

MONTEREY COUNTY

WATER RESOURCES AGENCY

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SALINAS , CA 93902
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DAVID E. CHARDAVOYNE
INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER



STREET ADDRESS
893 BLANCO CIRCLE
SALINAS, CA 93901-4455

July 24, 2012

Taven Kinison-Brown
Planning Department
Monterey County Resource Management Agency

**RE: Bureau of Land Management Environmental Assessment for Oil & Gas
Competitive Lease Sale (DOI-BLM-CA-0900-2012-40-EA)**

Dear Mr. Kinison-Brown:

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) has reviewed the subject Environmental Assessment (EA) with regard to the location of the proposed leases and their potential impacts to MCWRA facilities. Maps included with the EA indicate that Lease 27 overlies the Rinconada Fault, which GEI Consultants (GEI) described as a "well-recognized major active" fault in the *Final Report Seismic Stability Review of Nacimiento Dam* (March 2005). This fault is located directly under San Antonio Dam and has been identified as the Maximum Considered Earthquake (MCE) source evaluated in the GEI report.

The MCWRA does not recommend approval of hydraulic fracturing operations within the proposed lease area due to the proximity of Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs, the presence of nearby faults, the potential of hydraulic fracturing to induce seismic activity, and the potential for hydraulic fracturing operations to impact water quality and quantity in the local area.

MCWRA will also be providing this information to the California Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams and to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Division of Dam Safety and Inspections.

Sincerely,

Howard Franklin, PG
Senior Hydrologist

cc: David Chardavoyne, MCWRA
Michael Sutliff, DSOD
John Wiegel, FERC

MONTEREY COUNTY



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH Ray Bullick, Director

ANIMAL SERVICES
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
CLINIC SERVICES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

PUBLIC HEALTH
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR/PUBLIC GUARDIAN

July 27, 2012

Taven Kinison Brown, Project Planner

RE: Comments EH_REF110016, LEASE SALES PERTAINING TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA) BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT HOLLISTER FIELD OFFICE DOI-B-CA-0900-2011-04-EA

Monterey County Health Department, Environmental Health Bureau (EHB) has completed its review of the EA as well as the BLM Hollister Field Office's Proposed Resource Management and Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS) dated June 2006 and how they pertain to the Lease Sales, comments are as follows:

This EA is tiered to the PRMP/FEIS. All the potential activities and impacts related to oil and gas leasing, exploration, drilling, development, and production were discussed in the PRMP/FEIS. Further, the PRMP/FEIS describes all the potential impacts of these activities and stipulates the conditions and mitigations that would apply to new leases and operations on existing leases for approval of Application for Permit to Drill (APD). This information is incorporated in this EA. After reviewing the PRMP/FEIS and specifically Appendix C discusses Noise, Hazardous Materials, and Water, EHB concludes that measures, mitigations and monitoring guidelines are in place for the protection of water quality.

Water Quality:

Water quality was discussed in Chapter 3, Section F and in Chapter 4, Section F – Chapter 3's conclusions indicate that the greatest source on groundwater contamination, at this time in this area, is from agriculture activities in the region.

Chapter 4's conclusions are that potential watershed impacts are avoided by applying current laws and regulation to protect the environment and the measures and mitigation to protect both ground and surface water from contamination. These regulations included BLM's Standard Lease Stipulations and permitting requirements from CDOGGR and local county governments

When and if discretionary permits are applied for these ADP leases, EHB will, on a site specific basis, require specific condition under the Health and Safety Code. These conditions will included but not be limited to, HazMat, Water Quality and Noise.

If you have any question please call me at 755-4763.

Sincerely,

Roger Van Horn, R.E.H.S.
Senior Environmental Specialist

Cc: Richard LeWarne, Assistant Director, Environmental Health
Nicki Silva, Acting Supervisor EHRS

**SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT
FOR THE OIL AND GAS COMPETITIVE LEASE SALE.**

We have received the environmental assessment (DOI-BLM-CA-0900-2012-40-EA) for the Oil and Gas Competitive Lease Sale. As the Department of Public Works for the County of Monterey, we are very interested to know about the project's potential impacts to the surrounding traffic circulation network.

