Joint Oversight Hearing: Strategies for Decommissioning

Assembly Select Committee on the Orange County Oil Spill, Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, and Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Climate Crisis, Resources, Energy, and Transportation

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. State Capitol, Room 4202

Panelist Bios (Order of Appearance)

Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer

California State Lands Commission

Jennifer Lucchesi was appointed by the Commission as its Executive Officer in 2012. Jennifer began her career at the Commission in 1999, primarily working with ports and harbor districts to facilitate waterfront redevelopment. Jennifer has worked on projects in virtually every county in the state, with an emphasis on the Public Trust Doctrine, land use, oil and gas development and decommissioning, renewable energy, waterfront redevelopment and boundary issues involving the state's ports, harbor districts and waterways. Prior to her appointment as Executive Officer, Jennifer served as the Commission's Chief Counsel. Jennifer holds a bachelor's degree in Agribusiness from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and a Juris Doctor from McGeorge School of Law.

Linda Krop, Chief Counsel

Environmental Defense Center

Linda Krop is Chief Counsel of the Environmental Defense Center, a public interest environmental law firm headquartered in Santa Barbara, California. Ms. Krop has practiced law at EDC since 1989 and specializes in cases dealing with coastal, open space, and natural resource protection, as well as offshore energy issues. Ms. Krop represented the conservation community on the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council from 1998 – 2013 and teaches Environmental Law at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Since 1996, Ms. Krop has represented organizations in efforts to enforce existing laws regarding platform decommissioning and to ensure a science-based approach to decision-making. EDC and its clients are concerned about the ecological, safety, and liability impacts of platform decommissioning, and seek solutions that provide the maximum protection of the marine environment.

Damon Nagami, Senior Attorney (Nature Program) & Director (Southern California Ecosystems Project)

Natural Resources Defense Council

Damon Nagami is a senior attorney and director of NRDC's Southern California Ecosystems Project, which focuses on oil and gas policy and advocacy and increasing equitable access to nature for low-income communities of color. His work includes protecting communities and the environment from the impacts of oil production in Los Angeles County and throughout California, identifying how California's executive order on 30x30 will help the state's goals to protect nature and promote equity, and working to revitalize the Los Angeles River without displacing existing communities. He holds a bachelor's degree in environmental science from the University of California, Berkeley, and a J.D. from the University of California's Hastings College of the Law.

Erin Lehane, Legislative Director

State Building and Construction Trades Council of California

Tim Jefferies, Business Manager
Boilermakers Local 549 – Pittsburg CA

Tyson Bagley, President
United Steelworkers Local 326

Amber Sparks, Co-President

Blue Latitudes Foundation

Amber is an environmental entrepreneur and co-founder of the Blue Latitudes Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to seeking out opportunities for conservation at the intersection of industry and the environment. Her expertise is unique, using artificial habitats to mitigate anthropogenic losses and degradation of natural habitats. In California, the Rigs to Reefs program is an active example of this. Amber holds degrees from the University of California, Berkeley and Scripps Institution of Oceanography and, in 2018, was recognized on Forbes 30 Under 30 list in the energy sector for her work developing sustainable, creative, and cost-effective solutions for the environmental issues that surround the offshore energy industry.

Amber has been diving for 10 years, she is a SCUBAPRO Deep Elite Ambassador and PADI Certified advanced diver.