VENTURA, CA 93001 (805) 585-1800

#### CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION SOUTH CENTRAL COAST AREA 89 SOUTH CALIFORNIA ST., SUITE 200



# Th21d

# ADDENDUM

DATE: November 7, 2008

**TO:** Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: South Central Coast District Staff

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item Th21d, CDP Application No. 4-07-131 (Calleguas Municipal Water District), scheduled for the November 13, 2008 Commission Hearing

The purpose of this addendum is to: (1) make clarifications to the abandonment and site restoration condition such that removal would occur within one year from the Commission's approval of the applicable CDP; (2) delete the requirement for public access plans in Special Condition 2, as it is already included in Special Condition 4, and modify that condition to allow the District to submit the pipeline stringing information after permit issuance, provided it is still submitted for Executive Director approval prior to commencement of construction; (3) update the list of local approvals received for the project; (4) add a new Special Condition to require that erosion control measures and best management practices be implemented during construction; (5) attach correspondence received as of November 7, 2008 and (6) attach ex parte communication summary.

Note: Strikethrough indicates text to be deleted from the October 23, 2008 staff report and <u>Underline</u> indicates text to be added to the October 23, 2008 staff report.

1. Special Condition 11 on Page 10 of the staff report shall be modified as follows:

#### 11. Project Abandonment and Site Restoration

If the use of the pipeline is discontinued for a period of 12 consecutive months, it shall be considered abandoned. In the event that the pipeline is abandoned, the applicant shall apply for a coastal development permit within 120 days to either: (a) leave all of the materials and structures in place, or (b) remove them and restore the site, or (c) implement a combination of (a) and (b) above, as long as all the materials and structures associated with the pipeline are proposed to be addressed in one way or the other. The applicant shall not withdraw the application and shall allow it to proceed through the Commission permitting process according to applicable laws.

Pursuant to all applicable permits, all of the materials and structures placed on the site pursuant to this permit shall be removed and the site shall be restored to its natural state within one year from the Commission's approval of the new coastal development permit addressing removal of the materials, as discussed in the prior paragraph the abandonment, except to the extent that such materials or structures are authorized to remain by that new

coastal development permit. The applicant shall obtain a coastal development permit from the Commission prior to commencing any removal activities.

2. Special Condition 2 on Pages 6 and 7 of the staff report shall be modified as followed:

#### 2. Submittal of Final Plans

**Prior to issuance of the coastal development permit,** the permittee shall submit two sets of final project plans to the Executive Director for review and approval. The plans shall be in substantial conformance with the preliminary plans submitted with the permit application materials and shall address the following aspects of the project:

*a.* **Full-Size plans**. All final project plans, including site plans, staging and access plans, cross-sections, and plan details shall be provided in a full-size legible format consistent with the project plans submitted and reviewed as part of this application.

*b.* **Pipeline Stringing.** This plan shall include all aspects of pipeline stringing activities at Point Mugu Naval Base including the area to be used, the method by which the pipeline will be conveyed from the beach to the ocean, and the removal and replacement of existing rip rap. Confirmation of the method(s) by which the pipeline will be conveyed from the beach to the ocean need not be submitted prior to permit issuance but shall be submitted, and Executive Director approval obtained, no later than sixty days prior to commencement of construction.

*c.* **HDD Implementation and Seafloor Pipeline.** Final, full-size, plans shall be prepared by a licensed engineer and shall include all aspects of the horizontal directional drilling and seafloor pipeline portions of the project including: (1) the location and construction of the pilot hole; (2) the length and location of the HDD portion of the pipeline; (3) the location of the exit trench; (4) the connection of the seafloor pipeline to HDD pipeline; (5) the construction of the rock apron; and (6) the design of the diffuser.

*d.* **Public** Access During Construction. This plan shall depict any re-routing of public access or directional signage that will be necessary to ensure public safety while allowing for continued public access to the coast during project construction.

The permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the approved final plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

3. The first paragraph on Page 5 of the staff report shall be revised as follows:

**LOCAL APPROVALS RECEIVED:** City of Port Hueneme Coastal Development Permit (PHPD-808), dated January 16, 2008; State Lands Commission Lease, approved on March 25, 2008; Naval Base Ventura – Point Mugu License for use of property for pipeline stringing activities, dated May 30, 2008; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Ventura Field Office, Nationwide Permit Number 7, dated December 20, 2007; and Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, NPDES permit, dated April 10, 2008; <u>City of Oxnard Coastal Development Permit (PZ No. 07-400-10), dated March 6, 2008; and RWQCB Section 401 Water Quality Certification (File No. 07-174), dated June 20, 2008.</u>

4. Special Condition Number 15, Erosion Control and Construction Responsibilities, shall be added on Page 11 of the staff report as follows:

#### 15. Interim Erosion Control Plans and Construction Responsibilities

A. Interim Erosion Control Plan

Prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit, the applicant shall submit two sets of final erosion control plans, prepared by a licensed engineer, for review and approval by the Executive Director. The plans shall incorporate the criteria set forth below. All development shall conform to the approved erosion control plans.

(1) The plan shall delineate the areas to be disturbed by grading or construction activities and shall include any temporary access roads, staging areas and stockpile areas.

(2) The plan shall specify that should grading take place during the rainy season (November 1 – March 31) the applicant shall install or construct temporary sediment basins (including debris basins, desilting basins or silt traps), temporary drains and swales, sand bag barriers, silt fencing, stabilize any stockpiled fill with geofabric covers or other appropriate cover, install geotextiles or mats on all cut or fill slopes and close and stabilize open trenches as soon as possible. These erosion measures shall be required on the project site prior to or concurrent with the initial grading operations and maintained through out the development process to minimize erosion and sediment from runoff waters during construction. All sediment should be retained on-site unless removed to an appropriate approved dumping location either outside the coastal zone or to a site within the coastal zone permitted to receive fill.

(3) The plan shall also include temporary erosion control measures should grading or site preparation cease for a period of more than 30 days, including but not limited to: stabilization of all stockpiled fill, access roads, disturbed soils and cut and fill slopes with geotextiles and/or mats, sand bag barriers, silt fencing; temporary drains and swales and sediment basins. The plans shall also specify that all disturbed areas shall be seeded with native grass species and include the technical specifications for seeding the disturbed areas. These temporary erosion control measures shall be monitored and maintained until grading or construction operations resume.

B. Demolition/Construction Best Management Practices and Debris Removal

The permittee shall comply with the following demolition/construction-related requirements:

(1) No demolition or construction materials, debris, or waste shall be placed or stored where it may enter sensitive habitat, receiving waters or a storm drain, or be subject to wave, wind, rain, or tidal erosion and dispersion.

(2) Any and all debris and sediment resulting from construction activities shall be removed from the project site within 24 hours of completion of the project.

(3) All trash and debris shall be disposed in the proper trash and recycling receptacles at the end of every construction day.

(4) Debris shall be disposed of at a legal disposal site or recycled at a recycling facility. If the disposal site is located in the coastal zone, a coastal development permit or an amendment to this permit shall be required before disposal can take place unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment or new permit is legally required.

(5) All stock piles and construction materials shall be covered, enclosed on all sides, shall be located as far away as possible from drain inlets and any waterway, and shall not be stored in contact with the soil.

(6) Machinery and equipment shall be maintained and washed in confined areas specifically designed to control runoff. Thinners or solvents shall not be discharged into sanitary or storm sewer systems.

(7) The discharge of any hazardous materials into any receiving waters shall be prohibited.

(8) Spill prevention and control measures shall be implemented to ensure the proper handling and storage of petroleum products and other construction materials. Measures shall include a designated fueling and vehicle maintenance area with appropriate berms and protection to prevent any spillage of gasoline or related petroleum products or contact with runoff. The area shall be located as far away from the receiving waters and storm drain inlets as possible.

(9) Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Good Housekeeping Practices (GHPs) designed to prevent spillage and/or runoff of demolition or construction-related materials, and to contain sediment or contaminants associated with demolition or construction activity, shall be implemented prior to the on-set of such activity.

(10) All BMPs shall be maintained in a functional condition throughout the duration of the project.

The permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the approved final plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is required.

- 5. Append attached correspondence from Calleguas Municipal Water District, in general support of the staff recommendation, to Exhibit 9, Correspondence.
- 6. Append attached ex parte disclosure to Exhibit 10, Ex Parte Communication.

Ted Grandsen, President Division 1

Gail L. Pringle, Director Division 4

Jeffrey A. Borenstein, Treasurer Division 2



### MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

William R. Seaver, Vice President Division 5

> Donald G. Hauser, Secretary Division 3

Donald R. Kendall, Ph.D., P.E. General Manager

web site: www.calleguas.com

2100 Olsen Road • Thousand Oaks, California 91360-6800 • 805/526-9323 • Fax 805/522-5730 • Fax 805/526-3675

October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008



The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000 San Francisco, CA 94105

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION SOUTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT

Re: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement, Item Th21d, Application No. 4-07-131

Dear Chairman Kruer:

Enclosed please find two documents related to Agenda Item Th21d, Application No. 4-07-131 regarding the Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement project, scheduled for Coastal Commission consideration on Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The first document is a letter expressing Calleguas Municipal Water District's agreement with the staff recommendation to approve the project. The second item is a briefing book designed to provide you and your fellow Commissioners and staff with an overview of the Salinity Management Pipeline and the Hueneme Outfall Replacement project.

Our consultants, McCabe & Company and GCG Rose & Kindel, will be contacting you to set up a short briefing on the project, at your preference and convenience. Please let us know if you have any questions or if we can provide additional information.

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to work with your staff and encourage your thoughtful consideration of the Hueneme Outfall Replacement project.

Very truly yours,

Donald R. Kendall, Ph.D., P.E. General Manager

cc: Coastal Commissioners South Central Coast District Staff Calleguas Board of Directors

Susan McCabe, McCabe & Company w/o attachments Adan Ortega, GCG Rose & Kindel w/o attachments

Attachments (2)

Ted Grandsen, President Division 1

Gail L. Pringle, Director Division 4

Jeffrey A. Borenstein, Treasurer Division 2



MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT William R. Seaver, Vice President Division 5

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CALIFUTINIA COASTAL COMMISSION SOUTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRIGT

#### Re: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement, Item Th21d, Application No. 4-07-131

Dear Chairman Kruer:

Calleguas Municipal Water District is pleased to inform the Commission that we are in agreement with the staff recommendation of approval for the Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement. We would like to take this opportunity to briefly highlight the features and benefits of the project.

Once completed, the Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline will consist of a pipeline through the Calleguas Creek Watershed to convey salt concentrates from brackish groundwater treatment, concentrates from treatment of potable water for ultra-pure industrial purposes, concentrates from treatment of tertiary-treated recycled water, and excess tertiary-treated recycled water (when there is no demand for reuse) to the Hueneme Outfall for ocean discharge.

Through the total maximum daily load (TMDL) process, the Regional Water Quality Control Board has established very stringent salt standards for the Calleguas Creek watershed to protect the watershed's many beneficial uses, including habitat, agriculture, and municipal uses. While tertiary-treated wastewater is considered suitable for most reuse purposes as recycled water, it cannot be discharged into Calleguas Creek due to the stringency of the salt standards. The Salinity Management Pipeline will remove salts which are building up in the Calleguas Creek Watershed to achieve state and federally mandated water quality standards and safely discharge them to the ocean. Although considered too salty for discharge into Calleguas Creek, the water to be discharged through the Hueneme Outfall contains roughly one-tenth the salinity The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 Page 2

of ocean water and will have no adverse affect on ocean water quality. Additionally, many local groundwater supplies are not being put to municipal or agricultural use due to the high concentration of salts. The groundwater cannot be utilized because the membrane processes required to remove salt create a salty concentrate that must be handled and disposed of properly. The Salinity Management Pipeline will provide a means to safely dispose of the salty concentrate and enable the development of these underutilized groundwater supplies. This will in turn improve the reliability of water supplies by developing local resources in Ventura County, which is otherwise heavily dependent upon imported water from the State Water Project. Given the growing threats to water resources in the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta, Calleguas has been working to reduce the region's dependence on the State Water Project. The Salinity Management Pipeline is essential to the region's alternative water supply options.

On behalf of Calleguas, we would like to commend Commission staff for their extensive work on this project and for their sensitivity to the construction scheduling challenges we face. We continue to work with staff to resolve minor technical issues and clarifications in the special conditions language.

We respectfully request the Commission's thoughtful consideration of this project and urge you to support the staff recommendation of approval.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

Donald R. Kendall, Ph.D., P.È. General Manager

cc: Coastal Commissioners South Central Coast District Staff

#### Name or description of project:

4-07-131 (Calleguas Municipal Water District, Ventura Co.) Application of Calleguas Municipal Water District to construct 5,100-ft. long outfall pipeline to discharge tertiary treated wastewater and desalinated groundwater to Pacific Ocean offshore of Port Hueneme Beach Park, Port Hueneme, Ventura County.

Date and time of receipt of communication: November 5, 2008 at 2:45 pm

Location of communication: Phone

Type of communication: Teleconference

Person(s) in attendance at time of communication: Susan McCabe, Dec Zinko, Susan Mulligan, Kristine McCaffrey

Person(s) receiving communication: Patrick Kruer

Detailed substantive description of the content of communication:

(Attach a copy of the complete text of any written material received.)

I received a briefing from the project representatives in which they described the project and informed me that they are in agreement with the staff recommendation. As described by the applicant, they intend to construct a pipeline—the majority of which to be located outside of the Coastal Zone--that will collect brine generated by groundwater treatment facilities and drinking water purification, as well as excess high quality recycled water, and convey the flows to other areas for various beneficial uses, including wetlands restoration, irrigation of salt tolerant crops and game preserves. When there is insufficient demand for reuse, ocean discharge would result at the Hueneme Outfall. Although considered too salty for discharge into Calleguas Creek, the water to be discharged through the Hueneme Outfall contains roughly one-tenth the salinity of ocean water and would not have any impacts on marine resources. The representatives informed me that there was no known opposition to the project.

Date: // /6/88 Signature of Commissioner:

ECEIVE

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION SOUTH CENTRAL COAST AREA 89 SOUTH CALIFORNIA ST., SUITE 200 VENTURA, CA 93001 (805) 585-1800 Th21d

Filed: 5/28/2008 180th Day: 11/24/2008 Staff: Jenn Feinberg, SG-V Staff Report: 10/23/2008 Hearing Date: 11/13/2008



STAFF REPORT: REGULAR CALENDAR

APPLICATION NO.: 4-07-131

**APPLICANT:** Calleguas Municipal Water District (District)

**PROJECT LOCATION:** On the shoreline and within the ocean, east of the intersection of Surfside Drive and Ocean View Drive, at Port Hueneme Beach Park and adjacent to the Port Hueneme Fishing Pier, City of Port Hueneme, Ventura County

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Installation of a 5,100 linear ft. outfall pipeline to direct tertiary-treated wastewater, demineralized brackish groundwater, and industrial desalination brine offshore as part of the Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Project (CRSMP) to improve water quality within the Calleguas Creek watershed. The project would include: (1) installation, through horizontal directional drilling (HDD), of a 36-inch-outer-diameter and 30-inch-inner-diameter high density 2,350-foot-long, polyethylene pipeline; (2) installation of a 2,350-foot-long, 30-inch-inner-diameter steel or high density polyethylene pipeline that would connect to the HDD portion of the pipeline and rest on the seafloor; (3) installation of a 400-foot-long diffuser that would connect to the seafloor portion of the pipeline; (4) placement of approximately 3,000 tons of armor rock, 48-inches-thick, over a 240-foot-long section of pipeline, creating a rock apron to secure the pipeline as it transitions from the HDD exit hole to the seafloor; and (5) removal and replacement of approximately 3,700 cubic yards of rip rap along a 100-foot-long portion of shoreline at Point Mugu Naval Base for pipeline stringing activities.

