



TOPIC TALK

**PLUGGING THE PAST, MAPPING
THE FUTURE: LEVERAGING
GEOSPATIAL TOOLS FOR POST-OIL
URBAN REVITALIZATION**

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Plugging the Past, Mapping the Future: Leveraging Geospatial Tools for Post-Oil Urban Revitalization Los Angeles, California

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Study Objectives

This presentation is based on the GIS research conducted in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office as part of the LA County Oil Well Site Transition and Reuse Feasibility Study, published June 2026.

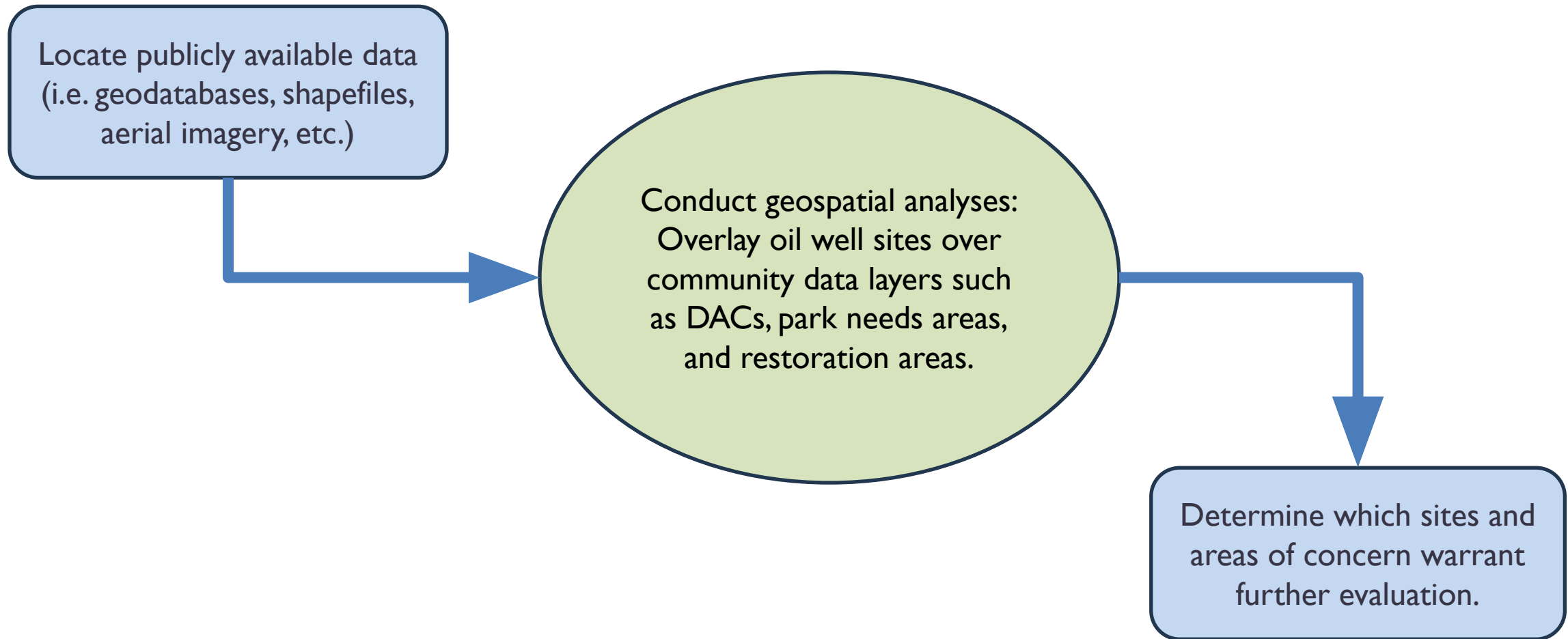
1. **Identify & prioritize:** Locate unincorporated LA County properties with inactive oil and gas wells, prioritizing Disadvantaged Communities for potential reuse as parks or other community-serving assets.
2. **Build & analyze:** Build on a previous county study's identification of 42 high-priority idle wells, applying current state and county data through geospatial analysis to evaluate feasibility.
3. **Frame & align:** Develop a process framework spanning site acquisition, well abandonment, remediation, and reuse — supporting existing county initiatives like the OurCounty Plan and LA Just Transition Strategy.

