BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name:	CEO/OEM
Department No.:	012
For Agenda Of:	08/25/15
Placement:	Administrative
Estimated Time:	
Continued Item:	No
If Yes, date from:	
Vote Required:	Majority

TO:	Board of Supervisors	
FROM:	Department Director	Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
	Contact Info:	Ryan Rockabrand, Director of Emergency Services
SUBJECT:	**Re-Ratification of Proclamation of Local Emergency – Refugio Beach Oil Spill – Passed July 28, 2015 (Thirty-Day Renewal)**	

County Counsel Concurrence	Auditor-Controller Concurrence
As to form: Yes	As to form: NA

Other Concurrence:
As to form: NA

Recommended Actions:

a) Adopt a Resolution re-ratifying the Proclamation of a Local Emergency related to Refugio Beach Oil Spill (Attachment A) declared by the Director of Emergency Management on May 20, 2015, when the Board of Supervisors was not in session, pursuant to Government Code Section 8550 et. Seq. and Chapter 12, Section 12-5(a) of the Santa Barbara County Code and subsequently re-ratified by the Board of Supervisors; and

b) Direct the Office of Emergency Management to return monthly for re-ratification of the Emergency until such time that response and recovery conditions dictate otherwise; and,

c) Determine that this project was found by your Board to be exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b) (3) and 15269(a), and that the proposed actions are within the scope of the prior CEQA exemption.

Summary Text:

On May 19, 2015, a pipeline ruptured on the Gaviota Coast, west of Refugio State Park, causing an oil spill. According to Plains All American Pipeline, L.P, the Responsible Party, the initial estimate of the release was greater than 500 barrels (approximately 21,000 gallons) with a substantial portion of the release migrated into the Pacific Ocean.   An updated report from the Responsible Party, based on

pipeline flow rate and elevation profile, is that approximately 2,400 barrels (101,000 gallons) of crude oil was released. On August 5, the Responsible Party announced that an alternate calculation using purge data suggests that the worst case scenario could be as much as 1,000 barrels higher.

On May 20, 2015, the Governor's Office declared a state of emergency in Santa Barbara County. That same day, the County Executive Officer acting as the Director of Emergency Management proclaimed a local emergency to assist with the response; the proclamation (Attachment B) was effective for a period of seven days unless ratified by the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors ratified that emergency proclamation on May 25, 2015 and has continued to re-ratify it within 30-day periods. The City of Goleta also issued an emergency proclamation, and the University of California, Santa Barbara issued a campus emergency.

Response Efforts

The County is not leading this effort but is part of a Unified Command response. The Unified Command includes United States Coast Guard, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response, the Santa Barbara Office of Emergency Management and the responsible party, Plains All American Pipeline.

The Incident Command Post is overseeing operations in Santa Barbara County. Unified Command approved Refugio Incident Response, Phase II – Guidelines for Terrestrial Marine Waters and Shoreline Habitat Cleanup Endpoints on June 3. Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Teams (SCAT) Phase II endpoints have been achieved for 98.9% of the impacted shoreline. Remaining cleanup work is primarily being done along the shoreline in an area near where oil flowed into the ocean through a storm drain culvert. The majority of oiling is located on beaches, cobble, riprap, and upon rock faces between Arroyo Hondo and El Capitan Beach. These areas are being targeted for manual removal.

Initially, the County established a "Recovery Advisory Council" (RAC) which included Supervisorial Districts 2 and 3, the County Executive Office, Sheriff, Auditor-Controller, County Counsel, Fire, General Services, Planning and Development, Public Health and Public Works. The RAC held four meetings in June and then transitioned to a smaller group of County staff. This staff-only group meets approximately once a week to facilitate communications between departments.

On June 9 and 10, Unified Command coordinated a beach tar ball sampling for Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles and Orange counties. The stated objective of the sampling program was to determine the origin of persistent or recurring hydrocarbon product (tar or oil) on beaches within the survey reach (i.e., whether incident related or from other sources such as "natural seepage"). State Fish and Wildlife released the sample results to the public.

Phase III – Guidelines for Maintenance and Monitoring – was signed-off (approved) by Unified Command on August 8. Phase III, post emergency response, is the maintenance and monitoring phase during which Operations cleanup crews are on standby to react and be deployed as necessary to recover Refugio Incident source oil (Line 901 oil). In particular, it will focus on Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Technique (SCAT) surveying for buried oil that may be uncovered through sand erosion and will consist of periodic oil sampling for fingerprint analysis.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative: Associated costs incurred by the County are being tracked and will be processed following the U.S. Coast Guard claiming requirements.

Special Instructions:

Direct Clerk of the Board to send a copy of the minute order to Office of Emergency Management, Att: Ryan Rockabrand

Attachments:

Attachment A: Resolution Re-ratifying the Proclamation of Local Emergency Proclamation
Attachment B: Proclamation of Local Emergency by Director of Emergency Services

Authored by:

Ryan Rockabrand, OEM Director
Robert Troy, OEM Deputy Director

cc: