

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. C54
was approved as Minute Item
No. 54 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3
to 0 at its 7-19-93
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

C54

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W 40700 PRC 7706
Nitsche

**APPROVE A NEGOTIATED SUBSURFACE (NO SURFACE USE)
STATE OIL AND GAS LEASE
SOLANO COUNTY**

PROPOSED LESSEE:

ABA Energy Corporation
7313 Huntington Court
Bakersfield, California 93308

AREA, TYPE AND LOCATION OF STATE LAND:

ABA Energy Corporation has submitted a complete application for a negotiated subsurface (no surface use) State oil and gas lease on about 30 acres in the bed of Tree Slough, Solano County, California (see Exhibit "A" for land description).

LAND USE:

Because the State land is a waterway, surface locations for oil and gas operations (drill sites) are not available. However, oil and gas resources that may underlie the State land can be developed and protected pursuant to the Commission's negotiated subsurface (no surface use) State oil and gas lease. This lease would allow Commission-approved slant drilling from a county-approved drill site and would permit inclusion of the leased lands in a Commission-approved pooled area or unit.

AUTHORITY:

P.R.C. 6815(a) authorizes the Commission to negotiate and enter into oil and gas leases on State lands if any of the following exists: wells drilled on private or public lands are draining or may drain oil and gas from the State lands, the Commission determines the State lands to be unsuitable for competitive bidding because of such factors as their small size or irregular configuration or their

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inaccessibility from surface drill sites reasonably available or obtainable, the State owns a fractional mineral interest in the lands, or the Commission determines the lease to be in the best interests of the State.

Because the Applicant controls, by lease and agreement, all of the private property adjacent to the State land described in Exhibit "A" and because the Applicant has county (Lead Agency) approval to drill a well near the State land, staff has concluded that the criteria of P.R.C. 6815(a) have been satisfied. A negotiated subsurface (no surface use) State oil and gas lease with the Applicant will protect oil and gas resources that may underlie the State land. The land is unsuitable for competitive bidding because surface drill sites are not available and wells drilled on the adjacent private property may drain State oil and gas resources.

NON-NEGOTIABLE LEASE PROVISIONS:

1. Primary term will be twenty years and for so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced in paying quantities from the leased lands, or so long as the lessee is diligently conducting producing, drilling, deepening, repairing, re-drilling or other necessary lease or well maintenance operations in the leased lands.
2. No right to use any portion of the leased lands to a depth of 500 feet for drilling locations, producing facilities or related oil and gas operations.
3. All development of the leased lands shall be accomplished from surface locations on adjacent lands.
4. All drilling into the leased lands shall be by slant drilling from surface locations on adjacent lands and shall be on a course and to an objective approved in writing by the Commission's staff prior to the commencement of drilling.
5. Compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations of Federal, State and local governments and receipt of all necessary permits or approvals prior to slant drilling into the leased lands.

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NEGOTIATED LEASE PROVISIONS:

1. Drilling term of three years. However, if all or part of the leased lands are included in a Commission-approved pooled area or unit, then drilling operations on and production from lands pooled or unitized with the leased lands shall be deemed to be drilling operations on and production from the leased lands that are included in the Commission-approved pooled area or unit.
2. Annual rental of \$25 per acre (\$750 for approximately 30 acres).
3. Royalty of 20 percent on gas and oil.
4. Performance bond or other security in the sum of \$5,000.

PREREQUISITE CONDITIONS, FEES AND EXPENSES:

Filing fee, processing costs, first year's rental and duly executed State Oil and Gas Lease (Negotiated-Subsurface-Royalty) have been received and are on file in the Commission's Long Beach office.

AB 884:

01/23/94.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(a)(3) identifies an activity involving the issuance to a person of a lease as a "project". However, if the site of the project or area in which the major environmental effects will occur is located on private property within the county, that county will have jurisdiction by law and will be the Lead Agency over the project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15366.
2. As Lead Agency, the Solano County Planning Department approves locations for the drilling of gas wells on private property in the County. Negative Declaration SCH #93033035 was prepared for this project.
3. Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal Code Regs. 15061), the staff has determined that this activity is exempt from the requirements of the CEQA under the

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general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Staff believes, in consideration of the action taken by Solano County's Negative Declaration there is no possibility that this project will have a significant effect on the environment.

Authority: 14 Cal. Code Regs. 15061(b)(3).

EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description
- B. Site Map
- C. Copy of Negative Declaration SCH #93033035

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. FIND THAT THE ACTIVITY IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CEQA PURSUANT TO 14 CAL. CODE REGS. 15061 BECAUSE THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY THAT THE ACTIVITY MAY HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT [4 CAL. CODE REGS. 15061(b)(3)].
2. DETERMINE THAT THE CRITERIA OF P.R.C. 6815(a) HAVE BEEN MET, THAT A NEGOTIATED SUBSURFACE (NO SURFACE USE) STATE OIL AND GAS LEASE IS THE BEST INSTRUMENT TO DEVELOP AND PROTECT OIL AND GAS RESOURCES THAT MAY UNDERLIE THE STATE LAND DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A" AND THAT THE STATE LAND IS UNSUITABLE FOR COMPETITIVE BIDDING BECAUSE SURFACE DRILL SITES ARE NOT AVAILABLE AND WELLS DRILLED ON THE ADJACENT PRIVATE PROPERTY MAY DRAIN STATE OIL AND GAS RESOURCES.
3. PURSUANT TO P.R.C. 6815(a), ENTER INTO A NEGOTIATED SUBSURFACE (NO SURFACE USE) STATE OIL AND GAS LEASE WITH ABA ENERGY CORPORATION. THE LEASE WILL CONTAIN THE STATE LAND DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A" (APPROXIMATELY 30 ACRES), A DRILLING TERM OF THREE YEARS, ANNUAL RENTAL OF \$25 PER ACRE (\$750 FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 ACRES), ROYALTY ON GAS SUBSTANCES AND OIL FIXED AT 20 PERCENT AND PERFORMANCE BOND OR OTHER SECURITY IN THE SUM OF \$5,000.
4. AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF THE DOCUMENT NECESSARY TO EFFECT THE COMMISSION'S ACTION.

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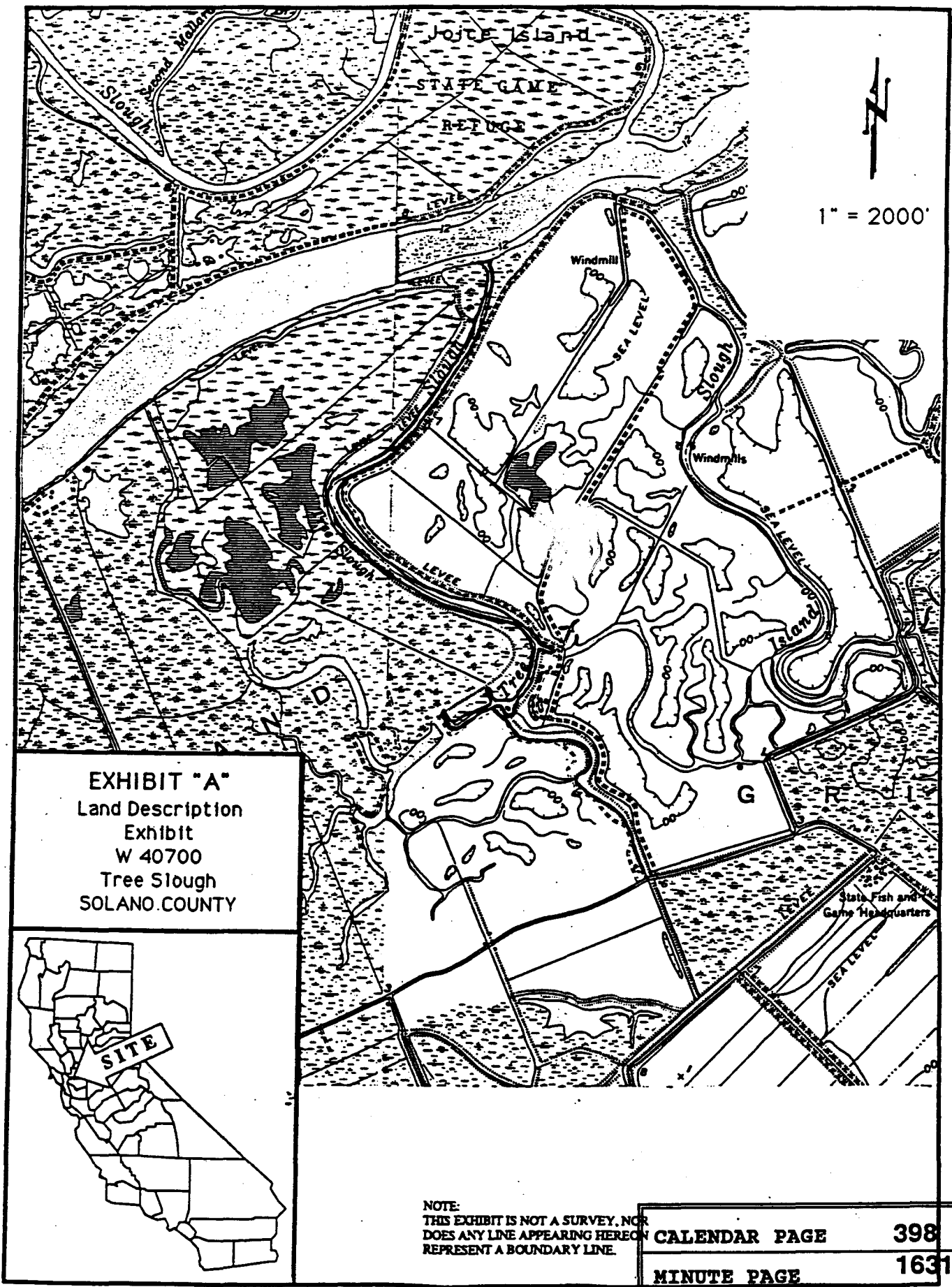


EXHIBIT "A"
 Land Description
 Exhibit
 W 40700
 Tree Slough
 SOLANO COUNTY



NOTE:
 THIS EXHIBIT IS NOT A SURVEY, NOR
 DOES ANY LINE APPEARING HEREON
 REPRESENT A BOUNDARY LINE.

