



RINCON PHASE 2 DECOMMISSIONING

Draft Environmental Impact Report Meeting - May 2, 2024

CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION

California State
Lands Commission



Meeting Participation via Zoom

- Applicable to the 6 p.m. meeting only.
- All attendees will be muted during the presentation.
- **Verbal Comments:** At end of presentation, use the **RAISE HAND** feature and we will call on you to speak.
- **Note:** This meeting is being recorded.





Meeting Agenda

- Introduction and Meeting Purpose
- Background and Proposed Project Description
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Process
- **Public Comments**
- Closing Remarks

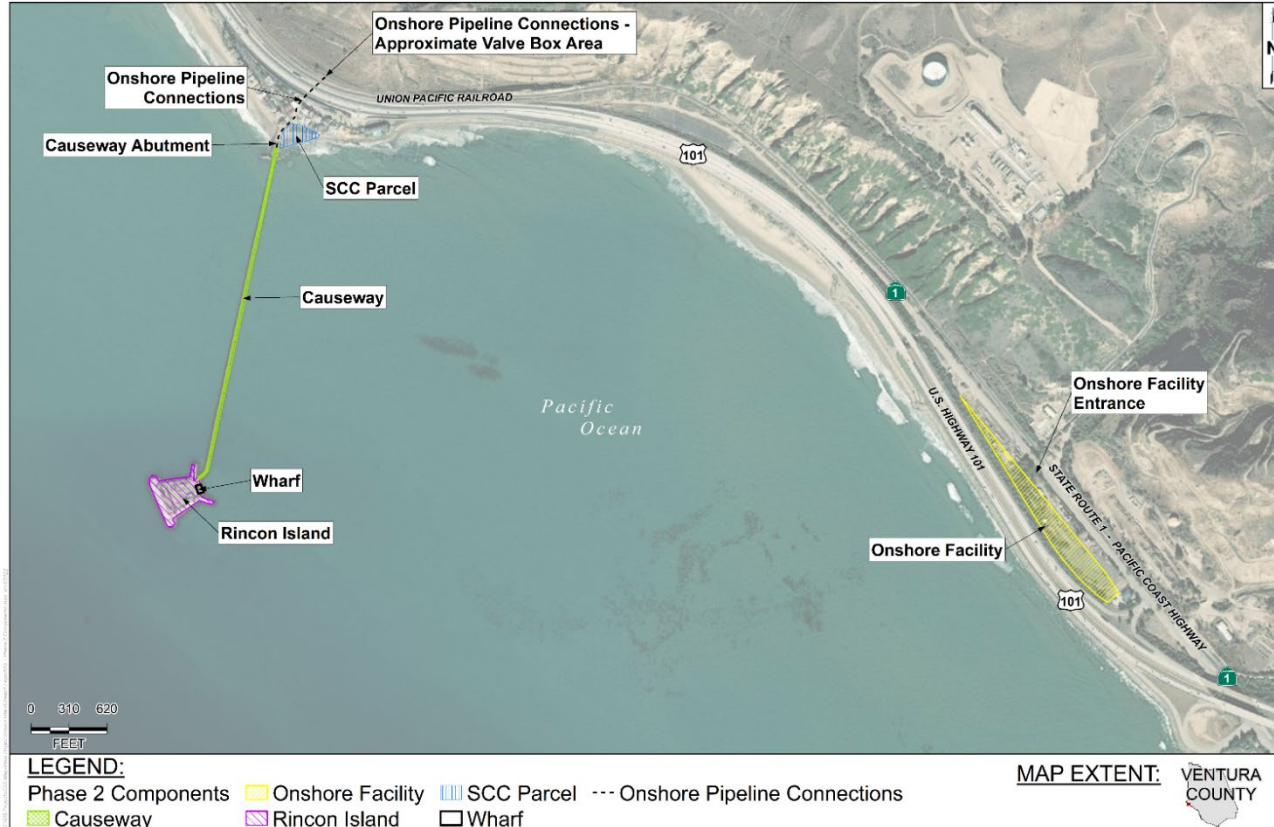


Meeting Purpose

- To obtain input and comment on the Rincon Phase 2 Decommissioning Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)



