

# Summary of Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Comments

## DCOR, LLC Well Stimulation Treatment Program

May 2026

### Background





BOEM published an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on April 17, 2026 for a proposed update to the Santa Clara Unit Development and Production Plan (DPP). This EIS analyzes the potential impacts of well stimulation treatments (WST), including hydraulic fracturing during drilling activity at 16 wells at oil and gas Platform Gilda, located on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), 8.8 miles off the coast of Ventura, California. The EIS fulfills National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) responsibilities and identifies any significant issues, analyzes environmental effects, and considers reasonable alternatives and mitigation measures to inform Department and Bureau decision-making. It does not itself authorize operations or issue drilling/stimulation permits; permitting authority rests with the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. The EIS and related documents are available at [www.boem.gov/gildawst](http://www.boem.gov/gildawst).

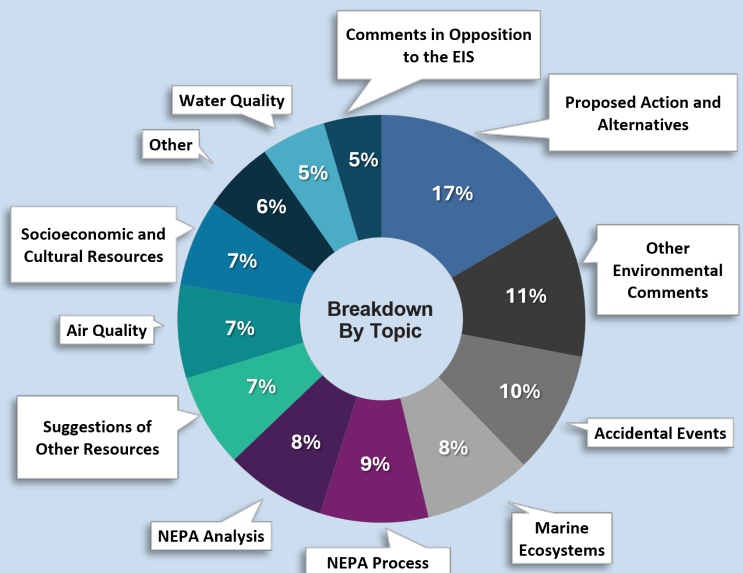
On March 17, 2026, BOEM [announced its intent](#) to prepare an EIS for a proposed update to the Santa Clara Unit DPP. Additional details on the updated DPP can be found on BOEM’s webpage: [Development and Production Plans in the Pacific Region](#). The Notice of Intent (NOI) announced the scoping process that BOEM used to help identify significant issues and potential alternatives for consideration in the EIS. A 10-day comment period closed on March 30, during which input was invited and received from the public, stakeholders, and tribal, state and local governments. Comments received are publicly available at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), Docket BOEM-2025-0714 and are summarized in this fact sheet. Information on how BOEM utilized comments in the EIS will be outlined in the Record of Decision, which will be posted on the BOEM website at [www.boem.gov/gildawst](http://www.boem.gov/gildawst).

### BOEM received 54 comments on the scope of the EIS.

Comments were received from federal, state, and local agencies, state and local elected officials, non-governmental organizations, public interest groups, and individuals.

The following themes emerged as particular concern to commenters:

-  Potential impacts on marine ecosystems and the environment.
-  Potential impacts on the economy and cultural resources.
-  Meaningful engagement with the public and local Tribes
-  NEPA process and development of reasonable alternatives.
-  Continued operation of oil and gas infrastructure in the region.



Comments received by topic.



## Potential impacts on marine ecosystems and the environment

Commenters encouraged BOEM to analyze the potential negative impacts on marine ecosystems and the environment in the EIS. Several commentors raised concerns about the potential discharge of fracturing fluids and the impact they could have on the environment, marine species, and people. They also raised concerns about potential oil spills and expanding offshore oil activities, which could lead to increased greenhouse gas emissions and negatively impact air, noise, and water quality. Commenters requested that BOEM include information in the EIS about species and resources that would be affected by hydraulic fracturing, potential oil spills, and potential discharges of fracking fluids into marine ecosystems, as well as recovery and cleanup efforts and other mitigation measures.



## Potential impacts on the economy and cultural resources

Commenters expressed concerns about the potential negative impacts on commercial fishing, tourism, and recreation, as well as impacts on cultural and Tribal resources. Commentors requested that BOEM analyze the impacts of conducting WST on Platform Gilda on the local marine and coastal economy and recreational activities in the EIS. One commentor from the commercial fishing industry supported DCOR's plans for WST on Platform Gilda.



## Meaningful engagement with the public and local Tribes

Multiple commentors expressed concern about the abbreviated environmental review period and asked BOEM to conduct meaningful engagement with the public and consult with local Tribes and Tribal leadership. Several commentors stated that they disagreed with the energy emergency declared in Executive Order 14156 and that an accelerated environmental review does not qualify for emergency NEPA procedures under the Department's Emergency Regulation. Commentors requested a 30- or 60-day comment period.



## NEPA process and development of reasonable alternatives

Multiple commentors wrote about their disagreement with the purpose and need statement and urged BOEM to adopt the No Action Alternative (Alternative B). Specifically, commentors stated that the purpose and need statement limits the types of alternatives that may be considered in the EIS and precludes reasonable alternative energy options, such as offshore wind. They asked that BOEM include and consider alternatives that reduce the risk of negative environmental impacts. Several commentors stated that Alternative C was not included in the NOI and should not be considered in the EIS.



## Continued operation of oil and gas infrastructure in the region

Several commentors expressed concerns about the cumulative impacts associated with hydraulic fracturing on Platform Gilda, as well as the operation of existing oil and gas platforms in the region. Many commentors wrote that California's offshore oil and gas infrastructure, including Platform Gilda, may be operating past its expected lifespan and that hydraulic fracturing extends the use of this infrastructure and may increase the risk of oil spills and failures. A few commentors requested that the EIS include evaluations of regional fault mapping, historic seismicity, and risks of induced seismicity caused by fracturing. They expressed concern that hydraulic fracturing may induce earthquakes, which may in turn damage platform infrastructure and increase the risk of oil spills.



## Other Comments

Several commentors discussed a permanent Federal court injunction, which they described as prohibiting the approval of offshore well stimulation treatments in Federal waters off the California coast. Several non-governmental organizations and local and state agencies stated that the EIS should comply with several Federal acts, including the NEPA and the Endangered Species Act. They also asked that the analysis include a consistency review with the California Coastal Commission and consider California's state laws, goals, and policies.