

Times-Herald

Sierra Club opposes proposed cement plant. Period

By [LETTERS TO THE EDITOR](#) |
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Over the last few weeks there have been misleading advertisements in the Vallejo Times-Herald and social media referencing a report that Sierra Club California commissioned about the current state of cement plants in California.

Unfortunately, this report has been mischaracterized by the cement industry as demonstrating favor for the pending proposal for a cement plant in a residential neighborhood in Vallejo.

We want to set the record straight.

The report is not advocating for new cement plants. It is simply revealing exactly how filthy cement production is in California.

California's cement factories on average produce more climate pollution per ton of cement produced than the average of plants in a dozen countries in Europe and Asia. The report, produced by an independent consultant, offers a list of reasons California plants are so dirty. One of the most startling reasons is that the eight existing plants in California rely on coal and petroleum coke to fuel their kilns.

There is no such thing as "green cement" production. All of it is dirty. And nothing in the report suggests that locating a heavy, inherently dirty production facility next to a residential neighborhood is acceptable.

The City of Vallejo can and must do better. It's time to abandon the dirty Orcem cement project and find a new use for the old flour mill property that will provide truly clean jobs and not create a health hazard for residents.

A cement plant is not the answer.

— *Jeff Morris/Director, Sierra Club Redwood Chapter*
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