

**CALENDAR ITEM  
C73**

A 35

09/19/00  
PRC 2793.1  
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**CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE FULL QUITCLAIM OF  
OIL AND GAS LEASE NO. PRC 2793.1  
(4,250 ACRES OF TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS),  
OFFSHORE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

**LESSEE:**

Exxon Mobil Corporation  
Attn.: Mr. Gerald E. Ladd  
U. S. West, P. O. Box 4697  
Houston, TX 77210-4697

**AREA, LAND TYPE, AND LOCATION:**

Oil and Gas Lease No. PRC 2793.1 contains 4,250 acres of tide and submerged lands offshore Santa Barbara County, California.

**BACKGROUND:**

Oil and Gas Lease No. PRC 2793.1 (Lease) was issued to Richfield Oil Corporation, Socony Mobil Oil Corporation and Signal Oil and Gas Company on October 26, 1961, and contains 4,250 acres of tide and submerged lands offshore Santa Barbara County (leased lands). Through a series of corporate name changes, mergers and quitclaims (see below), the current lessee is Exxon Mobil Corporation. Under the terms of the Lease, the lessee is required to pay an annual rental of \$1.00 per acre (\$4,250.14 for 4,250 acres). One well had been drilled on the leased lands. It was completed as a subsea well and abandoned in December 1997, as part of the SWARS project.

Public Resources Code section 6804.1 and Lease paragraph 4 permit the lessee to make at any time a written quitclaim of all rights under the lease or of any portion of the leased lands comprising a ten-acre parcel or multiple thereof in a compact form. The quitclaim will be effective when it is filed with the State

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subject to the continued obligation of the lessee and its surety to pay all accrued rentals and royalties and to abandon all wells drilled on the leased lands.

At the June 27, 2000, Commission meeting, the Commission accepted two (Partial) Quitclaim Deeds for State Oil and Gas Lease on the subject lease dated June 15, 2000, one from Atlantic Richfield Oil Company, and one from Phillips Petroleum Company. These documents quitclaimed back to the State all of the quitclaiming lessee's right, title and interest in the leased lands described in Exhibit A of Oil and Gas Lease No. PRC 2793.1 dated October 26, 1961.

On June 26, 2000, Commission staff received a quitclaim deed dated June 22, 2000, from Exxon Mobil Corporation for State Oil and Gas Lease No. PRC 2793.1. Commission acceptance of the quitclaim deed dated June 22, 2000, from Exxon Mobil Corporation will complete a full quitclaim of the subject lease back to the State.

A review of the Commission's files reveals that no default exists on the Lease, that the lessee has complied with all applicable laws and Lease provisions and has paid all rentals (no royalty is due as the leased lands were not developed).

**STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:**

- A. Public Resources Code section 6804.1 and Lease Paragraph 4.

**OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

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

Authority: Public Resources Code section 21065 and Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15378.

**EXHIBITS:**

- A. Land Description
- B. Location Map

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**PERMIT STREAMLINING ACT DEADLINE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

**CEQA FINDING:**

FIND THAT THE ACTIVITY IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CEQA, PURSUANT TO TITLE 14, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, SECTION 15061 BECAUSE THE ACTIVITY IS NOT A PROJECT AS DEFINED BY PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21065 AND TITLE 14, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, SECTION 15378.

**AUTHORIZATION:**

1. ACCEPT FROM EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION (LESSEE) THE (FULL) QUITCLAIM DEED FOR OIL AND GAS LEASE DATED JUNE 22, 2000, WHEREIN THE LESSEE QUITCLAIMS BACK TO THE STATE ALL RIGHT, TITLE AND INTEREST IN THE LEASED LANDS DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT A OF OIL AND GAS LEASE NO. PRC 2793.1 DATED OCTOBER 25, 1961.
2. AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENT NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE COMMISSION'S ACTION.

# EXHIBIT A

## LAND DESCRIPTION

PRC 2793.1

### SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

.... that certain tract of tide

18 and submerged lands, situate in the County of Santa Barbara, State of  
19 California, described as follows:

20 That area of tide and submerged lands bounded on the  
21 West by California Coordinate System, Zone 5, grid line  
22 having an X value of 1,310,420; on the East by a grid  
23 line having an X value of 1,320,570; on the landward  
24 (northerly) boundary by the ordinary high water mark of  
25 the Pacific Ocean; on the seaward (southerly) boundary  
26 by a line parallel to the ordinary high water mark and  
27 seaward therefrom three nautical miles; containing  
28 4,250.14 acres.  
29  
30  
31

EXHIBIT B

STATE OIL AND GAS LEASE

PRC 2793.1

LOCATION MAP