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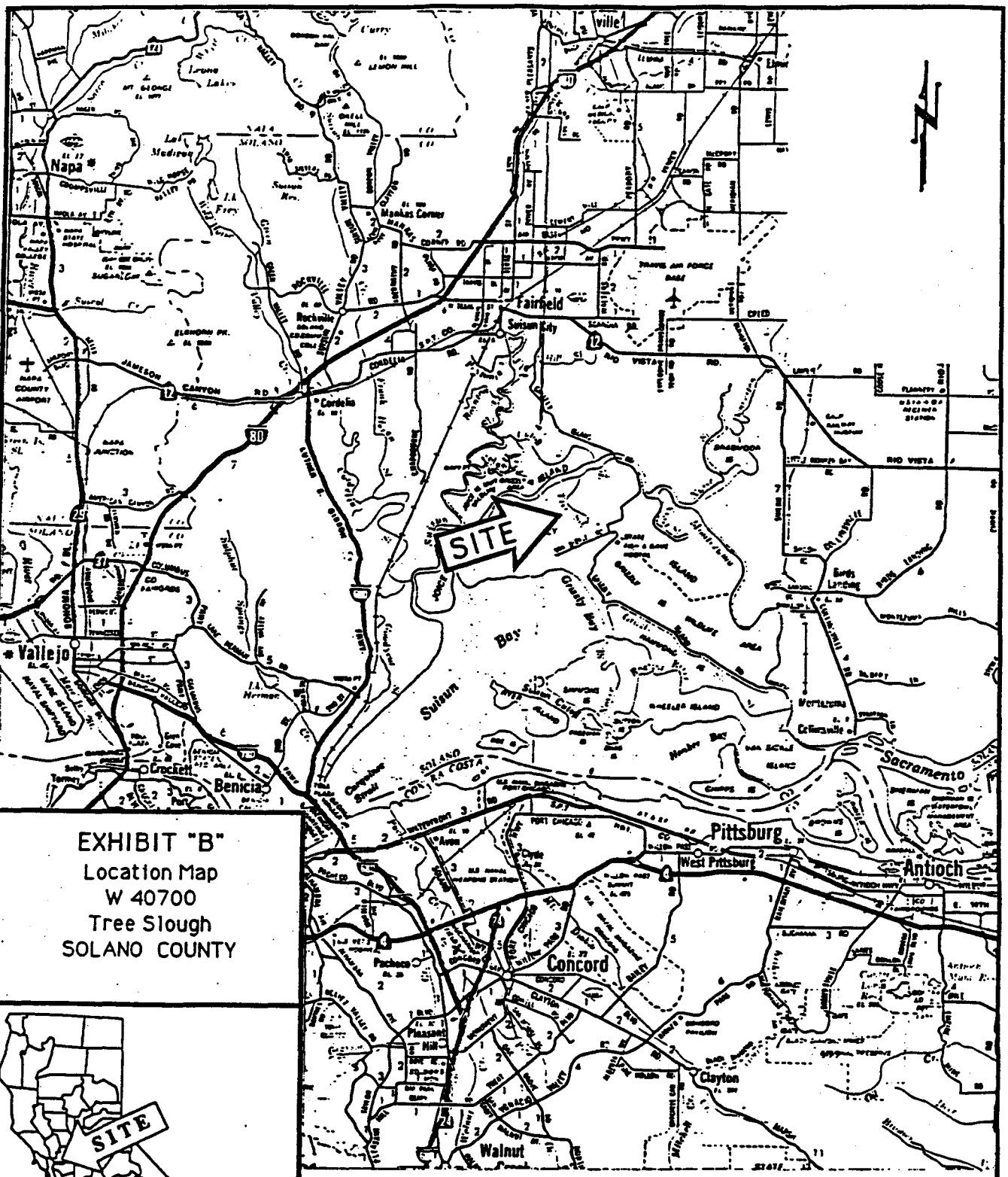


EXHIBIT "B"
 Location Map
 W 40700
 Tree Slough
 SOLANO COUNTY



NOTE:
 THIS EXHIBIT IS NOT A SURVEY, NOR
 DOES ANY LINE APPEARING HEREOFF
 REPRESENT A BOUNDARY LINE.

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NEGATIVE DECLARATION
OF THE
SOLANO COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE
Meeting of March 3, 1993

PROJECT TITLE: U-92-27 / WD-92-21 ABA Energy Corp. Mallard #1

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION: Application for the drilling of an exploratory gas well and construction of a pipeline and production wells as necessary located in the Suisun Marsh in the northeast quarter of Section 32 T4N, R2W MDB&M on Grizzly Island adjacent to Van Sickle Road at a State Department of Fish and Game Parking area in a "MP" Marsh Preservation zoning district. APN: 0046-190-230.

FINDINGS:

The Solano County Environmental Review Committee has evaluated the initial study which was prepared in regard to the project. The committee found no significant adverse environmental impacts likely to occur which are not mitigated by the amended project description to incorporate county requirements and comply with agency standards to reduce to a level of insignificance or eliminate all potential adverse effects. The Committee determined that the project qualifies for a Negative Declaration based on the mitigation addressed in Section IV and incorporated in the amended project description. Details of the Project description, initial study, findings, and disposition are attached.

MITIGATION MEASURES INCORPORATED INTO PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

1. Mitigation: Any detrimental impact on the Suisun Marsh will be mitigated by measures required by the policies and regulations governing the Suisun Marsh under the Local Protection Program. The applicant has agreed to incorporate necessary mitigation measures for the project in as identified in the Solano County Policies and Regulations Governing the Suisun Marsh, pages 20-22.

Verification: All other measures incorporated into the project application for the exploration and production pad shall be verified by on site spot checks by planning staff.

2. Mitigation: The applicant will be required to submit a grading and erosion control plan to the County Department of Transportation and the Department of Environmental Management for review and approval. The grading plan will include all grading for the exploration pad and production pad and site restoration. The grading and erosion control plan must meet the minimum standards of the Solano County Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance, Chapter 31 of the Solano County Code. By

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meeting these standards the project's impacts associated with grading will be reduced to insignificant levels.

Verification: The applicant shall submit grading and erosion control plans to the Department of Transportation which must be approved by the County prior to the issuance of any well drilling permit.

All grading work will be restricted to the dry months of the year (April 15 through October 1) as requested by the California Department of Fish and Game and a grading permit will not be issued until April 15th. In the event of heavy rainfall during these months, site inspection will be made by Transportation Department staff to inspect erosion control measures.

A site inspection by planning staff will take place prior to the operation of the production facility. As part of the inspection, staff will evaluate all grading activity to ensure grading was restricted to areas delineated on submitted plans and that the exploration pad was properly removed.

3. Mitigation: Additional measures provide to protect the integrity of the marsh include:

1. The project engineer has developed an equipment layout design that minimizes the size of the drilling pad and still allows maintenance and support services to the drilling rig.
2. All drilling cuttings and fluid production will be disposed off-site (to be approved by the County).
3. The drilling time will be kept to the minimum required which is expected to be not more than 40 days.
4. Geotextile fabric will be installed prior to fill placement to facilitate complete removal of all fill material and to minimize impact to natural substrate.
5. The depth of fill material will be kept to the minimum required to support equipment. The expected depth of fill material (sand and gravel) is approximately 1.5 to 2 feet.
6. Erosion of fill material into the wetland will be controlled by gradual slopes (4:1) at the edge of the fill and a low berm (12 inch) above grade around the perimeter.
7. All fill material will be removed including the

geotextile fabric lowering the site to the previous elevation of site.

8. The filled area will be revegetated with wetlands vegetation equivalent to pre-project status.
9. The fill shall be removed and revegetation work begun within 60 days of the removal of the drill rig.

Verification:

1. To verify removal of the fill and initial wetlands vegetation on Grizzly Island, the applicant shall submit a report from the applicant's wetland consultant to the Planning Division providing the following information:
 - a. A statement verifying the removal of the 27,000 sq. ft. of fill and the geotextile fabric.
 - b. A before and after picture verifying the removal of delineated fill.
 - c. An assessment of the condition of the natural substrate and existing plant stocks following fill removal. If results of the assessment indicate substrate subsidence (compaction) the original substrate elevation will be restored by loosening the soil by discing. If existing plant stocks do not survive, plants collected from nearby natural plant stocks will be installed at the site subject to the specific approval of the planning staff.

This assessment and report shall be submitted to the Planning Division within 45 days of the removal of the fill.

2. Prior to project permit issuance the applicant will be required to submit a plan for a monitoring program (including criteria for judging the success of site revegetation) to document the status of the revegetation of the site one year after removal of the fill. The monitoring program shall be prepared by the applicants wetlands consultant and its preparation shall be guaranteed by posting a bond of sufficient size with Solano County to insure its preparation and the completion of any recommendations necessary to achieve successful revegetation of the site. If site monitoring documents that the project has not been successfully revegetated the applicant shall undertake all measures necessary to achieve success.

The verification of the removal of fill, successful revegetation and incorporation into wetlands management will be the responsibility of the Planning Division and the landowner and the Department of Fish and Game.

4. Mitigation: Potential impacts on water quality will be mitigated by the applicant's proposal to contain all drilling muds, soil waste water and other fluids in a storage tank or pit with an impermeable lining. After drilling is complete, all drilling muds, solid waste, waste water and other fluids will be removed from the site and disposed of in a manner that does not adversely affect other areas. (See Exhibit C for exploration facility site plan).

Verification: The removal of drilling wastes from the exploration facility shall be verified by planning staff during a site inspection prior to issuance of any production facility permits.

5. Mitigation: A standard condition will be applied to the project requiring it to be closed down during periods of high flood hazard.

