



CITY OF OXNARD

MEMORANDUM

May 19, 1977

BRIEFING REPORT
TO COUNCIL
5-19-77

PAW
To: City Manager
From: Planning Director

*Council members may wish
to discuss the Alternative
Courses of Action at
Saturday's budget session*
Paul Wower

SUBJECT: ELK Hills/Port Hueneme Oil Conveyance System

The Navy Department is holding a hearing on the Elk Hills/Port Hueneme oil conveyance system EIS, all day, Tuesday, May 24, 1977. Since we have only just received the document, our review has been preliminary. However, it is apparent that the project is of major import to the City.

Project Summary

The project secures pipeline capacity for approximately 350,000 BBL's of crude oil to be marketed at some terminal within 36 months. Cancellation of the project would require Congressional action.

The Elk Hills/Hueneme alternative employs an existing 20" gas transmission line which now fuels the Mandalay Edison Plant. This has been studied and found to be sound for at least 30 years as a crude oil pipeline. An additional 5 miles of pipeline will be constructed from the power plant to a 1,000,000 BBL tank farm to be built on the C.B. Base near Victoria Avenue.

The tank farm at Port Hueneme will have three tanks each having a vapor recovery system. Crude oil will be loaded at the port into tankers of up to 200,000 BBL capacity. Two such tankers can be accommodated in the port at one time. The loading facility can operate at 25,000 BBL's per hour and will also be equipped with a vapor recovery system. This system is compatible only with ships so equipped.

Impact Summary

1. Oil Spill - This can occur from pipeline rupture, tank farm accident, and loading accident. The maximum pipeline spill in the Oxnard area is found to be about 2000 BBL's. Since the pipeline is underground throughout this area, spills are less likely. Oil spills could impact dunes area south of McGrath, the potentially developed use of the Edison Canal area, the Mandalay Bay area, and any extension of the inland water ways system. Actually, the pipeline route passes through the proposed northern extension of the inland waterways area west of Victoria Avenue, and north of the Hemlock alignment.

The Base is proposed to have a Spill Prevention and Counter Measure Control Plan (SPCC) in accordance with EPA standards. This consists of tanks and earth berms to contain spills from the tank farm. A spill in loading operations can contaminate beach areas from Port Dume to Ventura Harbor, according to the EIR.

Outside of the Oxnard area, the existing pipeline crosses a number of seismic faults including the San Andrews Fault. A rupture, whether seismicly caused or not, could contaminate a number of water sheds and reservoirs.

2. Employment - Temporary construction effect of employing approximately 450 people from Kern County to Ventura County for 14-16 months. Operational employment at Hueneme of only about 20.

3. Air Quality

1. Impacts are discussed for Simi Valley only. They indicate an increase of oxidant (the major pollutant) of 22-36% on peak smog days due to the project for the 1979 to 1990 period.

The project adds about 0.05 ppm oxidant to the Simi Air Shed. Mitigation measures at the port facility can reduce this to about 0.03+ in one case and 0.01+ with another set of measures. These generally involve loading ships below capacity and cleaning of tanker holds.

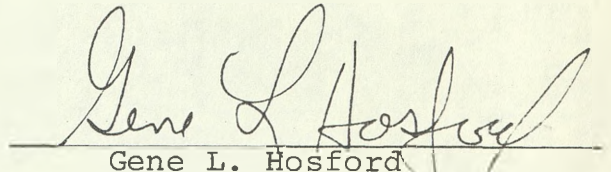
2. The project will mean that the Mandalay Edison plant will use fuel oil full time. The EIS states that this will have no significant effect.
 3. The EIS states that off-shore drilling will add between 0.00 (no new production) and 0.04 ppm to Simi Air Shed (maximum likely production), Total Increase to Simi = 0.05 (project) + 0.04 (OCS) = 0.09. State standard is 0.08 total.
 4. The EIS does not discuss air quality in the Oxnard Plain.

4. EIS Problems (Preliminary)

1. The EIS seems to make some wrong assumptions regarding LNG ship movements. Thus the ship collision risk is not properly analyzed.
 2. The impact upon the Oxnard inland waterways is not addressed.
 3. The spill risk at the Hueneme Tank Farm is not analyzed as to its effect given the planned containment procedures.

5. Alternative Courses of Action

1. The City may request an extension of the review period (June 29, 1977) and also request that the Navy give a presentation on the project to the City Council.
2. The City may request an extension of the review period (June 29, 1977) until such time as the City Council has had adequate time to review and comment on the EIS.
3. The City may wish to give comment at the May 24, public hearing, based upon the preliminary review that has been made by the staff.
4. The City may elect to not give comment at the public hearing and shall undertake an indepth staff review as to whether or not the EIS adequately addresses the implications to Oxnard. We may than provide written comment before June - 29.


Gene L. Hosford
Planning Director

GLH:RF:mp