

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 479

To establish a moratorium on oil and gas leasing on public land on the
Central Coast of California.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 25, 2021

Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. ESHOO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish a moratorium on oil and gas leasing on public
land on the Central Coast of California.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “California Central
5 Coast Conservation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MORATORIUM ON OIL AND GAS LEASING ON PUB-**
2 **LIC LAND ON THE CENTRAL COAST OF CALI-**
3 **FORNIA.**

4 Section 17(a) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.
5 226(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

6 “(q) MORATORIUM ON OIL AND GAS LEASING ON
7 PUBLIC LAND ON THE CENTRAL COAST OF CALI-
8 FORNIA.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
10 provision of this Act or any other law and except as
11 provided in paragraph (2), beginning on the date of
12 enactment of this subsection, the Record of Decision
13 for the Central Coast Field Office Resource Manage-
14 ment Plan Amendment for Oil and Gas Leasing and
15 Development published on October 7, 2019 (84 Fed.
16 Reg. 53470), shall have no force or effect until the
17 Bureau of Land Management Central Coast Field
18 Office completes and circulates for public comment
19 a supplemental environmental impact statement
20 under section 102 of the National Environmental
21 Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332) and chapter 5
22 of title 5, United States Code, that considers the en-
23 vironmental effects of all oil and gas development
24 authorized to occur under the Bureau of Land Man-
25 agement’s preferred alternative ‘Alternative F’,
26 which appears in the final Environmental Impact

1 Statement published on May 10, 2019 (84 Fed. Reg.
2 20657), but was not included or analyzed in the
3 Draft Environmental Impact Statement published
4 January 6, 2017 (82 Fed. Reg 1754), along with
5 the environmental effects of oil and gas development
6 that would be authorized as a result of such record
7 of decision, including such effects on—

8 “(A) air quality;

9 “(B) greenhouse gas emissions and the cli-
10 mate;

11 “(C) groundwater quality and availability;

12 “(D) surface water quality and availability;

13 “(E) seismicity;

14 “(F) wildlife and plant species, including
15 threatened species and endangered species; and

16 “(G) low-income communities, communities
17 of color, and indigenous communities, including
18 federally- and State-recognized Indian Tribes.

19 “(2) NEW REVIEW.—If the supplemental envi-
20 ronmental impact statement under paragraph (1)
21 finds any significant detrimental effects on any mat-
22 ter described in subparagraphs (A) through (G) of
23 such paragraph, the Record of Decision referred to
24 in paragraph (1) shall have no force or effect and
25 the Director of the Bureau of Land Management

1 shall conduct a new review of Federal oil and gas
2 leasing on the Central Coast of California under sec-
3 tion 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act
4 of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332).

5 “(3) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
6 REVIEW.—

7 “(A) After the date of the publication, pur-
8 suant to paragraph (2), of a supplemental envi-
9 ronmental impact statement under section
10 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy
11 Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)), the Ad-
12 ministrator of the Environmental Protection
13 Agency shall review and publish comments re-
14 garding such statement, including—

15 “(i) identification of any significant
16 environmental impacts of oil and gas leas-
17 ing on the Central Coast of California that
18 should be avoided to adequately protect the
19 region’s natural resources; or

20 “(ii) a determination that the supple-
21 mental environmental impact statement
22 does not contain sufficient information to
23 assess such impacts.

24 “(B) If the Administrator identifies signifi-
25 cant impacts under subparagraph (A)(i) or

1 makes a determination described in subpara-
2 graph (A)(ii), the Director of the Bureau of
3 Land Management shall consult with the Ad-
4 ministrator before taking any action to proceed
5 with Federal oil and gas leasing on the Central
6 Coast of California.

7 “(4) EFFECT.—Nothing in this subsection af-
8 fects any rights under leases issued under this Act
9 before the date of enactment of this subsection.”.

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