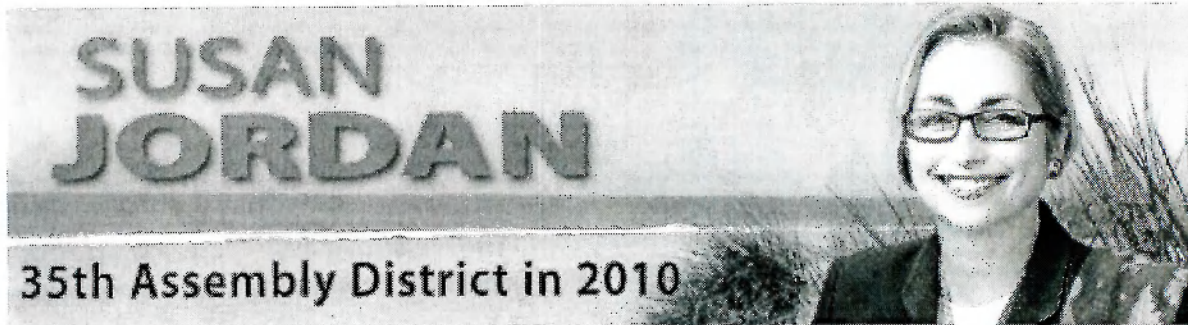


Lupe Anguiano

From: "Susan Jordan" <jordan4assembly@gmail.com>
To: <languiano@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 03, 2010 5:19 PM
Subject: Governor drops support for PXP oil drilling deal

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Jordan calls on PXP to end plans to drill for oil off Santa Barbara coast after Governor drops support Accident in Gulf proves that state-of-the art technology not good enough to prevent massive spills

In the wake of the tragic events in the Gulf of Mexico, Governor Schwarzenegger has withdrawn his support for Texas-based Plains Exploration and Production Company's (PXP) controversial plan to expand offshore oil drilling off the Santa Barbara coast. Had PXP's proposal been approved, it would have reversed California's longstanding ban against new offshore oil leasing in state waters and been the first new offshore oil lease since the 1969 blowout fouled the Santa Barbara coastline.

"I welcome the Governor's change in course and am thrilled that he has decided to take a precautionary approach to any new oil drilling off California. The unfolding tragedy in the Gulf reminds us anew of all

the dangers that offshore oil drilling poses for our people, our coastal economy, marine wildlife, and beaches," said Jordan.

Jordan, the Director of the California Coastal Protection Network and a candidate in the 35th District Assembly race, has opposed the PXP project from the beginning and fought all last year to stop the Governor from approving it in the budget. ***Just last week, Jordan blasted PXP for fighting against stronger drilling rig protections that might have prevented the devastating oil spill that occurred 40 miles off the coast of Louisiana.***

British Petroleum (BP), the operator responsible for the ongoing oil spill in Louisiana, also submitted comments opposing the increased safety measures. Exxon and Chevron did as well.

The Louisiana spill, which is releasing approximately 5,000 barrels a day into the Gulf of Mexico with no end in sight, is being described as one of the nation's worst environmental disasters in decades.

PXP had recently announced a "new agreement" that it claimed resolved all the concerns that led to the State Lands Commission's initial rejection of the project in January of 2009.

"PXP has repeatedly tried to woo environmental support with promises to shut down drilling in 14 years, land donations and the like. But the one thing PXP couldn't overcome was the 100% increase in the likelihood of an oil spill that could devastate our coast. That is not a risk that I and many others were willing to take at any price," Jordan said.

The PXP deal has been a contentious issue in Jordan's assembly race. Jordan opposed the deal from the start. Das Williams, her opponent in the Democratic primary, who had earlier pledged to support Jordan, cited her opposition to the PXP Tranquillon Ridge proposal for new oil drilling as the key reason for making an about-face entry into the race.

Despite intense political pressure to support the PXP proposal, Jordan stood her ground. "Support for PXP's drilling plans has placed vulnerable coastal communities like Carpinteria and Goleta at increased risk for new, expanded drilling. We need a strong united voice against any and all new offshore oil drilling off the California coast," she said.

"While my opponent supported PXP's new oil drilling plan, I fought against efforts by PXP to try to force the State Legislature

into approving this project. I expressed outrage when an infant health care program was gutted as retribution for the Assembly's refusal to approve the project. I opposed then-Assembly Minority Leader Sam Blakeslee's efforts to push through approval of the proposal in a dark-of-night gut and amend during the last week of session. And I challenged the Governor's efforts to force approval by threatening to pull all funding for California state parks. This is not the type of company anyone should be making deals with and I am glad that the Governor has finally seen the light," said Jordan.

Jordan also noted that PXP was recently found by Los Angeles County officials to have engaged in behind-the-scenes efforts to win approval for a vast expansion of its onshore oil drilling operation in Baldwin Hills in close proximity to residential neighborhoods. Culver City, the Natural Resources Defense Council and others filed suit over the expansion and the case is currently pending.

PXP also has had financial relationships in the Gulf of Mexico with both entities that are involved in the oil spill off Louisiana: British Petroleum and Transocean. The extent of those relationships at the current time is unclear.

"California has 40 years of state policy against new offshore oil drilling in state waters. It is a policy that has served our state and our communities well. It is time to reaffirm that policy, send PXP's oil drilling proposal back to Texas, and move toward a renewable energy future," she concluded.

Susan Jordan is a candidate for the 35th District Assembly seat and the Founder and Director of the award-winning environmental group, the California Coastal Protection Network. Jordan opposes the PXP proposal to begin new oil drilling. Her opponent in the Democratic primary, Das Williams, supports it.

To learn more about Susan or donate to her campaign, visit her website at www.jordan4assembly.com You can also sign up to volunteer.

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