**\*\*\*PRINT ON LETTERHEAD\*\*\***

[RETURN ADDRESS IF NOT INCLUDED ON YOUR LETTERHEAD]

[DATE]

RE: Funding to Adequately Cap the Becker Well - SUPPORT

Honorable California Legislators:

I am writing on behalf of [ORGANIZATION NAME] in **support of funding to complete the proper abandonment of the Becker Well on Summerland Beach in Santa Barbara County.** [OUR ORGANIZATION REPRESENTS …].

Summerland Beach has a long history of oil pollution resulting from improperly abandoned wells, having been the first location of offshore oil drilling in the world. Some of those wells have been properly re-abandoned over the years, enabling both area residents and thousands of visitors to enjoy safe swimming and a clean coastline at a beach that is highly accessible due to its proximity to the freeway and free parking.

Over the past five years, one improperly abandoned well (Becker) has been sighted leaking, and conditions have steadily deteriorated - reaching a point where many traditional, committed users have themselves abandoned the beach because of what they describe as 'filthy' water and 'nauseating' fumes. Without better guidelines about safe swimming and air quality, less informed beach users do continue to swim and stay on the beach, exposing themselves to potentially unsafe petrochemicals.

We are allowing a beautiful stretch of ocean and coastline to be fouled by the result of human action taken over a century ago. We urge you to support funding for the State Lands Commission to complete the re-abandonment of the Becker Onshore Well to protect the people, businesses, and wildlife that depend on healthy coastal resources.

Sincerely,

[YOUR FULL NAME]

[YOUR TITLE]