The Transition Challenge

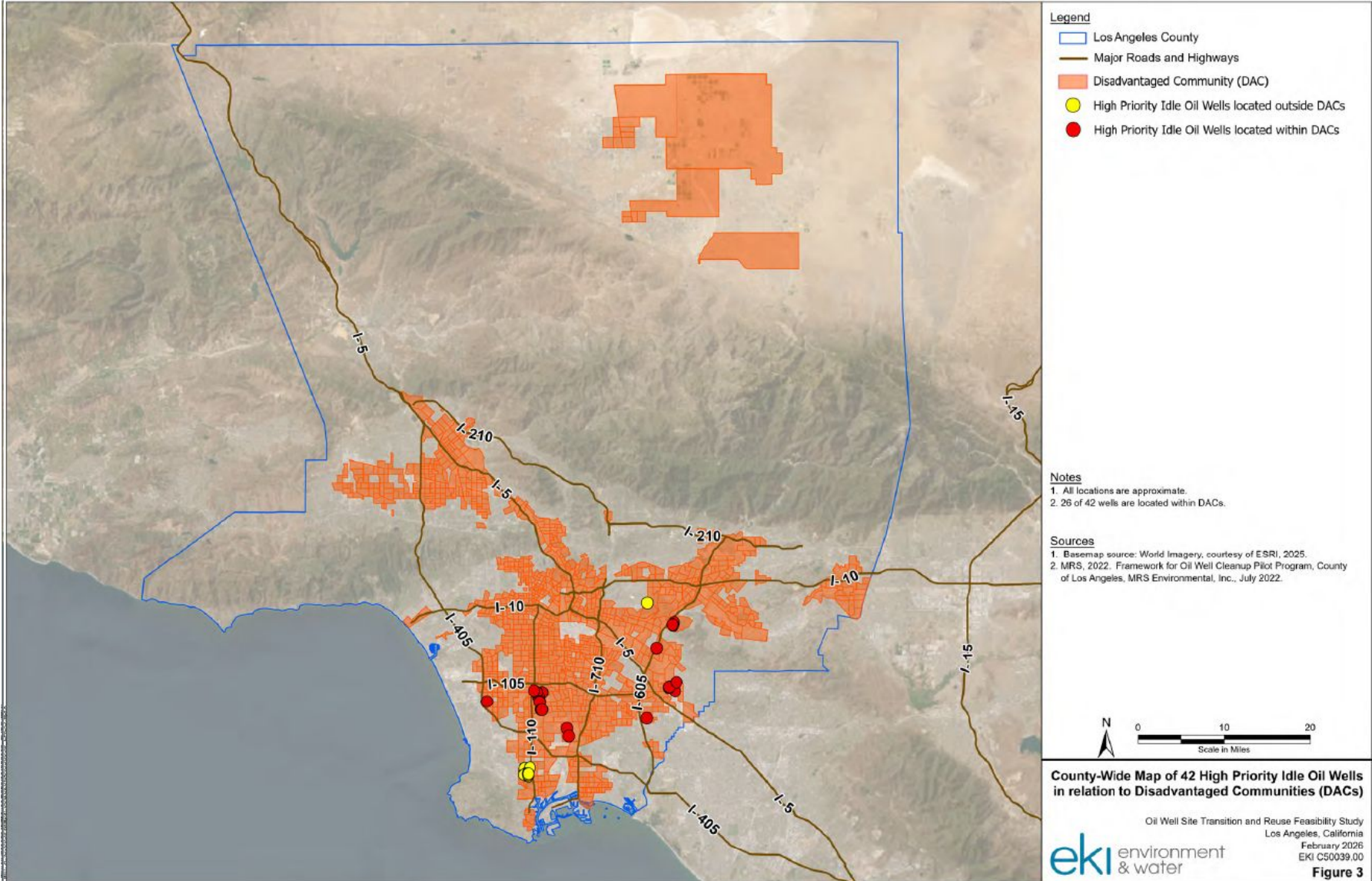
- LA County is transitioning away from oil production.
- Well sites are concentrated in dense, urban, unincorporated communities.
- These communities have often faced long standing disproportionate environmental and public health burdens.
- This creates both liability to manage and opportunity for equitable reinvestment
- The question: How do we systematically identify which oil well sites are candidates for community-serving reuse that is sustainable and meaningful to residents?



