MINUTE ITEM

INFORMATIVE CALENDAR ITEM

5 / 7 7 WMT

37.

REVIEW OF PILOT SCALE DEMONSTRATION OF CAUSTIC WATERFLOODING TECHNIQUES FOR ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY, LONG BEACH UNIT, WILMINGTON OIL FIELD, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

The State Lands Commission at its meeting of September 30, 1976, approved a request by the City of Long Beach to enterinto a cost-sharing contract with the United States Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) to conduct a pilot scale demonstration of caustic waterflooding techniques in Fault Block VII of the Long Beach Unit.

Under the terms of the contract, the City and the Federal Government have agreed to share the total estimated cost of \$11.6 million on a 60/40 basis. ERDA will similarly share in any increased production during the project life. Total project expenditures were \$1,300,000 through March 31, 1977. The total federal obligation is limited to \$4.63 million.

During the first six months of this project, facility design and acquisition have progressed smoothly. Equipment for the preliminary small scale injection test has been installed and is ready to operate.

Research is moving ahead steadily, with computer analysis of the well logs and the flood tests to be made on well core samples running somewhat behind schedule. However, no significant delays are expected in these areas.

A labor strike by drilling crews has delayed completion of previously scheduled well work. It is currently estimated that the start of the injection pre-flush for the caustic flood will be delayed from three to six months.