



County of Santa Barbara

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Minute Order

September 16, 2025

Present: 5 - Supervisor Lee, Supervisor Capps, Supervisor Hartmann, Supervisor Nelson, and Supervisor Lavagnino

SUPERVISOR NELSON

File Reference No. 25-00842

RE: Consider recommendations regarding direction to report on the status of orphaned and idle wells in the County of Santa Barbara, as follows:

- a) Direct the Santa Barbara County Planning Department, Community Services Department, and Environmental Health Services to provide a comprehensive status report on the number, location, and condition of orphaned and idle oil and gas wells in Santa Barbara County, along with any current plans for their abandonment, by October 14, 2025; and
- b) Determine that the above actions are organizational or administrative activities of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b) (5) of the CEQA Guidelines.

A motion was made by Supervisor Nelson, seconded by Supervisor Capps, that this matter be acted on as follows:

- a) Directed staff to report back on October 21, 2025 rather than October 14, 2025; and
- b) Approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Supervisor Lee, Supervisor Capps, Supervisor Hartmann, Supervisor Nelson, and Supervisor Lavagnino