

## **M Is for Hmmm**

By Gary Paudler  
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At least 7,700 new oil wells are proposed for Santa Barbara County that will require approximately one gajillion mile-tons of heavy truck traffic. Measure M is a preemptive tactic to obligate the county to maintain all the public roads being chunked-up by private enterprise. If your fillings get rattled out of your head on the way to the casino, it's not Santa Maria Energy's fault; it's the dang county fighting fires and other frivolous stuff instead of greasing the skids for Peter Adam's campaign contributors. If the Cato Institute's Lanny Ebenstein joins the progressive-er wing of the County Board of Supervisors in opposition to M (he did!), you know that it's a bad ordinance.

If it just happens to eviscerate government by starving departments that serve people instead of dying industries, then that's the kind of government an anti-government kind of government officeholder can get behind. Also please note that Peter Adam's paid staff collected the signatures to get the ordinance qualified — your tax dollars at work.