As indicated in the Environmental Assessment (EA), only the oil and gas lease sale is being evaluated at this time. The EA also states that lease-holders would be required to submit plans for any exploration or development, and a site-specific Environmental Assessment would be prepared to identify mitigation measures. As part of that site-specific assessment, Public Works would require detailed analysis to evaluate any potential impacts to County facilities affected by proposed development. Potential analyses and conditions may include but are not limited to the following:

- A traffic analysis would be required, and it should address the project's impacts on all county, regional, and city roadways. The geographic area covered in the scope of the traffic study should be of sufficient size to adequately identify all of the project's impacts. The Traffic Study should identify mitigation measures for all traffic circulation and pavement impacts on County roads. Traffic Analysis should be prepared in accordance with the Monterey County Guide for the Preparation of Traffic Impact Analysis.
- A thorough pavement condition analysis and corresponding mitigation measures need to be included in the analysis, should the project generate additional heavy truck traffic on County roads, i.e. increases in the Traffic Index (TI).
- The traffic report should address the needs and benefits of providing pedestrian/bicycle facilities. The project should also strive to provide carpool/vanpool and other alternative modes of transportation that will reduce the peak demand on roadways in the project area.
- Any mitigation measures proposed by the project should conform with regional planning documents, such as the Monterey County's General Plan and TAMC's Regional Transportation Plan, subject to approval by the County.
- To address cumulative traffic impacts of any proposed development, the project would be assessed Regional Development Impact Fees, County Traffic Impact fees, and/or any local City fees to generate funds which may be applied towards regional and/or local transportation projects.
- Site plans for proposed development will need to identify site access, and all roadways, utilities and other improvements required for development of each project site. The improvement plans may be subject to Public Works review and approval
- County Encroachment Permits would be required for any work within the public right-of-way.

Should you have any further questions please call Raul Martinez at 755-4628, or Arturo Adlawan at (831) 755-4823.

MONTEREY COUNTY

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY



PLANNING DEPARTMENT, Mike Novo, Director

168 W. Alisal St., 2nd Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

(831) 755-5025
FAX (831) 757-9516

August 20, 2012

Sky Murphy and Rick Cooper
c/o Bureau of Land Management
United States Department of the Interior
Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023

Re: Environmental Assessment for an Oil and Gas Competitive Lease Sale
DOI-BLM-CA-0900-2012-40-EA
Review Period Extended to August 22, 2012

Dear Mr. Murphy and Mr. Cooper:

Thank you for affording the County of Monterey and the general public additional time to review the subject document. Under NEPA Monterey County recognizes that the BLM has an obligation to consult and cooperate with the County.

The County of Monterey land use agencies have reviewed the EA and its associated environmental documents and associated records of decisions and have assembled the following comments below. The County of Monterey wishes to engage the Bureau in a discussion of incorporating County comments and recommendations as stipulations to be attached to potential leases within the County.

Water Resources Agency

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) has reviewed the subject Environmental Assessment (EA) with regard to the location of the proposed leases and their potential impacts to MCWRA facilities. Maps included with the EA indicate that Lease 27 overlies the Rinconada Fault, which GEI Consultants (GEI) described as a "well-recognized major active" fault in the *Final Report Seismic Stability Review of Nacimiento Dam* (March 2005). This fault is located directly under San Antonio Dam and has been identified as the Maximum Considered Earthquake (MCE) source evaluated in the GEI report.

The MCWRA does not recommend approval of hydraulic fracturing operations within the proposed lease area due to the proximity of Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs, the presence of nearby faults, the potential of hydraulic fracturing to induce seismic activity, and the potential for hydraulic fracturing operations to impact water quality and quantity in the local area.

MCWRA will also be providing this information to the California Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams and to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Division of Dam Safety and Inspections.

Environmental Health Department

Monterey County Health Department, Environmental Health Bureau (EHB) has completed its review of the EA as well as the BLM Hollister Field Office's Proposed Resource Management and Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS) dated June 2006 and how they pertain to the Lease Sales, comments are as follows:

This EA is tiered to the PRMP/FEIS. All the potential activities and impacts related to oil and gas leasing, exploration, drilling, development, and production were discussed in the PRMP/FEIS. Further, the PRMP/FEIS describes all the potential impacts of these activities and stipulates the conditions and mitigations that would apply to new leases and operations on existing leases for approval of Application for Permit to Drill (APD). This information is incorporated in this EA. After reviewing the PRMP/FEIS and specifically Appendix C discusses Noise, Hazardous Materials, and Water, EHB concludes that measures, mitigations and monitoring guidelines are in place for the protection of water quality.

