



City of Las Vegas
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2012- 04

**ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM ON HYDRAULIC
FRACTURING WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF
THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO.**

WHEREAS, The City of Las Vegas, New Mexico does not have sufficient and current land use regulations relating to oil, gas, and geothermal drilling, exploration, and extraction within the jurisdiction of the City of Las Vegas, New Mexico, and

WHEREAS, during the past year the Governing Body and staff has held several public hearings and obtained information and input from all persons and public agencies interested in or having information relevant to the matter of oil, gas and geothermal drilling, exploration and extraction. As a result, the City proposed Ordinance 12-12 which was a revision of the now expired Ordinance 10-16 which created a moritorium on hydraulic fracturing. Both moritoriums had as their primary purpose, a law which would protect its water supply from drilling contamination.

WHEREAS, City staff has concluded that the issues to be considered are complex and it will require more time before it can establish final regulations regarding possible oil exploration in the area and the process known as Hydraulic Fracturing or "Fracking;" and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body considered and debated the Moritorium Ordinance on 2 different occasions and did not take action on the proposal. The City is unprotected because there are no other rules or regulations which would stop the "fracking" activity at this time. The previously submitted "Community Rights Ordinance" which in part addresses hydraulic fracturing, is critically flawed and void ab initio because it violates the Constitutions of the United States of America and New Mexico.

WHEREAS, time is of the essence and immediate action is necessary to anticipate and halt the approval of any permits for oil, gas drilling, exploration and extraction in the City of las Vegas.

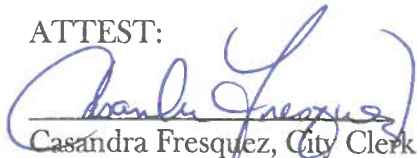
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO THAT:

Effective immediately, permit applications for oil, gas, and geothermal drilling, exploration and extractions shall not be considered until a time in the future when legal hydraulic fracturing regulations have been passed by the Governing Body.

7-23-12
Dated:


Alfonso E. Ortiz, Jr.,
Mayor

ATTEST:


Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
7/23/2102