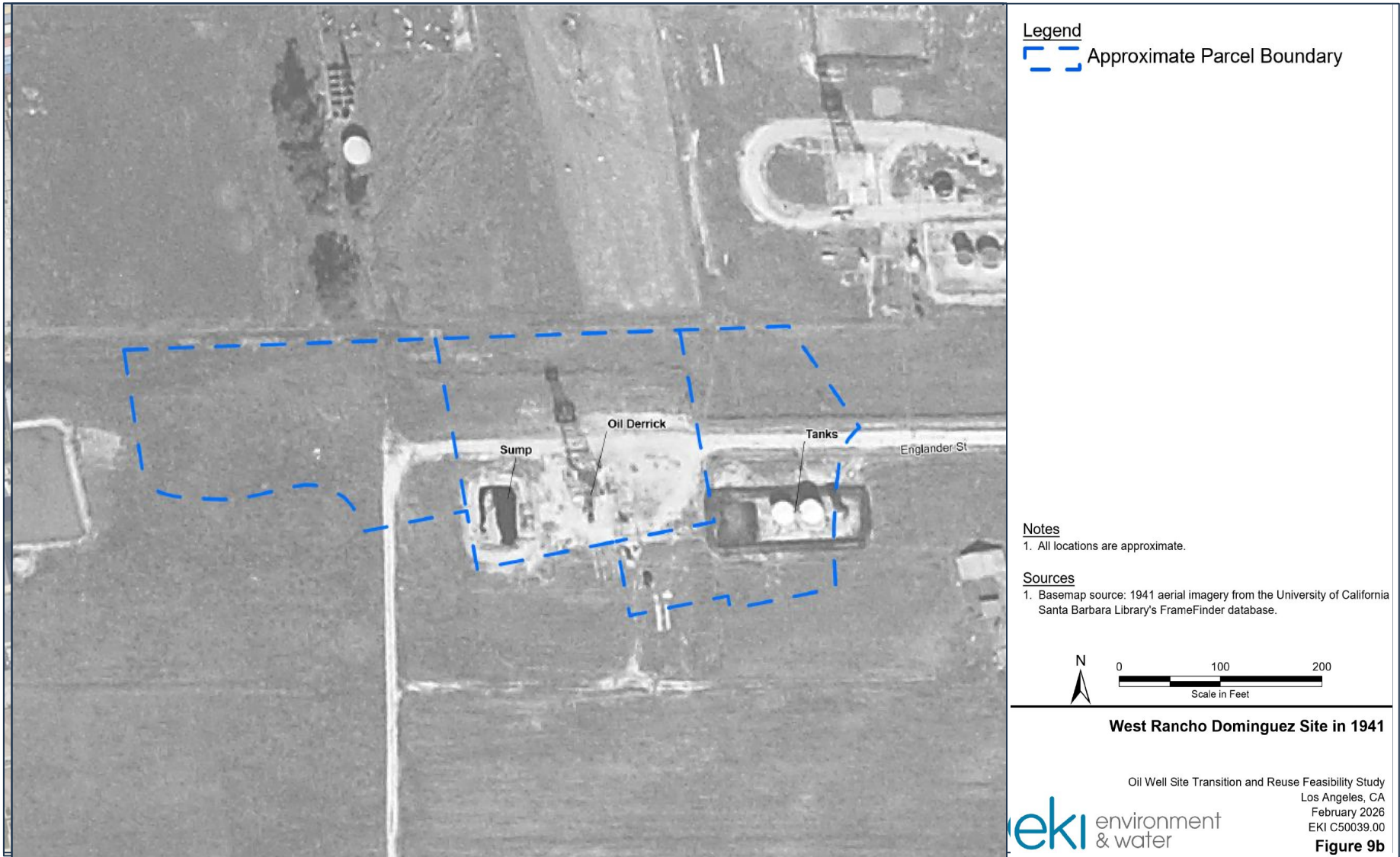
Geospatial Analysis as the Methodological Backbone



What Maps Reveal: Opportunities



What Can We Learn from a Privately-Owned Site?

