

Fracking helps the Valley

A recent Letter to the Editor expressed concerns about water use and oil production in California. However, setting the record straight with some facts should alleviate those concerns.

Due to our geology, hydraulic fracturing in California uses considerably less water than it does in other states. In fact, total water use by all of California's hydraulic fracturing wells in 2013 was about the same as the amount of water to keep one golf course green for a year.

Also, water is a by-product of oil production. Produced water is treated and recycled for energy production and agriculture. This has been a lifeline for Valley growers struggling to keep their crops alive during the drought.

Extremists groups are distorting the truth to push for energy bans. These misguided bans will hurt the entire state by making us more dependent on costly imported oil. However, the Valley will be hurt by threatening thousands of quality oil and gas industry jobs as well as the billions in vital state and local tax dollars those companies provide annually.

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