 18, 2021 the Commission will consider a staff recommendation to begin a phased shutdown of off-road riding and camping in the Oceano Dunes State Park over the next 5 years. The Board item with the specifics and timeline has not been posted as of this writing. As we have reported in the past, consensus in the Coastal Commission has been building over the past several years. The Commission has the power to shut down the current activities because it issued the original permit to the State Parks Department back in 1984, which authorized the riding and camping that had already been occurring since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. During recent meetings, a number of the 12 Coastal Commissioners expressed opposition to the current off-road riding and use of motorized and towed off-road vehicles for camping on the beach.

The Commission can simply modify or rescind the permit.

What you can do:

- 1. Ask the Board of Supervisors to pass a Resolution to oppose the shutdown.
- 2. Residents of the cities of Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, Arroyo Grande, and San Luis Obispo should ask their respective City Councils to pass Resolutions to oppose the shutdown.

In each case, the Resolutions should be sent to the Governor, State Senate, State Assembly, the California Resources Secretary, and the Commission.

3. The actual Commission meeting will be virtual. That is, it will be conducted as a Zoom meeting. Therefore, there is no actual meeting site. The Commissioners will be at home or in their offices scattered throughout the State. Staffers may be in regional offices, home, or at the headquarters in San Francisco.

This situation diminishes the ability to the public to speak and demonstrate massive opposition. For this reason, the locals who oppose shutdown and the various local and statewide pro-riding and camping organizations should rally at the State Capitol on March 18, 2021.

The Commissioners are appointed by the Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the ProTem of the State Senate. If tens of thousands of riders, campers, and recreation enthusiasts show up at the Capitol and run a peaceable structured series of speeches outside and permitted teach-ins on the inside, the Governor, Legislature, and Sacramento bureaucrats would have to pay attention. The presence of thousands of off-road campers, off-road vehicles, and ATV's would be very impressive.

There are a number of hot links in the Coastal Commission bulletin below. They provide insight into the Commissioners' growing antipathy to dunes riding and vehicle camping on the beach.

See last week's Update at the link for many more details: Weekly Update Feb-14\_Feb-20\_2021.pdf (colabslo.org)

No Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 (Not Scheduled)

The next scheduled meeting is set for Tuesday, March 2, 2021.

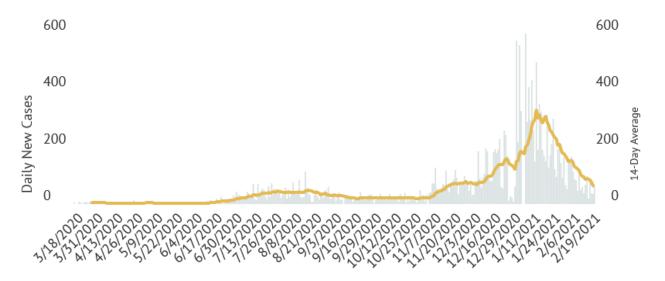
Local Agency Formation Commission Meeting of Thursday, February 18, 2021 (Cancelled)

No reason for the cancellation was provided in the notice.

# **ONGOING AND NEW ISSUES**

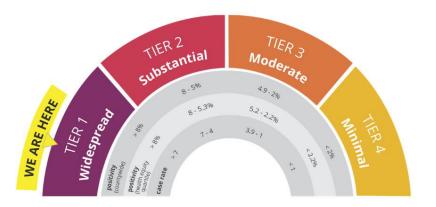
Even though there is no Board meeting, various issues occur.

Issue 1 – COVID Update: Daily New Cases (and 14-Day Average). The county's new cases continued downward. As of this writing the County is still in the purple regulatory tier.



22 (10 ICU)\*\*

SLO County Residents with COVID-19 in Hospital



#### **Integrated Waste Management Authority Meeting (IWMA) of February 10, 2021 (Completed)**

#### Polystyrene Ban and Underlying Issues.

The Commission directed staff on a 7/6 vote to bring back an ordinance which would rescind the current ban. The direction also included the possibility that the Board would extend the current suspension of the Ban and then reconsider the matter after COVID dries up. The Board was subjected to the usual hysterical phony public comment from organized progressive sycophants and paid operatives who wish to ban fossil fuels and anything derived from them. Their motto is "You will die from chemistry."

**Background:** In 2019 the IWMA adopted a ban on polystyrene containers, packing materials, and other products. It was to take effect in April 2020 but was postponed because many businesses were (and still are) suffering from various shifting forms of government imposed COVID lockdowns. At this point, absent any action the ordinance would take effect this coming April.

In the meantime, frustration with the IWMA had been growing for years among some city council members and County Supervisors. Instead of simply operating refuse disposal and recycling, the agency became a politicized arm of the progressive left generating all sorts of regulations and bans, as well as operating green correct "education" (propaganda) programs. For example, it championed the plastic bag ban, promoted the creepy and fetishistic Mr. Eco, and turning householders into virtual refuse workers. More recently it was fomenting banning plastic utensils and straws.

