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To: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

8/25/08

Salud Carbajal, Chair, 1st District
Janet Wolf, 2nd District
Brooks Firestone, 3rd District
Joni Gray, 4th District
Joe Centeno, Vice Chair, 5th District

Dear Supervisors,

Asset Equipment Sales & Rentals, a Santa Barbara based company, supports oil and gas development in our county and the State of California. We are a small business that aspires to become a large business. Taking the shackles off the oil and gas industry will present us with a tremendous opportunity to grow our company.

Hundreds of billions of dollars worth of oil and gas exists off the coast of Santa Barbara County. The potential for wealth and economic growth is obvious and tangible. Those oil and gas fields can and will be developed in a safe, clean manner. The lesson of 1969 has been learned well. Safety comes first.

California and Santa Barbara County are undergoing increasingly difficult economic times. Unemployment is rapidly climbing and home foreclosures have skyrocketed. Last month close to half of all homes sold in North County were foreclosure sales. Thousands of county residents have lost their jobs, their homes and their businesses. The suffering is very real and increasing.

The tremendous growth potential of the oil and gas industry in Santa Barbara County will create thousands of jobs and bring in tens of millions of dollars to county coffers. Asset Equipment Sales stands ready to take advantage of this opportunity. Multiply our business by hundreds of small to medium sized companies and it becomes readily apparent that oil and gas development will bring relief to thousands of county residents and business owners facing economic hardship.

The time to develop our county's oil and gas resources to their fullest has come. Advances in technology and lessons learned from 1969 have made oil and gas production safe and clean. The economic benefits to county residents can be counted in the billions of dollars. We have been blessed with a great gift of nature. Let's make use of it.

Sincerely,

Travis Twining



2008 AUG 26 11 09:07
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Community Environmental Council

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August 26, 2008

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Executive Director

Chairman Salud Carbajal and Honorable Members of the Board
County of Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Re: Item 1 August 26, 2008 Board Agenda
Recommendations regarding the energy crisis

We are in a time of uncertainties – we know that we cannot continue along our existing path, but we are uncertain of the steps to take to reach a stable economy, a sustainable ecosystem, and a secure future. Off-shore drilling doesn't solve our problems short term or long term. Oil and gas prices will continue to rise, climate change will threaten our water supply, and dependence on one finite fossil fuel will not shield us from international turmoil.

OCS drilling has been proposed as an immediate relief from high gas prices and long term energy security. In fact, drilling in all OCS lands that are currently unleased *may* produce 18 billion barrels of oil. This is a little over two year's domestic consumption, or seven months of world consumption. Santa Barbara County's share would amount to about four months of national consumption. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) projects that new OCS leases will result in a mere 160,000 barrels per day by 2030 – compared to 24 million barrels per day of projected consumption. This miniscule amount will do nothing to bring down energy costs or break our addiction to foreign oil.

Furthermore, the EIA estimated the effects of allowing the moratorium to expire in 2012 and said that "access to the Pacific, Atlantic, and eastern Gulf regions would not have a significant impact on domestic crude oil and natural gas production or prices before 2030. Leasing would begin no sooner than 2012, and production would not be expected to start before 2017." The short-term actions you seek to take today will have negative long term effects on our coast and our economy, even if they don't benefit consumers in terms of oil prices. Is seven to ten years of industrialization of our coast worth it to pursue a distraction from the long-term solutions?

Instead, we ask the County to step up to the real challenge, to be a leader for tomorrow's energy solutions – not yesterday's. Public and private resources should instead go to efforts to improve energy efficiency dramatically and to develop renewable sources that will produce a lifetime of energy instead of a few months' supply. Santa Barbara should look to the future and set the direction for a national energy policy that helps our economy, our national security, and our environment.

There has been much discussion lately, about public opinion and polling. But when you closely examine the polls, they clearly say that the public wants solutions! OCS drilling is a non-solution and a distraction. We urge the Board to give the public real hope and real solutions! Set the energy direction compass forward, not backward. It's time to move forward toward true, lasting solutions.

