

Katherine Douglas *Public Comment*

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**From:** Lee Heller <leehellerk9@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 12:48 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** oppose reopening our coast to new offshore oil and gas drilling!

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Dear Chair Capps and Board,

I am emailing to urge you to support the resolution you will be considering on June 10, to oppose the federal government's plan to reopen our coast to new offshore oil and gas drilling.

It was a great day, back in 2009 or thereabouts, when dozens of federal leases to drill in the Santa Barbara Channel were extinguished. We celebrated an end to drilling that has repeatedly imperiled our coast. As a resident of Summerland for 18 years, I saw the consequences of poorly managed old oil and gas infrastructure, with leaking wells making the beach unusable, and sometimes drifting up to our homes.

We all remember the 2015 Refugio Pipeline spill. Its likely restart yet again imperils our uniquely biodiverse coast and a local economy that depends far more heavily on tourism than on oil and gas production.

As a member of the APCD CAC, I am repeatedly reminded how far short we are falling, as a County, in meeting our GHG reduction goals. A restart to offshore oil and gas drilling will only add to that -- since GHGs don't stay where you put them, and onshore winds will just add to our burden.

Please support the resolution coming to you on June 10.

Sincerely,

Lee Heller  
Santa Barbara CA