



FRACTRACKER

ALLIANCE

New Neighborhood Drilling Permits Issued While California Fails to Act on Public Health Rules.

Since December 31, 2020, [California regulators have repetitively failed to deliver new public health rules](#) to protect frontline communities from the significant health risks associated with living near oil and gas drilling and extraction operations. In light of nearly 10 years of inaction to address hazardous oil and gas sites, [grassroots groups and frontline communities are calling for an immediate moratorium](#) on all new permitting within 2,500' of sensitive sites, at least until the regulatory process is complete.

Permitting data from the California Department of Geological Energy Management (CalGEM) shows that during this regulatory delay, more permitting of neighborhood drilling has occurred in California frontline communities. The map below shows the 42 new drilling sites permitted within 2,500' of a home, school, healthcare facility, daycare, or prison, just since January 1, 2021. An additional 85 rework permits were also issued in this setback zone, to fix and renew rather than plug leaky, aging wells.