#### MOTION & RESOLUTION: Page 5

**SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends **APPROVAL** of the proposed project subject to fourteen (14) special conditions. The applicant proposes to construct an approximately 5,100-foot-long outfall pipeline that would redirect concentrate from salt removal processes (from treated groundwater, from treated potable water for industrial purposes, and potentially from advanced treatment of tertiary water) and/or tertiary treated municipal wastewater, which is currently being discharged into the Calleguas Creek watershed, to the Pacific Ocean. The subject pipeline begins at the Port Hueneme Beach Park, located seaward of the intersection of Surfside Drive and Ventura Road in the City of Port Hueneme, and extends offshore, roughly parallel to, and approximately 600 feet upcoast of, the Port Hueneme Fishing Pier.

The nearshore portion of the pipeline would be installed using HDD technology. An initial pilot hole would be drilled from Port Hueneme Beach Parking Lot A and the

pipeline would be installed beneath the beach and intertidal zones, extending 2,350 feet offshore where it would exit to the seafloor. The HDD portion of the pipeline would connect to a 2,750-foot-long seafloor/diffuser pipeline section that would be placed directly on the seafloor.

The following bullet points outline the main issues raised by the project. Each of these issues areas are resolved through implementation of the proposed project in conjunction with special conditions recommended by staff as discussed in detail within this staff report and summarized below:

- Water Quality. Effluent from the pipeline will contain brackish water from the Calleguas Creek watershed. According to the District, the project will include the capacity to discharge up to 19.1 million gallons per day of treated effluent that will have a maximum salinity level of approximately 3 parts per thousand (ppt), as compared to typical ocean salinity levels of 33 to 36 ppt. Although this level is more saline than freshwater, this relatively small contribution is significantly less than ambient ocean levels and will not adversely impact the surrounding water quality or marine environment. Additionally, modeling of the proposed effluent sources indicates that the outflow would meet all parameters of the California Ocean Plan, and all parameters of the more conservative adjustments made to these standards in the approved project specific Regional Water Quality Control Board NPDES permit. Therefore, the project would have no adverse effects to water quality.
- Public Access. Public access directly within and adjacent to the project area includes the Port Hueneme Beach Park. There are three public parking lots at Port Hueneme Beach Park: Parking Lots A, B, and C, with a total of 416 parking spaces. Additionally, paid/permit beach parking is available on Surfside Drive and Ventura Road, providing approximately 120 additional parking spaces. Further north on Ventura Road and Surfside Drive, additional unpaid public parking is available with one or two-hour parking limits. Approximately 110 parking spaces within Parking Lot A would be utilized for temporary HDD staging and operations and would not be available to the public for approximately 8 months. Use of the public beach parking lot for staging is proposed outside of the peak summer season to minimize impacts to public access and recreation. In order to ensure that project activities do not interfere with public access during the peak season, consistent with the applicant's proposal, staff has included a construction timing condition that prohibits use of this area between May 15 and September 15. All other adjacent beach walkways, bike path, and surrounding beach access will remain open during all construction activities authorized herein.
- Coastal Process. The subject project includes the use of Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) for installation of the nearshore portion of the pipeline. This allows for construction activities to occur beneath the beach, intertidal areas, and surf zone at Port Hueneme Beach Park. The second half of the pipeline, approximately 2,350 feet, lies upon the sea floor, including a rock armor mattress on top of a 240 ft stretch of the exposed pipeline at the HDD exit hole. The HDD portion of the pipeline will exit at approximately -40 ft MLLW. The approximate depth of the structure at the shallowest point will be between -23 ft. to -28-ft MLLW. The project was designed to be outside of the surf zone and the depth of the rock will not affect wave break or

surfing conditions. In addition, all rock will be located well below the surface of the ocean and will not be visible from the surface or the adjacent beach under any tidal conditions. Thus, the proposed pipeline outfall will not result in any permanent changes or impacts to shoreline processes and sand supply, public views, or public recreation.

 Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA). There is no identified ESHA within or adjacent to the project site. Additionally, the HDD portion of the project will occur within an existing paved parking lot and no work would occur on the sandy beach except during pipe string activities when necessary to move the pipe from the stringing area to the ocean.

The standard of review for the project is the Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act with the policies of the City of Port Hueneme's Local Coastal Program serving as guidance. As conditioned, the proposed project will be consistent with the applicable policies of the Coastal Act and the City's LCP.

**PROCEDURAL NOTE, PROJECT JURISTICTION AND CONSOLIDATED REVIEW:** The proposed project includes components that are located within the City of Port Hueneme's Local Coastal Program (LCP) jurisdiction as well as components within the retained jurisdiction of the Coastal Commission. The City of Port Hueneme would typically have jurisdiction over the onshore portions of the project within its LCP jurisdiction. However, Section 30601.3 of the Coastal Act authorizes the Commission to process a consolidated coastal development permit application, when its criteria are satisfied, for both aspects of a proposed project that would otherwise require a coastal development permit from both a local government with a certified local coastal program and the Commission. The standard of review for a consolidated coastal development permit application submitted pursuant to Section 30601.3(a) shall follow Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act (commencing with Section 30200), with the appropriate local coastal program used as guidance.

The proposed development is an outfall pipeline that crosses the boundary of the Commission's retained jurisdiction into areas where the City of Port Hueneme's LCP is effective. Typically, development located within a certified area requires a coastal development permit from the certified local government. However, in this case, the horizontal directional drilling that would occur within the Commission's original jurisdiction is physically integrated with the landside horizontal directional drilling activities that would occur outside the area of retained jurisdiction (i.e. in the City's permit jurisdiction).

Pursuant to Section 30601.3(a)(2), the applicant, appropriate local government, and the Commission may agree to consolidate a permit action for a project that spans local and state jurisdictions. In this case, the City of Port Hueneme, in a letter to Commission staff dated October 31, 2007, requested that the Commission assume jurisdiction over all HDD activities associated with the proposed project, which would include drilling the initial pilot hole through Parking Lot A at Port Hueneme Beach Park. The applicant both consented to, and facilitated this consolidated jurisdictional process. Further, public participation is not substantially impaired by the consolidated review in this case because the other portions of the project were reviewed by the City of Port Hueneme in a public hearing process and the subject portion of the project was made known at the time (with no objection). Further, the subject application will be noticed and heard consistent with the Coastal Commission's public hearing process, which facilitates both written and oral comment.

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# **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1.	Vicinity Map
Exhibit 2.	Site Plan
Exhibit 3.	Pipeline Location
Exhibit 4.	Rock Armor
Exhibit 5.	Horizontal Directional Drilling Process
Exhibit 6.	Diffuser Detail
Exhibit 7.	Calleguas Creek Watershed

Exhibit 8. Regional Salinity Management Program Components

Exhibit 9. CorrespondenceExhibit 10. Ex Parte Communications

**LOCAL APPROVALS RECEIVED:** City of Port Hueneme Coastal Development Permit (PHPD-808), dated January 16, 2008; State Lands Commission Lease, approved on March 25, 2008; Naval Base Ventura – Point Mugu License for use of property for pipeline stringing activities, dated May 30, 2008; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Ventura Field Office, Nationwide Permit Number 7, dated December 20, 2007; and Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, NPDES permit, dated April 10, 2008.

**SUBSTANTIVE FILE DOCUMENTS:** City of Port Hueneme Coastal Development Permit (PHPD-808) City Council Staff Report, dated January 18, 2008; Draft Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) Monitoring Plan, dated September 27, 2007; Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E of the LA RWQCB NPDES permit); "Calleguas Municipal Water District, Replacement Hueneme Outfall Project, Geosciences Desktop Study," dated December 2006; "Geotechnical Study, Calleguas Municipal Water District, Hueneme Outfall Project," dated August 2007; and "Calleguas Municipal Water District, Hueneme Outfall Project, Supplemental Geosciences Study," dated September 2007; "Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan", prepared by the Calleguas Municipal Water District, dated December 12, 2007; "Final Program Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment for the Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Project," prepared by Padre Associates, Inc., dated August 2002; "Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment Regional Salinity Management Project – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project," prepared by Padre Associates, Inc., dated July 2007.

# I. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

### <u>MOTION</u>: I move that the Commission approve Coastal Development Permit No. 4-07-131 pursuant to the staff recommendation.

# **STAFF RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL:**

Staff recommends a **YES** vote. Passage of this motion will result in approval of the permit as conditioned and adoption of the following resolution and findings. The motion passes only by affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present.

# **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PERMIT:**

The Commission hereby approves a coastal development permit for the proposed development and adopts the findings set forth below on grounds that the development as conditioned will be in conformity with the policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act and will not prejudice the ability of the local government having jurisdiction over the area to prepare a Local Coastal Program conforming to the provisions of Chapter 3. Approval

of the permit complies with the California Environmental Quality Act because either 1) feasible mitigation measures and/or alternatives have been incorporated to substantially lessen any significant adverse effects of the development on the environment, or 2) there are no further feasible mitigation measures or alternatives that would substantially lessen any significant adverse impacts of the development on the environment.

# **II. STANDARD CONDITIONS**

1. <u>Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment</u>. The permit is not valid and development shall not commence until a copy of the permit, signed by the permittee or authorized agent, acknowledging receipt of the permit and acceptance of the terms and conditions, is returned to the Commission office.

2. <u>Expiration</u>. If development has not commenced, the permit will expire two years from the date on which the Commission voted on the application. Development shall be pursued in a diligent manner and completed in a reasonable period of time. Application for extension of the permit must be made prior to the expiration date.

**3.** <u>Interpretation</u>. Any questions of intent or interpretation of any term or condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.

**4.** <u>Assignment</u>. The permit may be assigned to any qualified person, provided assignee files with the Commission an affidavit accepting all terms and conditions of the permits.

5. <u>Terms and Conditions Run with the Land</u>. These terms and conditions shall be perpetual, and it is the intention of the Commission and the permitee to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject properties to the terms and conditions.

# **III. SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

# 1. Additional Regulatory Approvals

By acceptance of this permit, the permittee agrees to obtain all other necessary State or Federal permits needed for all aspects of the proposed project including approvals from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and NOAA Fisheries.

# 2. Submittal of Final Plans

**Prior to issuance of the coastal development permit,** the permittee shall submit two sets of final project plans to the Executive Director for review and approval. The plans shall be in substantial conformance with the preliminary plans submitted with the permit application materials and shall address the following aspects of the project:

a. *Full-Size plans*. All final project plans, including site plans, staging and access plans, cross-sections, and plan details shall be provided in a full-size legible

format consistent with the project plans submitted and reviewed as part of this application.

- b. *Pipeline Stringing.* This plan shall include all aspects of pipeline stringing activities at Point Mugu Naval Base including the area to be used, the method by which the pipeline will be conveyed from the beach to the ocean, and the removal and replacement of existing rip rap.
- c. *HDD Implementation and Seafloor Pipeline.* Final, full-size, plans shall be prepared by a licensed engineer and shall include all aspects of the horizontal directional drilling and seafloor pipeline portions of the project including: (1) the location and construction of the pilot hole; (2) the length and location of the HDD portion of the pipeline; (3) the location of the exit trench; (4) the connection of the seafloor pipeline to HDD pipeline; (5) the construction of the rock apron; and (6) the design of the diffuser.
- d. *Public Access During Construction.* This plan shall depict any re-routing of public access or directional signage that will be necessary to ensure public safety while allowing for continued public access to the coast during project construction.

The permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the approved final plans. Any proposed changes to the approved final plans shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

# 3. Plans Conforming to Geotechnical Engineer's Recommendations

By acceptance of this permit, the applicant agrees to comply with the recommendations contained in each of the reports prepared by Black and Veatch for the site entitled: "Calleguas Municipal Water District, Replacement Hueneme Outfall Project, Geosciences Desktop Study," dated December 2006; "Geotechnical Study, Calleguas Municipal Water District, Hueneme Outfall Project," dated August 2007; and "Calleguas Municipal Water District, Hueneme Outfall Project, Supplemental Geosciences Study," dated September 2007. These recommendations shall be incorporated into all final design and construction plans.

The final plans approved by the consultants shall be in substantial conformance with the plans approved by the Commission. Any substantial changes in the proposed development approved by the Commission that may be required by the consultant shall require amendment(s) to the permit(s) or new Coastal Development Permit(s).

# 4. <u>Staging Area and Public Access During Construction</u>

By acceptance of this permit, the applicant agrees to implement all components of the "Staging Area Plan" and "Coastal Beach Access Plan," both dated August 6, 2008.

### 5. <u>Construction Timing</u>

- A. **Public Access.** All construction activities within Parking Lot A are prohibited between May 15 through September 15 to minimize conflicts between construction and beach public access and recreation.
- B. Birds. All pipeline stringing and HDD activities shall take place between September 1 and February 28 to avoid the bird breeding season, including but not limited to California least terns, western snowy plovers, and Belding's savanna sparrows. This period may be extended for a limited period of time if the situation warrants, if approved by the Executive Director. If pipeline stringing or boring activities are extended into March 1 - August 30, the applicant shall retain the services of a qualified biologist(s) or environmental resource specialist(s) to: (1) conduct surveys to determine the presence or absence of California least terns, western snowy plovers, Belding's savanna sparrows, and the presence of active bird nests and (2) monitor project operations. At least two weeks prior to project operations within this timeframe, the applicant shall submit the name and qualifications of the biologist or specialist, for the review and approval of the Executive Director. The biologist or specialist shall ensure that all project construction and operations shall be carried out consistent with the following:
  - a. The environmental resource specialist shall conduct a survey of the project site and a 500-foot area surrounding the project site, to determine presence and behavior of the sensitive bird species, and determine presence of active bird nests, prior to any pipeline stringing or drilling activities. The environmental resource specialist shall update surveys weekly within 500 feet of the proposed project activities.
  - c. If an active songbird nest is identified, project operations within 300 feet shall be postponed until the nest(s) is vacated and juveniles have fledged and there is no evidence of a second attempt at nesting.
  - d. If an active raptor, rare, threatened, endangered, or species of concern nest is found, project operations within 500 feet shall be postponed until the nest(s) is vacated and juveniles have fledged and there is no evidence of a second attempt at nesting. The environmental specialist shall require the permittee to cease work, and shall immediately notify the Executive Director and local, state, and federal resource agencies. Project activities shall resource specialist determines that fledging has completed and the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission has re-authorized construction activities. Limits of construction to avoid a nest shall be established in the field with flagging and stakes or construction fencing. Construction personnel shall be instructed on the sensitivity of the

area. The biologist shall record the results of the recommended protective measures described above to document compliance with applicable State and Federal laws pertaining to protection of nesting birds.

