

November 15, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand that the oil and gas industry is evaluating sites in Idaho for oil and gas drilling operations. I served on the Dallas City Council for eight years, during which time I was actively involved in crafting a local ordinance to regulate gas drilling within our city limits. I am writing to offer some insight about the process we undertook and the resulting regulations.

As oil and gas companies prepared to initiate drilling operations in our city, we realized that state law was insufficient to address the reality of the daily problems that can be caused by oil and gas drilling in urban areas. Although the State of Texas generally regulates the oil and gas industry, the attorneys for the City of Dallas (who are generally very conservative in their evaluation of legal matters) were confident that our city could impose regulations on drilling practices that directly impact our residents.

The City of Dallas was fortunate to learn from municipalities to the west of us that had experienced a boom in oil and gas drilling several years before. I served on the City of Dallas Gas Drilling Taskforce to evaluate the policies of our western neighbors. We heard from residents in those cities who had been initially enthusiastic about oil and gas drilling, but then soured on the industry once they experienced the reality of day-to-day oil and gas drilling operations.

As a result, our taskforce recommended the adoption of city regulations that would address industry practices that are incompatible with residential areas, park land, and other sensitive areas. The Dallas City Council subsequently approved a robust ordinance that ensures a minimum distance between drilling sites and sensitive areas and protects neighborhoods from noise and air pollutants, unregulated truck traffic, and unsightly drilling areas, among other things.

I have enclosed a copy of Dallas' gas drilling ordinance, which has become a model for other cities in North Texas. If I may provide any further insights, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Angela Hunt