

Letter to the Editor – Press Democrat 11-5-24

## **No to gas station**

EDITOR: In 2019, Santa Rosa adopted a climate emergency resolution. In 2022, [Santa Rosa adopted a permanent ban on new gas stations](#). In 2024, Santa Rosa is poised to permit a new gas station at the intersection of Highway 12 and Wright Road.

This proposal was exempted from the 2022 ban because it was decided that any gas station with its permit application already in the pipeline would be exempted. But it would still need to go through the approval process. The fact that this proposal was exempted doesn't mean that it should be approved.

In addition to being a punch in the gut to climate concerns, all gas stations are toxic threats to human health that emit hazardous compounds on a daily basis. This station will be in a seasonal wetland adjacent to the Joe Rodota Trail at an address where more than 10 gas stations already operate within a 5-mile radius. It is not needed.

The vote for the permit will take place on Nov. 14 at the Santa Rosa Planning Commission. Be there to let them know we don't need another planet- and health-wrecking gas station.

**WOODY HASTINGS**  
Sebastopol