C. *Marine Mammals.* Marine construction activities shall take place between May 1 and November 30 to minimize impacts to gray whale migration. This period may be extended for a limited period of time if the situation warrants, if approved by the Executive Director. If marine construction activities are extended into December 1 - April 30, the applicant shall be required to have marine mammal monitors on a minimum of one vessel to ensure that all impacts to migrating gray whales are avoided. At least two (2) weeks prior to project operations within this timeframe, the applicant shall submit the name and qualifications of the marine mammal monitors for the review and approval of the Executive Director.

# 6. <u>Construction Materials</u>

Any beach sand excavated during pipeline stringing activities shall be redeposited on the beach. Local sand, cobbles or shoreline rocks shall not be removed for use as backfill or construction material. The applicant shall remove any construction debris from the beach after pipeline stringing activities are completed.

# 7. Disposal of Drilling Fluids

All drilling fluids and cuttings that are discharged at the HDD exit point shall be recovered to the maximum extent possible with the use of a diaphragm suction pump. All recovered drilling fluids shall be stored in a portable tank, transported to shore, and disposed of at an approved disposal site authorized to accommodate such wastes. If the disposal site is located in the Coastal Zone, the disposal site must have a valid coastal development permit or authorization for the disposal of such material. If the disposal site does not have a valid coastal permit, or other authorization, such a permit will be required prior to the disposal of material.

# 8. Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Quality Monitoring

The permittee shall comply with all conditions and requirements outlined in the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board's Waste Discharge Requirements NPDES No. CA0064521 and Water Quality Order No. R4-2008-0014, adopted on April 3, 2008. Water quality monitoring shall be conducted pursuant to the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP No. 9404, which is Attachment E of Order No. R4-2008-0014) and the permittee shall submit copies of all monitoring reports required pursuant to this program to the Executive Director.

# 9. Horizontal Directional Drilling Monitoring Plan

**Prior to issuance of the coastal development permit,** the permittee shall submit a final HDD Monitoring Plan for review and approval by the Executive Director. This plan shall be substantially in conformance with the plan entitled, "Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) Monitoring Plan," dated

September 27, 2007, and shall include a provision requiring the utilization of dye within the drilling fluids to facilitate accurate and responsive monitoring of spills. The permittee shall implement all aspects of the final approved HDD Monitoring Plan, once approved.

# 10. No Future Shoreline Protective Device

- A. By acceptance of this Permit, the applicant agrees, on behalf of itself and all successors and assigns, that no shoreline protective device(s) shall ever be constructed to protect the development approved pursuant to Coastal Development Permit No. 4-07-133 in the event that the development is threatened with damage or destruction from waves, erosion, storm conditions, or other natural hazards in the future. By acceptance of this Permit, the applicant hereby waives, on behalf of itself and all successors and assigns, any rights to construct such devices that may exist under Public Resources Code Section 30235.
- B. By acceptance of this Permit, the applicant further agrees, on behalf of itself and all successors and assigns, that the landowner shall remove the development authorized by this Permit if any government agency has ordered that the structures are not to be utilized due to any of the hazards identified above.

# 11. Project Abandonment and Site Restoration

If the use of the pipeline is discontinued for a period of 12 consecutive months, it shall be considered abandoned. In the event that the pipeline is abandoned, the applicant shall apply for a coastal development permit within 120 days to either: (a) leave all of the materials and structures in place or (b) remove them and restore the site. The applicant shall not withdraw the application and shall allow it to proceed through the Commission permitting process according to applicable laws.

Pursuant to all applicable permits, all of the materials and structures placed on the site pursuant to this permit shall be removed and the site shall be restored to its natural state within one year from the abandonment, except to the extent that such materials or structures are authorized to remain by a new coastal development permit. The applicant shall obtain a coastal development permit from the Commission prior to commencing any removal activities.

# 12. Assumption of Risk, Waiver of Liability and Indemnity

By acceptance of this permit, the applicant acknowledges and agrees (i) that the site may be subject to hazards from flooding, waves, storm surges; (ii) to assume the risks to the applicant and the property that is the subject of this permit of injury and damage from such hazards in connection with this permitted development; (iii) to unconditionally waive any claim of damage or liability against the Commission, its officers, agents, and employees for injury or damage from such hazards; and (iv) to indemnify and hold harmless the Commission, its officers, agents, and employees with respect to the Commission's approval of the project against any and all liability, claims, demands, damages, costs (including costs and fees incurred in defense of such claims), expenses, and amounts paid in settlement arising from any injury or damage due to such hazards.

### 13. Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan

By acceptance of this permit, the permittee agrees to implement all components of the draft Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan, dated August 11, 2008, to protect marine wildlife during project implementation.

### 14. Pre-construction Caulerpa taxifolia Survey

- A. Not earlier than 90 days nor later than 30 days prior to commencement or recommencement of any development authorized under this coastal development permit (the "project"), the applicant shall undertake a survey of the ocean project area and a buffer area at least 10 meters beyond the project area to determine the presence of the invasive alga *Caulerpa taxifolia*. The survey shall include a visual examination of the substrate.
- B. The survey protocol shall be prepared in consultation with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the National Marine Fisheries Service.
- C. Within five (5) business days of completion of the survey, the applicant shall submit the survey:
  - 1. for the review and approval of the Executive Director; and
  - 2. to the Surveillance Subcommittee of the Southern California Caulerpa Action Team (SCCAT).
- D. If Caulerpa taxifolia is found within the project or buffer areas, the applicant shall not proceed with the project until 1) the applicant provides evidence to the Executive Director that all *C. taxifolia* discovered within the project and/or buffer area has been eliminated in a manner that complies with all applicable governmental approval requirements, including but not limited to those of the California Coastal Act, or 2) the applicant has revised the project to avoid any contact with *C. taxifolia*. No revisions to the project shall occur without a Coastal Commission approved amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is legally required.

# **IV. FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS**

# A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

The applicant is proposing to construct an approximately 5,100-foot-long outfall pipeline that would redirect concentrate from salt removal processes (from treated groundwater, from treated potable water for industrial purposes, and potentially from advanced treatment of tertiary water) and/or excess tertiary treated municipal wastewater, which is currently being discharged into the Calleguas Creek watershed, to the Pacific Ocean. The project would be located seaward of the intersection of Surfside Drive and Ventura Road, at the Port Hueneme Beach Park and adjacent to the Port Hueneme Fishing Pier, in the City of Port Hueneme (Exhibit 1).

The applicant, the Calleguas Municipal Water District (District), is a wholesale water supplier to cities and unincorporated areas in Ventura County south and east of the Santa Clara River. Many surface waters and groundwater basins in the Calleguas Creek watershed contain high levels of mineral salts, which limit their use as a water supply. Additionally, some groundwater basins have been over-pumped, resulting in seawater intrusion along the coast. Many of the reaches of the watershed (Exhibit 7)are listed by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) as impaired for salts under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act.

The proposed project is a component of a larger Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Project (CRSMP), which was developed by the District, along with other public water and wastewater agencies, to manage high salinity water use and disposal. This regional project involves the installation of 32-mile-long pipeline that would extend from Simi Valley through Moorpark, Camarillo, and Oxnard to the ocean outfall proposed herein in the City of Port Hueneme (Exhibit 8). The pipeline will collect tertiary treated wastewater and treatment concentrates from wastewater treatment plants, municipal and agricultural groundwater wells, and concentrate from reverse osmosis treatment processing of potable water for high-tech industrial applications located with the Calleguas Creek watershed. When there is insufficient demand for reuse, the effluent would be discharged to the ocean. A primary purpose of the pipeline project is to substantially reduce the amount of dissolved salts and other water pollutants that are currently being released into Calleguas Creek and its tributaries. According to the District, the project will include the capacity to discharge up to 19.1 million gallons per day of treated effluent that will have a maximum salinity level of approximately 3 ppt, as compared to typical ocean salinity levels of 33 to 36 ppt.

Installation of the subject pipeline authorized in this coastal development permit has three primary components: (1) pipeline stringing; (2) outfall HDD installation; and (3) outfall seafloor and diffuser installation. These components are described in more detail as follows:

#### Pipeline Stringing

The pipeline for both the horizontal directional drilling and seafloor segments of the proposed project must be connected on land and then towed to the installation location. Pipeline stringing activities would be conducted on a portion of the shoreline at the Naval Base Ventura County - Point Mugu. The site is comprised of previously disturbed roadways, existing and demolished buildings, and associated parking areas and provides a suitable length and width to accommodate the necessary work area.

Segments of pipe would be assembled into longer sections that would then be pulled offshore on rollers by a barge and towed to the pipeline installation site. In order to transport the pipeline from the shore to the ocean, it will be necessary to remove approximately 3,700 cubic yards of rip rap from a 5,000-square-foot area along the shoreline at Point Mugu. The removal of this rip rap is temporary and would be replaced as soon as pipeline stringing activities are completed. No sensitive dune habitat or vegetation would be impacted by this project

component. Furthermore, all pipeline stringing activities would be limited to the months between September 1 and March 1 to avoid the breeding season of California least terns, western snowy plovers, and Belding's savanna sparrows. The applicant anticipates that pipeline stringing activities will take between 2 to 3 months to complete.

### Outfall HDD Installation

The nearshore section of the proposed pipeline would be installed using horizontal directional drilling methods. HDD is a well-established trenchless installation technique used to install underground utilities and pipelines beneath environmentally sensitive areas such as waterways and beaches. Installation of the HDD portion of the pipeline would involve the construction of an initial pilot hole from Beach Parking Lot A along a designated directional path (Exhibit 2). Staging for this portion of the project would occur within a 34,800-square-foot paved area at the western portion of the parking lot. Once the pilot hole has been drilled, "prereaming" or "reaming" would occur, which involves enlarging the pilot hole to a diameter suitable for installing the pipeline. The final stage of this process is known as "pull-back" and involves pulling the prefabricated pipeline section through the enlarged hole to the HDD rig. An illustrative diagram of this process can be found on Exhibit 5. In order to transition the HDD subsurface outfall section from the bore hole to the seafloor, a 22,000-square-foot area would be excavated to a depth of 10 feet to create an exit point. The HDD portion of the pipeline would be installed beneath the walkways, beach, and surf zone at Port Hueneme Beach Park and would extend approximately 2,350 linear feet offshore.

### Outfall Seafloor and Diffuser Installation

The remaining 2,350-foot-long portion of pipeline and 400-foot-long diffuser (Exhibit 6) would be installed after the HDD portion has been completed. The seafloor/diffuser section would connect at the excavated HDD exit point and be installed directly on the seafloor. Once the tie-in connection between the HDD and seafloor/diffuser portions of the pipeline is installed, the area surrounding the connection would be backfilled with rock to stabilize the pipe joint. Additionally, approximately 3,000 tons of rock armor would be placed on top of the seafloor pipeline for a length of approximately 240 feet at the HDD exit hole to secure its position (Exhibit 4).

The proposed development would cross the boundary of the Commission's original jurisdiction (below the mean high tide line) into areas where the City of Port Hueneme's LCP is effective. On January 16, 2008, Port Hueneme's City Council approved the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Assessment and the coastal development permit for those portions of the project that fall within the City of Port Hueneme's LCP jurisdiction, with the exception of the onshore HDD components of the project. Given that the HDD component of the project that would occur within the Commission's original jurisdiction is physically integrated with the landside HDD activities that would occur within the City's LCP jurisdiction, the City requested that the

Commission assume jurisdiction over all HDD activities associated with the proposed project, including drilling the initial pilot hole through Parking Lot A at Port Hueneme Beach Park.

#### Impacts to Public Access

The applicant anticipates that construction of the proposed project authorized herein will take 12 to 13 months to complete. The adjacent beach walkways, bike path, and general beach access will remain open during all construction activities authorized herein. To minimize impacts to public access and recreation, project activities within Beach Parking Lot A are prohibited between May 15 and September 15.

#### Alternatives to Proposed Project

The District considered several alternatives to the proposed project. The first alternative was to reuse the existing outfall pipeline at the Ormond Beach Power Plant (Reliant Outfall). This alternative was selected as the preferred alternative in the District's 2002 Programmatic Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment for the Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Project (CRSMP) and was chosen because the Oxnard Wastewater Treatment Plant Outfall did not have adequate capacity to accommodate regional flows and because construction of a new outfall could not be considered the environmentally superior alternative when an existing outfall was available.

However, as the District pursued the use of the Ormond Beach Power Plant outfall, several significant challenges were identified. First, because of the configuration of the existing pipeline as two parallel lines, Reliant Energy can periodically switch the intake line to operate as the outfall and vice-versa and can make other flow changes as its operations dictate. Consequently, Reliant could prevent the District from discharging at any time with no advance notifications, which would impede operations of the outfall for purposes of the CRSMP.

The second, and more significant challenge, is that the Ormond Beach Power Plant outfall was configured to maximize flow, not mixing with the surrounding ocean water. The outfall is therefore accorded a very low dilution ratio of approximately 6.5:1. The dilution ratio is specific to the configuration and location of an individual outfall and correlates to the amount of mixing that the discharge experiences once it exits the outfall; the greater the mixing, the higher the dilution ratio. The allowable concentration of constituents in a discharge is dictated by Ocean Plan standards and the dilution ratio of the outfall. The low dilution ratio at the Reliant Outfall was particularly problematic for compliance with the low Ocean Plan limit for copper, which is naturally occurring in local groundwater and imported drinking water sources. CRSMP flows could not be discharged from the Reliant Outfall and comply with the copper standard due to the low dilution ratio.

In 2004, the District analyzed the feasibility of using the Port Hueneme Sanitary District's existing decommissioned sewer outfall, located just offshore from Port Hueneme Beach Park, as an alternative to the previous outfall proposal. The District

initially determined that it would be feasible to reuse the 4,500-foot-long abandoned pipeline to discharge flows from the CRSMP. In March 2006, the City of Port Hueneme transferred ownership of the abandoned ocean outfall to District and granted certain temporary and permanent easements for pipeline construction, outfall connection, and operations.

Although the decommissioned Hueneme Outfall has a much higher dilution ratio than the Ormond Beach Power Plant alternative (approximately 95:1), and discharged CRSMP flows would meet all Ocean Plan standards, several challenges remained for its reuse. In particular, the decommissioned Hueneme Outfall lacks adequate capacity for projected CRSMP effluent flows of 30 cubic feet per second, or up to 19.4 million gallons per day of discharge, and there is substantial uncertainty the integrity of this structure. Although an external underwater inspection was performed of the exposed seafloor pipe, neither the interior of the pipe nor the outside of the pipe buried near shore can be inspected. The proximity of the Port Hueneme Fishing Pier to the outfall may have resulted in the outfall being damaged by replacement of pier piles or corrosion over the years.

Due to these capacity and integrity issues, the District concluded that reusing the existing abandoned Hueneme Outfall was not a feasible alternative to meet the goals of the CRSMP. The next alternative that the District considered was the construction of a new outfall. An analysis of potential locations of a new outfall pipeline was conducted and five areas between Port Hueneme and Point Mugu were evaluated. Review of these five shoreline segments indicated that installation of a new outfall at the proposed location at Port Hueneme Beach Park would result in the fewest environmental constraints and impacts.

