

MINUTE ITEM
This Calendar Item No. 48 was approved as
Minute Item No. 48 by the California State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3 to 0 at its
218700 meeting.

**CALENDAR ITEM
C48**

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02/08/00
PRC 129.1
A. Nitsche

**CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE FULL QUITCLAIM OF
OIL AND GAS LEASE NO. PRC 129.1
(254 ACRES OFFSHORE ELLWOOD OIL FIELD),
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

LESSEE:

Venoco, Inc.
Attn.: Mr. Edward J. O'Donnell
520 E. Montecito Street, Suite 9
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

AREA, LAND TYPE, AND LOCATION:

Oil and Gas Lease No. PRC 129.1 contains 254 acres of tide and submerged lands offshore Ellwood Oil Field, Santa Barbara County, California.

BACKGROUND:

Oil and Gas Lease No. PRC 129.1 (Lease) was issued to Signal Oil and Gas Company on January 27, 1944. Through a series of assignments, corporate mergers and name changes, the present lessee is Venoco, Inc. Under the terms of the Lease, the lessee is required to pay an annual rental of \$500 per year. Thirteen onshore wells were directionally drilled into Oil and Gas Lease No. PRC 129.1. All of these wells have been plugged and abandoned in conformance to State regulations.

Public Resources Code section 6804.1 and Lease paragraph 5 permit the lessee to make at any time a written quitclaim of all rights under the lease or of any portion of the leased lands comprising a ten-acre parcel or multiple thereof in a compact form. The quitclaim will be effective when it is filed with the State subject to approval by the Commission and the continued obligation of the lessee and its surety to pay all accrued rentals and royalties and to abandon all wells drilled on the leased lands.

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On November 12, 1999, the Commission's Long Beach office staff received the document "(Full) Quitclaim Deed for State Oil and Gas Lease." This document was dated November 9, 1999, and quitclaims back to the State all of the lessee's right, title and interest in the leased lands described in Exhibit A of Oil and Gas Lease No. PRC 129.1 dated January 27, 1944.

A review of the Commission's files reveals that no default exists on the Lease, that the lessee has complied with all applicable laws and Lease provisions and has paid all rentals (no royalty is due as the wells have been abandoned).

STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:

- A. Public Resources Code section 6804.1 and Lease Paragraph 5.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15061), the staff has determined that this activity is exempt from the requirements of the CEQA because the activity is not a "project" as defined by the CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

Authority: Public Resources Code section 21065 and Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15378.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description
B. Location Map

PERMIT STREAMLINING ACT DEADLINE:

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

CEQA FINDING:

FIND THAT THE ACTIVITY IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CEQA PURSUANT TO TITLE 14, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, SECTION 15061 BECAUSE THE ACTIVITY IS NOT A PROJECT AS DEFINED BY PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION

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CALENDAR ITEM NO. C48 (CONT'D)

21065 AND TITLE 14, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS,
SECTION 15378.

AUTHORIZATION:

1. ACCEPT FROM VENOCO, INC. (LESSEE) THE (FULL) QUITCLAIM DEED FOR OIL AND GAS LEASE DATED NOVEMBER 9, 1999, WHEREIN THE LESSEE QUITCLAIMS BACK TO THE STATE ALL RIGHT, TITLE AND INTEREST IN THE LEASED LANDS DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT A OF OIL AND GAS LEASE NO. PRC 129.1 DATED JANUARY 27, 1944.
2. RELEASE VENOCO, INC. FROM ALL OBLIGATIONS UNDER OIL AND GAS NO. LEASE PRC 129.1 EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 12, 1999, THE FILING DATE OF THE QUITCLAIM DEED.
3. AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO AFFECT THE COMMISSION'S ACTION.

particularly described as follows:

