



March 12, 2025

Delivered Electronically

The Honorable Rob Bonta
1300 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2919

RE: Enforcement actions on restart of CA-324/325, Sable Pipelines

Dear Attorney General Bonta,

We respectfully request action and collaboration with relevant state agencies from your office on the existing enforcement actions taken to date by state agencies regarding the proposed restart of the CA-324/325 pipelines by Sable Offshore Corp in Santa Barbara County. Specifically, we request that you assist the California Coastal Commission (CCC), the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board on enforcing the existing notices of violations issued to Sable Offshore Corp (Sable).

Background

The proposed restart of the pipeline has generated significant public input and dialogue. As representatives of this region, we share the significant reservations our constituents have with the public safety and environmental risks associated with reactivating the corroded pipeline. These concerns are based on the history of the pipeline, which ruptured in 2015 causing catastrophic damage to nearby communities along the California Coast. The spill devastated at least 150 miles of coastline, forced the closure of fisheries and beaches, killed an untold number of marine mammals, cost hundreds of millions of dollars to clean up, negatively impacted local businesses, and caused an estimated 140,000 lost recreational user days between Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties.

The analysis on the proposed project has found that the restart of the pipeline poses an imminent threat to our constituents along the Central Coast. When Santa Barbara County considered a proposal to replace these pipelines, County staff estimated the pipelines would result in a spill once a year, and a rupture once every four years. The County also estimated that another spill from these pipelines could be twice the size of the 2015 spill — even if the pipelines are retrofitted with automatic shut-off valves.¹ Additionally, prior to the oil spill, this project was

¹ [Santa Barbara County Administrative Draft EIR, Section 5.6, p. 78-29, March 2022](#)

also the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions on the Central Coast and impaired local and state efforts to meet our critical climate goals. Sable has resisted undergoing a comprehensive environmental review for the current project to identify these critical risks.

Existing State Enforcement Actions

Sable has received numerous notices from government agencies, including the following notices of violation and letters requesting action:

- September 27, 2024 a Notice of Violation from the California Coastal Commission was sent to Sable, followed up by an additional notice on October 4, 2024. This resulted in an Executive Director Cease and Desist Order on November 12, 2024.
- Feb 18, 2025, The California Coastal Commission issued an Executive Director Cease and Desist Order, a Notice of Intent to Commence Proceedings for a Commission Cease and Desist Order, Restoration Order, and Administrative Penalty Order
- Dec 13, 2024, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a Directive to Obtain Regulatory Coverage for Unauthorized Discharge of Waste to Waters of the State.
- Dec 17, 2024, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife issued a notice of Potential Fish and Game Code Violations

It is our understanding that, to date, Sable has not applied for the necessary approvals required to address these violations. These enforcement actions are essential to ensure accountability and maintain a fair and lawful business environment. We appreciate your partnership and your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Monique Limón
Senator, District 19



Gregg Hart
Assemblymember, District 37

Cc:

California State Governor Gavin Newsom
Senate President Pro Tempore Senator Mike McGuire
Speaker of the Assembly Robert Rivas
California Secretary for Natural Resources Wade Crowfoot
California Coastal Commission Chair Dr. Justin Cummings
Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission Kate Huckelbridge
Executive Officer of the State Lands Commission Grace Kato
California Department of Fish and Wildlife Director Charlton Bonham

State Fire Marshal Daniel Berlant
State Oil and Gas Supervisor Doug Ito
California State Parks Director Armando Quintero
State Water Resources Control Board Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel
Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board Eric Oppenheimer
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Chair Jane Gray
Executive Officer of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Ryan Lodge