

32. (SUBMARINE GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, HUMBLE OIL AND REFINING COMPANY - W.O. 1327.) The Commission was informed that pursuant to a meeting held December 2, 1952, with representatives of the City and of the County of Santa Barbara, the Humble Oil and Refining Company has requested deferment of consideration on the application filed for a submarine geophysical exploration permit. This request is based on the anticipation that scheduled further conferences with the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara and the City Council of the City of Santa Barbara may develop a program for the future conduct of submarine geophysical exploration operations that will be agreeable to the City and County as well as to the applicants.

To date of December 4, 1952, seventeen letters, two telegrams, and one postal card had been received by the Division of State Lands from residents of the Santa Barbara area, protesting issuance of the geophysical exploration permit requested by the Humble Oil and Refining Company. All objections refer primarily to possible future oil development. No objections to specific phases of submarine geophysical exploration operation have been received, and there has been one postal card in support of the geophysical exploration program.

Current operating schedules under existing submarine geophysical exploration permits held by the Humble Oil and Refining Company will probably make it desirable that any geophysical exploration permit for the area offshore from the City of Santa Barbara be authorized by the first week of January, 1953. Therefore, it is anticipated that a special meeting for consideration of this request may be required.

33. (TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS CONTROVERSY, UNITED STATES v. CALIFORNIA - W.O. 721.) Mr. Dean read to the Commission and submitted for filing with the Division of State Lands the following letter, dated December 4, 1952, which he had received from State Senator Arthur H. Breed, Jr., of the Senate Interim Committee on Tidelands:

"I have been told that the State Lands Commission will be considering their participation in the formation of a "States' Submerged Lands Committee" that is proposed to be established for the purpose of securing appropriate quitclaim legislation at the next session of Congress to set at rest the so-called submerged land controversy. As I understand this proposal, there would be three major supporters of this committee and two minor: the major supporters being the states of California, Texas and Louisiana; the minor would be Plaquemines Parish of Louisiana and the City of Long Beach.

"As chairman of the Senate Interim Committee on Tidelands, I have worked closely with the staff members of your State Lands Commission, the representatives of the attorney general of Texas, and the Board of Harbor Commissioners of Long Beach and I know they are pursuing this legislation on a sound and proper basis. It seems to me that California should participate in some joint action with these other two states and that the proper agency of California to participate in this program is your State Lands Commission. I assure you that as long as there is a Senate Interim Committee on Tidelands and if I am chairman of that committee, you will have the full, wholehearted cooperation of my committee within the proper sphere of our participation on this program.