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Passage of Measure Z is a Game-Changer in the Fight Against Fracking

Statement by members of Californians Against Fracking & Dangerous Drilling

Monterey, CA—This ban on fracking in a major oil-producing county in California is a landmark victory in the fight against fracking and dangerous drilling. A broad and diverse grassroots coalition of small business owners, farmers, health professionals, labor unions, environmentalists, teachers, students, and other dedicated local supporters stood up to Big Oil and won, despite being outspent by 30 to one.

“Voters proved that they are more concerned with protecting water, public health, and the climate than they are with corporate profits. Monterey is the sixth California County to ban fracking and dangerous drilling,” said Catherine Garoupa-White, Coordinator of Californians Against Fracking and Dangerous Drilling. “As the only ballot initiative on oil and gas in the nation this election cycle, this victory marks a bellwether moment in the movement for a just transition away from fossil fuels toward more renewable energy sources.”

“This is a David and Goliath win for the people of Monterey, who were outspent 30 to one and still triumphed over toxic industry to ban fracking,” stated David Braun of Rootskeeper, one of the coalition’s member organizations. “In winning this historic ban, Monterey County joins the ranks of numerous cities and counties in California who have voted to protect their water by banning fracking and extreme extraction. This win sends a clear message to Governor Jerry Brown and other policy makers that they need to protect our communities by banning these dangerous practices statewide.”

Californians Against Fracking & Dangerous Drilling is a coalition of environmental justice, public health, faith, food safety, and environmental organizations working to win a statewide ban on fracking and other dangerous oil and gas extraction activities in California.