Phase 2 Decommissioning Sites



Planning and Decommissioning Phases

Phase 1

- Plugging and Abandonment of All Oil and Gas Wells
- Removal of Equipment
- Completed June 2021

Phase 2

- Feasibility Study (Completed August 2022)
- CEQA Analysis (Preparation of the EIR - In Progress)
- Commission Certification of the EIR and Approval of a Specific Project

Phase 3

- Secure Funding
- Execute the Decommissioning Plan

Rincon Island Current Condition



Rincon Onshore Facility and Onshore Pipelines Connection Valve Box Sites

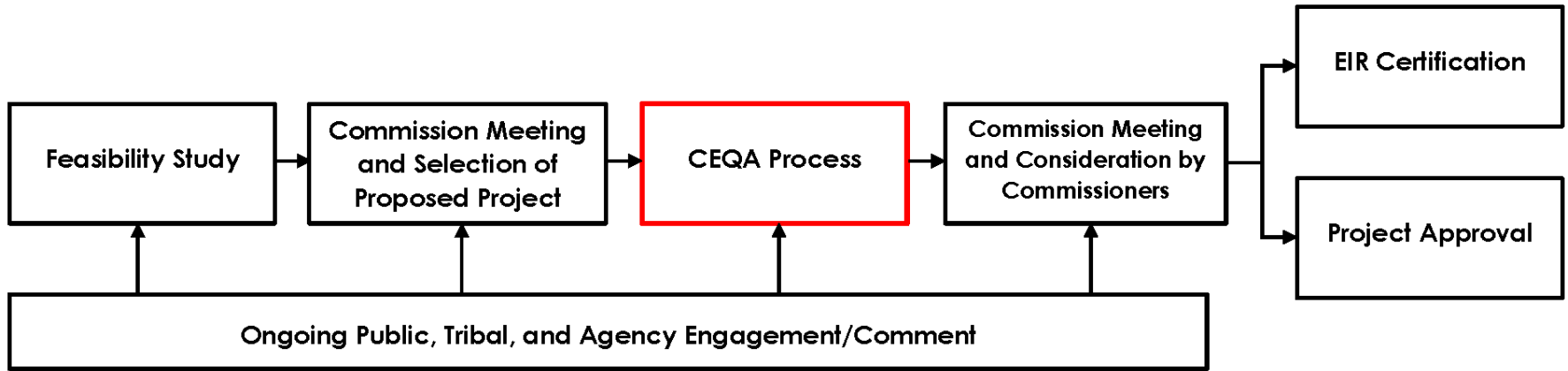


State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) Parcel

(February 2024)



Phase 2 Decision Process



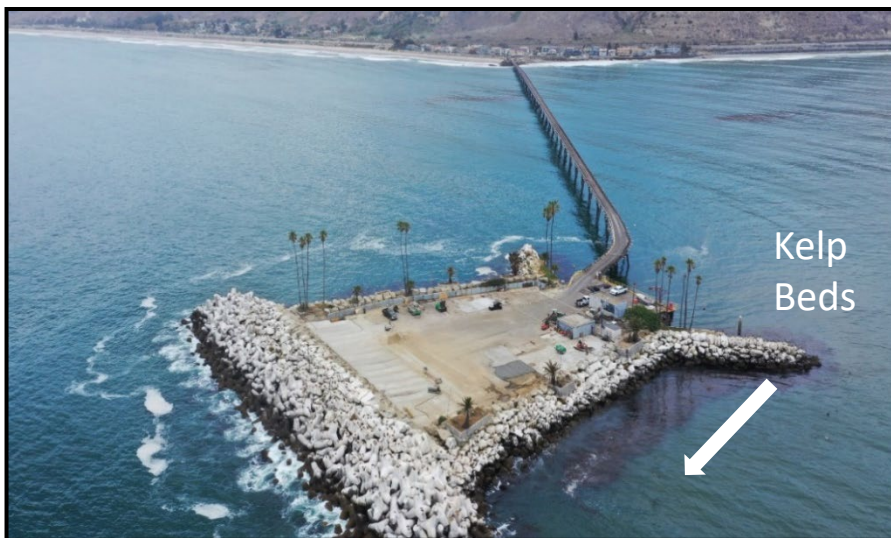
Feasibility Study

- Draft Feasibility Study was released on March 17, 2022, for a 60-day public comment period
- Majority of the public comments indicated support of leaving Rincon Island and the causeway in place
- Final Feasibility Study was released on July 21, 2022
- On August 23, 2022, the Commission approved staff's recommendations for selection of a proposed project to be analyzed in an EIR



Retention of Rincon Island

In August 2022, the Commission voted to exclude complete removal of Rincon Island from analysis in the EIR.





