

## Farmers' Petition In Support of a Fracking Moratorium in California

Dear Governor Brown:

We, the undersigned, are members of California's agricultural community and are concerned about the potential impacts of fracking on our livelihoods. We are aware that the oil industry is planning to expand fracking throughout California to places where there has been robust agricultural production. Because of the potential risks to this production, we urge you to place a moratorium on fracking and to undertake a comprehensive study on fracking's potential impacts to California's water, air and soil.

The expansion of fracking in California will demand large volumes of water that could come at the expense of agricultural operations. Farmers across California are already coming to grips with dwindling water supplies and could lose additional supplies to contamination from fracking operations. Fracking operations immediately pollute water by mixing it with up to 500 toxic chemicals to induce the fracturing of the rock. It is estimated that each frack job uses between 500,000 and 3,000,000 gallons of water, which becomes polluted and is removed from the hydrological cycle.

In addition to supply, the global demand for California's oil will likely increase the price of water to the detriment of farmers. Many small and mid-sized farmers will not be able to compete for water versus large multinational oil companies that are willing to pay much higher prices. Oil companies have already begun outbidding farmers in California, Colorado and other states for water supply. Without a reliable water supply, many farmers could be pushed out of farming.

The expansion of fracking could worsen groundwater pollution. Contamination can occur from methane and toxic fracking chemicals, as well as from the transportation and disposal of toxic – and at times even radioactive – wastewater. Once it occurs, it could be impossible or extremely expensive to clean up. Industry documents show that drilling wells routinely fail, and that old drilling wells can serve as conduits for pollution to spread across a wide area. Nationwide, there have been over 1,000 cases of groundwater contamination from drilling. In Shafter, Occidental Petroleum Corporation was recently caught on video dumping fracking fluids next to an almond orchard in violation of California law.

This is of great concern to our community because agricultural production and related activities rely on clean water and soil free of toxins. It would be a grave mistake to allow fracking to proceed unabated and to deal with the consequences later. Thus,

we call on you to implement a moratorium now in order to responsibly protect California's water and agricultural industry.

Sincerely,

Tom Frantz, Almond Farmer Shafter, CA

Donna Pacheco — Achadinha Cheese Company, Petaluma

Nancy Van Tassel — Adagio Olive Farm, San Miguel

Moira Burke — Agricola: flora et fauna, Dixon

Tim Bates — Apple Farm/Bates & Schmitt, Philo

Shanale Allen — Ashland/Cherryland Food Policy, San Leandro

Efren Avalos — Avalos Organic Farm, Hollister

Amber Balakian — Balakian Farms, Reedley

Clarence Robinson — Balakian Farms, Reedley

Ginger Balakian — Balakian Farms, Reedley

Stella Balakian — Balakian Farms, Reedley

Robert Lee May — Banner Grange #627, Nevada City

Sarah Worley — Been Wench Farm, Paso Robles

Bryce Loewen — Blossom Bluff Orchards, Parlier

Faith Collins — Bluebird Farm, Yuba City

Tracy Graves — Bodie Ranch, Acampo

Ruth Madocks — Branch Mill Organic Farm, Arroyo Grande

Matt Scott — Brokaw Nursery, Watsonville

Bruce Broderick — Buttonwillow Farm, Fort Bragg

James Lindsay — Cabrillo College, Santa Cruz

Patrick Cavanaugh — California Ag Today

California Certified Organic Farmers, Santa Cruz

Seth Rosmarin — California Certified Organic Farmers, North San Juan

Bob McFarland, President — California State Grange, Sacramento

Lanny Cotler — California State Grange, Willits

Monica Keller — Calolea Olive Oil, Loma Rica

Rachel Kasa — Casa Rosa Farms, Woodland

Thea Blair — Cedar Waxwing Farm, Nevada City

Vang Her — Chang Teng Her Farm, Merced

Chue Moua — Chue Farm, Fresno

Robert MacKimmie — City Bees, San Francisco

Barbara Finnin — City Slicker Farms, Oakland  
Nadine Schaeffer — Cloudforest Farms, Watsonville  
Sue Bordelon — Dancing Dog Farms, Loomis  
Stan Devoto — Devoto Gardens, Sebastopol  
Molly Nakahara — Dinner Bell Farm, Grass Valley  
Ken Dickerson — Ecological Farming Association, Soquel  
Dennis R. Elston — Elston Family Farm, San Miguel  
William Crepps — Everything Under the Sun, Winters  
Nico Farms — Farm City, San Luis Obispo  
Eva Antczak — FarmsReach, Oakland  
Teresa Kurtak — Fifth Crow Farm, Pescadero  
Richard Firme — Firme Farms, Stockton  
Tim Van Wagner — First Rain Farm, Nevada City  
Ashley Votaw — First Rain Farm and Herbal Instinct, Nevada City  
Robert Lower — Flying Disc Ranch, Thermal  
Kalita Todd — Fox Hollow Farm, Grass Valley  
Randi Pratini — Fresh Starts Organic Farm, Nevada City  
Al Courchesne — Frog Hollow Farm, Brentwood  
Dru Rivers — Full Belly Farm, Guinda  
Brenden Kizere — Full Circle Aquaponics & Polyculture, Penn Valley  
Julie Briones — Garden Jewels Produce Farm, Newcastle  
Jordan Gatto — Gattonelli Farm, Covelo  
Pam Sloane — GIVE - Green Initiative for Vegetables in Education, Old Greenwich  
Kaylynne Throne — Grange #306, Sebastopol  
Qayyum Johnson — Green Gulch Farm, Muir Beach  
Sara Tashker — Green Gulch Farm, Muir Beach  
Layci Gragnani — Green Heart Farms, Arroyo Grande  
Sergio Jimenez — Ground Stew Farms, San Martin  
Ilyse Magy — Growing Home Community Garden, San Francisco  
Bill Theysbens — Gypsy Wins Farm, Prunedale  
Jen Theysken — Gypsy Wins Farm, Prunedale  
Paul Hain — Hain Ranch, Tres Pines  
Kai Her — Herr Family Farm, Clovis  
Aaron Gold — Hidden Star Orchards, Clements  
Theresa Huck — Huck's Hollow Farm, Penn Valley  
Kevin Nowell — Humble Bee Hill Farms, Shingle Springs  
Mike Pasner — Indian Springs Organic Farm, Penn Valley  
Julie Guagliardo — JAG'd edge farm, Auburn

