

MINUTE ITEM

29. OIL AND GAS LEASE OFFERS, SECTION 6871.5, PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE, VENTURA COUNTY - W.O. 4940.

In presenting Calendar Item 26 attached, the Executive Officer reported that a further request had just been received from industry on the possible expansion of the area to be considered. However, it was the recommendation of the staff that this be done in two hearings, rather than one expanded hearing, and therefore the staff was not amending its recommendation in Calendar Item 26.

Upon motion duly made and unanimously carried, the following resolution was adopted, with the understanding that industry's request for expansion of the area would, with respect to authorization of additional area, probably be considered at the next meeting of the Commission:

THE COMMISSION AUTHORIZES THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO PROCEED WITH THE PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE, AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 6873.2 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE, THAT THE COMMISSION INTENDS TO CONSIDER OFFERING LEASES FOR THE EXTRACTION OF OIL AND GAS FROM THE AREA OF TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS NOT INCLUDED IN EXISTING OIL AND GAS LEASES LYING BETWEEN THE VENTURA-SANTA BARBARA COUNTY LINE AND THE X COORDINATE HAVING A VALUE OF $X = 1,580,605$, CALIFORNIA COORDINATE SYSTEM, ZONE 5, THAT PASSES NEAR PITAS POINT, AND EXTENDING SEAWARD THREE NAUTICAL MILES.

Attachment
Calendar Item 26 (1 page)

CALENDAR ITEM

26.

OIL AND GAS LEASE OFFERS, SECTION 6871.3, PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE, VENTURA COUNTY - W.O. 4940.

Section 6871.3, Public Resources Code, provides in part: "Whenever it appears to the Commission that it is for the best interests of the State to lease lands subject to the provisions of Sections 6871.1 or 6877 of this Code for the production of oil or gas therefrom, or whenever a person who possesses the qualifications provided in this chapter, makes written request therefor, the Commission may, subject to the provisions of Section 6871.4, offer the same for bidding at such times and in such parcels as the Commission shall determine to be in the best interests of the State."

A request has been received that the Commission consider offering for oil and gas lease, pursuant to competitive public bidding under the Public Resources Code, approximately 12,600 acres of tide and submerged lands offshore Ventura County (see Exhibit "A" attached).

The area proposed for consideration, exclusive of existing State oil and gas leases, constitutes approximately the westernmost six and one-half miles of tide and submerged lands of Ventura County, and extends seaward three nautical miles.

Section 6873.2, Public Resources Code, provides in part: "Before offering any tide or submerged land area or beds of navigable rivers or lakes in any area for an oil and gas lease, the Commission shall publish notice thereof, and any affected city or county may, within thirty (30) days after the publication of such notice, request in writing to the Commission that a hearing be held with respect thereto The Commission, in its discretion, and irrespective of any such requests, may hold such hearings as it shall determine... ."

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO PROCEED WITH THE PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 6873.2 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE, THAT THE COMMISSION INTENDS TO CONSIDER OFFERING LEASES FOR THE EXTRACTION OF OIL AND GAS FROM THE AREA OF TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS NOT INCLUDED IN EXISTING OIL AND GAS LEASES LYING BETWEEN THE VENTURA-SANTA BARBARA COUNTY LINE AND THE X COORDINATE HAVING A VALUE OF $X = 1,580,605$, CALIFORNIA COORDINATE SYSTEM, ZONE 5, THAT PASSES NEAR PITAS POINT, AND EXTENDING SEAWARD THREE NAUTICAL MILES.