MINUTE ITEM This Calendar Item No. was approved as Minute Item No. 54 by the State Lands Commission by a vote of to 0 at its 1965 meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

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A 3	a c	5	4 P	RC 208
н .	S	•	P	RC 308
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DEFERMENT OF DRILLING OPERATIONS, STATE OIL AND GAS LEASES PRC'S 208, 308, 309, 3120 AND 3242

OPERATOR:

ARCO Oil and Gas Company Attn: Paul B. Norgaard

P.O. Box 147

Bakersfield, California 93302

AREA, TYPE LAND AND LOCATION:

State Oil and Gas Lease PRC 208 was issued in January 1946 and PEC's 308 and 309 were issued on March 4, 1947. Each lease contains approximately 1,920 acres of tide and submerged lands. PRC's 308 and 309 are located south of Goleta, and PRC 208 is located west of Goleta. State Oil and Gas Lease PRC 3120 was issued on April 29, 1964 and contains approximately 3,324 acres of tide and submerged lands west of Goleta. State Oil and Gas Lease PRC 3242 was issued on TApril 8, 1965 and contains 4,290 acres of tide and submerged lands located west of Goleta.

BACKGROUND:

On March 27, 1986 the State Lands Commission granted a drilling deferment permitting ARCO to defer drilling until September 1, 1988, while an application for a proposed plan of development for the five subject leases was being reviewed. On May 27, 1987, the State Lands Commission denied approval of the

-1-

CALENDAR ITEM NO. 54 (CONT'D)

development plan proposed by ARCO on its application and invited ARCO to reapply with suggestion for alternative development plans. ARCO subsequently brought suit against the State Lands Commission, maintaining that the Commission's action prevented ARCO from further development of the leases

Although maintaining that the development of the leases are tolled as a matter of law, ARCO has requested that the Commission grant a five-year drilling deferment from September 1, 1988, the date on which the current deferment will expire, until September 1, 1993. This request is being made, in ARCO's words, "in order to make it clear on the record that the status quo is being maintained pending the outcome of the litigation."

Although not agreeing with ARCO that development of the lease is tolled as a matter of law, the staff is recommending that a three-year deferment be granted in order to allow ARCO a reasonable time in which to study and propose alternative development plans that are economically and technologically feasible, are compatible with other public trust uses of these lands and will mitigate significant adverse environmental effects.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Adm. Code 15061) staff has determined that this activity is exempt from the requirements of the CEQA because it is not a "project" as defined by CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

Authority: P.R.C. 21065 and 14 Cal. Adm. Code 15378.

AB 884:

N/A.

EXHIBIT:

A. Location Map.

CALENDAR ITEM NO. 54 (CONT'D)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

- 1. FIND THAT THIS ACTIVITY IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CEQA PURSUANT TO 14 CAL. ADM. CODE 15061 BECAUSE IT IS NOT A PROJECT AS DEFINED BY P.R.C. 21065 AND 14 CAL. ADM. CODE 15378.
- 2. APPROVE A DEFERMENT OF THE DRILLING OBLIGATIONS UNDER STATE OIL AND GAS LEASES PRC'S 208, 308, 309, 3120 AND 3242 UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1, 1991.

-3-

CALENDAR PAGE 3722
MINUTE PAGE 2501