Angel Q. — Kashiwase Farms, Winton  
Albert Katz — KATZ farm, Napa/Suisun Valley  
Karen Ram — Kiler Canyon Farm, Paso Robles  
Kristie Knoll — Knoll Farms, Brentwood  
Casey Havre — Lagier Ranches, Escalon  
John Lagier — Lagier Ranches, Escalon  
Dolores Howard — LeFont's Organic Crops, San Luis Obispo  
Roberto Le-Font — LeFont's Organic Crops, San Luis Obispo  
Mandy Caldcleugh — Lindencroft Farm, Ben Lomond  
Ken Lindner — Lindner Bison, Litchfield  
Kathy Lindner — Lindner Bison, Litchfield  
Caitlyn Galloway — Little City Gardens, San Francisco  
Andi Emrich — Little City Gardens, San Francisco  
Gloria Decater — Live Power Community Farm, Covelo  
Faith Collins — Livings Lands Agrarian, Yuba City  
Barbara Roemer — Lost Hill Farm & Sierra Harvest, Nevada City  
Alfred Louie — Malik Farm, Hickman  
Doniga Markegard — Markegard Family Grass-Fed LLC, Half Moon Bay  
Carlos Diaz — Mellow's Farms, Morgan Hill  
Kim Fernandez — Misty Dawn Farm, Grass Valley  
Jutta Thoerner — MM Organics, San Luis Obispo  
Zoe Kosmas — Mount Madonna Center, Watsonville  
Patricia Chelseth — My Sisters' Farm, Shingle Springs  
Roger Strong — Nevada County Beekeeper Association, Nevada City  
Elizabeth Byszieski — New Dimension Health, Grass Valley  
Glenn Harden — New World Farmstead, Eugene  
Mishwa Lee — Northridge Cooperative Homes Community  
Garden, San Francisco  
Ryan James — OOG, Oakland  
Zack Kaldveer — Organic Consumers Association, Oakland  
Amy Keyishian — Organic-Now, San Francisco  
Sallie Calhoun — Paicines Ranch, Hollister  
Sandra Dierks — Paradise Valley Produce, Bolinas  
Bob Stricklin — Perfect Blend, Santa Maria  
Dan Desmond — Perini Ranch, Lower Lake  
Nancy Vail — Pie Ranch, Pescadero  
Christine Pielenz — Potrero Nuevo Farm, Half Moon Bay  
Dana Tryde — Pozo Organic Farm, Santa Margarita

Eric Michielssen — Pozo Organic Farm, Santa Margarita  
Ed Mitchell — Prunedale Grange, Salinas  
Andrea Davis-Cetina — Quarter Acre Farm, Sonoma  
Becky Talyn — Rancho de los Proyectos, Colton  
John Pokrajac — Rancho Santa Helena, Paso Robles  
Jan Dietrick — Rincon-Vitova Insectaries, Inc., Ventura  
Matthew Mosen — Riverdog Farm, Guinda  
Kira Forrest — Rowan Hollow Farm, Big Sur  
Elan Segarra — San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance, San Francisco  
Jerry Allen — Sebastopol Grange, Sebastopol  
Jimmy Dominguez — Self/Ranchers Against Fracking, Los Alamos  
Jamie Collins — Serendipity Farms, Aromas  
Ruthanne Jahoda — Shared Abundance Organic Farm, Auburn  
Sophia Fox — Sienna Ranch, Lafayette  
Aimee Retzler — Sierra Harvest, Nevada City  
Fodelia Sherman — Sierra Heritage Farm, Garden Valley  
Hyunjoo Albrecht — Sinto Gourmet LLC, San Francisco  
Jeanne Blackwell — SLO Clean Water Action, San Luis Obispo  
Memo Sifuentes — Stackhouse Brothers Orchards, Hickman  
Beth Sherman — Swanton Berry Farm, Santa Cruz  
Shawn Suefert — Terra Bella Family Farm, Pleasanton  
Evan Wiig — The Farmers Guild, Sebastopol  
Astrid Hoffman — The Living Seed Farm, Point Reyes Station  
Paul Getzelman — Tre Gatti Vineyards, Lockwood  
Paula Getzelman — Tre Gatti Vineyards, Lockwood  
Rachel Stauffer — Trees of Life Farm, Occidental  
Marlene Bottenfield — Tumbling Creek Farm, Nevada City  
Carleen Weirauch — Weirauch Farm & Creamery, Petaluma  
Dan Weiser — Weiser Family Farms, Rancho Cucamonga  
Joseph Minocchi — White Crane Springs Ranch, Healdsburg  
Kyung Minocchi — White Crane Springs Ranch, Healdsburg  
Danielle Baker — White Moon Ranch, Shingle Springs  
Logan Edwards — Wild Grace Farms, North San Juan  
Kate Elsbree — Windsor Grange, Healdsburg  
Jane Firstenfeld — Wines & Vine Magazine, Vallejo  
Carl Rosato — Woodleaf Farm, Oroville  
Apolinar Yerena — Yerena Farms, Castroville  
Gilberto Yerena — Yerena Farms, Castroville

