



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

December 13, 2016

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Protect Federal Waters Offshore California from Oil and Gas Leasing

Dear Mr. President:

In 2014, I joined the Governors of Oregon and Washington to oppose the inclusion of any new oil and gas leasing along our shared coast in the federal government's 2017-2022 leasing program. Your Administration excluded the Pacific region in the final plan.

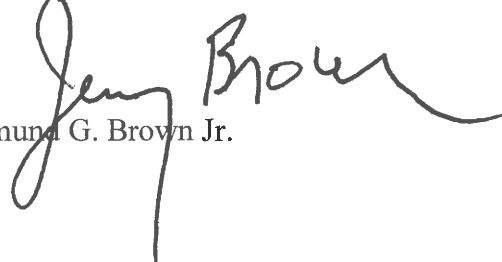
I now urge you to use your authority under Section 12(a) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently withdraw federal waters off the coast of California from new offshore oil and gas leasing and guarantee that future oil and gas drilling in these waters is prohibited.

California is blessed with hundreds of miles of spectacular coastline; home to scenic state parks, beautiful beaches, abundant wildlife and thriving communities.

Clearly, large new oil and gas reserves would be inconsistent with our overriding imperative to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and combat the devastating impacts of climate change.

Now is the time to make permanent the protection of our ocean waters and beaches from new oil and gas drilling.

Sincerely,



Edmund G. Brown Jr.



December 1, 2016

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington DC 20050

Subject: Request for Support for Protections of Federal Waters off the California Coast

Dear Mr. President:

We write to request that you exercise your prerogatives under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act ("OCSLA") to permanently protect federal waters off the coast of California from new offshore oil and gas leasing. This action is necessary to ensure California is not threatened by increased offshore oil and gas drilling in the future.

The state of California has one of the most spectacular coastal areas in the nation; residents and visitors from around the world enjoy the recreational, scenic, and spiritual bounty of our spectacular shores. And ocean dependent industries such as commercial and recreational fishing contribute substantially to our state and sustain our coastal communities.

A sizeable spill off our coast would have a devastating impact on our public health and safety, local and state economies, and our environment. Expanded offshore oil and gas drilling also undermines the important strides we have made both as a state and as a nation to address climate change and promote a clean energy economy.

California law generally prohibits new oil and gas leasing in state waters in order to help protect the marine environment and its vitally important resources. Federal waters off our beautiful coast deserve the same protections.

Section 12(a) of OCSLA vests the President with the authority to ensure those protections. Specifically, Section 12(a) allows you to "withdraw from disposition any of the unleased lands of the outer Continental Shelf." Numerous presidents have used this authority to protect environmentally sensitive areas from new offshore oil and gas leasing, including the coast of California. You have previously used this authority to withdraw certain areas in the Arctic Ocean from availability for oil and gas leasing.

President Barack Obama

December 1, 2016

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We are pleased to see that new leases on the Pacific OCS are not included in the 2017 to 2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Proposed Final Program recently released by the U.S. Department of the Interior. However, action under Section 12(a) of OCSLA is necessary to ensure future expanded offshore drilling is prohibited.

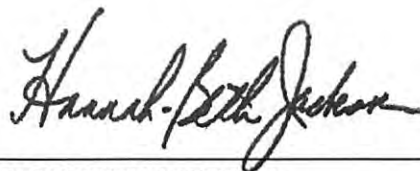
Thank you for considering action on this important and urgent matter.

