

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
631 Howard Street, San Francisco 94105 — (415) 543-8555

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File:
P-0346
POE

REVISED FINDINGS ON CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION

Consistency Certification No. CC-3-80
(Texaco)

Commission Concurrence: March 5, 1980

APPLICANT FOR FEDERAL PERMITS:

Texaco, Inc.

FEDERAL PERMITS FOR WHICH COMMISSION CONCURRENCE WITH APPLICANT'S CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION WAS REQUIRED:

U.S. Geological Survey Exploratory Well Drilling permit; OCS Exploration Plan.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit to Conduct Exploratory Drilling.

FEDERAL PERMIT ACTIVITY LOCATION:

In the Santa Barbara Channel approximately 10 miles south of the city of Santa Barbara.

NOTED - ADAMS

FEDERAL PERMIT ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION:

File

Drilling 1 - 2 wells on lease parcels OCS P-0346 and O234, to explore for oil and gas.

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMISSION ACTION:

Public hearing and concurrence by Commission at the March 5 meeting in San Francisco.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Commission adopt the following findings in support of its decision:

FINDINGS ON TEXACO PLAN OF EXPLORATION FOR OCS P-0³46 AND O234

1. Concurrence by the Commission is not an indication of satisfaction with the degree of protection afforded coastal resources by state-of-the-art oil spill containment and cleanup technology. Equipment specified in the consistency determination does not assure protection of marine resources under Section 30232 of the Coastal Act but affords an immediate response to a spill at the drill site. Under adverse weather conditions of high wind and waves, no oil spill equipment can contain a spill. Section 30262 states that oil and gas development can nonetheless be permitted if adverse environmental effects are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible; the state-of-the-art in oil spill control technology determines this extent. The Commission therefore finds that the oil spill containment and cleanup equipment provided in Texaco's Plan of Exploration is feasible under Section 30262 since it represents the state-of-the-art.

2. The Commission finds that it has the authority under the California Coastal Management Program (CCMP) to consider cumulative effects in its review of an individual project for consistency with the CCMP. However, because exploratory well drilling is temporary, lasting 60 - 90 days per well drilled, and because there have been up to only four exploratory drilling vessels available on the West Coast at any one time, limited cumulative effects occur from exploratory drilling itself. If petroleum is discovered during exploratory drilling, a company must submit a Plan of Development to the Commission for consistency review. At this stage, review for cumulative effects is warranted because of the duration and impacts of such OCS development activities and is authorized under Section 30250 of the Coastal Act.

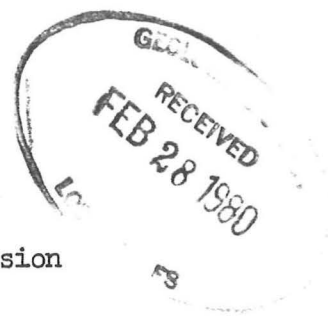
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NOTIFICATION OF COMMISSION ACTION
ON CONSISTENCY REVIEW
FOR OCS PLANS

NOTED - DUNAWAY

NOTED - SCHAMBECK

hearing for POE consistency on 3/5/80



On November, 1979, the California Coastal Commission
date.

concurrent with Union Oil Co.'s certification that the
name of applicant
federally-permitted activities described in the OCS Plan and listed
below comply with California's approved Coastal Management Program
and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such program.

- USGS Plan of Exploration
- USGS Permit to Drill
- USGS Permit for Pipeline Right of Way
- Environmental Protection Agency NPDES Permit
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit to Install a Pipeline
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit to Install a Platform
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit to Conduct Exploratory Drilling

U.S.G.S. Plan of Development ??