

Aera Energy's East Cat Canyon Project

Aera's goal in redeveloping the East Cat Canyon oil field is to produce the energy California needs while working safely and protecting human health and the environment.

Historic Oil Field in Rural North County

The project is in a rural area near other oil fields and ranchlands southeast of Santa Maria. The field produced oil for nearly 100 years before being decommissioned in the 1990s.



Cat Canyon field circa 1910-1912

Project Highlights

The project will include 296 wells for oil production, steam injection and other uses. Also included is a new natural gas pipeline and electrical line.

- No fresh water will be used for oil production.
- Safety systems will be required to protect surface and groundwater.
- No hydraulic fracturing will be used
- The County's Air Pollution Control District found that the project **would not cause any ambient air quality standards to be exceeded.**
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions will to meet all state and county requirements. This includes local offsets such as solar panels for project buildings, carbon farming and purchasing electric shuttle buses for community groups.
- The truck fleet will be powered by compressed natural gas (CNG) engines with nearly **80% fewer smog-forming emissions than diesel.**

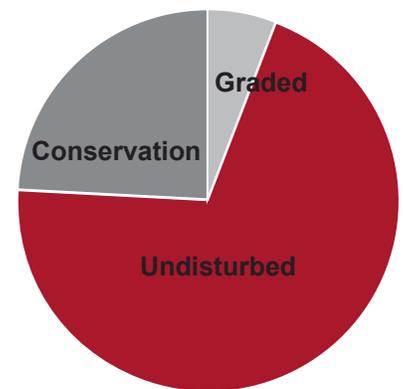
To find out more, please get in touch:
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A 500-acre conservation area

During the environmental review process, the project footprint was significantly reduced. Our preferred alternative leaves **94% of the site unchanged or permanently preserved.**

503 acres of the project site will be dedicated as a permanent conservation area to **enhance and preserve oak woodlands and wildlife habitat** and provide for environmental education and outdoor recreation.



More than 94% of the site will be unchanged or conserved.

New jobs and tax revenues

According to the UC Santa Barbara Economic Forecast Project, Aera's project will **create more than \$1 billion in total economic activity**, as well as hundreds of well-paying jobs.

Property tax revenues are estimated at \$2.5 million per year while the project **is ramping up, then climbing to \$5 million to \$8 million per year** in the project's mid-life. By comparison, the largest current Santa Barbara taxpayer in 2018 paid less than \$4 million.

Intensive environmental review

The County's Draft Environmental Impact Report, a comprehensive analysis of project impacts, was recently published. You can find it at: www.sbcountyplanning.org/energy/projects/AeraEastCatCanyon.asp