CALENDAR ITEM

C 47

MINUTE ITEM
This Calendar Item No. 47
was approved as Minute Item
No. 47 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3
to 6 at its 5/26/94

Trout W 25128

CONSIDERATION OF A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE STATE LANDS COMMISSION

BACKGROUND:

Sound business judgment dictates that a plan exist to guide the operations of the agency toward a clearly defined objective. Additionally, the Department of Finance, Office of Information Technology (OIT), requires a business strategy to be developed and submitted in support of the agency's information management strategy. The Commission's plans are due to OIT on May 2, 1994.

Consistent with good judgment and Finance requirements, staff of the Commission undertook preparation of a strategic plan. The results of that effort are presented to the Commission for consideration and approval. This plan is based on the Commission's long established objective to protect and restore the environment while managing land and resources under its aegis for the public interest. Guiding the efforts of staff is a vision statement which says "The State Lands Commission, as steward of the state's sovereign and school lands, is sensitive to society's need for prudent resource development and society's obligation to protect, preserve, and restore the public's natural resources now and for future generations. This vision will be attained only by judicious balancing of each of these responsibilities."

In preparation for work on a strategic plan, staff reviewed plans developed by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (January 1993) and plans for forest resource and aquatic land management adopted by the State of Washington Department of Natural Resources (July and December 1992 respectively). Staff also benefitted from review of a strategic planning toolkit developed by the California State Data Processing Managers Academy IV (May 1992) and information in the OIT publication Shared Logic (Fall 1993).

Work began in December 1993 with a two-day executive team review and planning session. At that session staff sought to: identify those served by the Commission; determine future demand for the products of the Commission; outline expected changes in emphasis, organization, and funding facing the Commission; and prepare a list of major issues anticipated during the next three to five years.

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This effort resulted in four principal issues:

Achieving Efficiency and Excellence in Management

Adopting an Enterprise Approach to Land Management

Developing a Stable Funding Source for Resource Management

Expanding Public Education and Outreach

These issues were refined and goals, objectives and strategies developed at a second daylong session in February of this year. At the same time staff also prepared the introduction, background and summary of the Commission and its activities.

ISSUES:

The plan addresses several major factors affecting the future of the Commission. Because of the low price for crude oil and natural gas and the abundance of crude on the west coast, oil and gas will play a reduced role in the near future both as to its share of the income stream and management effort. With this reduction of income and the heavy demands on the state General Fund, the Commission will be faced with fewer staff and fiscal resources. An efficient and productive organization will be mandatory if the Commission is to continue its leading role as manager of state sovereign tide and submerged lands and school grant lands. The Strategic Plan proposes strategies to meet these challenges.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

- 1. FIND THAT THIS PLAN IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF CEQA PURSUANT TO 14 CAL CODE REGS. 15061 BECAUSE THE ACTIVITY IS NOT A PROJECT AS DEFINED BY 14 CAL CODE REGS. 15378.
- ACCEPT THE STRATEGIC PLAN
- 3. DIRECT STAFF TO PREPARE ACTION PLANS TO IMPLEMENT THE STRATEGIC PLAN

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