In order to minimize impacts to marine resources, Commission staff requested that the District evaluate the feasibility of removing the existing abandoned Hueneme Outfall pipeline and placing the new proposed outfall in its location. The existing Hueneme Outfall was constructed in 1961 and was in operation until the mid-1970's. The outfall extends 4,500 feet offshore from the beach, runs parallel to the Port Hueneme Fishing Pier, then turns southwest and terminates in 45 feet of water. The District indicated that the removal of the outfall in the vicinity of the pier could result in potential structural impacts to the pier pilings and diver surveys of this area could not locate the outfall as it is buried below the seafloor in this location. Given the difficulty in locating the existing pipeline and the potential impacts to the structural integrity of the fishing pier associated with removing the pipeline, the District proposed to permanently abandon this portion in place.

Offshore from the pier, the existing outfall makes a 17-degree bend to the north and continues 3,600 feet offshore to a termination point in approximately 48 feet of water. Diver surveys indicate that portions of the outfall are exposed on top of the seafloor. Therefore, it would be physically feasible to remove this section of the pipeline. However, removal activities would involve exposing segments of the pipeline, cutting the outfall into smaller sections, and lifting the segments from the seafloor and would result in new impacts related to air quality, water quality, biological resources, noise, transportation, and recreation. Due to these impacts, the District determined that

abandoning the existing outfall and constructing a new outfall (the proposed project) was the most appropriate and environmentally sensitive alternative to meet the goals of the CRSMP.

# **B. HAZARDS AND GEOLOGIC STABILITY**

Section 30253 of the Coastal Act states, in pertinent part, that new development shall:

(1) Minimize risks to life and property in areas of high geologic, flood, and fire hazard.

(2) Assure stability and structural integrity, and neither create nor contribute significantly to erosion, instability, or destruction of the site or surrounding area or in any way require the construction of protective devices that would substantially alter natural landforms along bluffs and cliffs.

Section 30235 of the Coastal Act states, in pertinent part, that:

Revetments, breakwaters, groins, harbor channels, seawalls, cliff retaining walls, and other such construction that alters natural shoreline processes shall be permitted when required to serve coastal-dependent uses or to protect existing structures or public beaches in danger from erosion, and when designed to eliminate or mitigate adverse impacts on local shoreline sand supply.

The proposed outfall alignment would be located on the southwest Ventura mainland shelf, with a shore crossing onto the Oxnard Plain. The onshore Oxnard Plain and Santa Clara River Valley, together with the adjacent offshore Ventura Mainland Shelf and Santa Barbara Channel form the Ventura Basin. The Ventura Basin is an elongated deep geologic basin that bisects the Transverse Ranges between the Santa Barbara Channel and the San Gabriel Fault. The basin is bounded on the north by the Santa Ynez Mountains and on the south by the Santa Monica Mountains and the Channels Islands. The Ventura Basin is filled with a thick sequence of Cenozoic sedimentary deposits estimated to be more than 20,000 feet in total thickness.

Subsurface conditions at the proposed project location consist of artificial fill and alluvium, including sand, sand with silt, and gravel. Soils within the Port Hueneme Beach Park are characteristic of coastal beaches and offshore seafloor sediments within a few kilometers of the coast are characterized as dense silty sand with patches of gravel and scattered rocks. Further offshore, the seafloor sediments become more silty.

The geologic reports prepared for the project indicate that the proposed development is feasible from a geotechnical standpoint. These reports contain several recommendations that should be incorporated into project construction. To ensure that the recommendations of the geotechnical consultant are incorporated into all proposed development consistent with Coastal Act Section 30253, the Commission, as specified in **Special Condition Three (3)**, requires the applicant to comply with and incorporate the recommendations contained in the submitted geologic reports into all final design and construction plans, and to obtain the approval of the geotechnical consultants prior to commencement of construction.

Development adjacent to and within the ocean can be subject to hazards associated with erosion, storm events, tides, and currents. In the past, shoreline protective devices such as seawalls and rip rap have been installed along portions of the coast to protect shoreline development. However, given the potential adverse impacts to shoreline processes associated with the installation of shoreline protective devices, development that may requires a shoreline protective device in the future cannot be authorized. In order to minimize the proposed project's impact on shoreline processes, **Special Condition Ten (10)** requires that by acceptance of this permit, the applicant agrees that no shoreline protective devices shall ever be constructed to protect the development approved herein in the event that the development is threatened with damage or destruction from waves, erosion, storm conditions, or other natural hazards in the future.

Furthermore, there are inherent risks associated with installing a pipeline beneath and along the seafloor in the ocean. Therefore, the Commission can only approve the project if the applicant assumes the liability from these associated risks. Through **Special Condition Twelve (12)**, the applicant acknowledges the nature of the hazards that exist at the project location and that may affect the safety of the proposed development. Moreover, through acceptance of Special Condition 12, the applicant also agrees to indemnify the Commission, its officers, agents and employees against any and all expenses or liability arising out of the acquisition, design, construction, operation, maintenance, existence, or failure of the permitted project.

As conditioned, the Commission finds that the development conforms to the requirements of Sections 30235 and 30253 of the Coastal Act regarding the siting of development in hazardous locations.

# C. MARINE RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY

Section 30230 of the Coastal Act states:

Marine resources shall be maintained, enhanced, and where feasible, restored. Special protection shall be given to areas and species of special biological or economic significance. Use of the marine environment shall be carried out in a manner that will sustain the biological productivity of coastal waters and that will maintain healthy populations of all species of marine organisms adequate for longterm commercial, recreational, scientific, and educational purposes.

Section 30231 of the Coastal Act states:

The biological productivity and the quality of coastal waters, streams, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes appropriate to maintain optimum populations of marine organisms and for the protection of human health shall be maintained and, where feasible, restored through, among other means, minimizing adverse effects of waste water discharges and entrainment, controlling runoff, preventing depletion of ground water supplies and substantial interference with surface water flow, encouraging waste water reclamation, maintaining natural vegetation buffer areas that protect riparian habitats, minimizing alteration of natural streams.

Section 30233 of the Coastal Act states, in pertinent part:

(a) The diking, filling, or dredging of open coastal waters, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes shall be permitted in accordance with other applicable provisions of this division, where there is no feasible less environmentally damaging alternative, and where feasible mitigation measures have been provided to minimize adverse environmental effects, and shall be limited to the following:

(*I*) New or expanded port, energy, and coastal-dependent industrial facilities, including commercial fishing facilities.

(2) Maintaining existing, or restoring previously dredged, depths in existing navigational channels, turning basins, vessel berthing and mooring areas, and boat launching ramps.

(3) In wetland areas only, entrance channels for new or expanded boating facilities; and in a degraded wetland, identified by the Department of Fish and Game pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 30411, for boating facilities if, in conjunction with such boating facilities, a substantial portion of the degraded wetland is restored and maintained as a biologically productive wetland. The size of the wetland area used for boating facilities, including berthing space, turning basins, necessary navigation channels, and any necessary support service facilities, shall not exceed 25 percent of the degraded wetland.

(4) In open coastal waters, other than wetlands, including streams, estuaries, and lakes, new or expanded boating facilities and the placement of structural pilings for public recreational piers that provide public access and recreational opportunities.

(5) Incidental public service purposes, including but not limited to, burying cables and pipes or inspection of piers and maintenance of existing intake and outfall lines.

(6) Mineral extraction, including sand for restoring beaches, except in environmentally sensitive areas.

(7) Restoration purposes.

(8) Nature study, aquaculture, or similar resource dependent activities.

There are several components of the proposed project that have the potential to impact ocean water quality and marine resources. These components include the physical installation of the Horizontal Directional Drilling and seafloor portions of the pipeline and pipeline operations involving the discharge of effluent into the ocean.

#### Impacts to Water Quality Associated with Pipeline Installation

As described above, the horizontal directional drilling (HDD) portion of the pipeline would be installed from Port Hueneme Beach Parking Lot A to a location approximately 2,350 feet offshore. In order to transition the HDD subsurface outfall section from the bore hole to the seafloor, a 22,000-square-foot area would be excavated to a depth of 10 feet to create an exit point. Additionally, during installation of the entire outfall, marine construction vessels would be anchored throughout the proposed pipeline alignment. Increased turbidity is expected to occur as a result of excavation of the exit

pit and during anchoring of construction vessels. Increases in sediment in the water column could result in the temporary reduction of dissolved oxygen levels and ambient light penetration. The turbidity-related impacts are expected to be short-term and localized.

Drilling the bore hole for the HDD portion of the pipeline also has the potential to impact ocean water quality. All stages of the HDD involve the circulation of drilling fluid from the equipment on the surface, through the drill pipe, and then back up to the surface through a space between the pipe and the wall of the hole. Drilling fluids are utilized in HDD operations to: facilitate hydraulic excavation; provide hydraulic power if harder soils or rocks are encountered; transport drilled spoils consisting of excavated soil or rock cuttings; stabilize the drill hole; cool and clean the drill cutters; and reduce friction between the pull section of the pipeline and the wall of the hole.

The primary components of drilling fluids generally include fresh water and a viscosifier, typically bentonite clay. Bentonite is a naturally occurring soft clay that swells to several times it original volume when in contact with water. Bentonite is not a hazardous material as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's characteristics of ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or commercial chemicals. In conjunction with bentonite, natural or synthetic non-hazardous polymers are often used to increase the yield of drilling fluids.

The release of drilling fluid could result in increased turbidity and water quality degradation. However, the EIR prepared for the project indicates that due to the prevailing wind activity and associated dispersion at the exit hole location, impacts associated with the release of drilling fluids are expected to be short-term and localized. Additionally, the excavation of the exit pit where the HDD subsurface section transitions to the seafloor is designed to function as a drilling fluid collection area.

Although the District asserts that as proposed, drilling fluid spills or releases would not have any adverse impacts on ocean water quality due to the use of non-toxic materials and high dilution rates at the exit hole location, large releases of drilling fluid over an extended period of time could result in a violation of one or more water quality standards or in higher concentrations of contaminants being incorporated into the surficial sediments of the site. In order to protect water guality during HDD operations, Special Condition Nine (9) has been included to require the District to prepare and implement a final HDD Monitoring Plan. This plan should outline the monitoring requirements and responses for all potential drilling fluid scenarios including full circulation, loss of circulation, unplanned release, and planned fluid discharges into the Special Condition 9 requires that the final HDD Monitoring Plan be exit point. substantially in conformance with the draft HDD Monitoring Plan that was submitted with the application materials with a revision to include a provision requiring the utilization of an environmentally benign dye within the drilling fluids to facilitate accurate and responsive monitoring of spills.

Additionally, to ensure that all drilling fluids and cuttings that are discharged at the exit point are removed and disposed of properly, **Special Condition Seven (7)** has been included to require the District to use a diaphragm suction pump recover all drilling fluid

and cuttings to the maximum extent possible. Special Condition 7 also requires that all recovered drilling fluids be stored in a portable tank, transported to shore, and disposed of at an authorized disposal site.

# Impacts to Marine Resources Associated with Placement of Pipeline on Seafloor and Pipeline Stringing Activities

### Invertebrate Species

The seafloor outfall section would attach to the HDD section at the exit hole with a tie-in connector and would extend an additional 2,350 feet offshore. A 400-foot-long diffuser would be attached to the end of the seafloor outfall. The placement of the pipeline and diffuser on the seafloor has the potential to have adverse impacts on benthic habitat and associated organisms along the pipeline alignment. The EIR prepared for the project, including information based on a project-specific dive survey, indicates that the seafloor sediments in the project area are comprised of sand, silt, and some cobbles and small boulders. The EIR further states that the regional macroepibiota in water depths from 20 to 60 feet within the project area include sand dollars, tube worms, and sand stars. The infaunal community within these same water depths is dominated by polychaete worms, brachiopods, and mollusks. The small cobbles and boulders adjacent to the project area were found to support tunicates, bryozoans, hydroids, and some algae.

No hard-bottom substrate is known to exist within the pipeline alignment or within the proposed anchor locations or along anchor line corridors. Additionally, no sensitive marine vegetation, such as kelp beds, exists within the project area.

Impacts to benthic organisms associated with the placement of the seafloor/diffuser section of the pipeline include temporary avoidance of the project area, burying of sessile marine biota, or disruption of filter-feeding due to increased turbidity. These impacts are anticipated to be short-term, localized impacts, and recolonization of the disturbed habitat is expected to occur shortly after construction has been completed.

Although the alignment of the pipeline, as proposed based on data collected for purposes of the EIR, would not impact any hard-bottom substrate or sensitive marine vegetation, the potential exists for seafloor conditions to change prior to construction.

### Marine Mammals and Fish

Eight special status marine mammal and fish species are known to utilize or could potentially utilize the project area and surrounding environment. These species include the southern California ESU steelhead, several species of rockfish, and seven species of marine mammals (California gray whale, Pacific white-sided dolphin, short-beaked common dolphin, Pacific harbor seal, California sea lion, Southern sea otter). Although unlikely, steelhead may be present within the offshore portion of the proposed project. If steelhead are present, they are expected to avoid the project site during construction. Construction activities and operation of the pipeline are not anticipated to have an adverse impact on this species or its spawning habitat. Because rockfish are also likely to avoid the project site, impacts to this species as a result of the proposed project are not anticipated.

Due to its nearshore location, the most common marine mammals expected to be present in the vicinity of the project site include common dolphins, Pacific white-sided dolphins, bottlenose dolphins, California gray whales, Pacific harbor seals, and California sea lions. Although it is anticipated that most marine mammals would avoid the project area during pipeline construction, adverse impacts to marine mammals could result from vessel collisions, anchor wire entanglement, and noise.

Collisions of project-related vessels with marine mammals are typically the greatest concern raised regarding potential impacts from marine operations. Such collisions have been documented in the Santa Barbara Channel but are usually associated with large ships rather than small work vessels. Due to the anticipated small size and slow travel speed of the project-related vessels, the proximity of these vessels to the existing active commercial port at Port Hueneme, and the nearshore location of the project, it is unlikely that collisions or entanglement would occur between vessels and marine mammals during offshore construction activities.

Marine mammals in the vicinity of the project site may be impacted by the noise generated by construction. NOAA Fisheries has established guidelines for noise levels that could affect marine mammals. Projects that are likely to produce sound of over 160 decibels have the potential to adversely impact marine mammals, while sound levels over 180 decibels usually require mitigation. Construction vessels are expected to be the primary source of underwater noise associated with the proposed project. Data provided by the District indicates that underwater noise levels generated by tugs and supply boast range from 147 decibels to 156 decibels at 10 meters from the source; these levels decrease to 107 to 116 decibels within one kilometer. Underwater noise generated by a large crane, such as the one that would be utilized to place armor rock on the seafloor portion of the pipeline, is estimated to be 113 decibels at 100 meters. Based on this data, the District asserts that construction-related noise is not expected to exceed 160 decibels. However, noise levels that exceed 120 decibels, which may result in harassment of marine mammals, could be experienced within 1,000 feet of offshore construction activities.