As a result, some of the members said that unless the activism stops, we are going to withdraw some cities and the County from the IWMA Joint Powers Authority so that we will not be dominated by the loons in the City of SLO and the City of Grover Beach. For considering this step, the Red SLO Trashune has opined that those officials who are sick of being manipulated by the leftists who have dominated IWMA polices for years are "bullies." Actually, it has been the progressive left that has bullied the majority of the public and public officials for years.

At some point in the near future the controversy will reappear on the IWMA agenda as a contrived left progressive organizing opportunity.

Supervisor Gibson inadvertently misdistilled the situation when he said that the opponents are simply "ideological." Would anyone dare to disagree with Gibson's interpretation of science or political correctness? Gibson is partially right but not in the way he meant it. Peschong, Arnold, Compton, and some city council members disagreed.

In fact tens of thousands of County citizens are sick of the decade-over-decade erosion of property rights, accumulative petty and draconian regulations, and self-righteous posturing of Gibson and his ilk. Some of us love our coffee in a Styrofoam cup. It doesn't burn our hands like the waxy dissolvable cups. Some us want to make it back to the office with the salad before the vinaigrette leaks through the cardboard container. None of us want the chicken juice from leaky politically correct containers to drip down on our steak in the supermarket display case.

Most of us sick and outraged by the intolerant and abusive progressive left, and we wish they would leave us and our stuff alone. If the dopey, dying demented boomers in SLO City want to ban stuff, let them. But don't make hundreds of thousands of other people suffer.

Be angry and support the City Council members, County Supervisors, and Special District rep who wish to reform the sick agency. Don't patronize businesses that advertise in the San Luis Obispo Trashune.



Your Refuse Fees at Work

# MIGHT AS WELL BAN ICE CREAM¹ TOO AND BRING IN THE KILLER KLOWNS FROM OUTER SPACE



#### Senate Bill 467 - ATTACK ON OIL INDUSTRY - ALSO SEE NEWS ARTICLE ON PAGE 24

The ostensible purpose of the Bill is to outlaw fracking statewide. The devious trick is that it undermines almost anything you need to do to drill, operate, maintain, or refresh and oil well as fracking. Radical Santa Barbara Assemblywoman Monique Limon is the co-sponsor of the Bill. By phishing the oil industry, she betrays thousands of workers, suppliers, and others who derive their income directly or indirectly from oil in Santa Barbara and SLO counties (not to mention statewide), all the while portraying herself as a Socialist who supports working and poor people. The hypocrisy oozes like putrid pus from a stinking sore.

The Board of Supervisors should schedule an agenda item on its next meeting to amend its Leg Program to oppose this Bill.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ICE CREAM IS FULL OF SUGAR AND FAT AND LEADS TO DISEASE AND DEATH FOR MILLIONS.

It would shut down Price Canyon Oil Field as the plain text states that cyclic steaming is included in the banned practices.

b) "Cyclic steaming" means the alternating injection of steam under pressure, followed by production of oil or gas with condensed steam, as well as other fluids and materials.

Cyclic steaming is necessary to loosen up the oil in the fractured rock. It has been studied by the State and Feds and was found to be nonpolluting in the case of the Price canyon oil field.

#### **Ex Post Facto Clause?**

Another section states that even existing permits will not be renewed, and some will be voided as soon as the Bill becomes law.

(a) Notwithstanding Sections 3160 and 3161, no permit to conduct hydraulic fracturing, acid well stimulation treatment, steam flooding, water flooding, or cyclic steaming may be issued, and no then-existing permit may be renewed, including permits to re-drill or rework, beginning January 1, 2022. Any permit issued to the operator of a well beginning January 1, 2022, to conduct hydraulic fracturing, acid well stimulation treatment, steam flooding, water flooding, or cyclic steaming is void. The Bill summary states:

#### **SECTION 1.**

The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

- (a) Hydraulic fracturing, cyclic steaming, steam flooding, and water flooding present a current and immediate threat to the environment as well as to public health, safety, and welfare, and even more so than conventional oil production. These unconventional extraction practices degrade surface and groundwater quality; require large amounts of freshwater, especially for drilling; contribute significantly to global climate change; add to air pollution from drilling, extraction, processing, trucking, and other activities; inevitably cause spills of oil, produced water, or other hazardous materials; and destroy wildlife, habitat, and other sensitive lands. Drilling, fracking, and steaming also produce large quantities of toxic wastes that must be disposed of, presenting additional environmental and public safety concerns. These environmental harms predominantly and disproportionately harm vulnerable California communities, including low-income communities and communities of color.
- (b) Hydraulic fracturing requires the injection of largely unknown, yet highly toxic, chemicals that risk contamination of the state's freshwater aquifers relied upon by communities for drinking water or by businesses for agricultural operations.
- (c) Cyclic steam injection and steam flooding are enhanced oil recovery (EOR) practices used in tar sands and other heavy oil deposits. These EOR techniques employ a highly energy-intensive method of oil extraction that results in significant increases in air emissions and contributes to global climate change. The continuous injection of steam underground to extract the oil requires the constant use of steam generators, which emit high levels of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants hazardous to health. These EOR techniques also generate a substantial volume of wastewater that must be re-injected into underground aquifers, increasing the potential for seismic activity or the migration of

