

9. (OIL LEASE APPLICATIONS UNDER SECTION 6871.3 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE, LONG BEACH AT ORANGE COUNTY BOUNDARY, LOS ANGELES AND ORANGE COUNTIES - W. O. 1898, W. O. 2224.)

Mr. Rountree gave a brief report on the Long Beach situation, with respect to the 2,200-foot strip of land discussed at the meeting of October 10, 1955, in connection with which the office of the Attorney General had been asked to review its Opinion No. 46/215 of January 3, 1947, to determine if a current opinion would be the same in the light of later litigation and legislation. He stated that after a careful review of the opinion, he did not at this time expressly reaffirm or reject the views expressed therein, and that it appears that the only safe course to follow is to obtain a judicial determination as to whether the State is the legal owner of the land in question, and whether or not it may grant leases. He reserved his opinion as to whether the boundary problem should also be settled at this time, or whether there should first be a determination by the State Lands Commission, stating that if judicial determination is requested by the Commission, the office of the Attorney General probably would seek an action in quiet title or an action in declaratory relief under the appropriate sections of the Code of Civil Procedure.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, IT WAS RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER IS DIRECTED TO REQUEST THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO COMMENCE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CLARIFY THE STATE'S INTEREST IN THE AREA OF TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS QUITCLAIMED TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA BY THE CITY OF LONG BEACH BY DEED OF OCTOBER 15, 1932, SAID LANDS HAVING ORIGINALLY BEEN GRANTED TO THE CITY OF LONG BEACH BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 676 OF THE STATUTES OF 1911, AS AMENDED BY CHAPTER 102 OF 1925.

10. (TIDELANDS OIL AND GAS - W. O. 721, W. O. 1835.)

The Executive Officer reported that a letter received by the Governor from the U. S. Department of the Interior, in connection with offshore oil leases, had been referred to him for consideration. The foregoing letter is quoted in full as follows:

"United States
Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary
November 14, 1955

"My dear Governor Knight:

"This Department is interested in promoting the development of oil and gas in the submerged lands of the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of California. We feel such development to be of prime importance in the interest of national defense. As you know, substantial quantities of oil are being imported into your State from southeast Asia to meet ordinary peacetime needs. This source of supply would be cut off or substantially curtailed in time of war.