To ensure that marine mammals are protected during project construction, **Special Condition Thirteen (13)** has been included to require the permittee to implement all of the protective measures outlined in the Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan, which was submitted with the application materials. This plan includes requirements for marine mammal monitors to be onboard during construction vessel mobilization and anchoring, dredging activities for the HDD exit hole, transitioning the HDD portion of the pipeline through the exit hole, pipeline stringing and towing activities, and placement of rock rip rap on transition and seafloor sections of the pipeline. Onboard monitors will note the presence of marine mammals within 1,000 feet of the construction area and will require that all construction activities cease if disturbance to marine mammal behavior occurs. Onboard monitors will also ensure that construction vessels maintain a distance of 500 feet from any marine wildlife and avoid crossing directly in the path of traveling marine mammals. The monitors will also observe dredging operations to create the HDD exit

hole and require modification of dredging operations should a significant in-water turbidity plume be seen.

Furthermore, **Special Condition Five (5)** has been included to require that marine operations and pipeline stringing activities be scheduled to avoid the gray whale migration period. If authorized by the Executive Director project operations may be extended for a limited period, providing that marine mammal monitors are present, if inwater construction or pipeline stringing activities cannot be scheduled to avoid the gray whale migration.

#### Birds

Four special-status species of birds, including the Double-crested cormorant, California gull, California brown pelican, and the Ashy storm petrel, are known to utilize or could potentially utilize the project site. Disturbance to the foraging areas in the coastal waters adjacent to the pipeline alignment area would be short-term and localized, as there are ample foraging areas in the immediate vicinity of the project site. Pipeline stringing activities at Point Mugu have the potential to disturb breeding California least terns, western snowy plovers, and Belding's savannah sparrows that may be utilizing the beach. Furthermore, the beach adjacent to the onshore HDD drilling activities is designated as critical habitat for western snowy plovers.

Therefore, **Special Condition Five (5)** has been included to require that pipeline stringing and pipeline boring activities occur between September 1 and February 28 to avoid the bird breeding and nesting season, including but not limited to the California least tern, western snowy plover, and Belding's savannah sparrow. This time period may be extended for good cause as approved by the Executive Director provided that the District to retain the services of a qualified biologist to conduct bird surveys to determine whether nesting or breeding behavior is occurring and prohibit any construction activities within 300 feet of any nesting songbirds and 500 feet from any raptor, rare, threatened, endangered, or species of concern nest.

In order to ensure that the proposed project does not have any adverse impacts on sensitive marine resources or wildlife and that concerns regarding the proposed project have been addressed by the other State and Federal resource agencies with jurisdiction over the project site, **Special Condition One (1)** has been included to require the District to submit approvals from other resource agencies, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, and the NOAA Fisheries for the proposed project.

### Aquatic Vegetation

Placement of the seafloor/diffuser pipeline, excavation of the HDD exit hole, and placement of anchors for construction vessels on the seafloor also has the potential to disturb and cause the spread of non-native and invasive species, such as *Caulerpa taxifolia*. *Caulerpa taxifolia* is a tropical green marine alga that spreads asexually from fragments and creates a dense monoculture displacing native plant and animal species. Because of toxins in its tissues, *Caulerpa taxifolia* is not eaten by herbivores in areas

where it has invaded. The infestation of *Caulerpa taxifolia* has had serious negative economic and social consequences because of impacts to tourism, recreational diving, and commercial fishing in places such as the Mediterranean<sup>1</sup>. Because of the grave risk to native habitats, in 1999, *Caulerpa taxifolia* was designated a prohibited species in the United States under the Federal Noxious Weed Act. In addition, in September 2001 the Governor signed into law AB 1334 which made it illegal in California for any person to sell, possess, import, transport, transfer, release alive in the state, or give away without consideration various *Caulerpa* species.

In June 2000, *C. taxifolia* was discovered in Aqua Hedionda Lagoon in San Diego County, and in August of that year an infestation was discovered in Huntington Harbor in Orange County. Genetic studies show that this is the same clone as that released in the Mediterranean. Other infestations are likely. Although a tropical species, *C. taxifolia* has been shown to tolerate water temperatures down to at least 50°F. Although warmer southern California habitats are most vulnerable, until better information if available, it must be assumed that the whole California coast is at risk.

In response to the threat that *C. taxifolia* poses to California's marine environment, the Southern California Caulerpa Action Team, SCCAT, was established to respond quickly and effectively to the discovery of *C. taxifolia* infestations in Southern California. The group consists of representatives from several States, federal, local and private entities. The goal of SCCAT is to completely eradicate all *C. taxifolia* infestations.

If *C. taxifolia* or other non-native invasive aquatic species are present, any project that disturbs the bottom could cause its spread by dispersing viable tissue fragments. In order to assure that the proposed project does not cause the dispersal of *C. taxifolia* and other non-native species, **Special Condition Fourteen (14)** has been included. Special Condition 14 requires the District, prior to commencement of development, to survey the project area for the presence of *C. taxifolia* and other non-native invasive aquatic species. If *C. taxifolia* or other non-native invasive aquatic species are present

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> References:

Meinesz, A. (Translated by D. Simberloff) 1999. Killer Algae. University of Chicago Press

Chisholm, J.R.M., M. Marchioretti, and J.M. Jaubert. Effect of low water temperature on metabolism and growth of a subtropical strain of Caulerpa taxifolia (Chlorophyta). Marine Ecology Progress Series 201:189-198

Ceccherelli, G. and F. Cinelli. 1999. The role of vegetative fragmentation in dispersal of the invasive alga Caulerpa taxifolia in the Mediterranean. Marine Ecology Progress Series 182:299-303

Smith C.M. and L.J. Walters. 1999. Fragmentation as a strategy for Caulerpa species: Fates of fragments and implications for management of an invasive weed. Marine Ecology 20:307-319.

Jousson, O., J. Pawlowski, L. Zaninetti, A. Meinesz, and C.F. Boudouresque. 1998. Molecular evidence for the aquarium origin of the green alga Caulerpa taxifolia introduced to the Mediterranean Sea. Marine Ecology Progress Series 172:275-280.

Komatsu, T. A. Meinesz, and D. Buckles. 1997. Temperature and light responses of the alga Caulerpa taxifolia introduced into the Mediterranean Sea. Marine Ecology Progress Series 146:145-153.

Gacia, E. C. Rodriquez-Prieto, O. Delgado, and E. Ballesteros. 1996. Seasonal light and temperature responses of Caulerpa taxifolia from the northwestern Mediterranean. Aquatic Botany 53:215-225.

Belsher, T. and A. Meinesz. 1995. Deep-water dispersal of the tropical alga Caulerpa taxifolia introduced into the Mediterranean. Aquatic Botany 51:163-169.

in the project area, no work may commence and the District shall immediately notify the Executive Director.

#### Beach Resources

Disturbance associated with pipeline stringing activities has the potential to impact sandy beach and intertidal habitats at Point Mugu. Use of sand, cobbles or shoreline rocks for construction material would remove these features from the natural environmental and could result in adverse impacts to wildlife utilizing these habitats. Furthermore, the permanent placement of construction debris on the beach at Point Mugu would cause adverse impacts to the ecology and aesthetics of this area. In order to ensure that physical beach resources are not impacted by pipeline stringing activities, **Special Condition Six (6)** has been included to require that all sand excavated for pipeline stringing be redeposited (and contoured back to its approximate original configuration) on the beach, that no beach resources be utilized for construction materials, and that all construction debris be removed from the beach at Point Mugu, once stringing activities have been completed.

#### Impacts Associated with Effluent Discharge

The Calleguas Creek watershed drains an area of approximately 343 square miles, predominantly in southern Ventura County. The watershed includes Conejo Creek, Arroyo Santa Rosa, Arroyo Simi, Arroyo Las Posas, Calleguas Creek, Revolon Slough, and Mugu Lagoon. The northern boundary of the watershed is formed by the Santa Susana Mountains, South Mountain, and Oak Ridge Mountains. The southern boundary is distinguished by the Simi Hills and the Santa Monica Mountains. Currently, approximately 50 percent of the watershed area is undeveloped open space, 25 percent is agricultural, and 25 percent includes urban uses.

Prior to the 1940's, Calleguas Creek and its main tributaries provided drainage for stormwater and irrigation discharge, with rare occurrences of year-round flow. However, over the past 50 years, steadily increasing wastewater discharges and urban runoff now provide portions of Calleguas Creek with constant flows. Water quality data collected in 2000 indicates that salts concentrate as water collects in the downstream reaches of the watershed and that these reaches often experience salt loadings above the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB's) Basin Plan objectives. The RWQCB has listed numerous reaches of Calleguas Creek and its tributaries within the watershed as impaired waterbodies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act for salt constituents, including chloride, sulfate, and total dissolved solids.

As discussed in the project description section above, the purpose of the proposed project is to reduce the salt loadings into the Calleguas Creek watershed by conveying saline water and concentrate for discharge to the Pacific Ocean. The applicant has indicated that Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Project (CRSMP, of which the proposed project is a part of) would have the following benefits: (1) reducing mass loadings of saline wastewaters containing more than 171,000 pounds per day of total dissolved solids that would otherwise be discharged into the watershed; (2) helping meet Basin Plan water quality objectives for various reaches within the watershed; (3)

providing an additional recycled water resource for beneficial reuse; (4) improving the health of the impaired watershed reaches; and (5) helping achieve compliance with the RWQCB's total maximum daily load objectives for the watershed reaches.

The anticipated dischargers to the CRSMP include: Simi Valley Water Quality Control Plant (concentrate from salt removal process); Moorpark Wastewater Treatment Plant (tertiary wastewater or concentrate from salt removal process); Camarillo Sanitary District Water Reclamation Plant (tertiary wastewater or concentrate from salt removal process); Camrosa Water Reclamation Facility (tertiary wastewater or concentrate from salt removal process); Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant (tertiary wastewater or concentrate from salt removal process); groundwater wells within Calleguas Creek watershed (concentrate from salt removal process); Port Hueneme Water Agency Brackish Water Reclamation Demonstration Facility (concentrate from a salt removal process); and drinking water (concentrate from salt removal process for industrial purposes). The anticipated total flow from all sources is 19.4 million gallons per day (mgd). Although the anticipated flow from all sources listed about is 19.4 mgd, the District indicates that inflows during the first five years of the project would equal 17.52 mgd. The dischargers who are anticipated to comprise this initial 17.52 mgd are those listed above, with the exception of the Moorpark Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Simi Valley Water Quality Control Plant. The daily average concentrations of salts in the effluent from these sources are 886 ppm of total dissolved solids, 150 ppm of chloride, 202 ppm of sulfate, 118 ppm of sodium, and 0.44 ppm of boron per day.

The California Ocean Plan sets forth water quality objectives for ocean waters to protect beneficial uses and prevent nuisance. These water quality limits are multiplied by a dilution ratio to calculate the allowable concentration of a constituent that may be discharged from an outfall. A dilution ratio is a measure of the mixing between the effluent as it is discharged from the diffuser and dispersed through the water column. The Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment prepared for the proposed project referenced a dilution ratio of 99:1. Modeling results indicated that no constituents would be expected to exceed the Ocean Plan water quality objectives using this ratio and that the diffuser design would provide sufficient mixing and dispersion of the discharge to protect water quality. However, during the NPDES permit process, the technical staff of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) recommended that the dilution ratio for this project be established at 72:1.

The SWRCB based its recommended dilution ratio of 72:1 only on the mixing that occurs in the water column before it reaches a depth called the "trapping level" rather than accounting for mixing that would occur through the water column all the way to the water surface. This approach results in a lower and therefore more conservative dilution ratio. A dilution ration of 72:1 is more conservation than 99:1 because it results in more stringent water quality limits for the discharge. The quality of water discharged must therefore have even lower allowable concentrations for all constituents. Even with the more conservative requirements (at dilution ratio of 72:1), the proposed discharge will meet the waste discharge requirements. Furthermore, this dilution ratio is based on the most conservative conditions with respect to water temperature and ambient conditions. Other processes that contribute to additional mixing and dispersal will further the dilution ratio.

On April 3, 2008, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted Order No. R4-2008-0014 and NPDES No. CA0064521 relative to the waste discharge requirements for the proposed project. This order became effective on May 23, 2008 and is valid until March 10, 2013. This approval outlines discharge prohibitions, effluent limitations, receiving water limitations, and the water quality monitoring and reporting requirements. It further specifies the approved dilution ratio for the outfall as 72:1 and limits the effluent discharge to 17.52 mgd.

Although the proposed project would result in localized changes to water quality from the discharge of lower salinity effluent into the ocean, these changes are not expected to cause any significant adverse impacts to ocean water quality. However, failure to implement the dilution ratio and monitoring program required by the RWQCB could result in significant impacts to water quality. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that the appropriate dilution ratio is implemented and that the water quality of the effluent and the receiving waters are monitoring closely. **Special Condition Eight (8)** has been included to require the District to comply with all conditions and requirements outlined in the Los Angeles RWQCB's Waste Discharge Requirements and to conduct water quality monitoring pursuant to the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP No. 9404, which is Attachment E of Order No. R4-2008-0014). Furthermore, Special Condition 8 requires that the District provide the Commission staff with copies of all monitoring reports required pursuant to the monitoring program.

#### **Alteration of Coastal Waters**

Section 30233 of the Coastal Act limits the dredging, diking, and filling of coastal waters to seven allowable uses. According to Section 30233(a), filling of coastal waters can be allowed for, among other purposes, coastal-dependent industrial facilities. The proposed project involves the placement of a portion of pipeline on the seafloor that would transport treated effluent and brine from the Calleguas Creek watershed to the Pacific Ocean. As described above, many reaches of the watershed are listed by the RWQCB as impaired for salts under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1313(d)). Impaired waters are defined as those waters that are too polluted or otherwise degraded to meet the water quality standards generally set by states, territories, or authorized tribes. The Clean Water Act requires the establishment of Total Maximum Daily Loads, or TMDLs, for waterbodies that have been listed as impaired. TMDLs are calculations of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still safely meet water quality standards.

Currently, the TMDL for salts is being exceeded within several areas in the Calleguas Creek watershed. Because many of the watershed reaches are not meeting applicable water quality standards for salts, discharge from wastewater treatment plants and groundwater desalination facilities into these inland waterbodies is prohibited under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. Therefore, in order to improve the water quality within the Calleguas Creek watershed and meet the TMDL requirements, it is necessary to construct an ocean outfall for the discharge of higher salinity effluent. Those wastewater treatment facilities that are currently discharging into the watershed are in violation of the Clean Water Act and will continue to be so until the proposed project is constructed and in operation.

Because high salinity effluent can not continue to be discharged to inland locations within the watershed, it is necessary to utilize ocean water to achieve the appropriate dilution ratio for salts. The proposed outfall pipeline is a coastal-dependent industrial facility because ocean water is required for the dilution of salts from the watershed, so that the ocean environment is a required receiving body for the effluent. Since the project is dependent upon the ocean medium, it meets the definition of allowable uses for fill of coastal waters as defined by Section 30233.

The project, as proposed, is not expected to have adverse impacts on marine resources. However, unanticipated adverse impacts could be caused by changes to the project if it is not constructed in general conformance with the design and location that was proposed in the permit application and EIR. To ensure that project construction and implementation will not have any adverse impacts on marine resources and will be generally consistent with the project, as proposed, **Special Condition Two (2)** has been included to require the District to submit final project plans to the Executive Director for review and approval.

