

To: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Re: Meeting of 8-26-2008, Santa Maria

Subject: Support for California Offshore Oil Production 8-22-2008

0 We strongly support the continued oil development along the California coast. This must be considered a number one priority for this country. There should be no limit to offshore drilling.

0 We OPPOSE the efforts of the Democrats such as Rep. Lois Capps , Senator Barbara Boxer, Senator Dianne Feinstein, Assemblyperson Pedro Nava, et al, to stop such development.

0 Polls show that the majority of Californians support development of our national oil reserves here in California.

0 We oppose using our already stressed tax dollars to buy back oil company leases no matter what they cost.

0 The Santa Barbara County and the U.S. of A. has benefited greatly from past oil production, through well paid jobs, royalties and civic projects.

0 We strongly support developing American oil now and in the future rather than to continue to increase the amount being imported from Arab and other foreign nations with the continued loss of jobs and oil royalties in the U.S.

0 Our very extensive offshore oil reserves will be needed in the future and planning for their use must begin now.

0 The oil industry is among the safest and best regulated industries in this country. New technology will insure that this record will continue in the future.

0 The efforts of the Santa Barbara Environmental Defense Center and GOO to smear oil companies because of one incidents in 1969 is irrational and extremism. One incident should not be used to stop oil production, no more than one trainwreck should end train travel.

0 Oil is a natural product of nature and as such it has existed along the coast for eons. When in the ocean water either from natural seeps, or from oil drilling, it is biodegradable and dissipates shortly after release otherwise our beaches would be caked with tar. There is no proof that oil production or oil itself permanently harms the environment.

0 In a society that is so totally based on oil, as ours is, it is important to maintain an open attitude to its development and plan for future development of our off shore reserves.

0 The efforts by environmentalists and their liberal politicians to curtail American oil development is undermining the economy of California and is blatantly Un-American. The State of California will have to raise our taxes to replace any lost oil revenues to continue to provide the same service levels if future oil production is curtailed by these actions.

0 Our present day power shortages are due entirely to the anti power policies of the misguided environmentalists and their political supporters. What is more important, protecting all the bugs and bushes or providing low cost reliable power to 35 million people?

0 For the foreseeable future, we need oil development on the California coast and anywhere else it is found including the National Forests, ANWR, etc..

Concerned Taxpayers, I.N.C. Justin M. Ruhge, Lompoc, Ca.