contamination into underground sources of drinking water. In certain formations, cyclic steaming has also proven to cause surface seeps that foul surface waters and harm wildlife.

- (d) Water flooding, like hydraulic fracturing, cyclic steam injection, and steam flooding, generates large volumes of produced water, which must be disposed of after treatment. The sheer volume of produced water generated by this practice increases the risks to surface water quality especially. This practice has also been linked to sinkhole formation.
- (e) Proximity to oil and gas extraction sites pose significant health risks, especially due to increased air pollution and threats to quality drinking water. Fine particulate matter (PM), like PM2.5, is produced during combustion, and can deeply penetrate the respiratory system. A recent study found that even a small increase in long-term exposure to PM2.5 leads to a large increase in the COVID-19 death rate, heightening the public health risks for people that live close to oil fields.
- (f) Further assistance must be provided to frontline and vulnerable communities that have been most polluted by the fossil fuel industry by cleaning up pollution, remediating negative health impacts, and building resilient infrastructure to prepare for the unavoidable impacts of climate change.
- (g) California must provide fossil fuel workers, and the communities in which they live, with a just and equitable transition away from the fossil fuel industry, including, but not limited to, training opportunities, health care coverage, secured pensions of affected workers, and the creation of new, unionized, green jobs, with family-sustaining wages, alongside investing in economic development and infrastructure in communities currently supported by fossil fuels.

The full bill, which isn't all that long, can be read at the link:

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\_id=202120220SB467



90 years of success and energy to be obliterated while people freeze in the dark

# **COLAB IN DEPTH**

IN FIGHTING THE TROUBLESOME, LOCAL DAY-TO-DAY ASSAULTS ON OUR FREEDOM AND PROPERTY, IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND THE LARGER UNDERLYING IDEOLOGICAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC CAUSES

# **DOUBLING DOWN ON DUMB**

#### BY ROBERT LOPEZ

The predictable response by the neoliberal establishment to the January 6 riot is akin to seeking relief for hypertension by taking pills that raise one's blood pressure.

The impeachment of Donald Trump is built on so many interlacing layers of folly, it is hard to untangle them all. At the center of the national-security declarations about "white nationalism" and "Christian nationalism" lie extraordinarily stupid assertions, to which fanatical anti-Trumpers devote themselves more steadfastly the more the logic behind the impeachment decomposes.

The fact that it's unconstitutional for Congress to carry out a trial against a private citizen is important but not even the main deficiency in our current process. The central paradox here is that our government is criminalizing activity—debate and redress of grievances—that is not only a cherished tradition in America, but also, protected by the Constitution. The United States has long valued the ritual of assembling to show political strength and of gathering in front of symbolic sites (monuments, courthouses, capital buildings, etc.) in order to express discontent to the government (part of the "redress of grievances"). Henry David Thoreau's *Civil Disobedience* is still considered a classic.

With every "march on Washington," people partake in this rite of passage. The disorderly conduct and violence that took place on January 6 involved a tiny fraction of the crowd, yet the impeachment presumes that *the entire exercise* of marching on Washington was illegal violence against the government.

Calls for Senators Ted Cruz (R-Texas) and Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) to be expelled from the Senate have not been based on fantasist claims that they partook in vandalism and bedlam, but rather, on the tenuous accusation that their statements questioning Joe Biden's electoral win incited and constituted violence. Any distinction between the hundreds of thousands who gathered for a good old-fashioned rally in Washington and the hundreds who trespassed into the Capitol building would exonerate Trump since his actual words supported the former activity, not the latter.

Even the trespassing wasn't insurrection, since not all *criminal* behavior is treasonous. Otherwise, the Left's thousands of rowdy protests in the name of their martyrs with criminal records, such as George

Floyd and Jacob Blake, would be classified as sedition. And that sedition would far surpass the supposed insurrection committed on January 6.

As I pointed out in <u>this podcast</u>, four follies constitute the mainstream argument about the January 6 violence.