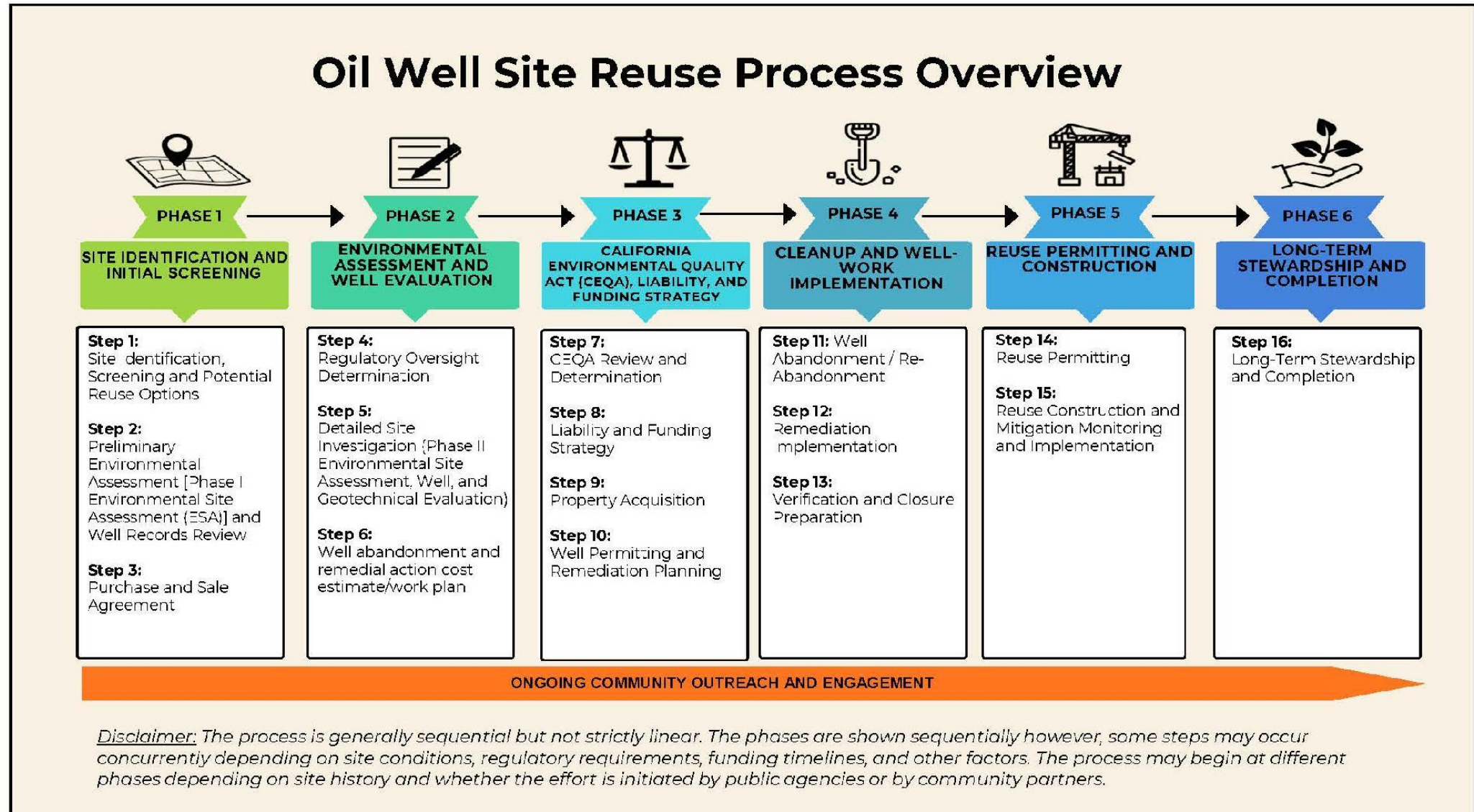


What Site-Specific Factors Matter?

