

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT STREET, SUITE 2000
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219
VOICE AND TDD (415) 904-5200

W 13



DATE: December 19, 1996

TO: COASTAL COMMISSIONERS
AND INTERESTED PARTIES

FROM: MARK DELAPLAINE, FEDERAL CONSISTENCY SUPERVISOR

RE: NEGATIVE DETERMINATIONS ISSUED BY THE EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR [Note: Executive Director decision letters are attached]

PROJECT #:	ND-136-96
APPLICANT:	IBWC
LOCATION:	Offshore of Tijuana River, San Diego Co.
PROJECT:	Removal of temporary platform constructed for the installation of ocean outfall
ACTION:	Concur
ACTION DATE:	12/6/96

PROJECT #:	NE-139-96
APPLICANT:	Caltrans
LOCATION:	Six debris basins along Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu, Los Angeles Co.
PROJECT:	Excavation of accumulated sediment from debris basins
ACTION:	No effect
ACTION DATE:	12/16/96

PROJECT #:	ND-141-96
APPLICANT:	IBWC
LOCATION:	Tijuana River Valley, San Diego
PROJECT:	Disposal of excavated material modifications
ACTION:	Concur
ACTION DATE:	11/25/96

PROJECT #:	ND-142-96
APPLICANT:	U.S. Marine Corps
LOCATION:	Camp Pendelton Marine Corps Base
PROJECT:	Sewage Effluent Compliance Project, Las Pulgas and San Mateo Areas
ACTION:	Concur
ACTION DATE:	12/17/96

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December 6, 1996

Dion McMicheaux
Project Manager
International Boundary and Water Commission
2225 Dairy Mart Road
San Diego, CA 92173

Subject: Negative Determination ND-136-96 (Dismantling of Temporary Work Platform for Tunnel Riser, South Bay Ocean Outfall, San Diego County).

Dear Mr. McMicheaux:

The Commission staff has reviewed your negative determination for removal of an offshore temporary work platform that was required for construction of the tunnel riser for the South Bay Ocean Outfall, a component of the International Wastewater Treatment Plant (IWTP) in San Diego County. Since 1994 the Commission has concurred with several consistency determinations for development associated with the IWTP. The existing platform is located approximately 13,800 feet offshore and consists of a double-decked steel structure supported by four steel piles, each consisting of a one-inch thick steel casing 44 inches in diameter. The piles were driven approximately 100 feet into the seafloor, extend 28 feet above the ocean surface, and support two work platforms. The IBWC proposes to remove the work platforms from the structure, cut the support piles fifteen feet below the seafloor using a small amount of explosives, and transport the balance of the structure, including the four support legs, to an inland site in San Diego County for dismantling or reuse. The removal operation is scheduled to occur in early December and would be completed within several days.

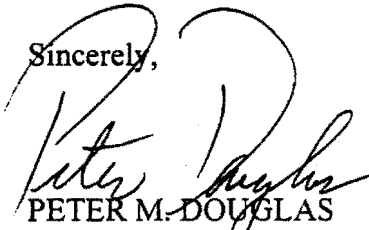
The selected method of pile cutting involves the use of explosives to shear each of the steel casing legs at a depth of fifteen feet below the ocean floor. A shape charge, consisting of 4.6 pounds of explosives, would be placed in the interior of each pile. The detonation of the charges would cause a high energy jet of hot air to cut the pile leg. Excess air and noise from the detonation would be directed out the top of the pile which

is vented to the air twenty-eight feet above the ocean surface. Significant energy from the detonations within each of the support piles would not travel beyond a fifteen foot radius of each pile leg. To prevent an additive force of the four charges, each charge is detonated slightly after the other. This permits the shock from each charge to dissipate sufficiently so that each subsequent shock is not additive in nature.

The removal plan is designed to minimize impacts to the adjacent tunnel riser shaft and the surrounding marine environment. Each of the 4.6-pound charges is the minimum necessary to completely shear the pile leg. To avoid impacts to marine mammals, a mammal observer will be present throughout the operation and detonation of charges will not be undertaken until the area is clear of marine mammals. The proposed removal plan was coordinated with representatives of the National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Game, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In conclusion, the proposed removal of the IWTP offshore temporary work platform, including the use of explosive charges, will not adversely affect the coastal zone. We therefore concur with your negative determination made pursuant to Section 15 CFR 930.35(d) of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Larry Simon at (415) 904-5288 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



PETER M. DOUGLAS
Executive Director

cc: San Diego Area Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. EPA
NOAA Assistant Administrator
Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services
OCRM
Governor's Washington, D.C., Office
California Department of Water Resources

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TELEPHONE AND TDD (415) 904-5200



December 18, 1996

Ronald J. Kosinski
Caltrans
District 7
120 Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: NE-139-96, No-Effects Determination for the excavation of accumulated sediment from debris basins along Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu

Dear Mr. Kosinski:


The Coastal Commission has received and reviewed the above-referenced no-effects determination. The proposed project includes excavation of accumulated sediment from debris basins along Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu. Caltrans proposes a routine maintenance program for six detention basins along Pacific Coast Highway, between Carbon Canyon and Sweetwater Canyon, west of the Las Flores Canyon Road. Caltrans proposes to use a loader/extractor and a crane with a bucket to maintain the basins. Caltrans will clean the basins when needed, which could range from several times a year to once every couple years, depending on weather conditions. Caltrans will truck the dredge material to an approved disposal site. All of the basins are on natural drainages, which contain ephemeral streams that only flow after rainfall. Ruderal vegetation dominates the basins, which do not contain any native riparian species. Therefore, the Commission staff concludes that the project will not affect stream or riparian resources.

The coastal zone resource most likely affected by the project is beach sand supply. The program could allow for removal of several thousand cubic yards of sand from coastal streams that would otherwise feed local beaches. The maximum amount of sediment that each of the six detention basins holds is as follows: 550 cubic yards (cy), 4,000 cy, 1,000 cy, 3,500 cy, 12,000 cy, and 17,000 cy. The total maximum capacity of all six detention basins is 38,050 cy. This negative determination does not provide any analysis of the beach sand supply issue or consider the suitability of placing material removed from the basins on local beaches. Without this analysis, the Commission staff cannot determine if the project adversely affects beach sand supply. Although the Commission staff is concerned about this issue, the amount of material removed from the debris basins does not represent a significant amount of sand. At this time, the Commission staff agrees that the plan does not significantly affect sand supply resources of the coastal zone. However,

the future, the Commission encourages the Caltrans to analyze the suitability and feasibility of using the excavated sediment for beach replenishment purposes.

In conclusion, the Coastal Commission staff agrees that the proposed project will not adversely affect coastal zone resources. We, therefore, concur with the no-effects determination made pursuant to 15 C.F.R. Section 930.50. If you have any questions, please contact James R. Raives of the Coastal Commission staff at (415) 904-5292.

Sincerely,



PETER M. DOUGLAS
Executive Director

cc: Haiching Pan, Caltrans
Central Coast Area Office
OCRM
NOAA Assistant Administrator
Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services
Department of Water Resources
Governor's Washington D.C. Office
Fari Tabatabai, Corps of Engineers

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CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000
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November 25, 1996

Charles Fischer
International Boundary and Water Commission
U.S. Section
2225 Dairy Mart Rd.
San Diego, CA 92173

RE: **ND-141-96** Negative Determination, International Boundary and Water
Commission (IBWC), Tijuana River Valley, San Diego

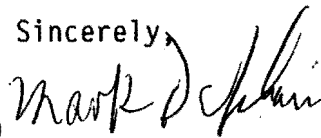
Dear Mr. Fischer:

The Coastal Commission staff has received the above-referenced negative determination for a modification/clarification to the IBWC South Bay Ocean Outfall project in the Tijuana River Valley. The South Bay Ocean Outfall has previously been authorized by the Commission through several coastal development permit and federal consistency matters, including: Coastal Development Permit 6-88-277 (City of San Diego), and Consistency Determination CD-2-94 (IBWC).

The proposed modifications consist of depositing material being excavated for the outfall construction at "two landfill sites within one half mile of Mitigation Area No. 3." Because this site is within the coastal zone, Commission authorization is needed. This disposal site has been recently itself excavated and is threatened by flooding. The disposal would reduce the risk of flooding by raising the elevation in this area to closer to pre-excavation conditions. Reducing the flooding potential would help enhance agriculture in the Tijuana Valley.

