

26. OIL AND GAS LEASE OFFERS, SECTION 6871.3, PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE; SANTA BARBARA COUNTY - W.O. 5901.

During consideration of Calendar Item 14 attached, the Executive Officer reported that the area described in the staff recommendation as submitted should be supplemented by an additional sentence reading: "Said area shall also include tide and submerged lands owned by the State of California lying within three nautical miles of the outermost permanent harbour works affixed upon or adjacent to said islands and State-owned tide and submerged lands lying within three nautical miles of the line of ordinary low water of rocks off-lying said islands (including Richardson Rock) and within three nautical miles of low tide elevations lying wholly or partly within three nautical miles of said islands and rocks," in order to conform the description with the intent of the most recent Supreme Court decision relative to the boundaries of State-owned tide and submerged lands.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:

THE COMMISSION:

1. FINDS THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE STATE TO LEASE THE LANDS SURROUNDING SAN MIGUEL, SANTA ROSA, AND SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS, SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 6871.1 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE, FOR THE PRODUCTION OF OIL OR GAS THEREFROM; AND
2. 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 SURROUNDING SAN MIGUEL, SANTA ROSA, AND SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS, AND EXTENDING SEAWARD THREE NAUTICAL MILES FROM THE LINE OF ORDINARY LOW WATER. SAID AREA SHALL ALSO INCLUDE TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS OWNED BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA LYING WITHIN THREE NAUTICAL MILES OF THE OUTERMOST PERMANENT HARBOUR WORKS AFFIXED UPON OR ADJACENT TO SAID ISLANDS, AND STATE-OWNED TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS LYING WITHIN THREE NAUTICAL MILES OF THE LINE OF ORDINARY LOW WATER OF ROCKS OFF-LYING SAID ISLANDS (INCLUDING RICHARDSON ROCK) AND WITHIN THREE NAUTICAL MILES OF LOW TIDE ELEVATIONS LYING WHOLLY OR PARTLY WITHIN THREE NAUTICAL MILES OF SAID ISLANDS AND ROCKS.

Attachment

Calendar Item 14 (1 page)

14.

OIL AND GAS LEASE OFFERS, SECTION 6871.3, PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE; SANTA BARBARA COUNTY - W.O. 5901.

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 Section 6871.1 or 6877 of this Code for the production of oil or gas therefrom, ..., 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."

It is the conclusion of the executive staff that it is for the best interests of the State to consider offering for oil and gas lease, pursuant to competitive public bidding under the Public Resources Code, approximately 356,335 acres of tide and submerged lands offshore Santa Barbara County (Exhibit "A").

The area proposed for consideration surrounds San Miguel, Santa Rosa, and Santa Cruz Islands, and extends seaward three nautical miles from the line of ordinary low water.

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 and"

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. FIND THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE STATE TO LEASE THE LANDS SURROUNDING SAN MIGUEL, SANTA ROSA, AND SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS, SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 6871.1 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE, FOR THE PRODUCTION OF OIL OR GAS THEREFROM; AND
2. 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 SURROUNDING SAN MIGUEL, SANTA ROSA, AND SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS, AND EXTENDING SEAWARD THREE NAUTICAL MILES FROM THE LINE OF ORDINARY LOW WATER. SAID AREA SHALL ALSO INCLUDE TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS OWNED BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA LYING WITHIN THREE NAUTICAL MILES OF THE OUTERMOST PERMANENT HARBOUR WORKS AFFIXED UPON OR ADJACENT TO SAID ISLANDS, AND STATE-OWNED TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS LYING WITHIN THREE NAUTICAL MILES OF THE LINE OF ORDINARY LOW WATER OF ROCKS OFFLYING SAID ISLANDS (INCLUDING RICHARDSON ROCK) AND WITHIN THREE NAUTICAL MILES OF LOW TIDE ELEVATIONS LYING WHOLLY OR PARTLY WITHIN THREE NAUTICAL MILES OF SAID ISLANDS AND ROCKS.