Water Quality:

Water quality was discussed in Chapter 3, Section F and in Chapter 4, Section F – Chapter 3's conclusions indicate that the greatest source on groundwater contamination, at this time in this area, is from agriculture activities in the region.

Chapter 4's conclusions are that potential watershed impacts are avoided by applying current laws and regulation to protect the environment and the measures and mitigation to protect both ground and surface water from contamination. These regulations included BLM's Standard Lease Stipulations and permitting requirements from CDOGGR and local county governments

When and if discretionary permits are applied for these ADP leases, EHB will, on a site specific basis, require specific condition under the Health and Safety Code. These conditions will included but not be limited to, HazMat, Water Quality and Noise.

If you have any question please Roger VanHorn at 755-4763.

Resource Management Agency – Public Works Department

We have received the environmental assessment (DOI-BLM-CA-0900-2012-40-EA) for the Oil and Gas Competitive Lease Sale. As the Department of Public Works for the County of Monterey, we are very interested to know about the project's potential impacts to the surrounding traffic circulation network.

As indicated in the Environmental Assessment (EA), only the oil and gas lease sale is being evaluated at this time. The EA also states that lease-holders would be required to submit plans for any exploration or development, and a site-specific Environmental Assessment would be prepared to identify mitigation measures. As part of that site-specific assessment, Public Works would

require detailed analysis to evaluate any potential impacts to County facilities affected by proposed development. Potential analyses and conditions may include but are not limited to the following:

- A traffic analysis would be required, and it should address the project's impacts on all county, regional, and city roadways. The geographic area covered in the scope of the traffic study should be of sufficient size to adequately identify all of the project's impacts. The Traffic Study should identify mitigation measures for all traffic circulation and pavement impacts on County roads. Traffic Analysis should be prepared in accordance with the Monterey County Guide for the Preparation of Traffic Impact Analysis.
- A thorough pavement condition analysis and corresponding mitigation measures need to be included in the analysis, should the project generate additional heavy truck traffic on County roads, i.e. increases in the Traffic Index (TI).
- The traffic report should address the needs and benefits of providing pedestrian/bicycle facilities. The project should also strive to provide carpool/vanpool and other alternative modes of transportation that will reduce the peak demand on roadways in the project area.
- Any mitigation measures proposed by the project should conform with regional planning documents, such as the Monterey County's General Plan and TAMC's Regional Transportation Plan, subject to approval by the County.
- To address cumulative traffic impacts of any proposed development, the project would be assessed Regional Development Impact Fees, County Traffic Impact fees, and/or any local City fees to generate funds which may be applied towards regional and/or local transportation projects.
- Site plans for proposed development will need to identify site access, and all roadways, utilities and other improvements required for development of each project site. The improvement plans may be subject to Public Works review and approval
- County Encroachment Permits would be required for any work within the public right-of-way.

Should you have any further questions please call Raul Martinez at 755-4628, or Arturo Adlawan at (831) 755-4823.

Resource Management Agency - Planning Department

Monterey County is very concerned for the potential changes in Aesthetics and Water Quality. Monterey County does not believe that the EA provides sufficient protections for these resources.

In reference to Appendix D Table D-1 the Hollister Oil and Gas Plan Amendment Monitoring Plan that this EA is tiered from, there are environmental subjects such as protection of Air Quality, Special Status Plants and Animals, etc, that are monitored, threshold levels established and actions required when thresholds are exceeded. In most cases a "completely new environmental assessment" is required when thresholds are exceeded. In the case of Air Quality, this threshold is 5 wells in the Central Coast area (Monterey County).

The County of Monterey requests that it be stipulated that all APDs be forwarded to the County of Monterey upon submittal to so that we become aware at an early stage of the breadth and scope of actual development proposals and what the scope of the new environmental analysis must be.

