

This document is a 29
was approved by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3
to 0 at its 6/30/77 CALENDAR ITEM
meeting. 29.

6/77
W 40064
RGN
PRC 5315

CORE DRILLING PERMIT

APPLICANT: Western LNG Terminal Company
720 West Eighth Street
Los Angeles, California 90017

PERMIT AREA AND LOCATION: Approximately 700 acres of tide and submerged lands off Point Conception, Santa Barbara County, such area being more precisely described in Exhibit "A" attached.

PROJECT: To drill up to twenty 6-inch or 8-inch diameter soils-investigation core-holes within the permit area. The holes will be drilled at various locations in the permit area and none will penetrate the ocean floor more than 120 feet.

PURPOSE: To evaluate the soils and foundation engineering requirements for construction of a pier extending approximately 6000 feet offshore.

TERM: June 30, 1977, to December 31, 1977.

FILING FEES: All required fees have been submitted by applicant.

CONSIDERATION: Public benefit (scientific information collection).

PERTINENT INFORMATION:
To date, two similar soils-investigation studies have been approved by the State Lands Commission and conducted by the applicant for the purpose of constructing the proposed LNG terminal. Both of those investigations (one in the Oxnard area and one near Port Hueneme) proved satisfactory for construction from an engineering standpoint. It was found, however, that public interest was demanding a more remote location. As a result, the location now proposed is Point Conception.

Preliminary geological and geophysical studies conducted by Dames and Moore, the engineering firm that will do the actual evaluation of the investigation, indicate that the area selected is ideally suited for the planned facility.

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The more detailed soils studies planned will only be necessary for determining the subsea-floor penetration depths required for the construction.

At the present time the applicant has obtained or has applied for the additionally required permits for the soils study from the Corps of Engineers, the State Coastal Commission and the County of Santa Barbara. The proposed State Lands Commission permit will be issued only after issuance of the aforementioned three permits or will be made conditional to their issuance.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

Pursuant to Title 2, Cal. Adm. Code Section 2907 Class 6, it has been determined that the project, a core-hole drilling operation conducted for information-gathering purposes, is categorically exempt from the requirement of preparation of environmental documents.

The project is situated on State land identified as possessing significant environmental values, pursuant to Public Resources Code 6370.1, and is classified in a significant use category, Class B: Limited Use. Staff review indicates that there will be no significant effect upon the identified environmental values.

EXHIBIT: A. Description. B. Location map.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. DETERMINE THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT HAS NOT BEEN PREPARED FOR THIS ACTIVITY, AS SUCH REPORT IS NOT REQUIRED UNDER TITLE 2, CAL. ADM. CODE 2907.
2. FIND THAT APPROVAL OF THE PERMIT WILL HAVE NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT UPON THE ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS IDENTIFIED PURSUANT TO SECTION 6370.1 ET SEQ., OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE.
3. AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE TO WESTERN LNG TERMINAL COMPANY OF A CORE DRILLING PERMIT, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 1977, TO DECEMBER 31, 1977, FOR DRILLING TWENTY CORE HOLES, TO DEPTHS NO GREATER THAN 120 FEET BELOW THE OCEAN FLOOR WITHIN AN AREA OF TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS AT POINT CONCEPTION, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED, FOR A SOILS-INVESTIGATION PROGRAM, PROVIDED ALL SUCH WORK IS CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL PERMITS, REQUIREMENTS, OR LIMITATIONS AS SET OR AS MAY BE SET, BY STATE, LOCAL, OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

EXHIBIT "A"

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The parcel is a four-sided area described as follows:

Bounded on the north by the ordinary highwater line; bounded on the east by coordinate E 1 275 000 for a length of approximately 6,700 feet; bounded on the south by coordinate N 349 500 for a length of approximately 5,000 feet; bounded on the west by coordinate E 1 270 000 for a length of approximately 4,950 feet terminating on the shore line.

The coordinates are based on the California State Coordinates System, Zone 5.