CALENDAR ITEM

C75

MINUTE ITEM
This Calendar Item No. _15
was approved as Minute Item
No. _15 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of _3
to _____ at its __3/8/94
meeting

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APPROVE A NEGOTIATED SUBSURFACE (NO SURFACE USE)
STATE OIL AND GAS LEASE
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

PROPOSED LESSEES:

Russell H. Green, Jr. P. O. Box 965 Healdsburg, California 95448

Rio Delta Resources, Inc. 3600 American River Drive, Suite 220 Sacramento, California 95864 --

AREA, TYPE AND LOCATION OF STATE LAND:

Russell H. Green, Jr. (operator) has submitted a complete application for a negotiated subsurface (no surface use) State oil and gas lease on about 209 acres in the bed of the San Joaquin River and in the bed of the False River, Contra Costa 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 which would permit 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 inaccessibility from surface drill sites reasonably

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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 which 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:

- Primary term will be twenty years and for so long thereafter as oil and gas is produced in paying quantities from the leased lands, or so long as the lessee is diligently conducting producing, drilling, deepening, repairing, redrilling or other necessary lease or well maintenance operations in the leased lands.
- 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.
- 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:

- of the leased lands are included in a Commissionapproved 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 (\$5,225 for approximately 209 acres).
- 3. Royalty of 25 percent on gas and oil.
- 4. Performance bond or other security in the sum of \$10,000.

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:

06/08/94

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 Contra Costa County Development Department approves locations for the drilling of gas wells on private property in the County and has found that the proposed project is not a project which will have potential for causing significant effect on the environment [Sec. 15051(b)(3)CAC].

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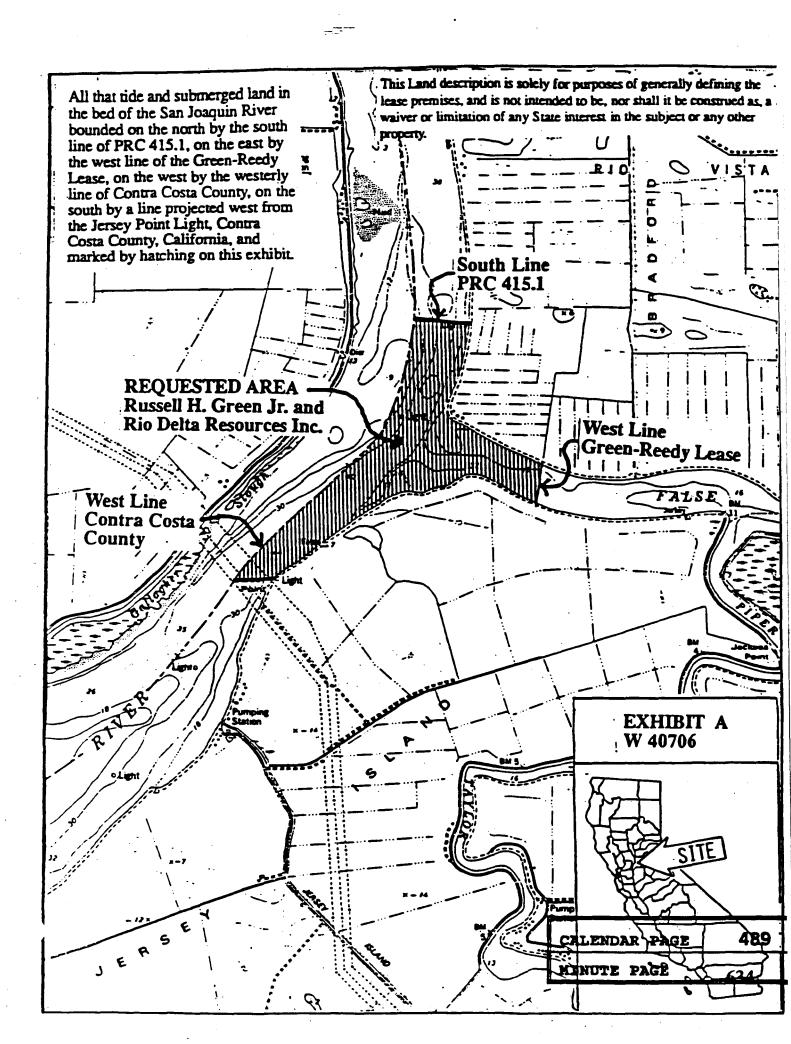
EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description and Site Map
- B. Contra Costa County Development Department Drilling Permit WD-9-93

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

- 1. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT, AS APPROVED, WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
- 2. FIND THAT THE ACTIVITY WILL INVOLVE LANDS IDENTIFIED AS POSSESSING SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES PURSUANT TO P.R.C. 6370, ET SEQ., BUT THAT SUCH ACTIVITY WILL HAVE NO DIRECT OR INDIRECT EFFECT ON SUCH LANDS.
- 3. FIND THAT DRILLING PERMIT, WD-9-93 WAS APPROVED BY CONTRA COSTA COUNTY.
- 4. 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.
- 5. PURSUANT TO P.R.C. 6815(a), ENTER INTO A NEGOTIATED SUBSURFACE (NO SURFACE USE) STATE OIL AND GAS LEASE WITH RUSSELL H. GREEN, JR., AND RIO DELTA RESOURCES, INC. THE LEASE WILL CONTAIN THE STATE LAND DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A" (APPROXIMATELY 209 ACRES), A DRILLING TERM OF THREE YEARS, ANNUAL RENTAL OF \$25 PER ACRE (\$5,225 FOR APPROXIMATELY 209 ACRES), ROYALTY ON GAS SUBSTANCES AND OIL FIXED AT 25 PERCENT AND PERFORMANCE BOND OR OTHER SECURITY IN THE SUM OF \$10,000.
- 6. AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF THE DOCUMENT NECESSARY TO EFFECT THE COMMISSION'S ACTION.

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Application for Oil and Gas Well Per

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ATTACHMENT TO OIL AND GAME WELL PERMIT # 9-93 (Additional Conditions of Approval)

- 1. The applicant is allowed one well with the permit.
- 2. All noise abatement requirements shall be fully satisfied.
- 3. The applicant shall notify all adjacent neighbors and the department prior to drilling.
- 4. All clean-up standards shall be satisfied.

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APPLICATION	I FOR A	HEARING DATE	TILE NO.
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			all adjoining parcels
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