CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION

100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South Sacramento, CA 95825-8202



October 18, 2013

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> > SCH No. 2005061013

CSLC EIR No. 732 CSLC Ref Files: PRC 421

W30159

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15087, this is to advise that the California State Lands Commission (CSLC), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has completed a Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the project listed below.

Project Title Revised PRC 421 Recommissioning Project (Project)

Project Location

State waters in the northern portion of the Santa Barbara Channel and below the bluffs marking the southern limit of the Sand Piper Golf Course in the City of Goleta, Santa Barbara County, California. The Project also includes several components located in the western portion of the City of Goleta.

Project Description

Venoco, Inc. (Venoco), an independent oil and gas company and the operator of State Oil and Gas Lease PRC 421 (PRC 421), is seeking to return offshore Oil and Gas Lease No. PRC 421 to oil production from an existing shoreline well (Well 421-2) that has been shut-in since 1994. The Project includes the following components:

- Well 421-2 would be recommissioned using an existing pier (Pier 421-2) located on Haskell's Beach adjacent to the City of Goleta;
- Water and gas from crude oil emulsion extracted from Well 421-2 would be separated at the existing Ellwood Onshore Facility (EOF) in the City of Goleta;

¹ CEQA is found in Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq. The State CEQA Guidelines are found in California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15000 et seq.

- A second well (Well 421-1), which is located on an adjacent pier (Pier 421-1), would be decommissioned and removed;
- Estimated production during the first month is 150 barrels of oil per day (BOPD). Instantaneous oil production rate would not exceed 500 BOPD. After two years, production is anticipated to taper off to approximately 50 BOPD, matching the well's last 10 years of continuous historical production; and
- The estimated productive life of PRC 421 is a minimum of 20 years.

POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The Revised DEIR discusses the potential for significant impacts on the environment in the following subject areas: Commercial and Recreational Fisheries; Geological Resources; Hazards And Hazardous Materials; Air Quality; Hydrology; Water Resources and Water Quality; Marine and Coastal Biological Resources; Cultural, Historical, and Paleontological Resources; Land Use, Planning, and Recreation; Public Services; Transportation and Circulation; Noise, Aesthetics/Visual Resources; and Energy and Mineral Resources.

PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE REVISED DEIR

The public review period for this Revised DEIR begins Friday, October 18, 2013, and will end on Friday, December 20, 2013. **Due to the time limits mandated by State law, written comments must be received by 5:00 PM PDT on Friday, December 20, 2013.**

Reviewers must submit new comments on the Revised DEIR to be considered by the CSLC. Although comments submitted on a previous DEIR released on September 4, 2007, are part of the administrative record, the CSLC will not respond to comments on the 2007 DEIR. Because the entire DEIR is being recirculated, new comments must be submitted. (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15088.5, subd. (f)(1) and (3).) The Final EIR will provide written responses to comments on this Revised DEIR that are submitted during the Revised DEIR public review period, as provided by State CEQA Guidelines, section 15088.5, subdivision (f).

The CSLC staff suspended preparation of the prior EIR for the Project due to major changes in Project details that have occurred since staff released the 2007 Draft EIR. A summary of these changes includes the following: (1) Venoco revised its Project Description in 2013; (2) Line 96 from the Ellwood Onshore Facility (EOF) to Las Flores Canyon is now operating; (3) Venoco ended barging from the Ellwood Marine Terminal (EMT); (4) Venoco completed emergency repairs to the Pier 421-2 caisson; and (5) Project alternatives and cumulative projects have changed. (State CEQA Guidelines, section 15088.5, subdivision (g).) These changes were reflected in the Notice of Preparation that was circulated in March 2013 and now are reflected in this Revised DEIR.

Please send your comments at the earliest possible date to the individual listed below:

Eric Gillies, Assistant Chief E-mail: CEQAcomments@slc.ca.gov

Division of Environmental Planning and Management FAX: (916) 574-1885 Phone: (916) 574-1890

California State Lands Commission 100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South

Sacramento, CA 95825

DOCUMENT LOCATIONS

The DEIR identified as CSLC EIR #732 and State Clearinghouse Number 2005061013, may be viewed electronically, in PDF format, on the CSLC internet website at www.slc.ca.gov (under the "Information" tab and "CEQA Updates" link). Copies of the DEIR are also available for review at the following locations:

Goleta Branch Library 500 N. Fairview Avenue Goleta, CA 93117-1797 (805) 964-7878	Santa Barbara Public Library 40 East Anapamu Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 (805) 962-7653	City of Goleta Attn: Anne Wells 130 Cremona, Suite B Goleta, CA 93117 (805) 961-7557
County of Santa Barbara Attn: Kevin Drude 123 E. Anapamu St. Santa Barbara, CA 93101 (805) 568-2287	CSLC Attn: Steve Curran 200 Oceangate, 12 th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 590-5266	CSLC Attn: Eric Gillies ² 100 Howe Ave., Suite100-South Sacramento, CA 95825 (916) 574-1897

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines section 15082, subdivision (c)(1), the CSLC staff held two public meetings on April 3, 2013, to receive oral and written comments regarding the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the DEIR. Comments received were considered and incorporated, as appropriate, into the DEIR.

The CSLC staff will also conduct two public meetings, pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15087, subdivision (i), to receive oral or written comments on the DEIR at the times and place listed below:

DATE: Wednesday, December 11, 2013
TIME: Sessions begin at 3 PM and 6 PM

LOCATION: City of Goleta Council Chamber, City Hall

130 Cremona Drive, Suite B

Goleta, CA 93117

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² All documents referenced in the EIR will also be available at this address for public review during the CSLC's normal working hours. (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15087, subd. (c)(5).)

Each session of the public meeting noticed above will begin with a brief presentation on the proposed Project and the contents of the EIR, including alternatives, significant environmental impacts, and proposed mitigation measures. The CSLC staff will then receive comments on the proposed Project and adequacy of the DEIR, until all persons present who wish to provide oral comments have done so, at which time staff will close the session. Depending on the meeting attendance, CSLC staff may impose a three-minute time limit on oral comments.

IMPORTANT NOTES TO COMMENTERS

- If you submit written comments, you are encouraged to submit electronic copies by e-mail to <u>CEQAcomments@slc.ca.gov</u> and write "Revised PRC 421 Recommissioning DEIR Comments" in the subject line of your email. If written comments are faxed, please also mail a copy to ensure that a readable copy is received by this office.
- 2. Before including your mailing or email address, telephone number, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be aware that the entire comment—including personal identifying information—may become publicly available, including in the EIR and posted on the Internet. The CSLC will make available for inspection, in their entirety, all comments submitted by organizations, businesses, or individuals identifying themselves as representatives of organizations or businesses.
- 3. If you represent a public agency, please provide the name, email address, and telephone number for the contact person in your agency for this EIR.
- 4. If you require a sign language interpreter, or other reasonable accommodation to conduct business with CSLC staff at the scheduled December public meeting for a disability as defined by the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act and California Fair Employment and Housing Act, please contact the Eric Gillies listed in this notice below at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to arrange for such accommodation.

Please contact Eric Gillies at (916) 574-1897 or by email at <u>Eric.Gillies@slc.ca.gov</u> if you have any questions or would like a compact disc (CD) or hard copy of the DEIR mailed to you.

JENNIFER LUCCHESI Executive Officer