

Stop the Drilling in Southfield: Residents form group, plan protest

Residents in Southfield and the metro Detroit area have organized to oppose a new drilling application to drill for oil in this Michigan city of over 70,000 people. Word of Faith, a "mega church," owns the property and has leased out its minerals to Jordan Development. The site is at Nine Mile and Evergreen, a densely populated area, only 2 miles from Providence Hospital.

Residents speak out on CBS/WWJ (see video): <http://cbsloc.al/1Q2gNf2?anvt=111>

The City of Southfield issued a moratorium on all drilling in the city and renewed it, making in effect through April 28, 2016. See the city's press release: [City of Southfield Oil drilling moratorium](#).

THE HARMS OF ACIDIZING

Though the company and church claim there will be no fracking, they propose to vertically **acidize** in the Niagaran formation, which has had horizontal fracking by multiple horizontal bores in Montmorency County (See the [Hubbell 2-22 HD1 and Hubbell 2-22 HD2 well](#)). There is no guarantee that this proposed well wouldn't be used with multiple wellheads and eventually with horizontal well bores.

Acidizing the well uses tons of hydrochloric acids and other chemicals, injected deep underground. Some of the acidizing mixture is then brought back up to the surface, requiring disposal in yet other "injection" wells. The whole process creates millions of gallons of toxic wastes, both liquid, solid and into the air. Acidizing is terribly polluting and harmful to people's health and the environment. See this report of the harms of acidizing in populated areas of Los Angeles, California here: ["Air Toxics One-Year Report: Oil Companies Used Millions of Pounds of Air-Polluting Chemicals in Los Angeles Basin Neighborhoods."](#)

Methane would be flared (burned) into the atmosphere. This, too, will pollute the air and harm residents.

COMMENTS NEEDED NOW

We join them in urging Michiganders to write to the DEQ by January 18, 2016 to deny the permit. The DEQ says 30 people have written in opposition. The application is A150095. Download the application here: [Word of Faith 16-27 Application-2](#)

Write to: DEQ-oilandgaspermitapplication@michigan.gov

Many groups and residents are sending in comments to the DEQ in opposition:

City of Southfield's resolution against drilling: [ResolutionAgainstDrillingandPermit-2](#)

Ban Michigan Fracking's comments: [Kozma to Snow DEQ 1.4.16](#)

[Rep. Moss Information and Public Hearing Request](#)

Patricia McKenna, Sierra Club

NEW GROUP, "STOP THE DRILLING IN SOUTHFIELD" PLANS PROTEST IN THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 17 at 9 am OUTSIDE WORD OF FAITH CHURCH

To join the protest, meet at 9 am at the NW corner of 9 Mile Road and Evergreen in Southfield. Bring protest signs. Download the groups flyer here: [Stop the Drilling in Southfield - final PDF \(2\)](#).

To reach the group, email [stopthedrillinginSouthfield AT gmail.com](mailto:stopthedrillinginSouthfield@gmail.com)

They are also on Facebook at [Stop the Drilling in Southfield](#)

CBS News covered the story, with Southfield residents Larry Quarles and Skip Davis of the Stop the Driling in Southfield explaining why the proposed well will be harmful to Southfield residents: ["Southfield Residents Speak Out Against Mega Church Plan to Drill for Oil."](#)