Sincerely,



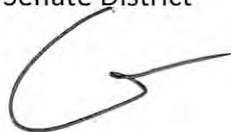
KEVIN DE LEÓN

President Pro Tempore
Twenty-Fourth Senate District



HANNAH-BETH JACKSON

Chair, Committee on Judiciary
Nineteenth Senate District



MIKE MCGUIRE

Second Senate District



BILL DODD

Senator-Elect Third Senate District



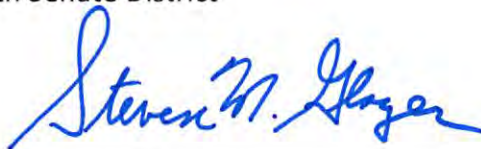
CATHLEEN GALGIANI

Fifth Senate District



RICHARD PAN

Sixth Senate District



STEVEN GLAZER

Seventh Senate District



NANCY SKINNER

Senator-Elect Ninth Senate District



BOB WIECKOWSKI

Tenth Senate District



SCOTT WIENER

Senator-Elect Eleventh Senate
District



JERRY HILL
Thirteenth Senate District



WILLIAM W. MONNING
Seventeenth Senate District



CONNIE M. LEYVA
Twentieth Senate District



ANTHONY PORTANTINO
Senator-Elect Twenty-Fifth Senate District



HENRY STERN, Senator-Elect
Senator-Elect Twenty-Seventh Senate District



HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Thirtieth Senate District



TONY MENDOZA
Thirty-Two Senate District



JIM BEALL
Fifteenth Senate District



ROBERT M. HERTZBERG
Eighteenth Senate District



ED HERNANDEZ
Twenty-Second Senate District



BENJAMIN ALLEN
Twenty-Sixth Senate District



JOSH NEWMAN
Senator-Elect Twenty-Ninth Senate District



RICHARD D. ROTH
Thirty-First Senate District



RICARDO LARA
Thirty-Three Senate District

President Barack Obama

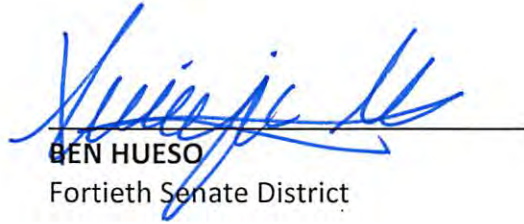
December 1, 2016

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TONI ATKINS

Senator-Elect Thirty-Ninth Senate
District



BEN HUESO

Fortieth Senate District

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219
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December 13, 2016

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Protect Federal Waters Offshore California from Oil and Gas Leasing

Dear Mr. President:

I write to urge you to use your authority under Section 12(a) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (“OCSLA”) to permanently protect federal waters off the coast of California from new offshore oil and gas leasing.

The California Coastal Commission implements California’s federally approved coastal management program under the authority of the Coastal Zone Management Act. Our long history with offshore oil and gas activities has taught us, especially in the aftermath of the 2015 Santa Barbara County Refugio Oil Spill, that such development can significantly threaten California’s coastal environment and its extremely important multi-billion dollar coast and ocean economy. We have long opposed any new oil and gas lease sales and therefore greatly appreciate that the U.S. Department of the Interior’s 2017-2022 OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Proposed Final Program does not include new leases on the Pacific OCS. However, we strongly believe that action under Section 12(a) of the OCSLA is needed to permanently withdraw California offshore waters from leasing for oil and gas activities and guarantee that future offshore oil and gas drilling offshore California is prohibited. This action would be consistent with multiple, bi-partisan actions by the California State Legislature opposing any new leasing in federal waters off California, including AJR 51 (Nava, 2008), AJR 55 (Nava, 2006), AJR 14 (Yee, 2005) and SJR 2 (Alpert, 1999) as well as the request of the three West Coast Governors Brown, Kitzhaber and Inslee in their July 30, 2014 letter to Secretary Jewell.

The Honorable Barack Obama
Protect Federal Waters Offshore California from Oil and Gas Leasing
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Please help us achieve our goal of permanent protection of our ocean waters, beaches and coastal economies at risk from new oil and gas drilling. Protecting OCS areas from new oil and gas leasing would also be consistent with your and California's efforts to reduce carbon pollution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dayna Bocho".

DAYNA BOCHCO, Chair
California Coastal Commission

cc: Governor Edmund G. Brown
California Secretary for Natural Resources John Laird
Senate President Pro-Tempore Kevin de Leon
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Secretary of Interior, Sally Jewell
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
Congressman Jared Huffman
Congressman Alan Lowenthal
Congresswoman Lois Capps