#### It Was "Insurrection"

Donald Trump's supporters are among the most prolific gun owners in the country. According to <u>recent polling</u>, 47 percent of Trump supporters live in households with guns (slightly above the <u>national average</u>). The FBI's vague announcements about tips and leads related to the Capitol Hill riot must be received in the context of that agency's general untrustworthiness. I am old enough to remember when leftists knew who J. Edgar Hoover was and not only distrusted but also loathed his legacy, and not because of the salacious rumors about him <u>wearing a tutu</u> and engaging in gay dalliances with Clyde Tolson.

Whatever comes of the FBI's investigations into preplanned pipe bombs, these findings do nothing to counteract the basic reality that the Trump supporters who entered the Capitol did not open fire *en masse*, which they could have and would have done if their intent was "insurrection." Their purpose and motive were clear: to show Congress that they disagreed with the certification of the election results. In other words, they were there to make a point, not to overthrow the government.

### It Was a "Coup d'état"

A *coup d'état* would involve deposing current leaders and assuming control of the government by putting forward a new leader. No massive group of people sought to depose leaders and assume control of the government.

Donald Trump was the president of the United States on January 6 and ceded control of the executive office to Joe Biden on January 20, two weeks later. The rioters went home.

The deaths associated with this incident are still only one-tenth the <u>fatalities of the Orlando Pulse shooting</u>, which nobody, least of all the Left, considers an insurrection or a coup. Only one fatality, <u>Ashli Babbitt</u>, was clearly the result of violence, and the violence directed at her came from the government. The causes of the other deaths remain unclear.

### "Trump's Lies Led People to Attack the Capitol"

Everyone must stop talking about the Trump supporters who gathered in Washington as if they were children or illiterate stooges. The people who gathered around the Capitol and entered were not all Trump supporters. The adults who *did* support Trump held a particular stance about the government's treatment of the people. These people went to great lengths to travel to Washington D.C.

The problem is not one between Trump and Congress, but rather, between the people and Congress. Aside from needing to maintain proper perimeter security, if Congress doesn't like popular aggression directed toward them, they need to have more respectful relationships with the voters who do not feel

currently heeded. The world is always dangerous for people in power and, like Roman emperors, they are in a safer position if they have the people's goodwill.

#### "White Nationalism" and "Christian Nationalism"

The storming of the Capitol had nothing to do with white supremacy. Let us, for the sake of argument, pretend we are critical race theorists. Reading our Frantz Fanon and Angela Davis, combined with general Marxist semiotics, we are conscious of how "hegemonic" infrastructures "reify" power and "naturalize" a hierarchy with white people on top.

An edifice of Greco-Roman architecture built to headquarter a mostly white and male legislative body empowered by the Constitution, which was written by slave-owning white men to regulate affairs on land stolen by Indians, satisfies so many points on the critical theorist's checklist ("signs of white supremacy") it would be impossible to cast its sacking as a *white supremacist attack*.

Notwithstanding the melodramatic accounts by Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.), a woman of Puerto Rican descent, most of the people in Congress who were ostensibly fearing for their lives were not women or people of color. In the 116th Congress, 78 percent of lawmakers were white, 75 percent were male, and 88 percent were Christian. The contested winner being shielded by the mostly white Congress was Joe Biden, a white male claiming to be Catholic; and indeed, most of the members who had angered the mob by balking on the certification vote were also white: Senators Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), Mitt Romney (R-Utah), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Representatives Adam Kinzinger (R-Ill.) and Liz Cheney (R-Wyo.) among the other usual RINO suspects.

### **Stuck on Stupid**

Much to the country's shame, an entire impeachment trial is now taking place in Congress based on assertions that can be disproved in thirty seconds.

The rampant mindlessness lies in America's continued and seemingly unshakable belief that our biggest problems result from letting people say things we don't like. One doesn't need to reprise the lengthy roster of "cancel culture" *causes célèbres* to believe that the postmodern American fear of words has become positively religious in its obsessions. The sheer number of people who spend their waking hours tracking down misstatements by other people, posting incriminating screenshots, and forwarding them around the world in an endless rampage of firings, service refusals, denunciations, blacklistings, and suspensions boggles the mind.

It is a mystery how our society gets anything done anymore when so many employers are consumed in investigating their employees' and customers' offhand remarks. In the vast majority of cases, employees are fired or disciplined for saying things that had nothing to do with their job performance, and in the absence of any proof that their stated beliefs hurt anyone at the workplace.

In countless cases people have lost their jobs because of things they said in private or things they deleted. The dangerous words for which the language police held them "accountable" were hidden truffles that snitches had to go to great lengths to find.

The predictable response by the neoliberal establishment to the January 6 riot—cancel *more* people, ban *more* people, erase *more* voices, unpublish *more* books, fire *more* undesirables—is akin to seeking relief for hypertension by taking pills that raise one's blood pressure. The hundreds of thousands who gathered in Washington knew that society's growing censoriousness was on track to erase them. They saw evidence of election fraud and found that all the politically correct forces that had mobilized against racist and sexist gaffes were now mobilizing against reasonable statements that happened to inconvenience the powerful. And it was for the oldest motive in the world—to remove obstacles to their power and consolidate control. If not for cancel culture, those masses would have had more orderly means of conveying their grievances to the government.

