



**Santa Barbara County Taxpayer Advocacy Center**  
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***"The SBCTAC...Fighting for the Taxpayer and Helping our Business Members Succeed!"***

**4/3/25 Support Sable Offshore...OPPOSE the CA Coastal Commission**

Dear Commissioners,

I am the President & CEO of the Santa Barbara County Taxpayer Advocacy Center (SBCTAC). The SBCTAC is a 501 C4 advocacy organization that promotes at the local level policies that support government efficiency, economic prosperity, public safety, and property rights. On behalf of our over 350 members, the SBCTAC strongly supports Sable Offshore Corp. in its efforts to start up operations on the Central Coast and will strongly OPPOSE the CA Coastal Commission's recent or proposed enforcement actions.

The SBCTAC believes the repair and maintenance work on the Santa Ynez Unit and Las Flores Pipeline System was fully authorized by previously approved coastal development

permits from Santa Barbara County and also the Commission. The County explicitly confirmed in February 2025 that the anomaly repair work was authorized under existing permits — including the County’s Coastal Development Permit covering Sable’s facilities.

Unfortunately, the Commission staff have repeatedly disregarded Santa Barbara County's authority as the delegated agency under the Local Coastal Program. Since Sable is in full compliance with Santa Barbara County's Coastal Plan and the County has acknowledged said compliance, the SBCTAC does not believe the Commission has any substantive legal basis to proceed with assessing any penalties. This unreasonable overreach appears to be an attempt to exert influence over the restart of oil production operations, which is outside the Commission's jurisdiction and therefore subject the State of California to substantial financial exposure should the Commission choose to pursue any actions, including the assessment of financial penalties, that stop the restart of Sable's oil production operations.

While the CA Coastal Commission has never shown any interest in the economic benefits of the projects that come before the Commission, the SBCTAC does care about the economic impacts projects bring to the Central Coast. With that in mind, the SBCTAC would like to underscore the fact that Sable already employs 100 individuals and 400 mostly unionized contractors. Once the restart is approved, an additional 300 jobs will be created. These are exactly the type of well-paying, blue-collar union jobs that are increasingly disappearing in California. The economic benefits extend beyond direct employment. Sable has already spent \$13 million at local hotels, restaurants, and businesses while working to safely repair the pipeline. Furthermore, the project is expected to generate \$5 million annually in new tax revenue, providing critical support to local government services at a time when neighboring communities face significant budget deficits.

The SBCTAC urges you to recognize Sable's compliance with existing permits and reconsider this enforcement action.

Sincerely,  
Mike Stoker  
President & CEO, SBCTAC