Verification: N/A

6. Mitigation: Detrimental impacts on habitat and wildlife will be mitigated by the following measures: The applicant proposes to confine drilling activities to the dry season of the year (May 1 - October 1) so that wintering waterfowl will not be affected. The drilling operations will be limited to as small an area as possible and will use an existing drilling pad. Access roads and the drilling pad will be periodically sprayed with water to minimize dust. If the well is abandoned, the new drilling and production facilities will be removed and the surface area will be revegetated with native vegetation within one growing season after abandonment.

Verification: If remedial actions are necessary for enforcement, the use permit may be subject to revocation.

7. Mitigation: Any impact from sewage disposal will be mitigated by using portable toilets temporarily located at the site during drilling.

Verification: Verification will not be required.

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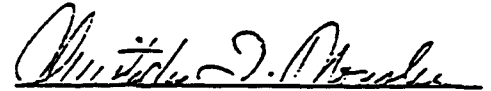
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8. Mitigation: The applicant shall obtain an encroachment permit and post a bond for potential damage to public roads caused by transporting heavy drilling equipment to and from the site.

Verification: The applicant will be required to obtain an encroachment permit and submit a bond to the Department of Transportation prior to issuance of a well drilling permit.

PREPARATION:

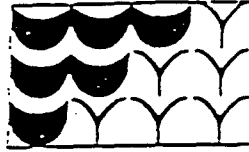
This Negative Declaration was prepared by the Solano County Department of Environmental Management. Copies may be obtained at the address listed below.



Christopher L. Monske
Planning Program Manager
Solano County Department of
Environmental Management
601 Texas Street
Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 421-6765

CSX/SP/oc
6/13/93
bprapaba.doc

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Wetlands Research Associates, Inc.



January 27, 1993

Brian Parker
Environmental Management Department
Planning Division
601 Texas Street
Fairfield, CA 94533

RE: Proposed Drilling Site: Mallard No. 1

Dear Mr. Parker:

ABA Energy Corporation proposes to use an existing Department of Fish and Game parking lot (Crescent Unit Lot No. 1) to accommodate a drilling rig for purposes of gas exploration. The lot is located along Van Sickle Road on Grizzly Island. This site was chosen as an alternative to other locations because it offers the opportunity to utilize existing access roads, utilize existing fill, and minimize impacts to managed wetlands and wildlife. However, ABA Energy has determined that additional area will be needed on a temporary basis to provide an area sufficient to maintain and support the drilling rig. The temporary expansion of the lot will require the filling of approximately 0.6 acres of non-tidal wetland for an estimated period of 40 days.

ABA Energy has requested our firm to prepare an initial assessment of the impacts to the wetlands and to propose appropriate mitigation measures to restore the site after fill removal.

Wetland area to be impacted

The wetland area is a seasonal marsh dominated by pickleweed (*Salicornia virginica*). The wetland is flooded during periods of seasonal rainfall and may also receive water from adjacent managed duck clubs.

Mitigation measures

The following measures will be implemented to reduce wetland impacts:

- The project engineer will develop an equipment layout design that will minimize

the size of the drilling pad and still allow maintenance and support services to the drilling rig. It is expected that approximately 0.6 acres of temporary fill will be required.

- Geotextile fabric will be installed prior to fill placement to facilitate complete removal of all fill material and to minimize impact to natural substrate.
- The depth of fill material will be kept to the minimum required to support equipment. The expected depth of fill material (sand and gravel) is approximately 1.5 to 2 feet.
- Erosion of fill material into the wetland will be controlled by gradual slopes (4:1) at the edge of the fill and a low berm (12 inch) above grade around the perimeter.
- All drilling cuttings and fluid production will be disposed off-site (to be approved by the county).
- The drilling time will be kept to the minimum required which is expected to be not more than 40 days.

Restoration measures

Using the procedures described above, ABA Energy believes the impacts to wetlands will be the minimum necessary to accomplish the drilling operation. The relatively thin layer of fill is not expected to cause compaction of the existing ground surface (Saeed Irani, Irani Engineering, pers. comm.). The fill material may impact plant growth by killing above ground portions of existing plants. However, the short duration of fill placement may allow below ground roots and rhizomes to survive. Upon completion of drilling the following restoration measures will be implemented:

- All fill material will be removed including the geotextile fabric.
- The condition of the natural substrate and existing plant stocks will be assessed by a qualified biologist following fill removal. If results of the assessment indicate substrate subsidence (compaction) the original substrate elevation will be restored by loosening the soil by discing. If existing plant stocks do not survive, plants collected from nearby natural plant stocks will be installed at the site.
- A monitoring program designed to determine the success of the restoration will be conducted by a qualified biologist. If success criteria are not met, solutions to rectify problems will be studied and recommended actions taken.

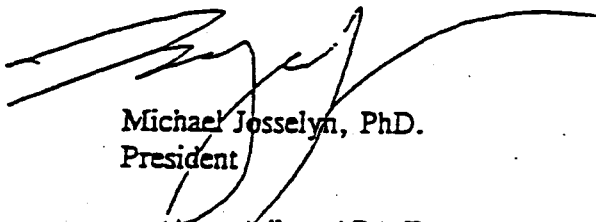
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Permits

An Army Corps of Engineers permit may be required for this project subject to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The type of permit required will be either a Nationwide Permit No. 26 (if the wetland is determined to be "isolated" or "above the headwaters") or an individual permit.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please call.

Sincerely,



Michael Josselyn, PhD.
President

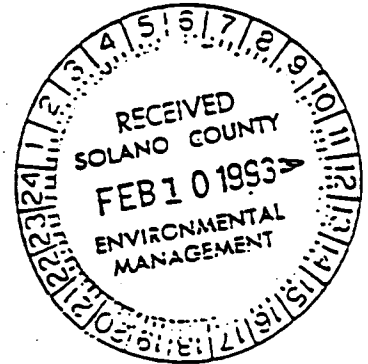
cc: Alan Adler, ABA Energy
Saeed Irani, Irani Engineering

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

POST OFFICE BOX 47
YOUNTVILLE, CALIFORNIA 94599
(707) 944-3500



February 8, 1993



Mr. John E. Taylor, Director
Solano County Department of
Environmental Management
601 Texas Street
Fairfield, California 94533

Dear Mr. Taylor:

ABA Energy Corporation; U-92-27

Department of Fish and Game personnel have reviewed the Notice of Marsh Development Permit Application No. U-92-27 by ABA Energy Corporation. The project proposes to drill an exploratory gas well from a pad on Department property. The pad is an existing parking lot that will be expanded by 0.6 acres.

Mr. Dennis Becker has met on the site with representatives of ABA Energy Corporation. To protect fish and wildlife values at the site, we recommend that the following terms should be made a part of the permit for this project:

1. All work should be completed by October 1, 1993. This includes all removal of fill.
2. Production facilities should be arranged to take up as small a space as possible.
3. All mitigation and restoration measures outlined in the January 27, 1993 letter from Dr. Michael Josselyn of Wetlands Research Associates, Inc. to Mr. Brian Parker shall become part of the project permit.
4. Fill material from the 0.6 acre area should be used on the existing parking area to fill in low spots and stabilize areas impacted during the drilling operations.

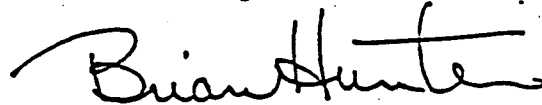
Based on this assessment, we concur that the project has the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife and, as such, is subject to a filing fee pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 711.4 (AB 3158). When the Negative Declaration is filed by the County pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(c), the fee will be \$1,250 payable to the County Clerk when the Notice of Determination is filed.

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Mr. John E. Taylor, Director
February 8, 1993
Page Two

If there are any questions regarding our comments, contact
Dennis R. Becker, Senior Wildlife Biologist, at (707) 425-3828.

Sincerely,



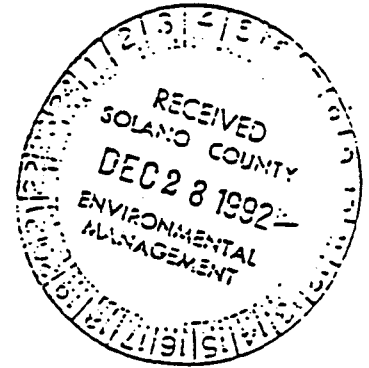
Brian Hunter
Regional Manager
Region 3

cc: Suisun Resource Conservation District

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IRANI ENGINEERING
PETROLEUM ENGINEERING
6830 GRANT AVENUE
CARMICHAEL CALIFORNIA 95608
916-944-3884

December 21, 1992



Mr. Brian Parker
Solano County Dept. of Environmental Management
601 Texas Street
Fairfield, CA 94533

Reference: ABA Energy, Suisun Bay/Grizzly Island Project

Dear Brian:

Enclosed are "Malard" No. 1 and ~~"South Hunter" No. 1~~ drilling pad layouts, production pad layouts, and pipeline routing.

"Malard" No. 1 will be drilled from the State Fish and Game parking lot north of Van Sickle Road not far from Grizzly Island Club. This well will be drilled directionally. The parking lot will be extended to accommodate the drilling rig as shown in the enclosed sketch. The extension portion of the drilling pad will be made of 1 foot or 1-1/2 feet of sand and 6" of gravel. A plastic sheet will separate sand and gravel from the native ground. The extension of the pad will be removed after the drilling operations and the ground will be returned to its original condition. The parking lot is big enough to accommodate the production equipment as shown in the enclosed sketch. Fish & Game department has visited the location and is aware of our plans. Fish and Game has endorsed our plans verbally.

"South Hunter" No. 1 location is still the same as Mr. Adler gave you. Enclosed sketches show the location of the drilling rig and the production equipment. The 4" pipeline will be constructed 5' under the existing gravel roads down to Van Sickle Road and will be connected to existing PG&E pipeline.

The drilling operation at each site should not take more than 40 days to complete. The operation is on 24 hour basis. There will be no hazardous material at the rig sites. The drilling cuttings and fluid will be hauled to a County approved site. If the wells are successful, production equipment will be placed on the locations. production equipment are consists of

- 1) Heater/Separator which separates produced formation water from the gas.
- 2) Dehydration Unit which further reduces the water content of the gas.