Although the placement of this pipeline on the seafloor is not expected to have any significant adverse impacts on marine resources, it is important to recognize that abandonment of the pipeline, should it no longer be necessary for the outfall purposes discussed above, would constitute fill in coastal waters that is inconsistent with the allowable uses described in Section 30233 of the Coastal Act. Abandonment of the pipeline would be characterized as unnecessary debris in the ocean environment and could contribute to cumulative impacts associated with other abandoned infrastructure on the seafloor. In order to minimize unnecessary fill in the ocean, **Special Condition Eleven (11)** has been added to require the District to remove the entire pipeline and all associated structures, should its use for the purposed authorized herein be discontinued for a period of one year.

Feasible mitigation measures which will minimize all adverse environmental effects have been required as special conditions. As conditioned, there are no feasible alternatives or measures that would substantially lessen any significant adverse impact that the activity may have on the environment. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed project, as conditioned is consistent with Section 30233 of the Coastal Act.

The purpose of the proposed project is to restore water quality in the Calleguas Creek watershed, which will ultimately have a beneficial impact on ocean water quality. For the reasons described above, the construction of the proposed outfall pipeline, as conditioned, would not result in adverse impacts to coastal water quality or marine resources. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed project, as conditioned, is consistent with Sections 30230, 30231, and 30233 of the Coastal Act.

# **D. PUBLIC ACCESS AND RECREATION**

Section 30210 of the Coastal Act states:

In carrying out the requirement of Section 4 of Article X of the California Constitution, maximum access, which shall be conspicuously posted, and recreational opportunities shall be provided for all the people consistent with public safety needs and the need to protect public rights, rights of private property owners, and natural resource areas from overuse.

Section 30211 of the Coastal Act states:

Development shall not interfere with the public's right of access to the sea where acquired through use or legislative authorization, including, but not limited to, the use of dry sand and rocky coastal beaches to the first line of terrestrial vegetation.

Section 30220 of the Coastal Act states:

Coastal areas suited for water-oriented recreational activities that cannot readily be provided at inland water areas shall be protected for such uses.

Public access and recreational opportunities within the vicinity of the project site are typically centered on beach activities and local parks. Recreational areas in the vicinity of the project site include Moranda Park and its adjacent Bubbling Springs Recreation Corridor to the north and Ormond Beach Dunes and Wetlands to the east. Public access directly within the project area includes the Port Hueneme Beach Park. Port Hueneme Beach Park extends from Ormond Beach approximately one mile north to the Port of Port Hueneme. This 60-acre facility is the City of Port Hueneme's largest public recreation area and offers year-round recreational activities including picnicking areas, in-line skating and bicycle routes, snack bar and restaurant, playground, and volleyball nets. The Beach Park also includes the Port Hueneme Fishing Pier which provides daily opportunities for fishing, walking, and wildlife observation and is also used for annual summer events for the public, such as the Hueneme Beach Festival.

There are three public parking lots at Port Hueneme Beach Park: Parking Lots A, B, and C, with a total of 416 parking spaces (7 of which are available for handicap parking). Additionally, paid/permit beach parking is available on Surfside Drive and Ventura Road, providing approximately 120 additional parking spaces. Further north on Ventura Road and Surfside Drive, additional unpaid public parking is available with one or two-hour parking limits.

Approximately 110 parking spaces within Parking Lot A would not be available to the public for approximately 8 months during project construction. After construction activities are completed, Lot A would be completely repaved and restriped. Due to the amount of parking that would remain available in the adjacent lots within the Beach Park and in the immediate vicinity of the project site and the temporary nature of closing a portion of Beach Lot A, the proposed project is not expected to have any adverse impacts to coastal public access or recreation at or adjacent to the project site. Although there is ample parking adjacent to Parking Lot A, closure of a portion of this lot during the summer months could create impacts to visitor access during peak summer
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use. Therefore, **Special Condition Five (5)** has been included to prohibit construction with Parking Lot A between May 15 through September 15 to minimize conflicts between construction and beach public access and recreation

Additionally, the establishment of staging areas and placement of construction equipment at the project site has the potential to impact the public's ability to access the beach. **Special Condition Four (4)** has been included to require the District to implement the construction "Staging Area Plan" and "Coastal and Beach Access Plan" in order to avoid impacts to public access, beach areas, or sensitive habitat areas.

Finally, installation of the nearshore portion of the pipeline using HDD technology would allow for construction activities to occur beneath the beach, intertidal areas, and surf zone at Port Hueneme Beach Park. Installation using this technique ensures that the adjacent beach walkways, bike path, and general beach access will remain open during all construction activities authorized herein. Although offshore pipeline installation involving the use of several marine construction vessels including barges and tugs would have the potential to impact recreational fishing within the immediate area of the pipeline alignment, there is ample open water habitat surrounding the project site that would remain available for use by recreational fisherman.

Therefore, for the reasons discussed above, the Commission finds that the proposed project, as conditioned, will minimize adverse impacts to coastal access and recreation to the maximum extent feasible, consistent with Coastal Act Sections 30210, 30211, and 30220.

# **E. VISUAL RESOURCES**

Section 30251 of the Coastal Act states:

The scenic and visual qualities of coastal areas shall be considered and protected as a resource of public importance. Permitted development shall be sited and designed to protect views to and along the ocean and scenic coastal areas, to minimize the alteration of natural land forms, to be visually compatible with the character of surrounding areas, and, where feasible, to restore and enhance visual quality in visually degraded areas. New development in highly scenic areas such as those designated in the California Coastline reservation and Recreation Plan prepared by the Department of Parks and Recreation and by local government shall be subordinate to the character of its setting.

Views from Port Hueneme Beach Park include industrial activities and equipment at Port Hueneme to the north as well as panoramic views of the ocean and offshore Channel Islands. Construction-related activities associated with the proposed project would require equipment including, but not limited to, an HDD drilling rig, crane, and marine construction vessels. During construction, impacts to visual resources associated with construction work and equipment would occur; however, these impacts would be temporary in nature and would not occur during the summer months when use of the beach by the public is at its highest.

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Once construction is completed, the only components that would be visible would be manhole entry points that will be flush with the parking lot surface and a small utility cabinet that would be located in a landscaped island within Parking Lot A. The proposed project would not result in permanent components or operations that would have an adverse impact on the scenic and visual qualities the coastal areas surrounding the project site. As such, the proposed project is not expected to result any permanent impacts to views of the beach or coastal areas. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed project, as conditioned, is consistent with 30251 of the Coastal Act.

# F. LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM

The development that is the subject of this permit is located within two jurisdictions: the retained jurisdiction of the Coastal Commission and the LCP jurisdiction of the City Port Hueneme. The Commission certified the Land Use Plan and the Implementing Actions for the City of Port Hueneme on February 11, 1983 and July 25, 1984, respectively.

As described above, Section 30601.3 of the Coastal Act provides the necessary authority for the Commission to process a consolidated coastal development permit for proposed projects that would otherwise require a coastal development permit from both a local government with a certified local coastal program and the Commission. The standard of review for a consolidated coastal development permit application submitted pursuant to Section 30601.3(a) shall follow Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 30200), with the appropriate local coastal program used as guidance. Additionally, no inconsistencies were identified with the City of Port Hueneme's certified LCP.

The preceding sections provide findings that the proposed project will be in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 if certain conditions are incorporated into the project and are accepted by the applicant. As conditioned, the proposed development will not create adverse impacts and is found to be consistent with the applicable policies contained in Chapter 3.

# G. CEQA

Section 13096(a) of the Commission's administrative regulations requires Commission approval of a Coastal Development Permit application to be supported by a finding showing the application, as conditioned by any conditions of approval, to be consistent with any applicable requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Section 21080.5(d)(2)(A) of CEQA prohibits a proposed development from being approved if there are feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available which would substantially lessen any significant adverse effect that the activity may have on the environment.

The Commission incorporates its findings on Coastal Act consistency at this point as if set forth in full. These findings address and respond to all public comments regarding potential significant adverse environmental effects of the project that were received prior to preparation of the staff report. As discussed above, the proposed development, as conditioned, is consistent with the policies of the Coastal Act. Feasible mitigation

#### 4-07-131 (Calleguas Municipal Water District) Page 31

measures which will minimize all adverse environmental effects have been required as special conditions. As conditioned, there are no feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available, beyond those required, which would substantially lessen any significant adverse impact that the activity may have on the environment. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed project, as conditioned to mitigate the identified impacts, can be found to be consistent with the requirements of the Coastal Act to conform to CEQA.

















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EXHIBIT NO. 5 APPLICATION NO. 4-07-131 HOD Process











CALIFUHNIA COASTAL COMMISSION SOUTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT

- DATE: October 20, 2008
- TO: Chairman Kruer and Commissioners South Central Coast District Staff
- FROM: Calleguas MWD
- RE: Letters in Support of Calleguas MWD Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Attached please find **three additional letters** expressing support for the Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project to add to the package sent to you on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The enclosed letters are highlighted in bold and identified accordingly on the comprehensive list below:

- Congresswoman Lois Capps (enclosed)
- Congressman Elton Gallegly
- Senator Sheila Kuehl
- Assemblywoman Julia Brownley
- Assemblyman Cameron Smyth
- Assemblywoman Audra Strickland
- Ventura County Supervisor Kathy Long
- The City of Port Hueneme
- The City of Oxnard (enclosed)
- The City of Camarillo
- The City of Simi Valley
- The City of Thousand Oaks
- Camrosa Water District
- Calleguas Creek Watershed Steering Committee
- Rancho Simi Park District (enclosed)
- Farm Bureau of Ventura County
- Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County

Attachments - three letters

EXHIBIT NO. 9
APPLICATION NO.
4-07-131
Correspondence

LOIS CAPPS 23rd District, California

1110 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0522 (202) 225-3601

> COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

> The Honorable Patrick Kruer Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219



DISTRICT OFFICES: 1411 MARSH STREET, SUITE 205 SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401 (805) 545-8348

101 WEST ANAPAMU STREET, SUITE C

Congress of the United States

SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101 (805) 730-1710

House of Representatives October 15, 2008 2675 NORTH VENTURA ROAD, SUITE 105 PORT HUENEME, CA 93041 (805) 985-6807

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OCT 21 200

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION SOUTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT

#### RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

I am writing to express my support for the Calleguas Municipal Water District (MWD) Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project. I have been working with the Calleguas MWD for the past several years to secure federal funding for this project, and I would urge the Commission to carefully consider its merits with regard to watershed protection and enhancement.

Implementation of the project will result in a net reduction in the salinity of surface and ground waters in Ventura County's Calleguas Creek Watershed, which will benefit local agriculture and riparian habitat and will facilitate the recovery and reuse of local water sources.

Calleguas MWD has been careful to construct this watershed-enhancing project in an environmentally-conscientious manner. The project will avoid impacting sensitive coastal habitat by shifting the project location from neighboring wetlands to an urban beach community near the region's active shipping port. The project sponsor also plans to restrict construction activity from September to May and tunneling under the beach and surf zone to avoid impacts to beachgoers and protect Port Hueneme's fishing pier.

I would also note that this project takes into account the quality of our coastal waters. The water from the Salinity Management Pipeline is far better quality than required by Ocean Plan Standards, and the Hueneme Outfall Replacement project is equipped with a multi-port diffuser that will facilitate gentle mixing of project water with ocean water. Moreover, Calleguas MWD has committed to working with Commission staff to ensure the project complies with the Coastal Act.

The Salinity Management Pipeline has earned the support of federal, state and local government agencies, including the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the California Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board.

Considering the tremendous water quality and water supply benefits for the region, I encourage the California Coastal Commission to support this project, consistent with all relevant rules and regulations.

Sincerely,

Jois Cappa LOIS CAPPS

Member of Congress



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR 305 West Third Street • Oxnard, CA 93030 • (805) 385-7435 • Fax (805) 385-7595 E-mail: drtomholden@aol.com

September 29, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

On behalf of the City of Oxnard, I would like to express our support for the Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD) Salinity Management Project.

The City receives approximately forty percent of its water supply from CMWD, one of two wholesale water agencies on which the City of Oxnard depends for its water supply. In order to meet the highest drinking water standards for our residents and businesses, the City blends the imported water from CMWD with local groundwater.

Regional supply reliability is of utmost importance to Oxnard. We are growing increasingly concerned about the City's reliance on imported water and the vulnerability of the CMWD's current imported supply. In the past four years, numerous threats to the State Water Project have provided an added incentive to bolster local water supplies. Seismic vulnerability, seawater intrusion, increased flooding, and the recent loss of snow pack have been compounded by the collapse of the Bay-Deita ecosystem, resulting in reduced exports to our region. The current drought only adds to this burden and translates to higher water rates for our customers as CMWD seeks alternative emergency supplies. The City of Oxnard has an active Water Conservation Program, and has set high goals for using its water supplies efficiently. Increasing efficiency and reducing overall water use, however, will not be sufficient to meet the needs of the City.

CMWD is making the right regional investment to ensure Ventura County has a diverse water portfolio. Once built, the Salinity Management Project will enable the development of previously unusable local supplies. In addition, the Project will enable better use of recycled water within the CMWD service area, extending our current regional resources. The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission Page 2

The Salinity Management Project is part of a greater capital construction program designed to reduce Ventura County's dependence on the Delta. It is an essential investment in sustainable water management and one Oxnard supports. We encourage your thoughtful consideration of the siting and approval of this important capital project.

Sincerely,

Aunt

Thomas E. Holden Mayor



October 2, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

#### RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chair Kruer:

On behalf of Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District, I would like to express our support for Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

Rancho Simi has been an active participant in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Planning effort for many years, and we truly value the opportunity to coordinate resource management with other stakeholders on a watershed scale. Parks and open space are an essential part of the community landscape, and water is vital to parks. We need a reliable water supply to keep our parks green, and we need good quality water in our creeks to sustain the habitat on which so many native species depend.

Calleguas' Salinity Management Pipeline is an integral component of our Watershed Management Plan. The project was approved as an early action item by the Watershed Steering Committee because is essential to the operation of several treatment facilities designed to reduce salts in local groundwater supplies in compliance with new water quality standards. In addition, the Salinity Management Pipeline will enable the region to develop more recycled water by serving as a conveyance facility to move water from where it is produced to where it is needed.

The Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project was identified by the Regional Water Quality Control Board as the environmentally superior alternative for discharges from the Salinity Management Pipeline, and the discharge water quality is well within Ocean Plan standards. This is important, as marine habitat is no less valuable than the riparian and terrestrial habitat we strive to protect. The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair October 2, 2008 Page 2

This is a win-win project. It improves our local water supply, protects local habitat and disposes of salts in an environmentally responsible manner. Therefore, the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District urges the Coastal Commission to approve the Hueneme Outfall Replacement project when the item comes before you.