Tribal Collaboration

Although the Project does not include proposals for future use, staff is collaborating on a letter of intent with the Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation for potential co-management opportunities that support our shared stewardship of the land and resources.



CEQA Process

October
2022

Notice of
Preparation



Scoping
Period



Draft EIR
Preparation



Draft EIR
Public
Review
Period



Final EIR
Preparation



EIR
Certification
and Project
Decision



Public
Commission
Meeting

Scoping
Meeting(s)

Draft EIR
Meeting(s)

1st Qtr.
2024

3rd or 4th Qtr.
2024*

*Tentative schedule





Proposed Project

The Draft EIR analyzes the **proposed Project**, which would include:

- Removal of structures and remediation of contaminated soil on Rincon Island
- Retention of the causeway in its current configuration
- Decommissioning of onshore pipeline connections
- Improvements on the SCC Parcel
- Remediation of the Onshore Facility

Potential Environmental Impacts

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas
- Biological Resources (Marine & Terrestrial)
- Cultural and Tribal Resources
- Geology and Coastal Processes
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Recreation
- Transportation / Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire
- Other:
 - Cumulative Impacts
 - Growth-Inducing Impacts
 - Climate Change and Sea Level Rise
 - Commercial and Recreational Fishing
 - Environmental Justice



Project Alternatives

In addition to the proposed Project, the DEIR analyzes several Project alternatives* including:

- Reefing
- Partial Causeway Removal
- Abutment and Revetment Retention
- Offshore Disposal
- No Project (Required under CEQA)

*Some alternatives are included despite the potential for increased environmental impacts in order to provide the Commission, other responsible agencies, tribes, and the public with a thorough understanding of the tradeoffs of other alternatives that could be considered.



Additional Studies and Conclusions

Preparation of the Draft EIR included additional studies:

- Potential Causeway Alternative Decommissioning Impacts (Griggs 2022)
- Rincon Island Phase 2 Decommissioning Project- Assessment of Potential Project Impacts on the Surfbreak (Coastal Frontiers 2023)
- Rincon Island Causeway Marine Biological Survey Report (Padre 2023)
- Roosting Bird Survey Report (Padre 2023)

Schedule (tentative)

- Release of Draft EIR (60-day public review).....March 15, 2024
- Public MeetingMay 2, 2024
- End of 60-day public review period.....May 15, 2024
- Commission Action on Final EIR & Project.....3rd or 4th Quarter
2024 (at Public Meeting)



Examples of Comments

- Address specific components of the analysis regarding significant environmental impacts or proposed mitigation by providing substantive comments that point out errors, inconsistencies, or data omissions.
- Provide references, evidence, or other factual support for the comment; or
- Are objective comments instead of personal opinion. While submitting personal views on the proposed project is not prohibited, these types of non-substantive comments may not receive a specific response in the Final EIR.



Public Comments

- **In-person attendees:** Please fill out and submit a speaker slip to present an oral comment.
- **Virtual attendees:** Please use the **RAISE HAND** feature and we will call on you to speak.
- **Note:** This meeting is being recorded.



Written Comments

**Written comments must be received or postmarked by
Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

**Email comments
(with any attachments) to:
CEQAcomments@slc.ca.gov
(preferred option)***

Or send via mail to:
California State Lands Commission
Attn: Cynthia Herzog
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South
Sacramento, CA 95825
Phone: (916) 574-1890

Please write **“Rincon Project DEIR Comments”** in the email subject line.



www.slc.ca.gov

THANK YOU

Cynthia Herzog

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916.574.1890



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