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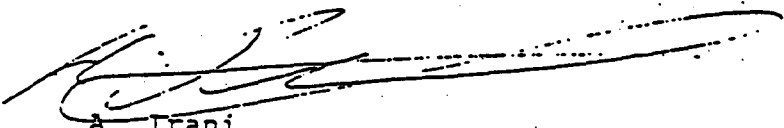
Page 2
Douglas Spicher
ABA Energy, Grizzly Island project

3) Tank which is used to store produced formation water. The content of the tank is hauled periodically to a county approved injection well.

4) Meter and meter house which are used to measure amount of gas produced.

A pumper will visit each production site daily to ensure the safety of the operations and to record amount of gas produced.

Sincerely



A. Irani

cc: ABA
Fish and Game
Solano
File

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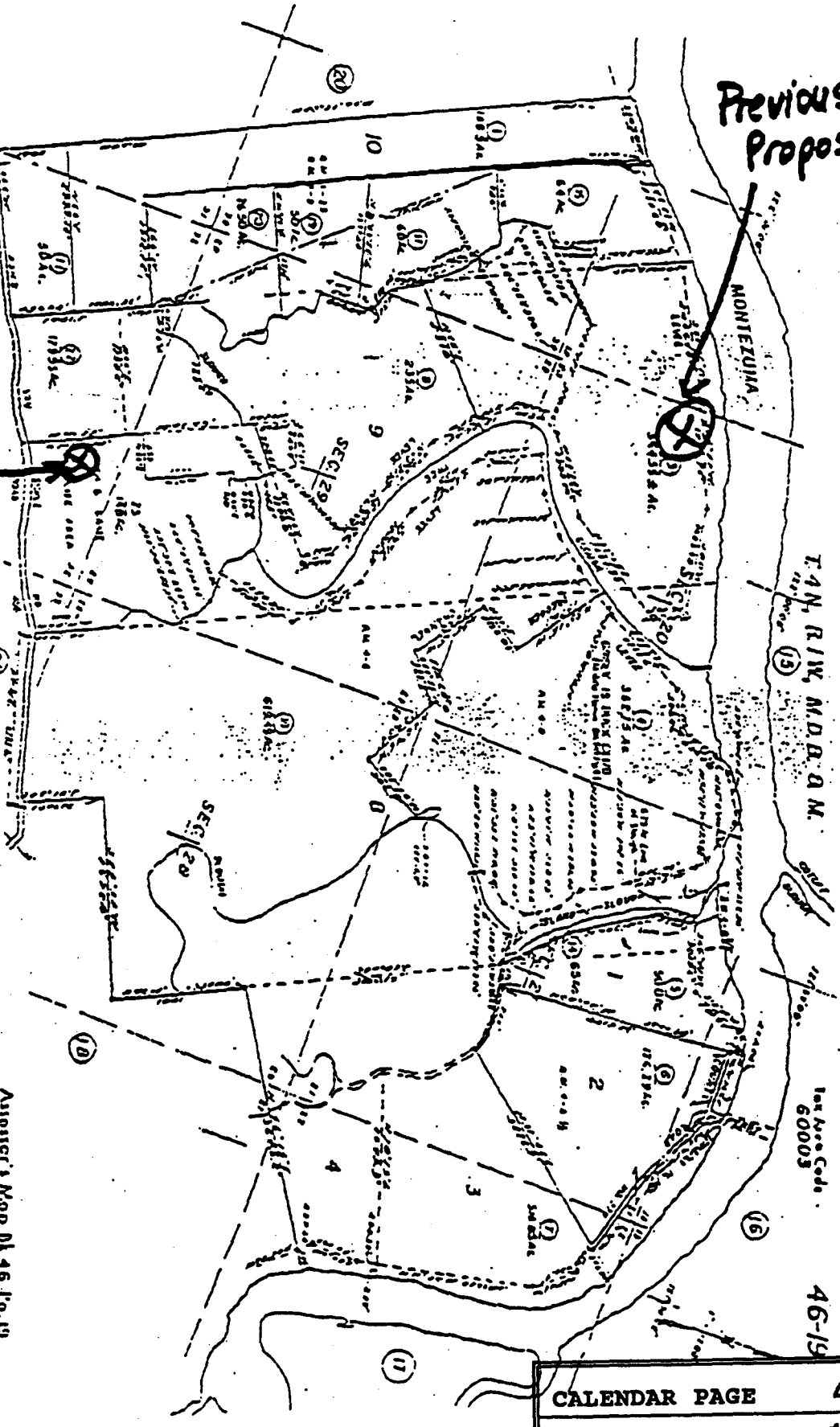
Proposed Site

Grassy 1k. RAI. 3 P.V. 8x20
 Grassy 1k. RAI. 4 P.V. 8x20
 Grassy 1k. Subd Lots 6 & 8 RAI.

Previous Proposal

HOPE ASSASSOR'S PICK
 RICH EMBERS
 SHOWN IN CIRCLES
 MEMOR DATE BY

Astor's Map No. 46 1/2, 19
 County of Solano, Calif.



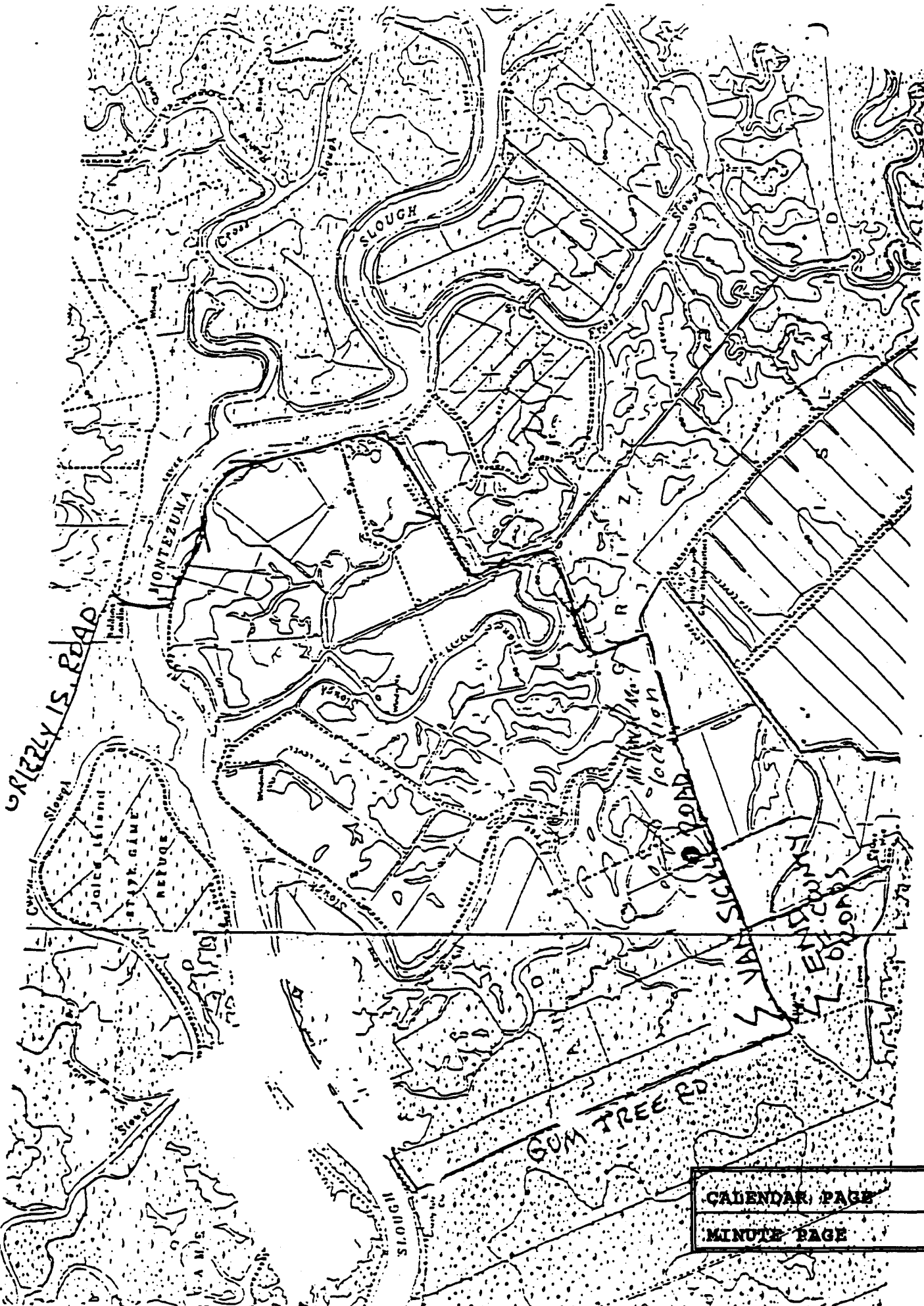
TAN RIV. M.D.D. N.M.

