



March 27, 2023

Yessica Ramirez, Environmental Justice Liaison
California State Lands Commission Executive Office
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South, Sacramento, CA 95825-8202
Sent via email to Yessica.Ramirez@slc.ca.gov

Dear Yessica,

We appreciate the State Lands Commission's outreach for comments on the potential impacts, burdens, or benefits resulting from the issuance of a 20-year lease renewal for a horizontal directionally drilled, 12-inch-diameter high-pressure natural gas pipeline lease No. 8450, between Brannan Island in Sacramento County and the Montezuma Hills in Solano County.

Our starting point for comments is the California policy on carbon neutrality by 2045:

In November 2022, the California Air Resources Board set forth the policies and actions for California to take to drastically reduce its dependence on fossil fuels and get to carbon neutrality by 2045 or earlier. CARB described it as "the most aggressive approach to reach carbon neutrality by any jurisdiction in the world. . . achievable roadmap for the world's fourth-largest economy . . . shift away from petroleum in every sector of the economy and a rapid transition to renewable energy resources and zero-emission vehicles."

Given California's policy on carbon neutrality, we request more information:

Clean energy questions:

- 1) Is the gas from the Brannan Island well essential as a bridge for the N. California region until renewable energy sources are in place by 2045? Who makes this regional determination?
- 2) Which power plants does the Brannan Island well/pipeline serve? Does SMUD buy from these power plants?

Practical questions with environmental health and justice implications:

- 1) Does the subject pipeline comply with regulations from California and USDOT Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)?
- 2) Have there been any reported leaks on the relevant section of pipe in the past five years?
- 3) What type of leak detection technology exists on the pipeline? Can an upgrade to the leak detection technology be a condition of lease renewal?

Thank you for finding the answers to the questions above, relaying the answers to ECOS, and for taking the answers into consideration in the SLC's deliberations on the pipeline lease renewal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Herre".

Susan Herre AIA AICP, President of the Board of Directors
<https://www.ecosacramento.net/> susanherre@gmail.com

ECOS has been a powerful advocacy organization in the Sacramento region, working for over fifty years to curb sprawl and protect open space and habitat; and promote transit, walking, and biking. However, with the climate crisis escalating, we need to be even more effective in our advocacy. We persuade our local and regional leaders to take bold, difficult, and even unpopular steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.