For any potential lease sale in the County of Monterey, we ask that full and descriptive project development proposals be subject to our review before federal or state issuance of permits to drill. Monterey County asks for the following items and details:

- Name and address of all parties of interest (private and public)
- A letter detailing the proposed work, including the scheduling of drilling and completion events, supplemented with graphics and illustrations
- Listing of the permits and or approvals required from all Agencies having bearing on the practice/proposal.
- Vicinity maps
- A Property map with clearly shown property lines and names of adjacent property owners, identification of Assessors Parcel Numbers, and existing and proposed easements, and indicating the areas of potential disturbance.
- Site Plans for each area of disturbance for each phase – drilling, completion and production. Show setbacks from structures and property lines and show dimensions between proposed equipment locations and right of ways,
- Identify the water sources used for all proposed activities.
- Identify the location and method of waste water disposal and treatment.
- Visual simulations of any development proposal on any lease lot, visible from a common public viewing area, such as roads and public recreation areas (San Antonio Lake, etc.)
- Provide a registered petroleum geologist's geological cross section with the depth and formations at the drill site.
- An Access Plan showing driveways and access road locations.
- An Operating Plan.
- Emergency Response Plan.
- Drainage and Erosion Control Plan
- Photos of equipment to be used during drilling completion production, maintenance, and abandonment.
- Landscape Plans

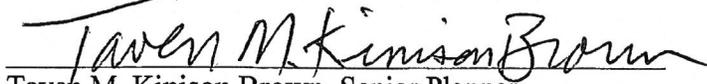
While “over-sight” of “down-hole” operations mainly falls to other agencies such as the California Department of Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR), Monterey County is not confident at this time in the degree of disclosures being made under such permits, whether there is an active and engaged over-sight by DOGGR, nor confident in the level of communication required across a multi-jurisdictional landscape to protect the County of Monterey. (i.e., federal leases, state oversight on down-hole responsibilities, regional water quality control, and local land use regulation, etc.) Additionally, with these layers of agencies, each having some component and regulatory part to play, it is uncertain to the County of Monterey, where regulatory responsibility will lie should there be an accident or need for a coordinated emergency response.

Additionally, the practice of “fracking” presently has unknown ramifications to environmental resources. The County of Monterey has concern for unknown potential impacts to groundwater contamination, land surface and surface water contamination, the use of hazardous chemical materials and their recovery and disposal, potential affects on air quality, and the potential release of chemicals and vapors that contribute to greenhouse gasses and their affect on climate change. Additional concerns involve the potential permanent affects on subsurface geology and the unknown potential to affect active or dormant fault structures (See Water Resources Agency Comments above). Additionally, as acknowledged in the EA, that the United States Environmental

Protection Agency is presently studying the potential adverse impacts that hydraulic fracturing may have on drinking water.

The EA also fails to analyze the water supply impacts of fracking practices: Where does this water come from? Does the water used in fracking conflict with agricultural wells? Is it obtained from surface waters, or groundwater, and what is the impact on the aquifer? Fracking is very distinct from routine drilling, and even the federal government (EPA) has not reached conclusions or finished their study of potential impacts to drinking water. If fracking is allowed by these leases, then Monterey County believes the EA is insufficient in its environmental analysis on this level.

Thank you,



Taven M. Kinison Brown, Senior Planner

Kinisonbrowntm@co.monterey.ca.us

831-755-5173

MONTEREY COUNTY

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Benny J. Young, Director
Carl P. Holm, AICP, Deputy Director



Michael A. Rodriguez, C.B.O., Chief Building Official
Michael Novo, AICP, Director of Planning
Robert K. Murdoch, P.E., Director of Public Works

168 W. Alisal Street, 2nd Floor
Salinas, CA 93901
<http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/rma>

October 4, 2013

Department of the Interior,
Bureau of Land Management
ATTN: Sara Acridge, Natural Resources Specialist
2800 Cottage Way, Rm. W-1623
Sacramento, CA 95825

By E-mail: BLM_CA_OGEIS@blm.gov
By Website: www.blm.gov/ca/eis-og
By Fax: (916) 978-4388

RE: Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS for Oil and Gas Leasing and Development on Public Lands
And Federal Mineral Estate and Potentially Amend the Hollister Resource Management Plan
(REF130082)

Dear Ms. Acridge:

On behalf of the County of Monterey, I am writing to share the County's concerns regarding the potential sale of oil and gas leasing and development on public lands and federal mineral estate and the potential amendment to the Hollister RMP and to request that EIS document address those concerns. The County requests explicit notification of all upcoming proposals, applications to drill and determinations of the BLM. All notifications may be sent to the County in care of Michael Novo, Director of RMA-Planning, 168 West Alisal Street, 2nd Floor, Salinas, CA 93901 or by e-mail to novom@co.monterey.ca.us

The County supports the decision to prepare this EIS and requests that the document analyze not just hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling, but all reasonably foreseeable well completion and stimulation practices and all foreseeable related impacts. It cannot be assumed that once opened for leasing and development that there will be only a few permits issued. The County assumes that the number of permits will greatly expand and that the impact cannot be understated. The EIS should include analysis of both the immediate and cumulative impacts due to oil and gas development and should include analysis of impacts to private as well as public lands.