1st Area Code
 60005

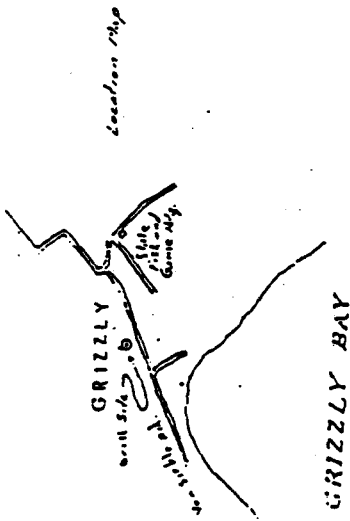
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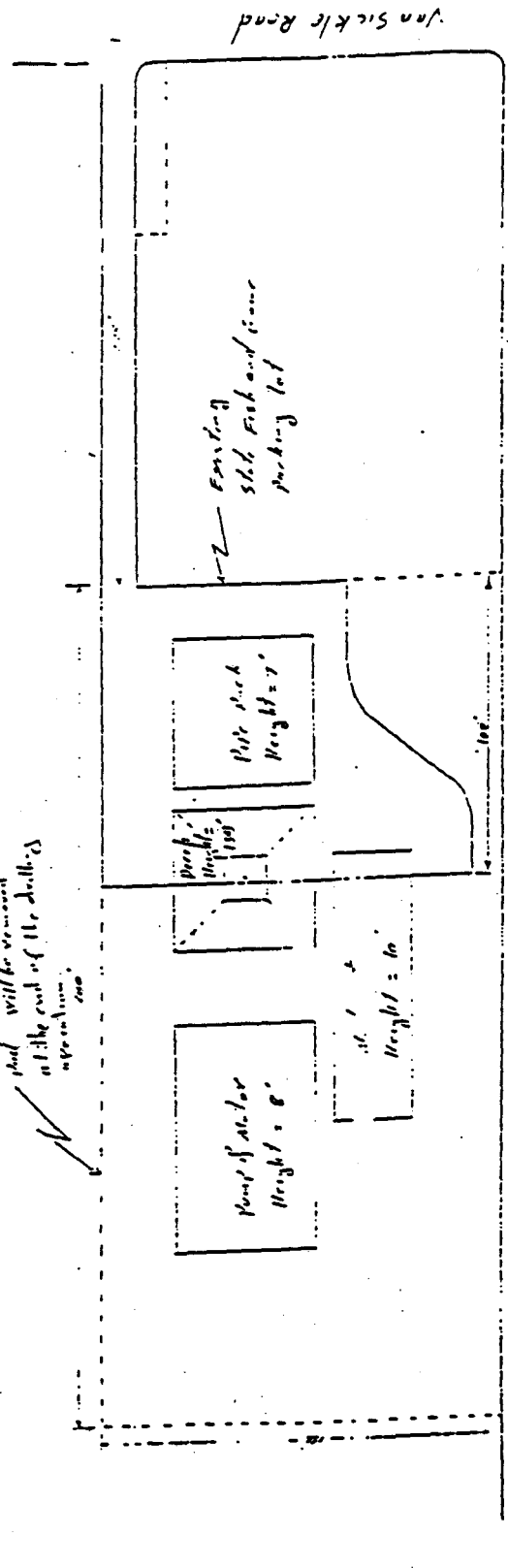
TOTAL P. 82



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Prepared new gravel
that will be removed
at the end of the drilling
operation.

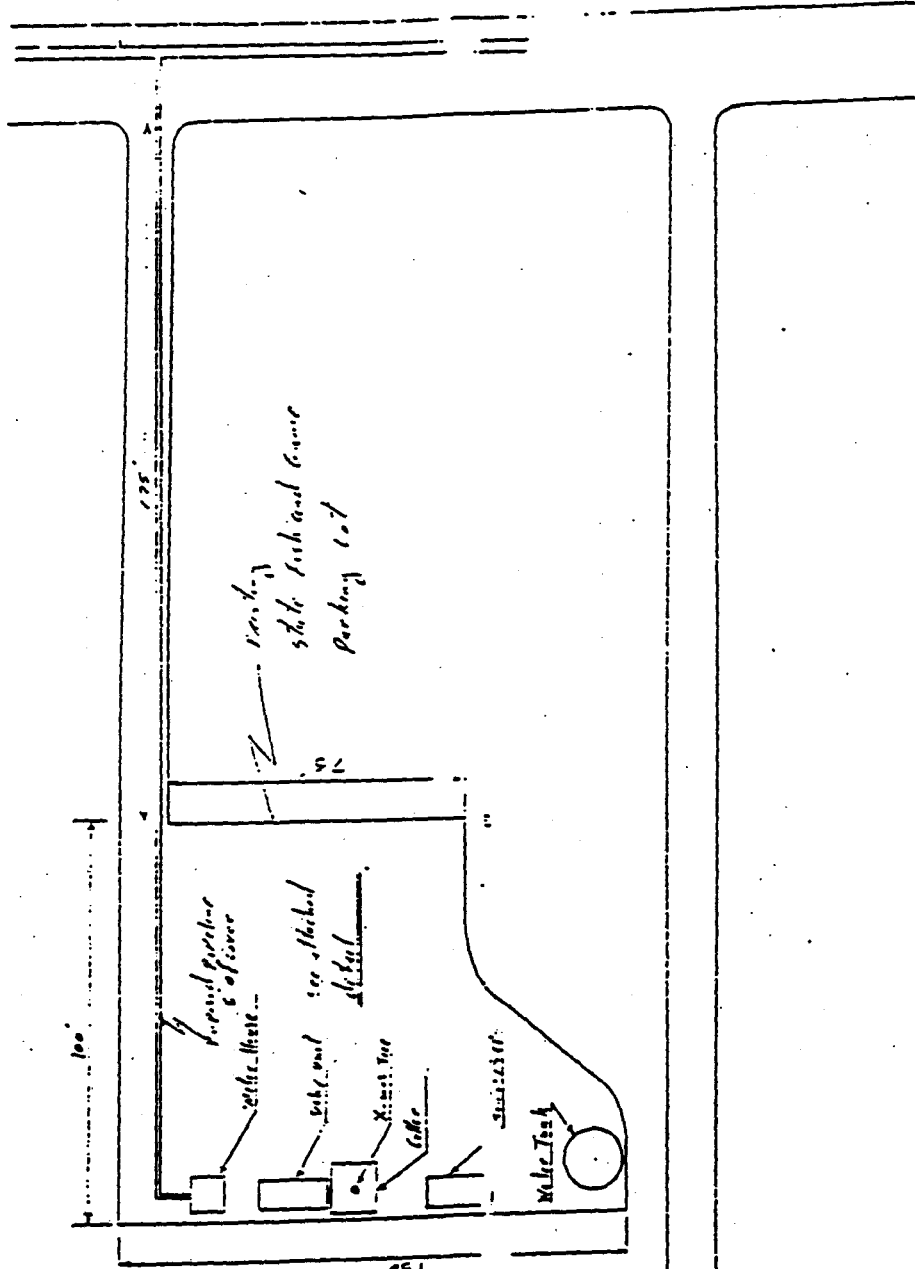


Legend

— Existing

- - - New Area

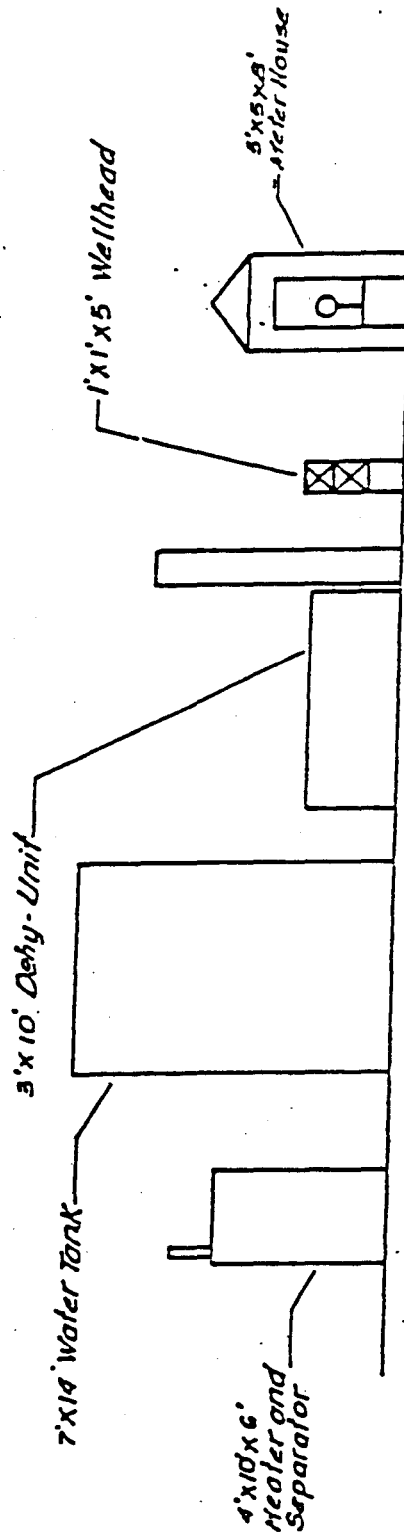
ABA Energy
Abolard No 1 gas well
Dallan and Inman



entrance
state parking

ABA Energy
 Millard No. 1 gas well
 Production paid by cost

Production Equipment



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SOLANO COUNTY
POLICIES AND REGULATIONS
GOVERNING THE SUISUN MARSH



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Provisions for natural gas exploration, operation and storage shall be controlled through the following policies:

1. Transportation of natural gas by underground pipeline is the most economical and safe method of gas transportation in the Suisun Marsh area. Future gas pipelines should be permitted if they are consistent with the Suisun Marsh Protection Plan and if the design and construction meet the following standards:
 - (a) Existing pipeline systems are utilized to the maximum extent feasible.
 - (b) The pipeline design meets all applicable safety standards of the Office of Pipeline Safety Operations (OPSO) and other regulatory agencies.
 - (c) The pipeline route avoids tidal marshes and managed wetlands wherever possible and, if that is not possible, the route crosses as little marsh or managed wetland as possible.
 - (d) Wide track or amphibious construction equipment is used in tidal marsh or managed wetland areas. Pads or mats are used as needed to prevent any construction equipment from sinking into the soft marsh muds and damaging the marsh plants.
 - (e) The "trench and push" construction method is used in all tidal marsh and managed wetland areas where feasible, so that the construction zone is kept as small as possible and the minimum amount of heavy equipment passes through the marsh or wetland area.
 - (f) Prior to any pipeline construction or related activities in the Marsh, the contractors consult with the Department of Fish and Game to determine at what time such construction or related activities should be conducted so as to create the least possible adverse impact on breeding, migration, or other fish and wildlife activities.
 - (g) Prior to any underground pipeline construction in the Marsh, the contractors consult with the Solano County Mosquito Abatement District to ensure existing re-circulation water ditches are not blocked and levees are adequately repaired after pipeline construction, or that effective mosquito control measures are maintained.

