

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. 21
was approved as Minute Item
No. 21 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 2
to 0 at its 3/30/78
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

21.

3/78
"DX State 4596"
43, 44
Priddy

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED DRILLING OF NEW WELLS
"DX STATE 4596", 43 AND 44
GEYSERS STEAM FIELD, SONOMA COUNTY

LEASE: PRC 4596
LESSEE: Union Oil Company of California
Magma Power Company
Thermal Power Company
P. O. Box 6854
Santa Rosa, California 95406
COUNTY: Sonoma.
AREA: Geysers Geothermal Field.

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

State Geothermal Resources Lease PRC 4596 was issued to Union Oil Company on May 27, 1971. On April 27, 1972, an undivided 25% interest in the lease was assigned to Magma Power Company and an undivided 25% interest was assigned to Thermal Power Company. Pursuant to the terms of the lease, Union has requested approval of the State Lands Commission to drill wells "DX State 4596" 43 and 44 at the Geysers in the Big Sulphur Creek drainage area.

The wells will be used as make-up wells for generating Units Nos. 7 and 8. The proposed drilling and completion programs have been reviewed by the staff and determined to be in accordance with good engineering practices and the rules and regulations of the Commission. The proposed wells are to be located on an existing drill pad which will be expanded to accommodate zone wells.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

The Sonoma County Board of Zoning Adjustments, acting as lead agency, prepared and circulated an EIR covering Union Oil Company's geothermal

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CALENDAR ITEM NO. 21, (CONTD)

leasehold operations in the Big Sulphur Creek drainage area. By Notice of Determination issued on October 4, 1976, the Sonoma County Board of Zoning Adjustments certified that (1) the EIR was prepared pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended; (2) the project will not have a significant effect on the environment; and (3) the project has been approved by the Sonoma County Board of Zoning Adjustments. The Notice of Determination has been filed with the State Secretary for Resources, the State Lands Commission's Staff, and the County Clerk for Sonoma County, wherein the project is to be undertaken.

State agencies concerned with geothermal operations were notified that the staff intended to recommend approval of these wells. The only agency that responded was the Department of Fish and Game, and they have stated that implementation of mitigation measures proposed by Union Oil Company would resolve any concerns they might have.

APPROVALS OBTAINED:

1. Sonoma County Board of Zoning Adjustments.
2. California Division of Oil and Gas.
3. Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District.
4. California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

FURTHER APPROVALS REQUIRED:

None.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Location Map. B. FIR Summary.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. DETERMINE THAT AN EIR HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THIS PROJECT AND CERTIFIED BY THE SONOMA COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENTS.
2. CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE EIR OF THE SONOMA COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENTS HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED BY THE COMMISSION.

CALENDAR ITEM NO. 21. (CONTD)

3. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
4. AUTHORIZE THE APPROVAL OF DRILLING WELLS "DX STATE 4596" 43 AND 44 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF STATE GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES LEASE PRC 4596, AND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSION, SUBJECT TO THE INSPECTION AND APPROVAL BY THE STAFF OF THE COMMISSION OF THE DRILL SITE CONSTRUCTION AND EXPANSION.