MINUTE ITEM

8. APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT TO CONDUCT UNDERWATER EXPLOSION TESTS ON SUBMERGED LANDS OF MONO LAKE, MONO COUNTY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - W.O. 4154, P.R.C. 2800.9.

After consideration of Calendar Item 40 attached, and upon motion duly made and unanimously carried, the following resolution was adopted:

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER IS AUTHORIZED TO APPROVE THE ISSUANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OF A RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT COVERING LANDS OF MONO LAKE, MONO COUNTY, FOR A SIX-MONTH PERIOD, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING UNDERWATER EXPLOSION TESTS IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONAL DEFENSE.

Attachment
Calendar Item 40 (1 page)

CALENDAR ITEM

40.

APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT TO CONDUCT UNDERWATER EXPLOSION TESTS ON SUBMERGED LANDS OF MONO LAKE, MONO COUNTY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - W.O. 4154.

An application has been received from the U. S. Army Engineer District, Sacramento, for approval of the issuance of a right-of-entry permit to the United States of America for the purpose of conducting underwater explosion tests at a minimum depth of 35 feet below the surface of Mono Lake. The Department of Fish and Game has declared that it has no interest in the Mono Lake project due to the absence of fish in those waters. Since there is an existent boat facility financed by the Division of Small Craft Harbors, that agency was contacted for its report on the proposed tests. The Division of Small Craft Harbors has no objection as long as precautions are exercised by the Government to insure that there can be no property damage. The explosions would be nonnuclear. The tests are aimed at improving national defense capabilities for detecting and identifying underground nuclear explosions and natural earthquakes as part of the same program for which the Commission has previously considered site clearance in various offshore ocean areas. The right of entry would be of six months' duration, subject to a provision that the permittee agrees to be responsible for damage arising from the activity of the Government, its officers, agents, employees or representatives, on the State lands in the exercise of rights under the permit, either by repairing such damages or by making a cash settlement in lieu thereof.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER BE AUTHORIZED TO APPROVE THE ISSUANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OF A RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT COVERING LANDS OF MONO LAKE, MONO COUNTY, FOR A SIX-MONTH PERIOD, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING UNDERWATER EXPLOSION TESTS IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONAL DEFENSE.