- (h) At slough, mudflat and bay crossings of gas pipelines, the trench is dredged in a manner that minimizes turbidity and prevents interference of the dredging operation with fish or wildlife.
- (i) A regular surface and aerial inspection of the pipeline route is carried out as required by OPSO.
2. If additional gas wells or ancillary facilities are required for gas exploration, production, or injection, the drilling should be accomplished with the following safeguards:
- (a) Drilling operations conform to the regulations of the California Division of Oil and Gas designed to prevent damage to natural resources.
 - (b) The drilling operation is confined to as small an area as possible and does not irreversibly damage unique vegetation or fish and wildlife habitats.
 - (c) After drilling is complete, all drilling muds, waterwaste, and any other fluids are removed entirely from the site and disposed of in a manner that does not adversely affect the Marsh.
 - (d) All buildings, tanks "christmas trees" or other facilities related to the production or storage of natural gas do not result in the permanent loss of water surface in the Marsh.
3. Construction and drilling in tidal marsh and managed wetland areas should occur only during the dry months of the years (generally April 15 through October 15) when these activities would not disturb wintering waterfowl.
4. If gas wells are abandoned, they should be sealed in accordance with Division of Oil and Gas regulations; the drilling or production facilities should be removed; and the surface area should be revegetated with native vegetation within one growing season after abandonment.
5. Storage of natural gas in depleted gas reservoirs is a reasonable use of the resource and should be permitted. Storage facilities should meet all safety standards of the Division of Oil and Gas.

6. Because the Suisun Marsh offers both natural gas and depleted gas fields suitable for gas storage, and because it is close to the urban Bay Area and the proposed waterfront industrial area on the Sacramento River, gas will probably continue to be transported out of, into, and around the Marsh. All gas transportation into and out of the Marsh is now by underground pipeline systems. If other types of systems for the transport or storage of liquified natural gas (LNG) are proposed for the Suisun Marsh area, a detailed investigation of the hazards and impacts of LNG facilities should be carried out prior to approval of the facilities.

Utilities, Facilities and Transportation

Construction of utilities, facilities, and transportation systems in and immediately adjacent to the Suisun Marsh can (1) disrupt the Marsh ecosystem at the time of construction; (2) have lasting effects on wildlife by forming barriers and obstacles to their movement and flight patterns; and (3) stimulate urban development by providing services that are a prerequisite for such development.

The following policies are incorporated to protect the Marsh from such facilities:

1. In the Suisun Marsh and upland areas necessary to protect the Marsh, improvements to public utility facilities should follow these planning guidelines:
 - (a) ~~New electric power transmission utility corridors should be located at least one-half mile from the edge of the Marsh.~~ New transmission lines, whether adjacent to the Marsh or within existing utility corridors, should be constructed so that all wires are at least six feet apart.
 - (b) Urban utilities and public services (e.g. natural gas lines, electric lines for local power distribution, domestic water mains, and sewers) should be allowed to extend into the Suisun Marsh and the adjacent upland area necessary to protect the Marsh only to serve existing uses and other uses consistent with protection of the Marsh, such as agriculture. However, utilities in the secondary management area necessary for the operation of water-related industry within the the area designated for such use in the Suisun Marsh Protection Plan at Colusa would be permissible.

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Environmental Management

801 TEXAS STREET · FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA · 94533 · (707) 421-8765

INFORMATION Required of Applicants
as
Part I of Initial Study
of
Environmental Impacts

For Office Use
Application Number or Title
U-92-27/WD-92-21

The following information is required of the applicant for all projects that require a permit and which the Department of Environmental Management determines pre subject to review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Complete disclosure of environmental data is required and is in the best interest of the applicant to avoid uncertainty as to compliance with CEQA. NOTE: This information must relate to the underlying or potential development in all cases as described in Section I.A and B below. Answers may be continued under Section V or on additional sheets.

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE: (Fully describe the nature of the proposed project and the purpose of this request, including the ultimate use of the property which makes this application necessary. Attach additional sheet or continue under Section V if necessary.)

A. Project description: DRILL AN EXPLORATORY NATURAL GAS WELL AND, IF SUCCESSFUL, LAY A PIPELINE ALONG THE ACCESS ROUTE AND DRILL DEVELOPMENT WELLS.

*** PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT "A"

B. Ultimate purpose beyond present application: PRODUCE AND DEVELOP A NATURAL GAS FIELD.

II. PROJECT DETAILS:

A. Environmental Setting:

Describe the project site and surrounding properties as they presently exist; including information on unique features, soil stability, plants and animals and cultural, historical or scenic aspects. (Attach additional sheets and photographs of the site as necessary. Snapshots, etc., are acceptable.)

THE DRILLSITE IS CURRENTLY USED AS A PARKING LOT. WHILE A RIE IS ON LOCATION, THE MARSH DIRECTLY ADJACENT TO THE PARKING LOT, WILL BE TEMPORARILY FILLED WITH FILL MATERIALS. WILL BE REMOVED AFTER DRILLING OPERATION ONLY. WELLHEAD + EQUIPMENT ON THE PARKING LOT.

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2. Surrounding properties: A COMBINATION OF FIRM
"HIGH LAND" AND MARSH AREA USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR DUCK HUNTING.

B. Existing Conditions:

1. Project area (sq. ft. or acres): 2.07 acres
2. Existing use of land: EXCLUSIVELY USED FOR DUCK HUNTING.
3. Number and type of existing structures:
 - a. Residential 0
 - b. Agricultural 0
 - c. Commercial 0
 - d. Other 0
4. Number and type of existing trees: NONE
5. Slope of property: THE AREA IS FLAT.

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|-------|
| Flat or sloping | (0-6% slope) | <u> </u> | acres |
| Rolling | (7-15% slope) | <u> </u> | acres |
| Hilly | (16-24% slope) | <u> </u> | acres |
| Steep | (25% slope) | <u> </u> | acres |
6. Describe surrounding land uses (include type of crop if agricultural):
NORTH: DUCK HUNTING
SOUTH: DUCK HUNTING
EAST: DUCK HUNTING
WEST: DUCK HUNTING
7. Describe any power lines, water mains, pipelines or other transmission lines which are located on or adjacent to the property:
NONE
8. Name of creeks and natural or man-made drainage channels through or adjacent to the property:
NONE
9. Primary vehicle access to property: HWY. 12 TO GRIZZLY ISLAND ROAD (SOUTH), WEST ON VAN SICKLE ROAD

C. Proposed Changes to Project Site:

1. Changes in site contours and vegetation which will result from any grading: THE DRILL SITE WILL BE ON AN EXISTING GRAVEL PARKING LOT. WHILE DRILLING, TEMPORARY MARSH FILL WILL BE INSTALLED TO BRING THE DRILLING AREA TO THE DIMENSIONS

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2. Number, size and type of trees to be removed:
NONE
3. Number and type of existing structures to be removed: NONE
4. Type of fencing or visual screening proposed:
NONE
5. Access to project site: PER ITEM 2 & ABOVE
6. Proposed method of water supply: ALL WATER TO BE TRUCKED IN NO NEED FOR PERMANENT SUPPLY.
7. Proposed method of sewage disposal: PORTABLE UNITS - NO NEED FOR PERMANENT FACILITIES.
8. Period of construction and/or anticipated phasing:
DRILLING: 4/15 - 10/1 (PRODUCTION IS YEAR ROUND).

D. Residential Project: Yes No XXX Mixed
(If "No", proceed to Item E.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of dwelling units proposed: <p>One family <u> </u> Two family <u> </u> Multi-family <u> </u> Condominium <u> </u></p> <p>TOTAL</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Number of proposed dwelling units with: <p>One bedroom <u> </u> Two bedrooms <u> </u> Three bedrooms <u> </u> Four or more bedrooms <u> </u></p> |
|--|---|

3. Approximate price range of lots: to .
4. Approximate price range of units: to .

E. Commercial, Industrial, Agricultural or Other Non-Residential Project:

Yes XXX No Mixed
(If "No", proceed to Section III.)

1. Total number of square feet of floor area: 2.07 ACRES
2. Hours of operation: 24** Months of Operation: 12**
*** SEE EXPLANATION ON ATTACHMENT "A"
3. Expected maximum number of people/customers using facilities: 15.
4. Expected maximum number of employees, per shift:
All shifts: 15.
5. Number of parking spaces proposed: LOCATION WILL ACCOMODATE 10 PARKING SPACES (ALL THAT IS REQUIRED).
6. Nature of noise generation, if any: DIESEL ENGINES

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- 7. Nature of odors emitted, if any: DIESEL EXHAUST
- 8. Type of loading/unloading facilities: NONE
- 9. Number of stories: _____ Maximum Height: 135'; for DRILLING ONLY
- 10. Type of exterior lighting proposed: EXPLOSION PROOF.
- 11. Lot Coverage: building coverage - _____ %
 surfaced area - _____ %
 landscaped or open - _____ %

III. NECESSARY PERMITS FOR THIS PROJECT:

(List below all other permits you will need during the development of this project. Indicate if application for necessary permit has been made.)