We agree with the IBWC that this project modification will benefit coastal resources in the area by reducing flooding risks. Furthermore, the coastal zone effects from the project as modified have not been altered significantly compared to the previously-authorized project. We therefore concur with your negative determination made pursuant to Section 15 CFR 930.35(d) of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Mark Delaplaine at (415) 904-5289 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

(for) 
PETER M. DOUGLAS
Executive Director

cc: San Diego Area Office
NOAA
Assistant Counsel for Ocean Services
OCRM
California Department of Water Resources
Governors Washington D.C. Office

PMD/MPD/mcr/1966p

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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December 17, 1996

Lt. Col. J.L. Caspers
Deputy, Natural Resources
Assistant Chief of Staff
Environmental Security
U.S. Marine Corps
Box 555010
Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055-5010

Re: **ND-142-96** U.S. Marine Corps, Sewage Effluent Compliance Project, Las Pulgas and San Mateo Areas, Camp Pendleton, San Diego County

Dear Mr. Edwards:

On December 6, 1996, we received the above-referenced negative determination from the U.S. Marine Corps for the second of three "Sewage Effluent Compliance Projects" to protect water quality at Camp Pendleton. The project is proposed based on requirements under Cease and Desist orders issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB, San Diego Region). On July 21, 1995, we concurred with a negative determination for the first of these three projects, which had been located in the San Onofre area of Camp Pendleton, (ND-73-95).

This second Sewage Effluent Compliance Project project is located in two areas of Camp Pendleton. Within the Las Pulgas area (in central Camp Pendleton), the proposal consists of construction of wastewater treatment facilities, storage ponds to replace existing oxidation ponds, 3.6 miles of pipelines, a chlorination facility, and injection wells. Effluent would be treated to tertiary levels prior to injection. In the San Mateo area (in northern Camp Pendleton), the proposal consists of storage ponds to replace existing oxidation ponds, 2.4 miles of pipelines, an additional mile of pipeline connector (from the San Onofre system), and 35 acres of percolation basins. This proposal would include discharge of secondarily treated effluent into the percolation basins.

Both proposals are intended to transfer effluent discharges currently occurring upstream of existing water supply wells to areas downstream of these water sources, thus avoiding contaminating drinking water used by the Marine Corps Base. Both proposals would be located entirely on federal land and predominantly inland of the coastal zone boundary.

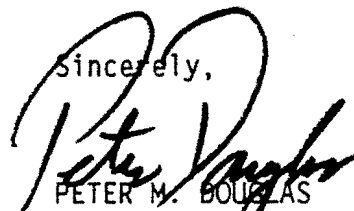
The Marine Corps has coordinated the project with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and has incorporated minimization and mitigation measures to avoid where possible, and mitigate where avoidance is infeasible, impacts to environmentally sensitive habitat such as wetlands, riparian habitat, gnatcatchers, least Bell's vireos, southwestern willow flycatchers, and arroyo southwestern toads. Mitigation measures include: (1) scheduling activities potentially affecting gnatcatchers and least Bell's vireos outside these species' breeding seasons; (2) mitigating coastal sage scrub and riparian habitat impacts; (3) implementation of erosion control measures; (4) revegetation/restoration of temporarily disturbed areas; and (5) locating and designing pipelines to minimize habitat effects.

Based on the Marine Corps' hydrological studies and modeling, the San Mateo proposal would not adversely affect sensitive species (such as the tidewater goby), water quality or water levels in the San Mateo Creek estuary, either through groundwater level modification or sedimentation. To assure sensitive wetlands such as the San Mateo Creek estuary will not be affected, the project includes monitoring estuarine wetlands potentially affected for a 3-year period, to assure protection against invasion by exotic species and assure that any temporary disturbance has been restored to pre-project conditions.

Concerning other potential coastal resources issues raised, the project would not affect coastal recreation, such as beach use or campground activities at San Onofre State Beach. The Marine Corps has coordinated the project with the State Historic Preservation Officer to assure protection of archaeological resources. No coastal public views would be affected by the project. Overall, the project would benefit water quality in the Las Pulgas and San Mateo Areas of Camp Pendleton.

In conclusion, with the mitigation measures incorporated into the project, we agree with the Marine Corps that this project will not adversely affect any coastal zone resources. We therefore concur with your negative determination made pursuant to Section 15 CFR 930.35(d) of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Mark Delaplaine at (415) 904-5289 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


PETER M. DOUGLAS
Executive Director

cc: San Diego Area Office
Asst. Cnsl. for Ocean Svcs.
OCRM
NOAA
Ca. Dept. of Water Resources
Governor's Washington D.C. Office
RWQCB, San Diego Region