#### **History Threatens to Repeat**

If you label people subhuman, criminalize their beliefs, belittle their experience, refuse to hear their grievances, expel them from platforms, and threaten to block them from licensing or employment, you leave them no choice but to do what hundreds of trespassers did on January 6. They will have to travel and do their best to confront you face to face. Those confrontations will become volatile, dangerous, and at times fatal. But human history is full of lessons that show us that you can't stamp out ideas you don't like.

To marshal the language of national security and cast January 6 as a domestic terrorist threat composed of white and Christian nationalists, is doubling down on dumb. Such a course of action hangs more hopes for progress on the suppression of language and ignores the unmistakable reality that people with uncomfortable opinions (many of which might be true) don't disappear when you try to render them invisible. They find other forums, grow angrier, and come to the inevitable realization that they have nothing to lose.

As it turns out, the gay activists who said "SILENCE=DEATH" in the 1980s were right. Many people—probably millions—would rather die than lose the right to speak. This timeless reality may frighten leaders, but nowhere in world history have leaders had little to fear from the subjects they lord over. Placed in perspective, the January 6 incident was incredibly mild. Only a country deprived of perspective could truly consider that a dangerous insurrection.

This article first appeared in American Greatness on February 12, 2021. Robert Lopez joined the faculty at <u>California State University</u>, <u>Northridge</u> in 2008. He became a tenured Associate Professor of English and Classics in 2013., and in July 2013, it was announced he would self-publish "Mean Gays" fiction books. In 2012 he published the essay "Growing up with two Moms", detailing his experiences growing up as son of a lesbian couple. This resulted in an immediate backlash in blogs, with some calling it hate speech. He also ran a blog where he was accused of homophobia for comparing gay parents to slave owners and same sex adoption to "the cultural genocide practices once used against blacks and Indians." Lopez was accused by two former students for creating a discriminatory environment. In October 2015, the CSUN provost wrote a letter informing Lopez that

he was accused of intimidating students. [citation needed] Meanwhile, Lopez accused another administrator of comparing an event he had organized at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library to a "KKK camp." [8]

# CALIFORNIA'S MULTIBILLIONAIRES INTEND TO CONQUER THE WORLD

To understand what the establishment (of which Joe Biden is a mere figurehead) has in mind for America, we must first understand the Golden State.

BY EDWARD RING

As the oldest man ever to be elected U.S. president begins his administration, his immediate blizzard of executive actions suggests the energy of someone much younger. The reason for this is obvious. Joe Biden is not running the country. He is a president in name only. The edicts coming out of the Oval Office, along with the imminent legislative initiatives, are produced by the American equivalent of a Soviet *politburo*, with the political and financial power behind this *politburo* coming from California.

The political actors occupying key roles include Kamala Harris, whose role as the tie-breaker <u>in the U.S. Senate</u> makes her the most powerful vice president in recent memory, and Nancy Pelosi, who presides over the U.S. House of Representatives—both San Francisco Democrats. These two politicians are only the most visible Californians in a group that includes cabinet secretaries, administrative appointees, and what is by far the largest state Democratic congressional caucus.

More significant is the fact that Californians also provide the financial power behind the Biden *politburo*, as well as the cultural power that propels the Democratic narrative. This would include the well-documented trillions in Silicon Valley wealth, the monopolistic power Silicon Valley wields over online communications, and the considerable influence of Hollywood—still the epicenter of America's (and the world's) entertainment industry.

#### As California Resets . . .

All of this California power supports the ongoing "reset"—titanic, historic transformation, imposed through manufactured consent, executive edicts, biased court rulings, and overwrought regulations emanating from the partisan bureaucrats that control federal agencies. This entire establishment, merely slowed during the Trump years, has now shifted into overdrive. But what is their vision?

To understand what the establishment, of which Biden is a mere figurehead, has in mind for America, we must first understand California. This is where the "reset" has advanced the furthest, in a series of shifts that began well before the COVID-19 pandemic provided the excuse to massively accelerate the process.

At the heart of these shifts was an epic cultural transformation. Californians, apart from a <u>sizable and growing minority</u>, now support massive reductions to their quality of life that are meant, supposedly, to assist in the fight against racism and climate change. So thorough is their indoctrination that they do not merely support these "resets," but militantly oppose anyone who disagrees with them.

While California's demographics are often cited as the factor most responsible for its transformed culture, this is misleading if not wholly inaccurate. It is true that California's population is now entirely multiethnic. Only 25 percent of high school age Californians are non-Hispanic white. In the general population, Hispanics are 39 percent of the population, whites are 37 percent, Asians are 15 percent, blacks are six percent, and four percent are multiracial. But if its ethnic makeup is responsible for California's politics, why is it that the most powerful political influencers in the state are all white?