Sincerely,

Jon. 22 & 71/erediter

James L. Meredith Chair, Board of Directors Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District



RECEIVED

SEP 1 9 2008

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION SOUTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT

DATE: September 17, 2008

TO: Chairman Kruer and Commissioners South Central Coast District Staff

FROM: Calleguas MWD

RE: Letters in Support of Calleguas MWD Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Attached please find letters from the following individuals and organizations expressing their support for the Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project:

- Congressman Elton Gallegly
- Senator Sheila Kuehl
- Assemblywoman Julia Brownley
- Assemblyman Cameron Smyth
- Assemblywoman Audra Strickland
- Ventura County Supervisor Kathy Long
- The City of Port Hueneme
- The City of Camarillo
- The City of Simi Valley
- The City of Thousand Oaks
- Camrosa Water District
- Calleguas Creek Watershed Steering Committee
- Farm Bureau of Ventura County
- Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County

Attachments

ELTON GALLEGLY

24TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA www.house.gov/gallegly/

2309 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0523 (202) 225-5811

2829 TOWNSGATE ROAD, SUITE 315 THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91361 (800) 423-0023 (805) 497-2224

485 ALISAL ROAD, SUITE G-1A SOLVANG, CA 93463 (800) 423-0023 (805) 686-2525

> The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515–0524

August 28, 2008

#### COMMITTEES: FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

RANKING MEMBER, EUROPE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

#### JUDICIARY

SUBCOMMITTEES:

 VICE RANKING MEMBER, IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP, REFUGEES, BORDER SECURITY,

AND INTERNATIONAL LAW COURTS, THE INTERNET, AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE:

INSULAR AFFAIRS

HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE SUBCOMMITTEE:

 TERRORISM, HUMAN INTELLIGENCE, ANALYSIS AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

#### RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline -- Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project

Dear Chairman Kruer:

I am writing you urge your serious consideration of Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

I have been working with Calleguas for over a decade to address water quality concerns in Southern Ventura County. In 1996, I successfully secured a \$20 million federal authorization for the Salinity Management Pipeline, which now receives funding through the United States Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI program.

The Hueneme Outfall Replacement project is essential to the operation of this pipeline. Once the outfall is constructed, water agencies along Calleguas Creek can begin the process of removing salt from the watershed, while generating 40,000 acre feet of vital local water supplies. Until then, the region remains vulnerable to disruption of imported water supplies.

The benefits of the Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline are widely recognized by resource agencies, agricultural interests and environmental groups alike. The project is a central component of the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Planning effort, having been approved as an early action item by the Watershed Steering Committee in March of 2000. Moreover, it is an essential prerequisite for future water quality and supply programs. The Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project was identified by the Regional Water Quality Control Board as the environmentally superior alternative for discharges from the Salinity Management Pipeline.

Our water resource are limited in Southern California. We must manage them thoughtfully for the benefit of future generations. Please take this opportunity to approve the Hueneme Outfall Replacement project's Coastal Development Permit, so our communities can be assured clean, reliable water.

Sincerely,

ELTON GALLEGLY Member of Congress

CAPITOL OFFICE STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 5108 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 TEL (916) 651-4023 FAX (916) 324-4823

DISTRICT OFFICES 10951 WEST PICO BLVD., SUITE 202 LOS ANGELES, CA 90064 TEL (310) 441-9084 FAX (310) 441-0724

300 WEST THIRD ST., 4TH FLOOR OXNARD, CA 93030 TEL (805) 486-3776 FaX (805) 486-6865 California State Senate

SENATOR SHEILA JAMES KUEHL

TWENTY-THIRD SENATE DISTRICT

CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH



COMMITTEES: AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY JUDICIARY LABOR & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER SELECT COMMITTEES: CHAIR, HEALTH INSURANCE CRISIS IN CALIFORNIA CHAIR. SCHOOL SAFETY JOINT COMMITTEE: JOINT COMMITTEE:

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

#### RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

For more than twelve years, the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Plan Steering Committee has been working to solve Ventura County's water resources challenges. Calleguas Creek is currently impaired due to excessive levels of salt in both groundwater and surface supplies. Already too saline for salt-sensitive crops like avocados and strawberries, increasing salinity levels in the creek threaten the watershed's habitat, as well.

The Salinity Management Pipeline is essential to the operation of several treatment projects designed to clean up local groundwater supplies and to better utilize recycled water. With the Salinity Management Pipeline, salt from the treatment of groundwater and recycled water will be conveyed downstream for permitted uses, where salinity is not a concern. Any excess project water would be safely discharged through the proposed Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project to the ocean, where the salt level is roughly ten times higher than that conveyed through the pipeline.

Not only does this project reduce salts in this 325-square mile watershed, it also facilitates the development of local water resources, offsetting the need for imported water. Ventura County's imported water supplies risk continued reduction and interruption due to escalating challenges in California's Bay-Delta region. A recent report by the Governor's Bay-Delta Blue Ribbon Task Force identified regional water management, like that promoted in Calleguas Creek Watershed Plan, as key to the reliability of the State's water supply. Given the fragile state of the Bay-Delta ecosystem, we must reduce our dependence on imported water supplies, and we must do so in an environmentally conscientious manner. By cleaning up the watershed and developing local water supplies, the Salinity Management Pipeline does just that.

Representing the cities of Agoura Hills, Beverly Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Monica, West Hollywood and Westlake Village and the communities of Bel Air, Brentwood, Canoga Park, Encino, Hollywood, Mt. Olympus, Port Hueneme, Pacific Palisades, Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Tarzana, Topanga, West Los Angeles, West Hills, Westwood and Woodland Hills.



The Salinity Management Pipeline is the product of a cooperative, stakeholder-driven process. Even so, early on in the development of the pipeline, Calleguas reached out to the broader environmental community in order to seek feedback on the project. The Salinity Management Pipeline and the Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project, in particular, have been improved by the input Calleguas received from environmental groups and the community at large. The evolution of the Outfall project from one that was co-located with a power plant, near the sensitive Ormond Beach wetlands, to the current Hueneme Outfall, which is superior in its design and its proximity to urban uses, is worthy of note. So too, is the District's commitment to minimize impacts to the beach and surrounding community, by maintaining beach access, drilling under the beach and surf zones, and utilizing the nearby Naval Base as a staging area for large scale pipe-stringing operations to avoid disturbing possible nesting areas. Monitoring of water quality as water enters the pipe, at the point of discharge, and in the ocean, will also help to insure the project is protective of ocean water quality.

The benefits of the Salinity Management Pipeline are widely recognized by resource agencies, as well as agricultural interests and environmental groups. We must encourage this type of project if we are to ensure a sustainable water future for California. I urge your thoughtful review and approval of this project which stands as a positive example of collaborative water resource management.

Sincerely,

SHEILA JAMES KUEHL Senator, 23rd District

CHAIR, BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION (NO. 2)



JULIA BROWNLEY ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 41<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0041 (916) 319-2041 FAX (916) 319-2141

DISTRICT OFFICE 6355 TOPANGA CANYON BLVD. SUITE 205 WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91367-2108 (818) 596-4141 (310) 395-3414 (805) 644-4141 FAX (818) 596-4150

August 27, 2008

Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

> Re: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

I am writing to express my support for Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

My office has been working with Calleguas MWD to advance the goals of the Calleguas Creek Watershed Planning effort to solve the water resource challenges of the region for the benefit all users – municipal, agricultural and environmental. The Salinity Management Pipeline is essential to the operation of several treatment projects designed to clean up local groundwater supplies and better utilize recycled water. Not only does this project reduce the amount of salt impacting agriculture and riparian habitat in the 325 square-mile watershed, it provides another possible water resource for salt-tolerant crops and wetlands restoration along the coast.

I am pleased with the effort Calleguas MWD has made to work with the community and respect the environment in planning the Salinity Management Pipeline siting the facility away from sensitive coastal wetlands. Regional Board staff identified the Hueneme Outfall as environmentally superior to the original site, which involved shared use of Reliant Energy's cooling outfall. I concur with this recommendation, and commend Calleguas on their efforts to maintain beach access throughout the construction of the project.

Lastly, I support the project's goal of developing local water supplies to offset the demand of imported water from the State Water Project and the Bay-Delta. It is essential that Southern California reduce its dependence on the vulnerable Bay-Delta ecosystem by investing in local supplies, particularly in light of current state water supply conditions.

The benefits of the Salinity Management Pipeline are widely recognized by resource agencies, agricultural interests and environmental groups alike in Ventura County and at the State level. Thank you for your careful consideration, and in anticipation of your approval of this important community project.

Sincerely,

JULIA BROWNLEY, Assemblywoman, 41<sup>st</sup> District

STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0038 (916) 319-2038 FAX (916) 319-2138

DISTRICT OFFICE 23734 VALENCIA BLVD., SUITE 303 SANTA CLARITA, CA 91355 (661) 286-1565 FAX (661) 286-1408 Assembly California Legislature

#### COMMITTEES:

VICE CHAIR, ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AND TOXIC MATERIALS LOCAL GOVERNMENT UTILITIES AND COMMERCE

CAMERON SMYTH ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT

August 28. 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

I am writing to express my support for Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

For more than ten years, residents, farmers, water providers, environmentalists and government representatives have been working together to address water quality and supply problems in the Calleguas Creek Watershed with salinity a central concern. In March of 2000, the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Steering Committee approved the Salinity Management Pipeline as an early action item for the benefit of the region. Today, the project has earned the support and funding from federal, state and local agencies.

Implementation of the Salinity Management Pipeline - Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project will result in a net reduction in the salinity of both surface and ground waters in the 325 square mile Calleguas Creek watershed. The project is considered a prerequisite for future habitat enhancement and water supply programs, and it is essential to delivering agriculture the quality of water they need to remain the leading producers of avocados and strawberries in the state.

As the primary urban water wholesaler in Ventura County, Calleguas Water is working together with other local agencies to implement brackish groundwater recovery and recycled water projects throughout the watershed that will result in 40,000 acre feet of additional water supply. The Salinity Management Pipeline is central to these projects, as it provides the means to move salts from groundwater treatment out of the upper watershed to the ocean, where they can be safely discharged. In addition to their regional water quality benefits, these projects are designed to improve local water reliability and offset the need for additional imported water supplies.

Patrick Kruer 8/28/08 Page 2

Ventura County is heavily dependent on imported water from the State Water Project. Given the state of the Bay-Delta ecosystem and the current water supply picture, we can anticipate more cuts in exports. The Salinity Management Pipeline offers local reliability and addresses our most serious regional water quality problem -- salinity. Calleguas is to be commended for taking a leadership role in solving these regional challenges. I urge the Commission to enthusiastically support the project and approve the coastal development permit when the item comes before you.

Thank you for your time and dedication and please feel free to contact my office at (661) 286-1565 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

CAMERON M. SMYTH Assemblyman, 38<sup>th</sup> District

STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0037 (916) 319-2037 FAX (916) 319-2137

DISTRICT OFFICE 2659 TOWNSGATE RD., STE 236 WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA 91361 (805) 230-9167 FAX (805) 230-9183 August 25, 2008

# Assembly California Legislature



AUDRA STRICKLAND ASSEMBLYWOMAN, THIRTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

I am writing to express my support for Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

Ventura County's water reliability is facing many challenges. Over 75% of the population depends on imported water from the State Water Project, which grows less reliable daily. Salinity in the local Calleguas Creek Watershed is increasing in both the surface and groundwater sources, jeopardizing local agriculture on which our economy depends.

Calleguas Municipal Water District is proposing to solve both challenges with the construction of a Salinity Management Pipeline that will facilitate the treatment and development of up to 40,000 acre feet of brackish groundwater, reducing the region's dependence on imported supplies. The Salinity Management Pipeline Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project will enable Calleguas to transport salts that are currently causing water quality degradation in the upper watershed to the ocean, where background salinity is nearly ten times as salty as the brine concentrate in the pipeline. Excess (tertiary treated) recycled water will also be conveyed through the SMP for downstream application or to the ocean, if necessary.

With ongoing threats to state water supplies and continued forecast of drought, this project is urgently needed. The water quality improvements alone merit pursuit if we are to continue farming in the region. I urge you to act swiftly to approve the Salinity Management Pipeline Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project, so that we can bring these essential water projects online and comply with water quality regulations.

Thank you in advance for taking my comments into consideration.

Sincerely,

dia Shielland

AUDRA STRICKLAND Assemblywoman, 37<sup>th</sup> District

cc: Members of the California Coastal Commission California Coastal Commission South Central Coast District Staff Calleguas Municipal Water District Board of Directors

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MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PETER C. FOY Chair STEVE BENNETT LINDA PARKS KATHY LONG JOHN K. FLYNN

#### KATHY I. LONG

SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT (805) 654-2276 FAX: (805) 654-2226 (800) 660-5474 EXT. 6542276 E-mail: kathy.long@ventura.org

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF VENTURA GOVERNMENT CENTER, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93009

August 28, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

I want to express my support and to urge your Commission's approval of Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

The Salinity Management Pipeline traverses three separate jurisdictions in my district, and its merits are well-known to these communities—improved water quality for farms, municipalities and habitat and increased water supplies to better withstand disruption of imported water.

The Salinity Management Pipeline (SMP) is essential to the operation of several water treatment projects designed to reduce salts in local groundwater supplies and better utilize recycled water in compliance with new water quality standards. The pipeline will enable Calleguas to transport salts that are currently causing water quality degradation in the upper watershed to the ocean, where background salinity is nearly ten times as salty as the brine concentrate in the pipeline. Excess recycled water will also be conveyed through the SMP for downstream application or to the ocean, if necessary. The quality of water in the SMP is well-within Ocean Plan Standards, and a monitoring program has been established that will test water before it enters the SMP, at the point of discharge, and in the ocean.

I would like to acknowledge Calleguas' efforts to work with the local community as this project has evolved. Early on, the District canvassed local residents and businesses along the pipeline alignment to respond to questions and gather feedback on the project. Spanish translation was provided to ensure that the interests of the largely Hispanic community were represented. In addition, Calleguas solicited input from, and has been responsive to, numerous environmental groups. The project is better for incorporating their recommendations to avoid impacts to the beach, assure water quality, and protect local habitat


Letter re: CDP 4-07-131 August 28, 2008 Page 2

I strongly support the Salinity Management Pipeline and encourage this body to approve the application in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Hathy J. Long Kathy Long

Supervisor, Third District

cc: Members of the California Coastal Commission California Coastal Commission South Central Coast District Staff Calleguas Municipal Water District Board of Directors



# City of Port Hueneme

"The Friendly City By The Sea"

September 3, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

# REF: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

On behalf of the City of Port Hueneme, I would like to express our support for Calleguas Municipal Water District's (MWD) Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008, the City of Port Hueneme formally endorsed this project with the approval of the Coastal Development Permit for that segment of the Salinity Management Pipeline that traverses City boundaries, up to and including Hueneme Beach. The City of Port Hueneme views Calleguas as a partner in providing water to our community. The Salinity Management Pipeline is the latest example of the collaborative working relationship between our two agencies, assuring our residents have a reliable, quality supply of water.

Port Hueneme Water Agency is a leader in groundwater desalination research and technology, having established the first pilot treatment plant in the region in 1993. Known as the Brackish Water Reclamation Demonstration Facility, this treatment plant will be the first facility to benefit from the Salinity Management Pipeline. When complete, salts from the treatment of local groundwater will be discharged into the Salinity Management Pipeline, instead of through the City of Oxnard's Wastewater Treatment Plant as is current practice.