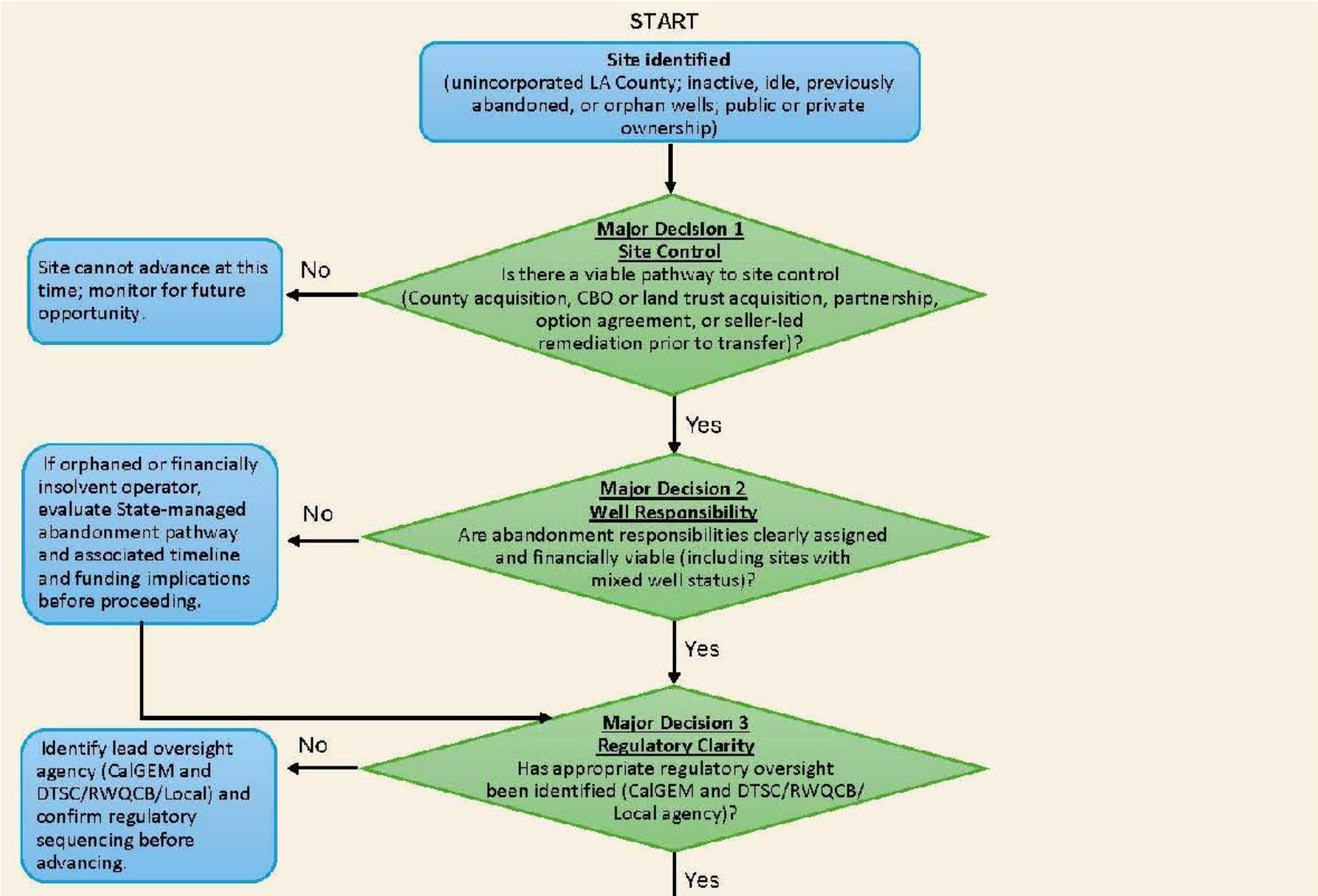
- Well Status
- Ownership / Site Control
- Environmental Conditions
- Parcel Size & Accessibility
- Surrounding Land Uses