A. Federal agencies (for example; Corps. of Engineers):

TO BE DETERMINED

B. State and Regional agencies (for example, ECDC, Air Pollution Control District):

TO BE DETERMINED

C. Other Local agencies (including County agencies, special district, cities, etc.):

TO BE DETERMINED

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST:

Indicate the following items applicable to the project or its effects. Discuss in Section V below all items checked "Yes" or "Maybe" (attach additional sheets as necessary).

| | Yes | Maybe | No |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| A. Change in existing natural features including any bays, tidelands, beaches, lakes, hills or vegetation. | _____ | _____ | X |
| B. Change in scenic views or vistas from existing residential areas, public lands, or roads. | _____ | _____ | X |
| C. Change in pattern or character of general area of project. | _____ | _____ | X |
| D. Generate significant amounts of solid waste or litter. | _____ | X | _____ |
| E. Change in dust, ash, smoke, fumes or odors in vicinity. | _____ | X | _____ |

WHILE DRILLING
ONLY

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Yes Maybe No


- F. Change in ocean, bay, lake, stream or ground water; quality or quantity, velocity, flow or alteration of existing drainage patterns. _____ X
- G. Change in existing noise or vibration levels in the vicinity. X TEMPORARY - DRILLING ONLY
- H. Site on filled land or construction or grading on slope of 25% or more. _____ X
- I. Use or disposal of materials potentially hazardous to man or wildlife, such as toxic substances, flammables or explosives. X DIESEL *****
- J. Change in demand for public services (police, fire, water, sewer, etc.), beyond those presently available on site or proposed in the near future. _____ X
- K. Substantially increase fossil fuel consumption (electricity, oil, natural gas, etc.). _____ X
- L. Change in use of or access to an existing recreational area or navigable stream. _____ X
- M. Change in traffic on immediate road system or vehicular noise. _____ X *****
- N. Removal of agricultural or grazing lands from production. _____ X
- O. Construction within a flood plain. (high land) X
- P. Relocation of people. _____ X

V. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS REGARDING POSSIBLE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THIS PROJECT:

PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT "A"

VI. VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION:

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature:  Date Filed: AUGUST 11, 1992

Printed Name: ALAN BRETT ADLER Phone: (805)-589-7500

Mailing Address: 7313 HUNTINGTON COURT BAKERSFIELD, CA. 93308

For Office Use

VII. STAFF REVIEW:

By:  Date: 2-8-93

Comments: _____

zthterc4

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT REVIEW
PART II OF INITIAL STUDY
OF
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

APPLICATION NUMBER OR TITLE: U-92-27, ABA Energy Corp. Mallard #1

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 3-5-93

The following information is provided by the Department of Environmental Management as a review of and supplement to the applicant's completed "Part I of Initial Study". These two documents, Part I and II, comprise the Initial Study required by the State EIR Guidelines, Section 15080.

I. ADDITIONAL DATA:

- A. USGS Quad. Map: Denverton County Base Map: 19 North
- B. Zoning: "MP" Marsh Preservation
- C. SCS Soil Classification: Class IV
- D. Is project site in an agricultural preserve? Yes
- E. Is project site in an airport runway approach zone? No
- F. Is project site in an irrigation district? No
- G. In which APCD is this project located? BAAOMD
- H. In which fire district is this project located?
Montezuma Fire Protection District
- I. In which RWQCB is this project located? Region 2, SF Bay
- J. In which Corps of Engineers District? Sacramento
- K. In which school district is this project located? N/A
- L. In what city's sphere of influence? None
- M. Is project site located within a seismic special study zone? No
- N. Is project site located within the Suisun Marsh study area? Yes - Primary Management Area
- O. A.P.N.: 0046-190-230

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II. GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE:

The project site is designated "Marsh" by the Solano County General Plan Land Use and Circulation Element. It is zoned "MP" Marsh Preservation, and is within the Primary Management Area. Well drilling is an allowed use with a Use Permit and subject to the policies established under the local protection program for the Suisun Marsh.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW CHECKLIST:

A. General:

Yes Maybe No

- | | | | | |
|----|--|-----|-----|---|
| 1. | Does it appear that any feature of the project will generate major public controversy? | ___ | ___ | X |
| 2. | Will approval of the project set an important precedent for future projects? | ___ | ___ | X |
| 3. | Could this project have any significant impact upon the existing character of the immediate vicinity, or alter the present or planned land use of an area? | ___ | ___ | X |
| 4. | Could it result in a major depletion of any non-renewable natural resources? | ___ | ___ | X |
| 5. | Could it result in the obstruction of any scenic view open to the public or create a visually offensive site open to public view? | ___ | ___ | X |

B. Land:

- | | | | | |
|----|---|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. | Is it located in an area of environmental importance, hazard or critical concern (e.g., Suisun Marsh, Sacramento River, lake, gravel deposits, canal, slough, park, airport)? | X | ___ | ___ |
| 2. | Could it cause significant disruptions, displacement, or removal of soils from the site. | X | ___ | ___ |
| 3. | Could it change significantly the topography or any unique geologic or physical features? | ___ | ___ | X |

Yes Maybe No

C. Air:

1. Could it result in a substantial detrimental effect on air quality during and/or after construction? X
2. Could it deter the attainment and/or prevent the maintenance of any published national or state air quality standards (e.g. additional source of auto emissions, dust, smoke, etc.)? X
3. Could it result in the emission of objectionable odors? X

D. Water:

1. Could it result in a substantial detrimental effect on water quality? X
2. Could it deter the attainment and/or prevent the maintenance of any national or state water quality standards? X
3. Could it involve the possibility of contamination of a public water supply system or adversely affect ground water quality or supply? X
4. Could it cause or contribute to substantial flooding, erosion or siltation? X
5. Could it significantly alter drainage patterns or the rate or amount of surface runoff of an area? X
6. Will it involve construction of facilities within an area subject to flooding? X

E. Animal life:

1. Could it substantially affect a rare or endangered species or its habitat? X

Yes Maybe No

2. Could it cause substantial interference with the movement of any migratory fish or wildlife species? ___ ___ X
3. Could it result in significant changes in the diversity or numbers of any species of animals (including birds, fish, insects or microfauna)? ___ ___ X
4. Could it result in deterioration or loss to existing fish or wildlife habitat? ___ X ___
5. Will the project individually or cumulatively have an adverse effect on fish and wildlife? ___ ___ ___

F. Plant life:

1. Could it substantially affect a rare or endangered species of plant? ___ ___ X
2. Could it result in significant changes in the diversity or numbers of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, microflora or aquatic plants)? ___ ___ X

G. Agriculture:

1. Will it result in the removal of prime agricultural land from production? ___ ___ X
2. Will it result in the reduction of acreage of any agricultural crop? ___ ___ X
3. Will it result in the reduction in acreage of grazing land? ___ ___ X
4. Could it create significant conflict between agricultural and non-agricultural uses? ___ ___ X

H. Noise, Light and Glare:

1. Could it significantly increase existing noise levels? ___ X ___

Yes Maybe No

2. Could it introduce significant new amounts of light or glare?

___ X ___

I. Human Health, Safety:

1. Could it subject people or structures to significant geologic or fire hazard?

___ ___ X

2. Does it involve a risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances in the event of any accident?

___ ___ X

3. Could it result in the creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard?

___ X ___

4. Could it violate any state or local standards relating to solid waste or litter control?

___ ___ X

J. Population, Housing:

1. Could it significantly alter the distribution or density of the human population of an area?

___ ___ X

2. Will it reduce the existing housing stock or create a significant demand for additional housing?

___ ___ X

3. Could it have a significant growth inducing effect?

___ ___ X

K. Transportation, Circulation:

1. Could it generate significant additional vehicular movement?

___ ___ X

2. Could it cause significant alterations to present transportation patterns?

___ ___ X

3. Could it necessitate significant road improvements or construction or significantly increase the need for road maintenance?

X ___ ___

Yes Maybe No

4. Could it create significant additional waterborne, rail or air traffic? X
5. Could it significantly increase traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists or pedestrians? X

L. Public Services, Utilities

1. Could it have a significant effect upon or result in the need for new or altered governmental services or facilities involving:
- a. Fire protection? X
 - b. Law enforcement? X
 - c. Parks and recreational opportunities? X
 - d. Other governmental services? X
2. Could it have a significant effect upon or result in the need for new systems or major alterations to the following utilities:
- a. Power or natural gas? X
 - b. Water? X
 - c. Sewers? X
 - d. Storm water drainage? X
 - e. Solid waste and disposal? X
 - f. Irrigation facilities? X

M. Energy

1. Could it use substantial amounts of fuel or energy? X
2. Could it create a significant new demand upon existing sources of energy? X

N. Archaeological, Historic:

1. Could it result in destruction, disturbance of a significant archaeological site? X

Yes Maybe No

2. Could it result in destruction, disturbance or removal of a significant historical site, structure or object? _____ X

O. Mandatory Findings of Significance (Section 15065)

1. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? _____ X
2. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term private goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals? _____ X
3. Does the project have possible environmental effects which are individually limited but cumulatively considerable? As used in the subsection, "cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects. _____ X
4. Will the environmental effects of the project cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? _____ X

IV. Discussion of items indicated in I, II and III above. (Include mitigation measures and alternatives designed to reduce significant effects, causing them to no longer be significant.)

B.1

The project is located in the Primary Management Area of the Suisun Marsh, an area of critical environmental concern.

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MITIGATION:

Any detrimental impact on the Suisun Marsh will be mitigated by measures required by the policies and regulations governing the Suisun Marsh under the Local Protection Program. The applicant has agreed to incorporate necessary mitigation measures for the project in as identified in the Solano County Policies and Regulations Governing the Suisun Marsh, pages 20-22.

VERIFICATION:

All other measures incorporated into the project application for the exploration and production pad shall be verified by on site spot checks by planning staff.

B.2, D.4, D.5

The project involves the fill of an area 150' by 180' (27,000 sq. ft.) to allow for the temporary construction of a drill pad. This area is within a managed wetland on a parcel owned by the California Department of Fish and Game. This area, when combined with the existing parking lot at the site, will provide an acceptably sized drill pad.

This well will be drilled directionally. The parking lot will be extended to accommodate the drilling rig as shown in the attached sketch. The extension portion of the drilling pad will be built on a 1 to 1 1/2 foot sand box topped with 6 inches of gravel. A geotextile fabric will separate sand and gravel from the native ground. The extension of the pad will be removed after the drilling operations and the ground will be returned to its original condition. The parking lot is big enough to accommodate the production equipment as shown in the attached sketch.

The proposed fill could alter drainage patterns, increase surface runoff, contribute to erosion on the sides of the graded areas and disrupt soils.

The mitigation measure below will insure that the impacts to wetlands will be the minimum necessary to accomplish the drilling operation and will not result in significant environmental effects. The relatively thin layer of fill is not expected to cause compaction of the existing ground surface. The fill material may impact plant growth by killing above ground portions of plants. However, the short duration of fill placement may allow below ground roots and rhizomes to survive.

MITIGATION:

The applicant will be required to submit a grading and erosion control plan to the County Department of Transportation and the Department of Environmental Management for review and approval. The grading plan will include all grading for the exploration pad and production pad and site restoration. The grading and erosion control plan must meet the minimum standards of the Solano County Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance, Chapter 31 of the Solano County Code. By meeting these standards the project's impacts associated with grading will be reduced to insignificant levels.

