

MONTEREY COUNTY



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June 9, 2009

Jim Abbott
Acting State Director
Bureau of Land Management
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Subject: Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale in Southern Monterey County.

Dear Mr. Abbott:

The County of Monterey, Board of Supervisors requests that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) postpone the proposed oil and gas lease sale in Monterey County by at least one quarter.

The County has recently been made aware of the intended sale scheduled to occur on June 23, 2009. The County was not directly notified of the pending sale and has not had sufficient time to evaluate the potential consequences of the proposed leases. We understand that the BLM is not required to notice other responsible agencies or property owners, by federal procedure, but State and local legislation may require additional considerations which should be evaluated prior to issuance of these leases. A delay to allow these concerns to be explored in more detail will provide property owners, responsible agencies and other concerned parties time to understand and properly respond to the proposed lease sales.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. If you should have any questions please contact the Resource Management Agency – Planning Director Mike Novo (831) 755-5192.

Sincerely,

Lou Calcagno, Chair
County of Monterey
Board of Supervisors