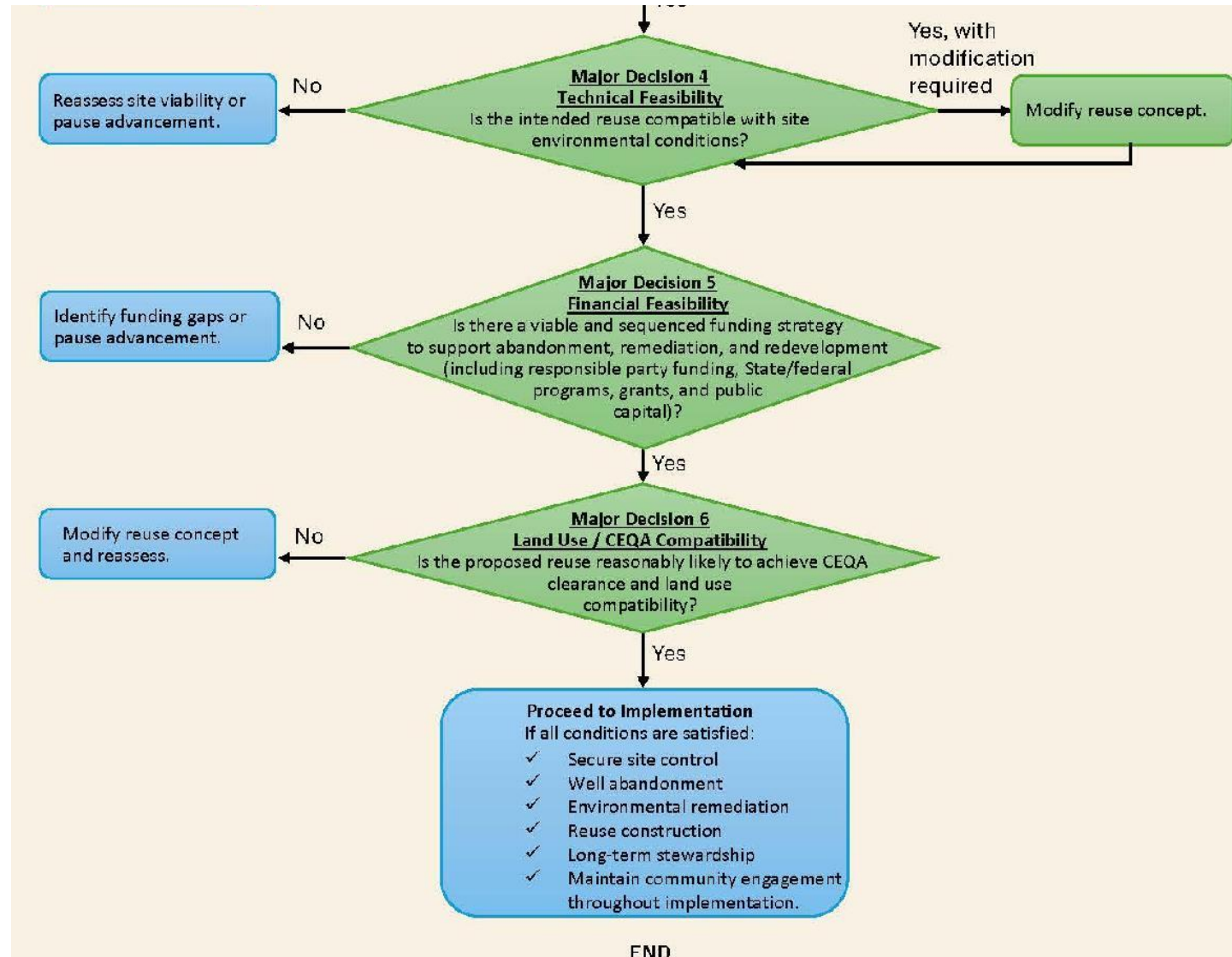
How do These Sites Transition?



Can a Site Move Forward?



Is Reuse Actually Feasible?