The County assumes that leasing of BLM lands and federal mineral estate for gas and oil development may result in impacts to traffic/road infrastructure, water quality, water quantity, aesthetics, hazardous materials exposure, seismic hazards and housing.

Resource Management Agency – Public Works Department

The Monterey County RMA-Public Works Department is responsible for maintenance of all County roads and transportation facilities.

- Analysis of the impact of increased traffic, including heavy trucks, on all county, regional and city roadways should be included in the EIS.

- The geographic area covered in the scope of the traffic study should be of sufficient size to adequately identify all potential impacts, including congestion, traffic management and impacts to infrastructure.
- Mitigation measures for all traffic circulation and pavement impacts on County roads should be included.
- Many of the County roads that will potentially be impacted are rural roads that are used primarily for local traffic. The EIS should include analysis of the needs and benefits of providing pedestrian/bicycle facilities as well as carpool/vanpool and other alternative modes of transportation that would reduce peak demand on roadways in the project area.

Water Resources Agency

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCRWA) has previously expressed concern regarding the impact of potential lease areas to MCRWA water supply facilities. The Rinconada Fault lies directly under the San Antonio Dam and has been identified as a likely earthquake source. The MCRWA does not recommend approval of hydraulic fracturing operations within close proximity to Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs due to the presence of nearby faults and the potential of hydraulic fracturing operations to impact water quality and quantity in the local area. The following must be analyzed in the EIS:

- Analysis of the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing to water quality and quantity both locally and regionally.
- Analysis of the potential for increased seismic activity due to hydraulic fracturing and the potential impacts, including impacts to County operated lakes, dams and reservoirs.

Environmental Health

Oil and gas drilling stimulation techniques that utilize hazardous materials result in more hazardous materials being transported on the roadways, stored on drilling sites and injected into the ground. It is the experience of the Environmental Health Bureau that it is difficult to obtain compliance from drilling companies with existing regulations regarding hazardous materials, therefore, expansion of drilling activities could result in increased contamination of soils and water with hazardous materials. The EIS should include analysis of the potential impacts due to this increased contamination.

Resource Management Agency – Planning Department

Monterey County is very concerned for the potential changes in Aesthetics, Air Quality, Water Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Housing. The County requests that the EIS include analysis of the following:

- Aesthetic impacts: Monterey County is known for its beautiful landscapes and has worked to protect them through General Plan policies. Tourism is an important part of the county economy and the views and aesthetic that visitors come from around the world to enjoy is critical to the tourism industry. Analysis of the visual/aesthetic impacts from new industrial development in open lands should be included in the EIS as well as an economic analysis of the potential impacts to tourism.
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions: The County requests that local and cumulative impacts to air quality be analyzed in the EIS.
- Housing: Include an analysis of the potential impact to housing from an influx of new workers into rural areas. Temporary workers as well as migration of new workers into an area can impact housing availability, prices and the quality of life in a community.
- Schools: Include analysis of impacts of new workers to schools.

The practice of hydraulic fracturing presently has unknown ramifications to environmental resources. The County of Monterey has concern for unknown potential impacts to groundwater contamination, land surface and surface water contamination, the use of hazardous chemical materials and their recovery and disposal, potential effects on air quality and the potential release of chemicals and vapors that contribute to greenhouse gasses and their effect on climate change. Additional concerns involve the potential permanent effects on subsurface geology and the unknown potential to affect active or dormant fault structures. The County of Monterey also has great concern regarding the water supply impacts of hydraulic fracturing and other well stimulation techniques. Where will the water come from? Does the water used in these techniques conflict with agricultural or domestic water supplies? Is it obtained from surface waters or groundwater, and what is the impact on the aquifer? The County strongly urges the BLM to include a robust analysis of all of the potential impacts in the EIS so that the decision regarding the potential amendment of the Hollister RMP and the decision as to whether and how leasing of federal lands for oil and gas development should occur will be made with full public disclosure of the potential impacts to the environment.

