

Attachment B

ROY LEE

First District

LAURA CAPPS

Second District, Chair

JOAN HARTMANN

Third District

BOB NELSON

Fourth District, Vice Chair

STEVE LAVAGNINO

Fifth District



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County Administration Building
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Telephone: (805) 568-2190
www.countyofsb.org

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

June 10, 2025

Re: Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara Opposing New Offshore Oil Leases in Federal Waters

To Whom It May Concern:

Santa Barbara County has witnessed firsthand the devastating consequences of offshore oil drilling—both environmental and economic. In 1969, a catastrophic blowout spilled over 3 million gallons of crude oil into the Santa Barbara Channel, killing thousands of marine animals and polluting miles of pristine coastline. That event catalyzed the modern environmental movement and reshaped the national conversation about energy development and ocean stewardship.

More recently, in 2015, a pipeline rupture at Refugio State Beach released over 120,000 gallons of oil, 53,000 gallons of which reached the ocean, again fouling our waters, damaging local fisheries, and inflicting deep harm on marine ecosystems and coastal tourism. The consequences of these incidents continue to reverberate through our community.

Now, as the federal government considers new offshore oil and gas leasing through the 2025–2030 National Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Leasing Program, Santa Barbara County reaffirms its strong opposition. New offshore oil drilling is incompatible with our region's economic vitality, environmental health, and climate goals. The Central Coast is home to national marine sanctuaries, endangered species, and a thriving ocean-based economy centered around recreation, clean energy, and tourism. In Santa Barbara County alone, these sectors generate millions in revenue and support thousands of local jobs.

We join with a broad coalition of local governments, state leaders, scientists, and residents in urging the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to exclude all areas offshore California from future lease sales.

Our coastline is a national treasure. It deserves permanent protection—not renewed threats.

Sincerely,

Laura Capps
Chair

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

CC:

Federal Executive Branch:

- President: Donald J. Trump
- Vice President: JD Vance
- Secretary of the Interior: Doug Burgum

State of California:

- Governor: Gavin Newsom
- U.S. Senator: Alex Padilla
- U.S. Senator: Adam Schiff
- Congressmember: Salud Carbajal
- State Senator: Monique Limón
- State Assemblymember: Gregg Hart

U.S. Senate Leadership:

- Majority Leader: John Thune (R–SD)
- Minority Leader: Charles “Chuck” Schumer (D–NY)

U.S. House Leadership:

- Speaker of the House: Mike Johnson (R–LA)
- Minority Leader: Hakeem Jeffries (D–NY)

Congressional Committees:

House Committee on Natural Resources:

- Chair: Rep. Bruce Westerman (R–AR)
- Ranking Member: Rep. Jared Huffman (D–CA)

House Committee on Energy and Commerce:

- Chair: Rep. Brett Guthrie (R–KY)

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

- Chair: Sen. Mike Lee (R–UT)

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works:

- Chair: Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R–WV)

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM):

- Acting Director: Dr. Walter Cruickshank
- Renewable Energy Program Specialist: Jean Thurston
- Pacific Regional Director: Joan Barminski

