MINUTE ITEM

CALENDAR ITEM

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## APPROVAL OF 1980-1981 HELICOPTER CONTRACT

The State Lands Commission has contracted annually for helicopter services in the Santa Barbara area. The purpose of the contract has been to have available helicopter services in the Santa Barbara Channel for observing the activities in the Channel as well as to make it possible to conduct unscheduled inspections of offshore drilling and production structures to insure compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations.

For the 1980-1981 Fiscal Year it is expected that the need for helicopter services in the Santa Barbara Area will increase. This is due in part to anticipated Commission approvals of various applications for resumption of drilling, both from floating drillships and existing structures, and the possibility of pre-leasing activity north of Pt. Conception. These are in addition to the normal usage of the helicopter service as in the past.

In order to comply with appropriate State regulations, any contract for these services must be put out for formal bids. Before a bid can be accepted, Commission approval is required.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION AUTHORIZE THE SOLICITATION OF BIDS AND AWARD A HELICOPTER SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 1980 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1981, AT A TOTAL COST NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000.

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