The reality in California, as in the rest of America, is that nonwhites are being used by whites to advance a specific set of policies. They are being conned in the same manner, and for the same reasons, that white voters are being conned.

California's political economy is designed to serve an oligarchy that obscures its self-interest and secures its popular support via rhetoric designed to divide the races and foment panic over climate change. It is rhetoric invented by whites and designed to consolidate the political and economic power of an oligarchy that is predominately white.

For these reasons, the cultural transformation in California that embraces radical anti-racist and radical environmentalist ideology cannot be attributed to California's ethnic composition. That is a myth. Abandoning that myth is the first step toward turning the tide. To believe ethnic transformation means inevitable support for these radical policies is to succumb to the manipulative race-centric narrative.

In a normal and free-information environment, both of these obfuscating lies—"systemic racism" and the "climate emergency"—easily would be debunked. America is the most nonracist multiethnic nation in the history of the world, and the costs to *adapt* to whatever climate change occurs are far less than the costs being proposed to supposedly *arrest* the process. The oligarchs know this. They don't believe their own lies. So what's really at work?

## What Explains the Deception?

To the extent there is a moral justification for what California's best and brightest have <u>already done to California</u>, and have in store for America and the world, it starts with something like this: America's *per capita* consumption of energy is <u>four times greater than China's</u>, and more than ten times greater than India's. As nations develop economically, from China and India to those throughout burgeoning Africa, worldwide energy production will have to massively increase. How will this be accomplished?

The charitable answer is to explain that renewable energy and draconian conservation mandates are part of an all-of-the-above strategy to maintain economic growth until breakthrough energy technologies

such as fusion power are commercialized. That might be believable if Biden's executive orders hadn't already declared war on fossil fuel production in America. There is no "all of the above" strategy. By making Americans pay more for conventional energy, renewable energy and energy management technologies become economically competitive. The primary beneficiaries of fossil fuel suppression, at least in America, are companies based in Silicon Valley. Which leads to the next plank in the political agenda of California's oligarchy, which concerns their relationship to the rest of the world.

A recent essay by <u>Hudson Institute</u> senior fellow Lee Smith should be required reading for anyone trying to make sense out of American politics today. Titled "<u>The Thirty Tyrants</u>," the premise of this 7,000 word essay which goes into extraordinary detail is simple: America's ruling class has declared war on ordinary Americans, and "they are happy to rule in partnership with a foreign power that will help them destroy their own countrymen."

Attempting to summarize the many examples and key points in Smith's superb essay would not do it justice. Read it. Smith's description of Chinese tyranny, and the power and flexibility it gives to their ruling elites, is something the American oligarchy envies.

And again, the Chinese model finds its nearest expression in the one-party state of California. As these Californians, clearly aligned with their counterparts in the rest of America, work to consolidate one-party rule across the nation, again look to California to see what they're really up to. And there is nothing moral about it.

When multibillionaires impassively evaluate the direction of humanity on planet earth—and that is the sort of mega-picture imagining of which multibillionaires have both the time and the money to indulge—what do they see? The panorama before them is deeply troubling. On one hand, they see privileged Western nations, voraciously consuming a far greater than proportional share of the world's resources. But they also see more than 7 billion additional humans, living in non-Western nations, on the cusp of achieving the capacity to industrialize and consume resources at comparable rates to the nations in the West. They wonder how this can go on.

At the same time as they contemplate the challenge of accommodating the aspirations of what within their lifetimes will be over 10 billion humans on planet earth, they realize the medical research they fund is on another cusp of another breakthrough, that of achieving the tantalizing holy grail of medicine: life extension. And finally, to top off this trilogy of troubling insights, these multibillionaires know that cusp number three is nearer than ever—the ability to totally automate an economy and run it with robots.

## Reduced to Livestock, Pacified by AI

So what on earth will these multibillionaires do with all the useless, nonessential people? Here again China comes into the picture. This is a regime that couldn't care less about the fate of its inhabitants. Mao Tse-tung used to boast about his absolute indifference to losing hundreds of millions of his countrymen in a nuclear exchange with the United States. Since Mao, China has produced spectacular

wealth in its transition from communism to fascism, but its indifference to human rights hasn't changed one bit. So where will California's multibillionaires, which today are joined at the hip with their Chinese counterparts, ultimately go in their relationship with China?

It is unlikely their one-sided, lucrative love fest with the Chinese can go on forever. For starters, the Chinese know exactly what they're doing, and have no intention of continuing their dalliance with Western multibillionaires once it is no longer to their benefit. Once they've bought everything they can buy, and stolen everything they can steal, and compromised every human asset they possibly can, they'll drop the love mask like a stone, and reveal what everybody already knows about the CCP but cannot say—they intend to dominate the world.