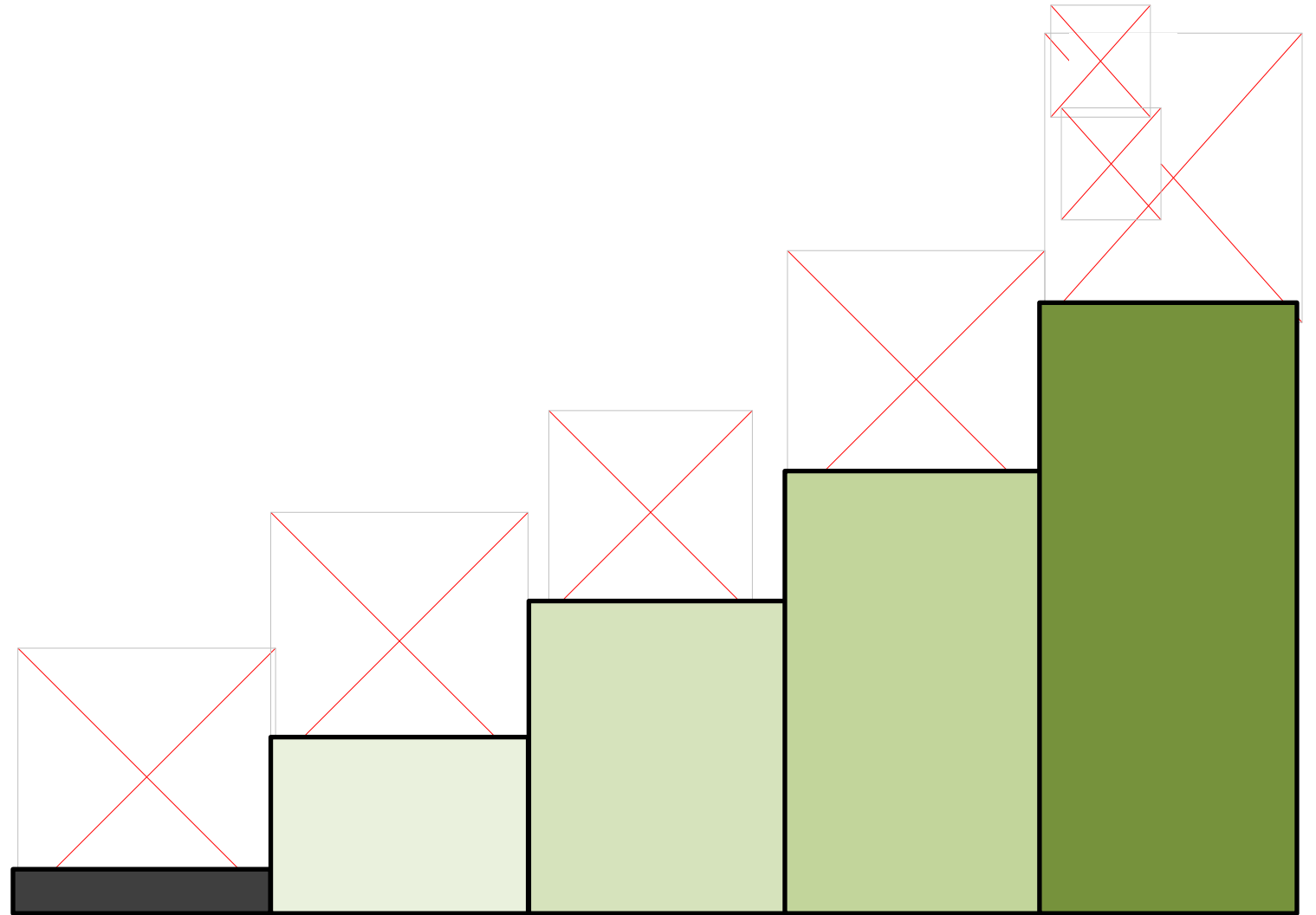
Conclusion

Study Objectives

- Identify & prioritize
- Build & analyze
- Frame & align

Findings

- Urban oil well sites are variable and dynamic.
- Each require a thorough assessment and careful coordination.
- The transition process is complex but can be managed and supported with the right tools and partnerships.



References

1. EKI & LA CSO, 2026. *Oil Well Site Transition and Reuse Feasibility Study, Los Angeles County, California*, EKI Environment & Water Inc. and Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office, June 2026.
2. MRS, 2022. *Framework for Oil Well Cleanup Pilot Program, County of Los Angeles*, MRS Environmental, Inc., July 2022.
3. California Department of Conservation. (n.d.). Well finder [Interactive map]. California Geologic Energy Management Division. Retrieved September 2026, from ca.gov.



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