250 North Ventura Road • Port Hueneme, CA 93041 • Phone (805) 986-6500 www.ci.port-hueneme.ca.us

In addition to the specific project benefits, Calleguas has worked extensively with City staff to minimize the temporary construction impacts on our community and to assure long-term water quality objectives for the coast. Calleguas has honored all of the City's requests to respect the Hueneme beachfront, avoiding construction under and around our historic fishing pier and restricting construction between September and May, so as not to interfere with prime tourist season. Drilling for the outfall will occur in the beach parking lot to avoid disturbing the beach itself, and the District has committed to maintain beach access at all times, including our popular bike trail. Of greater importance are the long-term protections for our beach water quality. We understand that the quality of the water discharged through Hueneme Outfall surpasses Ocean Plan standards. We are nonetheless pleased that Calleguas has agreed to monitor inputs to the pipeline as well as ocean water guality to assure our beaches remain healthy and attractive for public recreation and marine life.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the regional water supply benefits of this project. The City of Port Hueneme is well aware of Ventura County's dependence on imported water and the threats to those State Water Project supplies with the crisis in the Bay-Delta. This project will help to facilitate the development of 40,000 acre feet of currently unusable groundwater, improving the reliability of supplies for Ventura County. At the same time, these local projects will solve critical water guality challenges in our region.

Calleguas should be acknowledged for the District's extensive outreach to local businesses and residents well in advance of the permitting process. We have found the District to be equally responsive to our questions and suggestions as those from the community at-large.

The City of Port Hueneme supports the Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project, and we urge the Commission to approve the application in a timely manner.

Sincerely.

TONI YOUNG MAYOR

Members of the California Coastal Commission C: California Coastal Commission South Central Coast District Staff Calleguas Municipal Water District Board of Directors





Office of the City Manager (805) 388-5307 Fax (805) 388-5318

August 29, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

# Re: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

I am writing you on behalf of the City of Camarillo to express our support for Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

For more than ten years, the City of Camarillo has participated in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Planning effort in an attempt to solve the water supply and water quality challenges of the region. The Salinity Management Pipeline (SMP) is essential to the operation of several treatment projects designed to reduce salts in local groundwater supplies and better utilize recycled water in compliance with new water quality standards.

The City of Camarillo is currently in the planning and design phase of a \$30 million brackish groundwater treatment facility that will incorporate reverse osmosis technology. The salts removed from our groundwater will be discharged into the Calleguas Salinity Management Pipeline. Our brackish groundwater treatment facility will be ready to serve our customers in the next five years.

The Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project was identified by the Regional Water Quality Control Board as the environmentally superior alternative for discharges from the Salinity Management Pipeline. Still, it is our hope that we will be able to put much of this water to beneficial use. With ongoing threats to State Water supplies, we have shifted our focus to local water resource options. Now, more than ever, this project is needed to ensure water reliability in our region. The City of Camarillo urges your expeditious approval of the Salinity Management Pipeline Outfall Replacement Project so that we can bring critical water projects online and comply with water quality regulations.

Sincerely,

Kreey Bartos ton

Jerry Bankston City Manager



Members of the California Coastal Commission California Coastal Commission South Central Coast District Staff Calleguas Municipal Water District Board of Directors



September 5, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

## RE: CALLEGUAS REGIONAL SALINITY MANAGEMENT PIPELINE – HUENEME OUTFALL REPLACEMENT PROJECT (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

I am writing you on behalf of the City of Simi Valley to express our support for Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

For more than ten years, the City of Simi Valley has participated in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Planning effort in an attempt to solve the water supply and water quality challenges of the region. The Salinity Management Pipeline (SMP) is essential to the operation of several treatment projects designed to reduce salts in local groundwater supplies and better utilize recycled water in compliance with new water quality standards.

The City needs the SMP for projects already underway and projects being planned to improve water quality and maximize local water resource usage. These include the Tapo Canyon Water Treatment Plant and the West Simi Basin, both potential groundwater sources relying upon the SMP to discharge the salts. Additionally, the SMP is needed for the City to meet the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) limits. The Los Angeles Regional Quality Control Board recently issued the TMDL for the Calleguas Creek Watershed.

The Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project was identified by the Regional Water Quality Control Board as the environmentally superior alternative for discharges from the Salinity Management Pipeline. Still, it is our hope that we will be able to put much of this water to beneficial use. With ongoing threats to State Water supplies, we have shifted our focus to local water resource options. Now, more than ever, this project is needed to ensure The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair September 5, 2008 Page 2

water reliability in our region. The City of Simi Valley urges your expeditious approval of the Salinity Management Pipeline Outfall Replacement Project so that we can bring critical water projects online and comply with water quality regulations.

Sincerely,

2

Paul Miller Mayor

cc: Members of the California Coastal Commission California Coastal Commission South Central Coast District Staff Calleguas Municipal Water District Board of Directors



**City of Thousand Oaks** 

MAYOR JACQUI V. IRWIN

August 26, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont St. San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

### RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131) – SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Kruer:

I am writing you on behalf of the City of Thousand Oaks to express our support for Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline -- Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

For more than ten years, Thousand Oaks has participated in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Planning effort in an attempt to solve the water supply and water quality challenges of the region. The Salinity Management Pipeline is essential to the operation of several treatment projects designed to reduce salts in local groundwater supplies and better utilize recycled water in compliance with new water quality standards.

The Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project was identified by the Regional Water Quality Control Board as the environmentally superior alternative for discharges from the Salinity Management Pipeline. Still, it is our hope that we will be able to put much of this water to beneficial use. With ongoing threats to State water supplies, we have shifted our focus to local water resource options. Now, more than ever, this project is needed to ensure water reliability in our region. The City of Thousand Oaks urges your expeditious approval of the Salinity Management Pipeline Outfall Replacement Project so that we can bring critical water projects online and comply with water quality regulations.

Sincerely,

↓acqui V. Irwin Mayor

cc: Members of the California Coastal Commission California Coastal Commission South Central Coast District Staff Calleguas Municipal Water District Board of Directors Joe A. Gonsalves & Son City Council

CMO:\660-40\js\CMO\lrwin\Support Calleguas Pipeline.doc Dpw:660-40/slh/legislation/calleguas

2100 Thousand Oaks Boulevard • Thousand Oaks, California 91362-2903 • (805) 449-2121 • FAX (805) 449-2125

# CALLEGUAS CREEK



# A COOPERATIVE STRATEGY FOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & PROTECTION

web site - www.calleguas.com/cc.htm / e-mail - watershed@calleguas.com

August 20th, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer,

I am writing on behalf of the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Steering Committee to express our support for Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline - Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

The Calleguas Creek Watershed Management effort is a broad-based, stakeholder-driven planning process that was formed twelve years ago to address the region's water resource challenges and habitat needs through an integrated, multi-benefit approach to resource management.

Salt is the single greatest challenge in our watershed. Its presence in both groundwater and surface supplies limit the productive use of local water resources and render it unsuitable for salt-sensitive crops grown in the region. Salinity levels are on the rise, due, in part, to the region's dependence on imported water supplies. Municipal and agricultural practices further concentrate salts, and together these impacts have overwhelmed the natural flushing system of the creek, stranding salts in the watershed. Left unchecked, increasing salinity will eventually degrade riparian habitat and other water uses, as well.

The Honorable Patrick Kruer August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008 Page Two

To combat this problem, the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Committee has been working in collaboration with the Regional Water Quality Control Board to develop a salt standard for Calleguas Creek, called a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). This Salt TMDL was formally adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008, and an Implementation Plan to begin reducing salt in the watershed is underway.

The Salinity Management Pipeline is the linchpin to a multi-faceted regional resource management effort that will enable the restoration of groundwater supplies and improve surface water quality. The 35-mile pipeline will move salt, extracted through brackish groundwater treatment facilities, out of the upper watershed to the lower watershed where it can be beneficially used or safely discharged to the ocean. The Hueneme Outfall Replacement project is that segment of the pipeline that will discharge the salty water to the ocean, where salt concentrations are ten times that in the pipeline. Still, the Outfall will be constructed with state of the art multi-port diffuser to ensure effective mixing with sea water, and water quality is well-within Ocean Plan standards.

In addition to solving the salt challenges in the region, when complete, the Salinity Management Pipeline will provide for the development of an additional 40,000 acre-feet of local groundwater supplies to offset demands on imported water from the fragile Bay-Delta system. The project's significance is now underscored by the fact that our region's imported water supply is threatened by multiple crises in the Delta.

The benefits of the Salinity Management Pipeline are widely recognized by resource agencies, agricultural interests and environmental groups alike in Ventura County and at the State level. The Calleguas Creek Watershed Steering Committee strongly endorses this project, we encourage you to approve the project, so we can begin to resolve the water resource and water quality challenges in our region.

Very truly yours,

Donald R. Kendall Chairman, Steering Committee

cc: Members of the California Coastal Commission California Coastal Commission South Central Coast District Staff Steering Committee Members Calleguas Municipal Water District Board of Directors



Board of Directors Al E. Fox Division 1 Jeffrey C. Brown Division 2 Timothy H. Hoag Division 3 Eugene F. West Division 4 Terry L. Foreman Division 5

August 29, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

General Manager Frank E. Royer

RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

This letter is written to express Camrosa Water District's support for the Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

Camrosa has participated, along with area stakeholders, in developing the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management plan that seeks to address significant water quality challenges within the watershed. For more than 10 years, the participants labored to develop a plan that collectively addresses water quality improvements and meets mandatory standards of the federal Clean Water Act and the California Porter-Cologne Act. The Salinity Management Pipeline (SMP) is the centerpiece that makes the suite of proposed projects possible. Together, those projects and the SMP are expected to significantly reduce salts in local groundwater supplies, better utilize recycled water in compliance with new water quality standards, reduce dependence upon imported State Water Project water and will help guarantee the long-term health of natural resources within the watershed.

Camrosa has three projects that will become possible once the SMP project is completed. The District will reactivate a well, abandoned several years ago because of declining water quality, and will begin treating groundwater using reverse osmosis and make that local supply available to the new California State University – Channel Islands. Nearby, the District will construct a second reverse osmosis facility to lower the chloride content in recycled water and begin serving nearly 8 million gallons per day of water that now has only marginal use. These two projects will significantly reduce the District's dependence upon imported State Water Project water. Eventually, the District will treat its primary source of

groundwater in the Santa Rosa Basin to remove nitrates, to improve overall water quality and to further reduce reliance upon imported water.

The Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project was identified by the Regional Water Quality Control Board as the environmentally superior alternative for discharges from the Salinity Management Pipeline. With ongoing threats to State Water supplies, this project is needed, now, more than ever, to ensure water reliability in our region. Camrosa Water District urges your expeditious approval of the Salinity Management Pipeline Outfall Replacement Project so that we can bring critical water projects online and comply with water quality regulations.

Sincerely,

Frank E. Røyer General Manager

cc: Members of the California Coastal Commission California Coastal Commission South Central Coast District Staff Calleguas Municipal Water District Board of Directors



5156 McGrath Street, Suite 102 P. O. Box 3160, Ventura, CA 93006 805-289-0155 / Fax 805-658-0295 www.farmbureavc.com

Thursday, Aug. 28, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer,

As president of the Farm Bureau of Ventura County, I'm writing to you to express our organization's support for the Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline - Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

Implementation of the project will result in a net reduction in the salinity of surface and ground waters in the Calleguas Creek watershed in Ventura County and facilitate the recovery and reuse of local water sources thereby increasing our local water supply. The benefits of the Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Project are widely recognized by resource agencies, agricultural interests and environmental groups alike.

Keeping salts out of our water supply is vital to the agricultural industry in Ventura County. The presence of salts in our ground water and surface supplies causes a severe drop in productivity of salt-sensitive crops like strawberries and avocados that our members depend on to remain economically viable.

The project is an integral component of the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Plan and is considered by area water agency officials as an essential prerequisite for the future development of water quality and supply enhancement programs including brackish groundwater recovery and recycled water projects throughout the watershed.

We strongly endorse this project and urge your approval of the Salinity Management Pipeline -Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project to protect and enhance our vital local water supply.

Sincerely,

Scott T Deardorff President, Farm Bureau of Ventura County



**Officers** 

**President** Ann DeMartini

President Elect Brian Jordan

Vice President Thomas Glancy

**Treasurer** Sheldon Berger

Secretary Alfred Yanez

Immediate Past President Jack Curtis

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Neal Andrews City of San Buenaventura

Sheldon Berger United Water Conservation District

David Borchard Ventura County Farm Bureau

John R. (Jack) Curtis Ventura River County Water District

Ann DeMartini Tom Grether Farms

Al Fox Camrosa Water District

Nancy Williams Southern California Edison

Thomas P. Glancy City of Thousand Oaks

Ted Grandsen Calleguas Municipal Water District

William H. Hair Nordman, Cormany, Hair & Compton

Brian Jordan Boyle Engineering Corp

Marcia Marcus Port Hueneme Water Agency

Dean Maulhardt City of Oxnard

Paul Miller City of Simi Valley

Linda Parks V.C. Board of Supervisors

Dick Thomson Procter & Gamble

William Hicks Casitas Municipal Water District

Alfred Yanez California American Watar

Managing Director Kelle L. Pistone

# ASSOCIATION OF WATER AGENCIES OF VENTURA COUNTY

August 27, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Kruer, Chair California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RE: Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project (CDP 4-07-131)

Dear Chairman Kruer:

The Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County (AWA) is sending this letter to express our support for Calleguas Municipal Water District's Salinity Management Pipeline – Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project.

Our organization, which is comprised of over 150 water related entities in Ventura County—including agriculture, business and municipalities, has participated in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Planning effort for more than ten years in an attempt to solve the water supply and water quality challenges that impact our region. The Salinity Management Pipeline (SMP) is <u>essential</u> to the operation of several treatment projects designed to reduce salts in local groundwater supplies and better utilize recycled water in compliance with new water quality standards.

The Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project was identified by the Regional Water Quality Control Board as the environmentally superior alternative for discharges from the Salinity Management Pipeline. Still, it is our hope that we will be able to put much of this water to beneficial use. With ongoing threats to State water supplies, we have shifted our focus to local water resource options. Now, more than ever, this project is needed to ensure water reliability in our region.

AWA urges your expeditious approval of the Salinity Management Pipeline Outfall Replacement Project so that we can bring critical water projects online and comply with water quality regulations.

Sincere Pistone

Kelle L. Pistone Managing Director

CC:

Members of the California Coastal Commission California Coastal Commission South Central Coast District Staff Calleguas Municipal Water District Board of Directors

5156 McGrath Street, Suite 104 • Ventura, California 93003 • Tel: (805) 644-0922 • Fax: (805) 644-0435 • www.awavc.org

## DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

#### Name or description of project:

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LUITON

Calleguas Municipal Water Management District's Hueneme Outfall Replacement Project which is part of the Salinity Management Pipeline Project (CDP Application #4-07-131)

Date and time of receipt of communication: Thursday, May 22, 2008 @ 11:00 AM

Location of communication: Cliff Drive, Santa Barbara

Type of communication: Meeting

Person(s) in attendance at time of communication: Dee Zinke, Susan Mulligan, Susan McCabe

Person(s) receiving communication. Dan Secord

#### Detailed substantive description of the content of communication: (Attach a copy of the complete text of any written material received.)

They provided me with a briefing on the Salinity Management Pipeline Project. They discussed the need for the project (water reliability and water quality improvements to comply with salt TMDL) and reviewed the powerpoint presentation on the project which has been provided to Commission staff. They discussed the parts of the project in the coastal zone and indicated they are working with coastal staff to resolve questions. They are hoping the project will be scheduled for hearing at the August CCC meeting.

Date:

Signature of Commissioner

EXHIBIT NO. 10 APPLICATION NO. -131

COASTAL COMMISSION SOUTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT