MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. 15

was approved as Minute Item
No. 15 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of
to 15 at its 16 at its

CALENDAR ITEM

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10/25/84 PRC 2879 Hamm/lton

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DEFERMENT OF DRILLING OPERATIONS STATE OIL AND GAS LEASE PRC 2870

LESSEEYOPERATOR:

Union Oil Company of California

Post Office 80x 6176

Ventura, California 93006

Attn: J. S. Attebery

District Land Manager

AREA, TYPE WAND AND WOODTION:

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(3)

State Oil and Gas Lease NRC 2879 contains approximately 5,653 acres of tide and submerged lands located south and offishore Pt. Conception and Government Pt., at the western end of the Santa Barbara Channel, Santa Barbara County, California (see Exhibit "A").

LEASE SUMMARY:

State Oil and Gas Lease PRC 2879 was issued to Union Oil Company of California (100%) on April 26, 1962, and contains a continuous drilling approvision of 120 days.

On May 29, 1980, the State Lands Commission approved Union's application to resume drilling operations on State Oil and Gas Lease PRC 2879. On March 23, 1983, after diligently pursuing approvals from other agencies, Union finally commenced its exploratory drilling and drilled well 18-6. Following this drilling and subsequent abandonment on June 17, 1983, Union requested and received a deferment of further drilling to analyze the data obtained from well, 18-5.

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In a letter dated March 9, 1984, Union stated that the data obtained from well 18-6 has been evaluated and a decision to proceed with the preparation of a plan of development of State lease PRC 2879 has been made, but additional time was needed to prepare this plan. On May 7, 1984, the Commission granted Union a deferment of drilling until October 25, 1984, to submit a development plan.

Since May 1984, staff has met and has had several discussions with representatives from Union regarding the development plan of State Oil and Cas Lease PRC 2879. A complete application is forthcoming, but it now appears that it will not be received by the October 25% 1984 déadline. Therefore, staff is recommending that the Commission grant an additional deferment of the continuous drilling obligation through December 31, 1984.

AB 884:

N/A.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION:

Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Adm. Code 15061), the staff has determined that this activity is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (GEQA) because it is not a "project" as defined by GEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

Authority: F.R.C. 21065 and 14 Cal. Adm. Code 15378.

EXHIBIT:

A. Location Map.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

- 1. FIND THAT THE ACTIVITY IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF CEQA PURSUANT TO 14 CAL. ADM. CODE 15061 BECAUSE IT IS NOT A PROJECT AS DEFINED BY P.R.C. 21065 AND 14 CAL. ADM. CODE 15378.
- 2. APPROVE A DEFERMENT OF THE DRILLING OBLIGATION OF STATE OIL AND GAS LEASE PRC 2879 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1984; ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE LEASE TO REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

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