LANDS

PRC 129.1

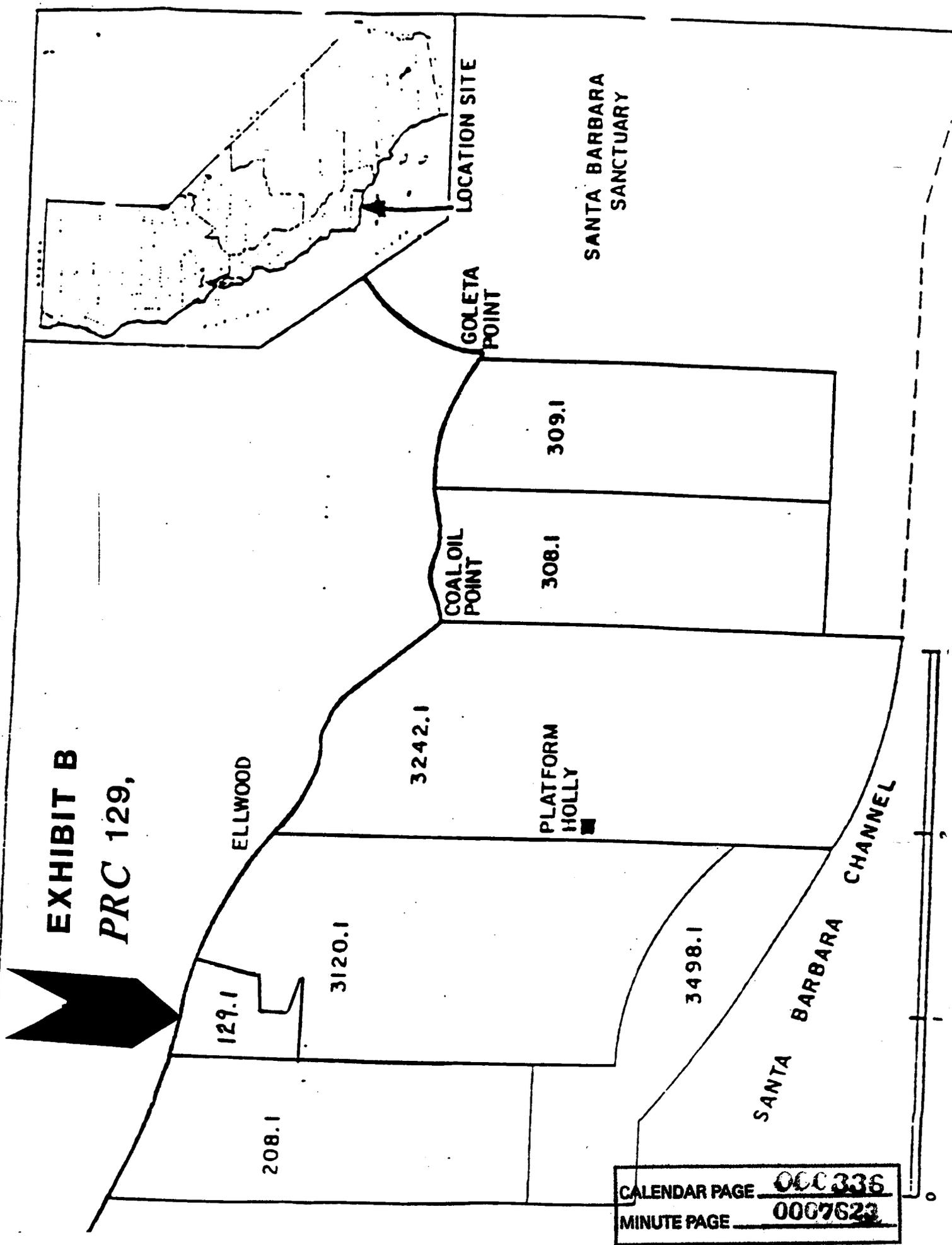
Beginning at a point on the mean high water line of the Pacific Ocean, at the northeasterly corner of State Oil and Gas Lease No. 98, which point is designated as Monument No. 4 upon "Map of State Leases and Permits, Elwood Oil Field", approved by the Division of State Lands, November 1, 1929, and recorded in Santa Barbara County, thence N. $70^{\circ} 20'$ W., 942.36 feet; thence N. $64^{\circ} 56' 40''$ W., 254.22 feet to the true point of beginning on the mean high water line, thence along a meander of the mean high water line N. $73^{\circ} 54' 32''$ W., a distance of 451.86 feet; thence N. $63^{\circ} 17' 30''$ W., a distance of 301.17 feet; thence N. $76^{\circ} 10' 40''$ W., a distance of 272.96 feet; thence S. $34^{\circ} 35' 46''$ W., a distance of 24.52 feet; thence S. $68^{\circ} 44'$ W., a distance of 248.00 feet; thence N. $82^{\circ} 08'$ W., a distance of 2458.39 feet; thence south out into the Pacific Ocean a distance of 3989.27 feet; thence easterly 3200.00 feet to the southeasterly corner of Lease No. 98; thence along the boundaries of Lease No. 98, N. $70^{\circ} 17'$ W., a distance of 485.00 feet; thence N. $62^{\circ} 23' 35''$ W., a distance of 1096.38 feet; thence N. $19^{\circ} 49'$ E., a distance of 925.99 feet; thence S. $84^{\circ} 37' 45''$ E., a distance of 1475.70 feet; thence N. $19^{\circ} 49'$ E., a distance of 1850.00 feet; thence N. $70^{\circ} 20'$ W., a distance of 347.64 feet; thence N. $64^{\circ} 56' 40''$ W., a distance of 254.22 feet; thence N. $19^{\circ} 49'$ E., a distance of 50.0 feet to the point of beginning,

and containing approximately 254 acres.

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EXHIBIT B
PRC 129,



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