

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment

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**From:** Noah Boland <noah@healtheocean.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 11:16 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Karina Johnston; Carly Marto  
**Subject:** Public Comment: Departmental Item #6 - Appeals of the Planning Commission Approval of the Sable Offshore Corporation's Transfer of Permits  
**Attachments:** HTO Public Comment - Departmental Item #6.docx.pdf

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Dear Clerk of the Board,

Please distribute the attached public comment on Departmental Item #6 of the December 16th Meeting to the Board of Supervisors. Thank you!

Kind regards,

Noah Boland

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December 15, 2025

Ms. Laura Capps, Chair  
County Board of Supervisors  
123 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
Via email: [sbcob@countyofsb.org](mailto:sbcob@countyofsb.org)

**Re: Hearing to consider recommendations regarding the appeals of the Planning Commission Approval of the Sable Offshore Corporation's Change of Owner, Operator, and Guarantor for the Santa Ynez Unit (SYU), Pacific Offshore Pipeline Company (POPCO) Gas Plant, and Las Flores Pipeline System Final Development Plan (FDP) Permits**

Dear Chair Capps and Honorable Board of Supervisors,

Heal the Ocean urges the Board to uphold the Appeals and deny the transfer of permits from ExxonMobil Corporation to Sable Offshore Corporation.

We support the Board's recent decision to continue the hearing on December 16, 2025 and direct staff to return to the Board with findings supporting the approval of the appeals and the denial of the transfer of permits. In reviewing the Staff's Findings for Denial, we affirm that our position is supported by overwhelming evidence that Sable does not meet the requirements of the County's Ordinance, Chapter 25B, which exists to protect public health and safety, and safeguard the natural resources and environment of the county of Santa Barbara, by ensuring that safe operation, adequate financial responsibility, and compliance with all applicable county laws and permits are maintained during and after all changes of owner, operator or guarantor of certain oil and gas facilities.

As demonstrated in the Finding of Denials, Sable does not meet the requirements of this Ordinance:

- Sable has repeatedly undertaken activities prior to notifying regulators and obtaining prior authorizations
- Sable fails to maintain and/or provide necessary, timely, and accurate information to regulators
- Sable fails to comply with applicable laws
- Sable ignores regulatory agency directives
- Sable fails to competently operate and take all necessary measures to protect the environment
- Sable repeatedly demonstrates contempt for California's environmental regulations and regulators

Thank you for this opportunity to provide public comment.

Karina Johnston  
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