As for what might come next on the day China drops the act and abandons their suddenly obsolete proxies, one may only speculate that the American deep state is locked and loaded, with <u>classified</u> weaponry that will make a war with the Chinese short and decisive. Then again, why have a short war? Once the multibillionaires have finished <u>furnishing their blast bunkers</u>, stocking them with years worth of food, oxygen, medical supplies, and robots, what better way than a nasty, costly war to reduce the surplus global population?

More than likely, however, most of these multibillionaires, even those Californians who preen at the vanguard of futurism, haven't thought that far ahead. But the agenda of the Biden Administration, from canceling fossil fuel development, to cramming people into dense cities, to admitting millions of unskilled immigrants, or mandating reeducation seminars on the topic of white guilt—all of this and more—can be understood in terms of what American multibillionaires, whose epicenter and base of operations is in California, envision as an appropriate future for humanity. That vision, if not literally genocidal, is nonetheless dark. Apart from the elite few, humanity will be reduced to livestock in pens, policed by robots, pacified by virtual reality.

These elites do still have a choice. They can encourage economic development around the world, hoping that innovation will continue to stay ahead of Malthusian checks and hoping that adaptation and stewardship will protect both the environment and humanity from potential threats such as climate change. That is the moral choice, and it is an eminently possible, hopeful scenario for humanity. There is no indication they are making that choice.

There is a populist movement around the world that ordinary Americans are joining. It transcends race and in many respects transcends ideology. It has two predominant features. The first is the desire for nations to retain their sovereignty and cultures, and determine their own fates. The other, equally significant, is a growing faith and respect for the power of the individual, and the power of human creativity, to successfully address the challenges we all face without war, and without succumbing to the tyranny of oligarchs—whether they're living in California or Beijing.

Edward Ring is a senior fellow of the Center for American Greatness and co-founder in 2013 of the California Policy Center. This article first appeared in American Greatness on February 15, 2021



She can put 12 rounds per minute in the bull's eye at 600 to 1000 yards. What'ch you gonna do when they come or you?

# **OUR DESCENT INTO COLLECTIVE MADNESS?**

An ungracious and neurotic elite whose judgment is bankrupt and whose privilege is paid for by those who don't have it threatens to drag us to the depths of unreason.

#### BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

These are crazy times. A pandemic led to national quarantine, to self-induced recession, to riot, arson, and looting, to a contested election, and to a riot at the Capitol.

In response, are we focusing solely on upping the daily vaccination rate?

Getting the country back to work? Opening the schools as the virus attenuates? Ensuring safety in the streets?

Or are we descending into a sort of madness?

It might have been understandable that trillions of dollars had to be borrowed to keep a suffocating economy breathing.

But it makes little sense to keep borrowing \$2 trillion a year to prime an economy now set to roar back with herd-like immunity on the horizon.

Trillions of dollars in stimulus are already priming the economy.

Cabin-feverish Americans are poised to get out of their homes to travel, eat out, and socialize as never before.

Meanwhile, the United States will have to start paying down \$30 trillion in debt. But we seem more fixated on raising rather than reducing that astronomical obligation.

We are told man-made, worldwide climate change—as in the now discarded term "global warming"—can best be addressed by massive dislocations in the U.S. economy.

The Biden Administration plans to shut down coal plants. It will halt even nearly completed new gas and oil pipelines. It cuts back on fracking to embrace the multitrillion-dollar "Green New Deal."

Americans should pause and examine the utter disaster that unfolded recently in Texas and its environs.

Parts of the American southwest were covered in ice and snow for days. Nighttime temperatures crashed to near zero in some places.

The state, under pressure, had been transitioning from its near limitless and cheap reservoirs of natural gas and other fossil fuels to generating power through wind and solar.

But what happens to millions of Texans when wind turbines freeze up while storm clouds extinguish solar power?

We are witnessing the answer in oil-and-gas rich, but energy-poor Texas that is all but shut down.

Millions are shivering without electricity and affordable heating. Some may die or become ill by this self-induced disaster—one fueled by man-made ideological rigidity.

Texas' use of natural gas in power generation has helped the United States to curb carbon emissions. Ignoring it for unreliable wind and solar alternatives was bound to have catastrophic consequences whenever a politically incorrect nature did not follow the global warming script.

In 2019, a special counsel wrapped up a 22-month, \$35 million investigation into President Trump's alleged "collusion" with Russia in the 2016 election. Robert Mueller and his team searched long and hard for a crime and came up empty.

Then Trump in December 2019 was impeached and acquitted in the Senate in early 2020. His purported crime was warning the Ukrainians about the Biden family's *quid pro quo* racketeering.

After the revelations concerning Hunter Biden's shenanigans not only in Ukraine but also in Kazakhstan and China, Trump's admonitions now seem prescient rather than impeachable.

