

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment

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**From:** Janean Acevedo Daniels <Janean@jadanielslaw.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 24, 2025 11:37 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Denial of Permit Transfer from Exxon to Sable Oil Is Required to Protect Santa Barbara Community  
**Attachments:** 022425 letter to BOS re Sable Oil permits.pdf  
**Importance:** High

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**To:** The Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara  
**Re:** Denial of Permit Transfer from Exxon to Sable Oil Is Required to Protect Santa Barbara Community

Please see my attached letter regarding this matter.

Thank you.

/s/ Janean Acevedo Daniels

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February 24, 2025

**To: The Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara**  
**Re: Denial of Permit Transfer from Exxon to Sable Oil Is Required to Protect Community**

Dear Supervisors:

I know how seriously each of you, individually and collectively, take your responsibility to protect the health and well-being of our community, all of its living beings, and its natural resources. For that reason, I urge you to exercise that responsibility, and fulfill your duties as elected officials of Santa Barbara County, **to deny Sable Oil's application to transfer permits for the Santa Ynez Unit, POPCO Gas Plant, and Las Flores Pipelines.**

Of all the precious resources of the Central Coast that we live in and love, the ocean, its creatures, and its shores and beaches are perhaps the most vital necessities to our livelihoods, our physical and emotional well-being, our sense of community, our historical heritage, and our survival.

**Our community cannot afford another oil spill from the decaying, unreliable, and dangerous facilities and equipment (as proven by irrefutable evidence) that Sable Oil is seeking to start operating again, with reckless disregard for the health, safety, and welfare of the Central Coast and its inhabitants.** Sable's knowing, reckless, and negligent disregard for this clear, present, and previously-demonstrated risk of harm cannot and should not be countenanced by you, the stewards of our community.

Another oil disaster, which given the information known at this time appears imminent, would be devastating to Santa Barbara County, its coastline and beaches, and potentially to other communities to the south of us (as occurred with the 1969 oil disaster). **Our County and its citizens will bear the costs of the next disaster in a myriad of ways, just as we have born the costs of and harms from the prior spills--many of which cannot be assigned a monetary value, let alone compensated.**

Moreover, the Board cannot lawfully approve the transfer of permits from Exxon to Sable given that Sable has failed to meet various required permit conditions, such as the critical corrosion protection technology for the same pipeline that ruptured and went undetected in 2015, and still has not been satisfactorily addressed.

Most troubling, although Sable has repeatedly been directed by State agencies and the California Coastal Commission to cease work until proper permitting is provided, Sable has again acted with a reckless disregard for our community, the legal process, and the authority of these agencies by ignoring those orders and proceeding with unauthorized work. **This willful disregard for governing law and enforcing authorities alone should serve as the basis for the Board to deny Sable's application to transfer the permits.**

Having witnessed and suffered the heartbreaking devastation of the 1969 and 2015 oil spills, I cannot fathom how Santa Barbara County and its trusted elected and appointed officials could possibly authorize Sable to take over this dangerous operation and once again threaten our community.

Throughout my life, our ocean's resources have been a joy and wonder on my best and worst days; a balm and savior on my most challenging days; and a place to visit both of my parents, whose sacred remains bless these waters. **Please protect these precious things that I and all of your constituents blessed to live in this piece of heaven hold so dear. You have no greater responsibility or calling than this.**

Respectfully, /s/ *Janean Acevedo Daniels*