

**Appeals of the Sable Offshore Corporation  
Change of Owner, Operator, and Guarantor for the  
Santa Ynez Unit, POPCO Gas Plant, and Las Flores  
Pipeline System Final Development Plan Permits  
Case Nos. 24APL-00025 and 24APL-00026**

**Board of Supervisors Hearing  
December 16, 2025**



**County of Santa Barbara**  
Planning and Development  
Errin Briggs, Deputy Director

# Summary

- Board last considered this item on November 4, 2025
- Board considered whether to affirm, reverse, or modify Planning Commission's decision to approve the transfer of County permits:
  - Change of Owner, Operator, and Guarantor for the SYU Final FDP permit
  - Change of Operator and Guarantor for the POPCO Gas Plant FDP permit
  - Change of Operator and Guarantor for the Las Flores Pipeline System FDP permit
- Board voted 4 -1 to continue hearing and directed staff to return with Findings for Denial



# Findings for Denial

## ***Finding 1.0 CEQA Findings***

- CEQA Guidelines Section 15270 exempts projects which a public agency rejects or disapproves

## ***Finding 2.0 Administrative Findings***

Findings for denial related to the following facilities:

- Finding 2.1.1 Change of Operator for the Santa Ynez Unit
- Finding 2.2.1 Change of Operator for the POPCO Gas Plant
- Finding 2.3.1 Change of Operator for the Las Flores Pipeline System



## Findings for Denial

- Findings for Operator Capability cannot be made because Sable has displayed a track record of non-compliance
  - Pattern of failing to notify regulatory agencies prior to work
  - Failing to comply with applicable laws
  - Ignoring regulatory agency directives
- Records relevant to support the findings are attached
- In conclusion - Sable is not a capable operator



# Staff Recommendation

1. Approve the appeals Case Nos. 24APL-00025 and 24APL-00026
2. Make the required Findings for Denial of the Change of Owner, Operator, and Guarantor for the respective SYU, POPCO Gas Plant, and Las Flores Pipeline System Final Development Plan Permits
3. Determine that denial of the requests are exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15270(a)
4. Deny of the Change of Owner, Operator, and Guarantor for the respective Santa Ynez Unit, POPCO Gas Plant, and Las Flores Pipeline System Final Development Plan Permits



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