Trump had been threatened with removal from office under the 25th Amendment. He was accused variously of violating the Logan Act and the Constitution's emoluments clause. His executive orders were often declared unconstitutional if not seditionary.

All these oppositional measures predictably failed to receive either public or even congressional support.

Finally, an exasperated Left decided to flog the presidential corpse of a now private citizen Trump.

It did so without a constitutionally mandated chief justice to oversee an impeachment trial in the Senate. The targeted president was no longer president.

There was no special prosecutor, little debate, and even less cross-examination. In the end, the second impeachment was sillier than the first. But, like the first, the show trial also wasted precious time and resources in the midst of a pandemic.

But the height of our collective madness is the current cancel culture. Its subtexts are "unearned white privilege" and "white supremacy."

In the name of those supposed abominations, mobs tear down statues, destroy careers, censor speech, require veritable oaths, and conduct reeducation training.

Stranger still, those alleging "white privilege" are usually themselves quite wealthy, liberal—and white. These elites count on their incestuous networking, silver-spoon upbringings, and their tony degrees to leverage status, influence and money—in a way undreamed of by the white working class.

Quite affluent and privileged minorities likewise join the chorus to call for everything from reparations to "reprogramming" Trump voters.

The most elite in America are the most likely to damn the privilege of those who lack it. Perhaps this illogic squares the psychological circle of feeling guilty about what they never have any intention of giving up.

If blaming those without advantages does not satisfy the unhappy liberal elite, then there is always warring against the mute dead: changing their eponymous names, destroying their statues, slandering their memories, and denying their achievements.

The common denominator with all these absurdities? An ungracious and neurotic elite whose judgment is bankrupt and whose privilege is paid for by those who don't have it.

Victor Davis Hanson is a distinguished fellow of the Center for American Greatness. The Center for American Greatness. This article first appeared in American Greatness on February 18, 2021. He is also a Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Hoover Institution of Stanford University.





# **ALERT**

# OIL INDUSTRY UNDER ATTACK BY SANTA BARBARA STATE SENATOR MONIQUE LIMON

## New Bill Would Ban Fracking In California By 2027

'California must lead on climate action, including transitioning to a 100% clean energy economy'

By Evan Symon, February 17, 2021 3:15 pm

17 Feb 20213:15 pm

A new bill that would halt all hydraulic fracturing resource extraction, also known as fracking, by 2027, was introduced in the Senate Wednesday.

Under <u>Senate Bill 467</u>, authored by Senators Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) and <u>Monique Limon (D-Santa Barbara)</u>, new or renewed permits to conduct hydraulic fracturing, acid well stimulation treatment, steam flooding, water flooding, or cyclic steaming for the extraction of oil and gas would be prohibited beginning in January 2022. While permits issued in December 2021 and before would still be honored, operations would only be allowed to continue for five more years until the total ban takes place. All new or renewed fracking permits within 2,500 feet of homes, schools, health care facilities or long-term care institutions would also be prohibited by 2022.

In addition, SB 467 would also begin a program to transition oil and gas operation workers away from fracking extraction and provide training to them for other positions, such as well remediation contractors.

Senator Wiener and Senator Limon wrote SB 467 in response to Governor Gavin Newsom's October 2020 announcement that he wanted to ban fracking in California. However, they also noted numerous environmental and public health issues that fracking, or living close to fracking, brings. In a Wednesday press release, Senator Wiener specifically pointed out how chemicals released as pollution during fracking operations can lead to cancer, specifically for the 7.5 million Californians who live within a mile of an oil or gas well. He also noted that fracking plays a large part in water crises as fracking operations use an enormous amount of water during extraction, potentially straining the amount of water going to urban or agricultural areas.

"California must lead on climate and we must reduce and eventually end our dependence on oil. We're out of time and we need to act quickly," Senator Wiener said Wednesday. "Climate change is not a theoretical future threat — it's an existential threat to our community and is having devastating impacts right now. We have no time to waste, and California must lead on climate action, including transitioning to a 100% clean energy economy. Extracting massive amounts of oil — particularly with destructive techniques such as fracking — is totally inconsistent with California's commitment to a sustainable climate future. And drilling for oil near where people live or go to school is deeply harmful to community health, particularly for the communities of color near which oil extraction is most likely to be located. It's time to transition away from these oil extraction methods, protect our community's health and water supply, and create a brighter future for our state and our planet."

Evan V. Symon is the Senior Editor for the California Globe. Prior to the Globe, he reported for the Pasadena Independent, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, and was head of the Personal Experiences section at Cracked. He can be reached at <a href="mailto:evan@californiaglobe.com">evan@californiaglobe.com</a>. This article first appeared in the February 18, 2021 edition of California Globe



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# ANDY CALDWELL SHOW NOW LOCAL IN SLO COUNTY

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