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JANET WOLF

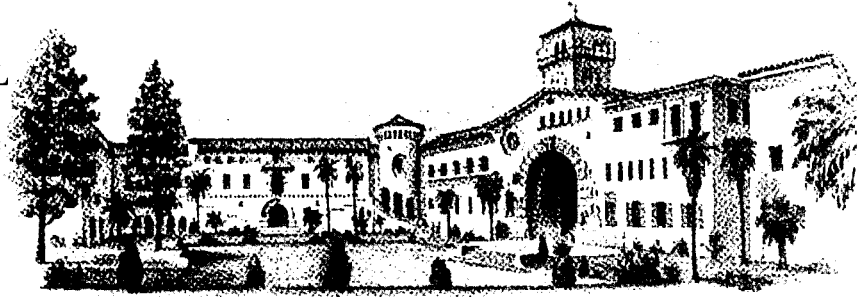
Second District

JONI GRAY

Fourth District

STEVE LAVAGNINO

Fifth District



ATTACHMENT 5

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

April 25, 2012

The Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Subject: *H.R. 7, Energy Security and Infrastructure Jobs Act and H.R. 3408, PIONEERS Act-Opposition to Provisions*

Dear Senator Reid,

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to express opposition to provisions contained in H.R. 7, the *Energy Security and Infrastructure Jobs Act*, and H.R. 3408, the *PIONEERS Act*, which would open up the waters off the California coast to new energy exploration.

In 2009, the County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution in opposition to new offshore oil leasing. Specifically, the resolution states that:

“The Board of Supervisors supports the California Coastal Sanctuary Act, which generally prohibits new oil and gas leasing in State waters, asks that the Department of the Interior not issue any new leases off the coast of California as part of the current OCS Leasing Program and respectfully requests that the Congress and President of the United States to reinstate the federal offshore oil and gas leasing moratoria as soon as possible.”

The provisions of Section 17304 of H.R. 7 - also contained in H.R. 3408 – would specifically require lease sales of tracts in the Santa Maria and Santa Barbara/Ventura Basins no later than July 1, 2014.

Protecting the valuable coastal environment from oil and gas development has been a priority in Santa Barbara County since the devastating oil spill of 1969. California’s 1,100-mile coastline is a national treasure that is the heart of a tourist industry that generates nearly \$5 billion in State and local taxes annually. Additional offshore oil leasing and production would degrade the quality of the County’s air and water and adversely impact its marine resources.

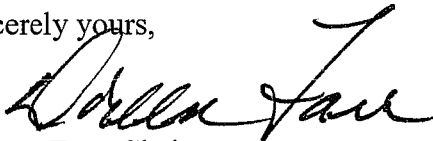
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As the House and Senate begin conference negotiations on legislation to reauthorize Federal transportation programs, the Board urges you to oppose any provisions that would implement new leases off the coast of California.

I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Doreen Farr, Chair
Board of Supervisors

Distribution List

The Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC. 20510

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Committee on the Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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The Honorable John Boehner, Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
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The Honorable Elton Gallegly
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