Respectfully,



Delinda Robinson

Senior Planner

(831) 755-5198

robinsond@co.monterey.ca.us



Monterey County Board of Supervisors

168 West Alisal Street,
1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901
831.755.5066

Board Order

Upon motion of Supervisor Phillips, seconded by Supervisor Salinas and carried by those members present, the Board of Supervisors hereby:

Adopted Resolution 18-040 in opposition to the U.S. Interior Department Offshore Oil and Gas Development proposal.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 13th day of February 2018, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Alejo, Salinas, Phillips, Parker and Adams
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

I, Nicholas E. Chiulos, Acting Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 80 for the meeting February 13, 2018.

Dated: February 14, 2018
File ID: RES 18-011

Nicholas E. Chiulos, Acting Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By Denise Hancock
Deputy

**Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California**

Resolution No. 18-040

Resolution in opposition to)
the U.S. Interior Department)
Offshore Oil and Gas)
Development Proposal)

WHEREAS, Monterey County residents and visitors enjoy California's beaches and the Pacific Ocean for recreational, commercial, and educational activities, all of which support our local economy; and

WHEREAS, Monterey County residents and visitors value our state's ocean and coastal environment, which support a wide array of plant communities and tens of thousands of invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, fish, birds, and mammals, including numerous rare, threatened and endangered species that depend on a healthy, clean environment; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary showcases and safeguards the extraordinary ocean wildlife and habitats of Monterey Bay and the Central Coast that help drive our economy and inspire visitors from around the world to travel to our shores; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration off the Pacific coast put these coastal resources, and the communities and industries that depend on them, at risk from oil spills and other damage; and

WHEREAS, a massive oil spill in 1969 off the coast of Santa Barbara fouled coastal waters and caused catastrophic economic and environmental damage, and

WHEREAS, in 2015 a pipeline servicing offshore oil platforms burst and fouled the same coastal areas, damaging wildlife and impacting recreational and commercial activities; and

WHEREAS, new federal offshore oil and gas leases have not been granted off the coast of California since 1984; and

WHEREAS, the State of California prohibits new oil and gas leasing in state waters due to the unacceptably high risk of damage and disruption to the marine environment; and

WHEREAS, section 18 of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) requires the preparation of a nationwide offshore oil and gas leasing program, setting forth a five-year schedule of lease sales designed to "best meet national energy needs for the five-year period following its approval or re-approval." The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management within the U.S. Department of the Interior is responsible for implementing the requirements of the OCS Lands Act related to preparing the leasing program; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the principles of section 18 and the resulting regionally tailored leasing strategy, the current exclusion of the Pacific OCS from new oil and gas development is consistent with the long-standing interests of Pacific coast states, as framed in the 2006 Agreement on Ocean Health adopted by the governors of California, Washington, and Oregon; and

WHEREAS, the Governors of California, Oregon, and Washington, along with many communities on the Pacific coast, have taken a stand against new federal offshore oil and gas leases in the Pacific Ocean; and

WHEREAS, Monterey County believes that new oil and gas development in the Pacific OCS can threaten the environment, delay the nation's movement toward a greater reliance on renewable energy development, contribute to increased greenhouse gas emissions, and can adversely affect tourism and fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration is considering expanding offshore oil and gas leasing to new areas which have largely been off-limits to new federal leasing, including the Pacific Coast; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management recently released a draft 2019–2024 OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program that proposes 47 new lease sales across all OCS regions, including seven lease sales in the Pacific Region and two in the Central California planning area; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein has requested Monterey County and all California counties to adopt resolutions expressing opposition to new offshore oil and gas development in California; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors strongly and unequivocally supports the existing ban on new oil and gas drilling in federal waters offshore California and opposes attempts by the Federal Government to modify the ban; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Administrative Office distribute a copy of this resolution to U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator Kamala Harris, Congressman Jimmy Panetta, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, Governor Jerry Brown, Attorney General Xavier Becerra and to Monterey County's local State Legislators.

PASSED AND ADOPTED upon motion of Supervisor Phillips, seconded by Supervisor Salinas and carried this 13th day of February 2018, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Alejo, Phillips, Salinas, Parker and Adams

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

I, Nicholas E. Chiulos, Acting Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 80 for the meeting on February 13, 2018.

Dated: February 14, 2018
File Number: RES 18-011

Nicholas E. Chiulos, Acting Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By Denise Hancock
Deputy