



City of Hermosa Beach

Civic Center, 1315 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254-3885

March 8, 2022

Senator Henry I. Stern, Chair
Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water
1021 O Street, Room 3220
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 953 (Min, Dave) Oil and gas leases: state waters: State Lands Commission.
Notice of SUPPORT (As introduced on 2/09/2022)**

Dear Senator Stern,

The City of Hermosa Beach is pleased to support Senate Bill 953, which would require the State Lands Commission to terminate all remaining oil and gas leases under its jurisdiction in tidelands and submerged lands within state waters by December 31, 2023. The prohibition of any new lease or conveyance authorizing new construction of oil and gas related infrastructure along the California coast aligns with many of our community's goals and would complement the City's ongoing efforts to protect its coastal ecology.

As a coastal community, the City of Hermosa Beach has worked for many years to reduce our community's reliance on fossil fuels, while simultaneously implementing programs to improve the water quality of the Santa Monica Bay. Our community has spent decades promoting the use of renewable energy and reducing its reliance on greenhouse gas-producing fossil fuels. Efforts include utilizing solar power and electric vehicles, banning oil drilling in the City, and supporting State legislation that limits or seeks to end reliance on fossil fuels.

Preventing the pollution of our beach and coastal waters is both a quality-of-life concern and a vital public health issue. The beach is our front yard and the City of Hermosa Beach has worked for decades to protect it through comprehensive storm water pollution prevention and targeted policy decisions, such as banning the use of almost all single-use plastics.

SB 953 is another important step in this long-term path towards a future that is free of fossil fuels and potential oil spills on our beaches. For these reasons, the City of Hermosa Beach supports SB 953.

Sincerely,

Michael Detoy
Mayor of Hermosa Beach

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