Sincerely,

Dave Davis,
Executive Director

PROGRAM AREAS

Architecture 2030
Challenge

Earth Day Festival

Fossil Free by '33
Campaign

Get Energized
Campaign

Green Business
Program

Regional Energy
Blueprint

Sustainable
Land Use and
Transportation

CLERK OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
AUG 26 AM 10:31

Brennan, Kaitlin

From: Dennis Kittle [dkittle@sbceo.org]
Sent: Monday, August 25, 2008 11:36 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Oil Exploration Hearing

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Please support oil exploration and drilling in offshore California waters.

We consume the most oil of any state, it's time we shoulder our share of the burden.

Thank you,

Dennis Kittle



2008 AUG 26 AM 8:37
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

#7

2008 AUG 26 AM 8:37

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



CALIFORNIA COASTAL PROTECTION NETWORK
906 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 • 805-637-3037
WWW.COASTALADVOCATES.COM

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August 25th, 2008

Santa Barbara County Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA
93101

RE: File Reference No. 08-00707: Opposition to letter to Governor Schwarzenegger requesting expanded oil exploration and extraction in Santa Barbara County.

Dear Supervisors,

On Tuesday, August 26th, the Board of Supervisors will hear a presentation from staff and representatives of oil interests, receive testimony from the general public, and vote on whether to approve a letter to the Governor calling for expanded oil exploration and extraction in the Santa Barbara County region.

This move to reverse a long-standing Santa Barbara County policy to restrict additional offshore exploration and development is shortsighted in the extreme and based on numerous erroneous assertions contained within the memo and the draft letter. Thus, the California Coastal Protection Network (CCPN) rejects the reasoning underpinning this letter as unsound and requests that the motion to send it be denied for the following reasons.

First, Santa Barbara is the internationally sought after destination it is today precisely because it restricted oil development after the disastrous 1969 spill. Oil spills are not a thing of the past as anyone who actually reviews the literature is well aware. And in an economy such as ours, which is heavily dependent on tourism and ensuring a high quality of life to its residents, Santa Barbara County would suffer a terrible blow if there was to be another serious spill or accident offshore. And while drilling technology may have improved in the intervening decades, the industry still lacks adequate clean up measures when spills do occur. In most cases, the technology most frequently employed to clean up spills when they come onshore are men and women with buckets and

mops. In that respect, not much has changed at all.

Second, even if the moratorium was lifted tomorrow, the federal government has estimated that it would take at least twenty years before that production would come online. To suggest to the residents of Santa Barbara County, as the memo and draft letter do, that expanded oil and gas production is the answer to the County's **current** budget woes is not only erroneous, but irresponsible.

Third, Santa Barbara County leadership should know that what ultimately is extracted from the Santa Barbara Channel does not now and would not necessarily stay in Santa Barbara or California and perhaps not even in the US. While it may be hard to believe, U.S. oil companies actually export roughly 10% of their domestic production to other countries which is why Representative Markey (D-MA) has called for the Bush Administration to halt all exports of domestic oil and gas production before opening up new areas to leasing.

Fourth, to address the current energy crisis, Speaker Pelosi has called for the Bush Administration to release oil from the Strategic Oil Reserve in the short term and for oil companies to be required to demonstrate 'due diligence' and first explore the 68 million acres already leased to them before opening up new areas to exploration and development. That is the responsible and prudent manner in which to proceed.

Finally, CCPN and many other local, state and national environmental organizations have been astounded at the lack of supervision and enforcement over the Greka operation in Santa Barbara County. That the County would allow a deep-pocketed energy company such as Greka to repeatedly despoil the environment is a signal that there is no guarantee that the County is adequately prepared to supervise and enforce existing laws to deal with such violations much less take on oversight of expanded exploration and development off our shores.

The Governor has repeatedly made it clear that he opposes additional drilling off California saying, " The direction our nation needs to go in, and where California is already headed, is toward greater innovation in new technologies and new fuel choices for consumers."

Joining the Governor, Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) has also expressed her opposition by saying that lifting the drilling moratorium is an unnecessary risk that could allow unreliable rigs to be as close as three miles to California's beaches.

CCPN respectfully requests that the Board of Supervisors reject this unsound change in policy and, instead, join the Governor and Senator Feinstein in moving California forward to a clean and renewable energy future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Jordan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Susan Jordan, Director

California Coastal Protection Network
906 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101