

MINUTE ITEM
This Calendar Item No. 26 was approved as
Minute Item No. 26 by the California State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3 to 0 at its
04-07-03 meeting.

**CALENDAR ITEM
C26**

A	1		04/07/03
		PRC 7918	WP 7918.9
S	2		F. Singer

GENERAL LEASE - PUBLIC AGENCY USE

LESSEE:

Sonoma County Water Agency
Post Office Box 11628
Santa Rosa, California 95406

AREA, LAND TYPE, AND LOCATION:

11 acres, more or less, of sovereign lands in the Russian River, west of Jenner,
Sonoma County.

AUTHORIZED USE:

Continued periodic breaching of the sandbar at the mouth of the Russian River
Estuary to create an outlet channel for flood control and habitat protection
purposes.

LEASE TERM:

One year and thirty days, beginning January 1, 2003.

CONSIDERATION:

The public use and benefit; with the State reserving the right at any time to set a
monetary rental if the Commission finds such action to be in the State's best
interest.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. On October 28, 1996, the Commission authorized a General Lease -
Public Agency Use with the Sonoma County Water Agency. That lease
expired on December 31, 2001. The Commission approved a new lease
for continued breaching of the sandbar, but the new lease was only
extended for one year because the Applicant's collateral permits expired
at the end of 2002. Applicant intends to conduct additional breaching of
the sandbar barrier at the mouth of the Russian River during the 2003
calendar year and has obtained collateral permits for this additional

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breaching through the end of the proposed Lease Term. Applicant is permittee for the uplands adjoining the lease premises.

2. 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 as a categorically exempt project. The project is exempt under Class 1, Existing Facilities; Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15301(i).

Authority: Public Resources Code section 21084 and Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15300.

3. This activity involves lands identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to Public Resources Code sections 6370, et seq. Based upon the staff's consultation with the persons nominating such lands and through the CEQA review process, it is the staff's opinion that the project, as proposed, is consistent with its use classification.

APPROVALS OBTAINED:

California Department of Fish and Game, California Department of Parks and Recreation, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Army Corps of Engineers, California Coastal Commission.

EXHIBIT:

- A. Vicinity 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 AS A CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT PROJECT, CLASS 1, EXISTING FACILITIES; TITLE 14, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, SECTION 15301(i).

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SIGNIFICANT LANDS INVENTORY FINDING:

FIND THAT THIS ACTIVITY IS CONSISTENT WITH THE USE CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATED BY THE COMMISSION FOR THE LAND PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTIONS 6370, ET SEQ.

AUTHORIZATION:

AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY OF A GENERAL LEASE - PUBLIC AGENCY USE, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2003, FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR AND THIRTY DAYS, FOR THE CONTINUED PERIODIC BREACHING OF THE SANDBAR BARRIER AT THE MOUTH OF THE RUSSIAN RIVER ON THE LAND SHOWN ON EXHIBIT A, ATTACHED, AND BY THIS REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF; LEASE CONSIDERATION IS THE PUBLIC USE AND BENEFIT, WITH THE STATE RESERVING THE RIGHT AT ANY TIME TO SET A MONETARY RENT IF THE COMMISSION FINDS SUCH ACTION TO BE IN THE STATE'S BEST INTEREST.

