

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. 28  
was approved as Minute Item  
by the State Lands  
Commission by a vote of 3  
to 0 at its 4-7-81  
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

28

3/81  
W 40205  
R 8072  
Fernino

AUTHORIZATION TO CONTRACT FOR  
PREPARATION OF AN EIR FOR  
PROPOSED EXPLORATORY OIL AND GAS DRILLING  
BY TEXACO, INC.  
ON STATE OIL AND GAS LEASES  
P 2955, P 2206 AND P 2725  
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

On February 1, 1969, in response to an oil and gas blowout on Federal OCS in the Santa Barbara Channel, the State Lands Commission declared a moratorium on further drilling on State offshore oil and gas leases.

On July 31, 1969, the Commission adopted a resolution that provides that: "Recommendation for drilling wells on existing leases may be brought to the Commission for consideration on a well-by-well basis if there are unique circumstances that justify and require such drilling."

The staff of the State Lands Commission has received an application from Texaco, Inc. to resume exploratory drilling on three existing State oil and gas leases.

The purpose of the exploratory drilling is to evaluate the hydrocarbon resource potential in the geologic formations that underlie the above leases.

Texaco proposes to drill one exploratory well on the P 2955 (Refugio Area) and two wells each on P 2725 (Conception Area) and P 2206 (Cuarta Offshore Area), all located in Santa Barbara County.

State Lands Commission is the Lead Agency for this project under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (P.R.C. Section 21000 et seq.).

Assuming the proposed exploratory projects are successful in the location of commercial quantities of petroleum and natural gas, Texaco's ultimate objective would be to produce, process, refine and market the resource.

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This project is limited to the exploratory phase and any subsequent production, processing or shipment of oil and gas would be subject to further Commission approval and additional environmental analysis.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO:

1. ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN EIR FOR THE PROPOSED RESUMPTION OF DRILLING ON STATE OIL AND GAS LEASES P 2955, P 2725 AND P 2206;
2. CONTRACT WITH THE BEST QUALIFIED PROPOSER TO PREPARE THE REPORT;
3. CONTRACT WITH TEXACO, INC TO REIMBURSE THE STATE FOR ALL STAFF AND CONSULTANT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE EIR AS PROVIDED BY P.R.C. SECTION 21089.

# SANTA BARBARA CO.

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