VERIFICATION:

The applicant shall submit grading and erosion control plans to the Department of Transportation which must be approved by the County prior to the issuance of any well drilling permit.

All grading work will be restricted to the dry months of the year (April 15 through October 1) as requested by the California Department of Fish and Game and a grading permit will not be issued until April 15th. In the event of heavy rainfall during these months, site inspection will be made by Transportation Department staff to inspect erosion control measures.

A site inspection by planning staff will take place prior to the operation of the production facility. As part of the inspection, staff will evaluate all grading activity to ensure grading was restricted to areas delineated on submitted plans and that the exploration pad was properly removed.

MITIGATION:

Additional measures provide to protect the integrity of the marsh include:

1. The project engineer has developed an equipment layout design that minimizes the size of the drilling pad and still allows maintenance and support services to the drilling rig.
2. All drilling cuttings and fluid production will be disposed off-site (to be approved by the County).
3. The drilling time will be kept to the minimum required which is expected to be not more than 40 days.

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4. Geotextile fabric will be installed prior to fill placement to facilitate complete removal of all fill material and to minimize impact to natural substrate.
5. The depth of fill material will be kept to the minimum required to support equipment. The expected depth of fill material (sand and gravel) is approximately 1.5 to 2 feet.
6. Erosion of fill material into the wetland will be controlled by gradual slopes (4:1) at the edge of the fill and a low berm (12 inch) above grade around the perimeter.
7. All fill material will be removed including the geotextile fabric lowering the site to the previous elevation of site.
8. The filled area will be revegetated with wetlands vegetation equivalent to pre-project status.
9. The fill shall be removed and revegetation work begun within 60 days of the removal of the drill rig.

VERIFICATION:

1. To verify removal of the fill and initial wetlands vegetation on Grizzly Island, the applicant shall submit a report from the applicant's wetland consultant to the Planning Division providing the following information:
 - a. A statement verifying the removal of the 27,000 sq. ft. of fill and the geotextile fabric.
 - b. A before and after picture verifying the removal of delineated fill.
 - c. An assessment of the condition of the natural substrate and existing plant stocks following fill removal. If results of the assessment indicate substrate subsidence (compaction) the original substrate elevation will be restored by loosening the soil by discing. If existing plant stocks do not survive, plants collected from nearby natural plant stocks will be installed at the site subject to the specific approval of the planning staff.

This assessment and report shall be submitted to the Planning Division within 45 days of the removal of the fill.

2. Prior to project permit issuance the applicant will be required to submit a plan for a monitoring program (including criteria for judging the success of site revegetation) to document the status of the revegetation of the site one year after removal of the fill. The monitoring program shall be prepared by the applicants wetlands consultant and its preparation shall be guaranteed by posting a bond of sufficient size with Solano County to insure its preparation and the completion of any recommendations necessary to achieve successful revegetation of the site. If site monitoring documents that the project has not been successfully revegetated the applicant shall undertake all measures necessary to achieve success.

The verification of the removal of fill, successful revegetation and incorporation into wetlands management will be the responsibility of the Planning Division and the landowner and the Department of Fish and Game.

D.1,
D.2,
D.3

Drilling muds or any hazardous material handled or stored on-site could have detrimental effect on water quality.

MITIGATION:

Potential impacts on water quality will be mitigated by the applicant's proposal to contain all drilling muds, soil waste water and other fluids in a storage tank or pit with an impermeable lining. After drilling is complete, all drilling muds, solid waste, waste water and other fluids will be removed from the site and disposed of in a manner that does not adversely affect other areas. (See Exhibit C for exploration facility site plan).

VERIFICATION:

The removal of drilling wastes from the exploration facility shall be verified by planning staff during a site inspection prior to issuance of any production facility permits.

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D.6 Yes- The Suisun Marsh is within the 100 year flood plain identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Public safety at the facility is not at risk from the areas flood hazards as it is not a structure for human occupancy. As mitigated the project will not create a significant environmental effect from flooding.

MITIGATION:

A standard condition will be applied to the project requiring it to be closed down during periods of high flood hazard.

VERIFICATION: N/A

E.4, H.1, H.2

The noise, night time lighting, dust and traffic associated with well drilling activities could effect wildlife and its habitat.

MITIGATION:

Detrimental impacts on habitat and wildlife will be mitigated by the following measures: The applicant proposes to confine drilling activities to the dry season of the year (May 1 - October 1) so that wintering waterfowl will not be affected. The drilling operations will be limited to as small an area as possible and will use an existing drilling pad. Access roads and the drilling pad will be periodically sprayed with water to minimize dust. If the well is abandoned, the new drilling and production facilities will be removed and the surface area will be revegetated with native vegetation within one growing season after abandonment.

VERIFICATION:

If remedial actions are necessary for enforcement, the use permit may be subject to revocation.

I.3

During drilling, when 15 people may be at the site, the need for sewage disposal could present a health hazard.

MITIGATION:

Any impact from sewage disposal will be mitigated by using portable toilets temporarily located at the site during drilling.

VERIFICATION:

Verification will not be required.

K.3

Movement of heavy drilling equipment across County roads could result in the need for repair work following project construction.

MITIGATION:

The applicant shall obtain an encroachment permit and post a bond for potential damage to public roads caused by transporting heavy drilling equipment to and from the site.

VERIFICATION:

The applicant will be required to obtain an encroachment permit and submit a bond to the Department of Transportation prior to issuance of a well drilling permit.

V. COORDINATION:

1. Agencies having jurisdiction by law (Section 15366).

Suisun Resource Conservation District,
California Department of Fish and Game, and
San Francisco Water Quality Control Board.

2. Responsible agencies (Section 15381).

San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Commission,
California Division of Oil and Gas,
Solano County Department of Transportation, and
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

VI. ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION:

No significant environmental impacts are anticipated that cannot be mitigated as described in Section IV. Staff recommends that the project qualify for Negative Declaration.

VII. PREPARATION OF PART II OF INITIAL STUDY:

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| CALENDAR PAGE | 440 |
| MINUTE PAGE | 1673 |

Prepared by: Brian Parker, AICP Date: 2-8-93

Title: Senior Planner

VIII. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE DETERMINATION:

- Disposition: Categorical Exemption, Class
 Negative Declaration required
 EIR required
 Referred back to submitting agency for additional information
 Other action

This disposition constitutes the official action of the Committee pursuant to Article III.B of the Solano County EIR Guidelines.

M. V.
ERC Secretary

3-5-93
Date

Copies of this initial study are available at the Solano County Department of Environmental Management.

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bf c:/1-93

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| MINUTE PAGE | 1674 |

Project Title: ABA Energy Corp., U-92-27/WD 92-21
Lead Agency: Solano County Dept. of Env. Management
Contact Person: Brian Parker
Street Address: 601 Texas Street
City: Fairfield, CA Zip: 94533 Phone: (707) 421-6765
County: Solano

Project Location
Country: Solano City/Nearest Community: Suisun
Total Acres: 2 ACRES
Assessor's Parcel No: 0046-190-230 Section: 32 Twp: T4N Range: R2W Base: MDB&M
Waterways: Suisun Bay
Airports: N/A Railways: N/A Schools: N/A

Document Type

- CEQA: [] NOP [] Supplement/Subsequent [] NEPA: [] NOI [] Other: [] Joint Document
[] Early Cons [] EIR (Prior SCH No.) [] EA [] Final Document
[] Neg Dec [] Other [] Draft EIS [] Other
[] Draft EIR [] FONSI

Local Action Type

- [] General Plan Update [] Specific Plan [] Rezone [] Annexation
[] General Plan Amendment [] Master Plan [] Prezone [] Redevelopment
[] General Plan Element [] Planned Unit Development [] Use Permit [] Coastal Permit
[] Community Plan [] Site Plan [] Land Division (Subdivision, Parcel Map, Tract Map, etc.) [] Other Well Drilling Permit

Development Type

- [] Residential: Units Acres Employees
[] Office: Sqft Acres Employees
[] Commercial: Sqft Acres Employees
[] Industrial: Sqft Acres Employees
[] Educational
[] Recreational
[] Water Facilities: Type MGD
[] Transportation: Type
[] Mining: Mineral
[] Power: Type Wats
[] Waste Treatment: Type
[] Hazardous Waste: Type
[] Other: Oil & Gas Well

Project Issues Discussed in Document

- [] Aesthetic/Visual [] Food Plant/Fooding [] Schools/Universities [] Water Quality
[] Agricultural Land [] Forest Land/Fire Hazard [] Septic Systems [] Water Supply/Groundwater
[] Air Quality [] Geology/Seismic [] Sewer Capacity [] Wetland/Riparian
[] Archeological/Historical [] Minerals [] Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading [] Wildlife
[] Coastal Zone [] Noise [] Solid Waste [] Growth Inducing
[] Drainage/Absorption [] Population/Housing Balance [] Toxic/Hazardous [] Landuse
[] Economic/Jobs [] Public Services/Facilities [] Traffic/Circulation [] Cumulative Effects
[] Fiscal [] Recreation/Open Space [] Vegetation [] Other

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Use California Department of Fish & Game
Wildlife Area: None: Marsh Preservation; General Plan Land Use Designation: Marsh

Project Description

Drill site and production facilities for natural gas well located on a temporary fill and existing parking area. Production facilities to be located on parking area. Located in the Suisun Marsh.

CLEARINGHOUSE CONTACT: (916) 445-0613
STATE REVIEW BEGAN: 3.8.93
DEPT REV TO AGENCY: 3.31
AGENCY REV TO SCH: 4.3
SCH COMPLIANCE: 4.7

CHT ENT:
Resources
Conservation
Fish & Game 3
BCDC
DWR
Caltrans 1 4

CHT ENT:
State/Consumer Svcs
Reg. WQCs 1 2
DTRC/CTC
Energy Comm
State Lands Comm

PLEASE NOTE SCH NUMBER ON ALL COMMENTS
PLEASE FORWARD LATE COMMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE LEAD AGENCY ONLY
ACQ/AFSD: 2/46