



For Immediate Release

August 13, 2012

For more information, contact:

Jennifer Wonnacott

(818) 760-2121

jwonnacott@fionahuttonassoc.com

City Website Updated to Create Centralized Source of Information About Proposed Oil Production Project

New Landing Page will be a One-Stop Destination for Retrieving Documents

HERMOSA BEACH, CA – To enhance the public information it is providing the community, the City of Hermosa Beach is updating its website to create a centralized source of information about the proposed oil production project at the city’s maintenance yard, Mayor Jeff Duclos announced today.

“As part of its ongoing commitment to transparency and accountability, the city is creating a one-stop destination on its website where residents can link to documents and other information about the proposed oil production project,” Mayor Duclos said. “This page will be updated as new documents and materials become available. Once the environmental review process gets underway, it also will feature an option for sending comments directly to the city regarding the proposed project.”

The new centralized source of information will be a single page on the website that provides a brief overview of the proposed project and provides links to all documents related to it that are available through the website.

The website already has several documents relating to the proposed project, including a document detailing next steps, a slideshow presentation addressing some of the most frequently asked questions, a chronology of the events that led up to the proposed project, press releases, a fact sheet, a set of Frequently Asked Questions and a copy of the legal settlement that led up to the proposed project. But the links to these documents are on various pages on the website, requiring additional navigation to find all the documents.

“Creating a single page with links to all the documents will make the information more readily accessible and ensure the public can easily educate itself about the proposed project,” Mayor Duclos said. “This central repository for information is part of the City Council’s ongoing commitment to provide residents with the information they need to make informed decisions about the proposed project.”

In March, the City Council unanimously agreed to a settlement agreement that ended a long-running legal dispute over oil drilling in the city, safeguarded city services and returned to the residents of Hermosa Beach the opportunity to decide whether the citywide ban on oil drilling should be modified to allow a new oil production project. As part of the settlement, a California-based energy firm, E&B Natural Resources Management Corp. (E&B), will be presenting a proposal for an oil production project to the city later this year.

While Hermosa Beach residents will make the ultimate decision on the proposed oil production project, the city must first conduct an environmental review of the project as the “Lead Agency” in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The CEQA process will provide a number of opportunities for public comment, public hearings and review of all environmental documentation prepared in connection with the Lead Agency’s review. The city is committed to conducting a thorough and transparent CEQA process to provide for as much public input as possible.

The city will continue to add new information to the website about the proposed project and the environmental review process as they become available. When it is completed, the new centralized webpage will be accessible from the website’s homepage at www.hermosabch.org.

About Hermosa Beach

Founded in 1907, Hermosa Beach is known as “The Best Little Beach City.” Named “Southern California’s Greenest City” for its work to protect the environment, it is a thriving community of some 20,000 residents located on the southern end of Santa Monica Bay in Los Angeles County, and its beaches have been ranked among the best in the world. To learn more, please visit www.hermosabch.org.

####