



Office of the City Council

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May 11, 2017

The Honorable Ryan Zinke
Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240
Via EMAIL: feedback@ios.doi.gov, BOEMPublicAffairs@boem.gov

RE: Revisions to the 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program (Five-Year Plan)

Notice of OPPOSITION

Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of my colleagues on the City Council and our 45,000 residents, I am writing to oppose any revisions to the 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program (Five-Year Plan). The United States' current Five Year Plan makes over 45 billion barrels of oil available for drilling while protecting sensitive marine ecosystems on the East and West Coasts and parts of the Arctic from oil and gas development. Those marine ecosystems support millions of jobs in the tourism, recreation, and fishing sectors, which are responsible for generating billions in GDP. In California, the transition away from fossil fuels to a thriving renewable energy economy is well underway. As part of its legislative platform, the City of San Luis Obispo opposes expansion of existing or new gas leases off the Coast of San Luis Obispo County and we stand together with other elected officials in the California State Legislature against any federal actions that threaten to stem this progress toward a clean energy future.

The California Legislature has led the nation with its landmark climate change legislation, the Global Warming Solutions Act in 2006, the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015, and SB 32 in 2016. Consistent with those laws, we support any and all efforts to oppose new or expanded fossil fuel extraction on the California coast and ocean.

Governor Jerry Brown is also vigorously opposed to oil and gas development off the California coast. In December 2016, Governor Brown authored a letter to President Obama requesting he permanently withdraw California's federal waters from new oil and gas drilling. That same month, Lieutenant Governor Newsom, Chair of the State Lands Commission, led the Commission in adopting a resolution in support of the Obama Administration's ban on new drilling in federal waters off California's coastline and committing to ensuring the ban remains in place.

There has not been a new or expanded lease in California waters since 1969 because of decades of united, bipartisan opposition to increased offshore oil and gas drilling. We ask you to stand with us, our Governor, and millions of California residents in upholding the current ban on oil and gas lease sales on the West Coast.

Sincerely,

Heidi Harmon
Mayor
City of San Luis Obispo

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heidi Harmon". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

cc: San Luis Obispo City Council
US Senator Dianne Feinstein, fax (202) 224 - 3841
US Senator Kamala Harris, fax (202) 224 - 2200
US Representative Salud Carbajal, fax (805) 439 - 3574
State Senator Bill Monning, fax (916) 651 - 4917
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