

Jordan Moldow

I'm Jordan Moldow, a resident of San Jose. I urge you to reject the 15-day regulations, and remove the MDI program.

In many senses these are very unprecedented times. In many sense, these are not. None of the following things are unprecedented or unexpected. Economic downturns. Oil wars and volatile oil markets. Environmentally hostile federal governments. Economic strains caused by addressing climate goals is not unprecedented or unexpected. None of those things are unprecedented or unexpected. Unimaginably wealthy oil companies predicting doom and unprofitability if you hold them accountable is not unprecedented or unexpected.

All of these problems have always been known. California adopted strong climate programs because of those problems, not in spite of them. To suddenly turn heel because the oil industry is leveraging overlapping emergencies created intentionally by the federal administration, is to betray your mission, betray your grandchildren, betray everyone who worked hard over decades to build these climate programs, and betray us.

Addressing climate change necessitates that less oil be extracted and refined, which means that some oil jobs and businesses will be lost. This is the point. The point is also to make up for those loses with jobs in green energy, public transit, transit construction, housing, and other urban infill. The point is to provide affordable green energy, affordable public transportation, and affordable housing. Fully funding the GGRF will maintain those climate investments.

Defunding it in favor of the MDI is the wrong direction. It's a tiny band-aid next to a large oil problem.