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

Th 12



DATE:

October 15, 1997

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 #:

NE-074-97

APPLICANT:

Scripps Institution of Oceanography

LOCATION:

Pioneer Seamount, 50 miles offshore of Half Moon Bay

(including power cable to shore at Pillar Point), San Mateo

Co.

PROJECT:

Replacement Cable Repair and End Date Extension for

California Acoustic Thermometry of Ocean Climate/Marine Mammal Research Program

(ATOC/MMRP)

ACTION:

No Effects

ACTION DATE:

9/30/1997

PROJECT #:

ND-084-97

APPLICANT:

Navy

LOCATION:

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme,

Ventura Co.

PROJECT:

Construction of a weapon/combat systems integration

laboratory and demolition of 15 deteriorated/obsolete

buildings

ACTION:

Concur

ACTION DATE:

9/23/1997

PROJECT #:

ND-091-97

APPLICANT:

Navy

LOCATION:

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme,

Ventura Co.

PROJECT:

Modification to previous storage building negative

determination

ACTION:

Concur

ACTION DATE:

10/9/1997

PROJECT #: ND-098-97
APPLICANT: Coast Guard

LOCATION: Point Sur Light House, Monterey Co.

PROJECT: Removal of 100 foot tower and replace it with new 100 foot

tower in same location

ACTION: Object ACTION DATE: 9/26/1997

PROJECT #: ND-122-97

APPLICANT: Navy

LOCATION: Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Orange Co.

PROJECT: Place lighting protection at wharf

ACTION: Concur ACTION DATE: 10/2/1997

PROJECT #: ND-129-97

APPLICANT: Navy

LOCATION: Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme,

Ventura Co.

PROJECT: Installation of an ambient air test station and associated

equipment

ACTION: Concur ACTION DATE: 9/30/1997

PROJECT #: ND-132-97

APPLICANT: FAA

LOCATION: Santa Barbara Municipal Airport, Santa Barbara Co.

PROJECT: Construction of a runway visual range system

ACTION: Concur ACTION DATE: 9/24/1997

PROJECT #: NE-133-97

APPLICANT: City of San Diego

LOCATION: Morena Boulevard Bridge over the San Diego River, City

of San Diego

PROJECT: Replacement of Barrier Rail

ACTION: Object ACTION DATE: 9/23/1997 PROJECT #:

ND-135-97

APPLICANT:

Navy

LOCATION:

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme,

Ventura Co.

PROJECT:

Construction of two pre-fabricated wood-frame buildings

ACTION:

Concur

ACTION DATE:

9/23/1997

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



September 30, 1997

Peter Worcester Scripps Institution of Oceanography University of California, San Diego 9500 Gilman Drive La Jolla, CA 92093

Re: **NE-74-97** "No Effects" Determination, Scripps Institution of Oceanography (Scripps), Cable Repair and End Date Extension for California Acoustic Thermometry of Ocean Climate/Marine Mammal Research Program (ATOC/MMRP), Pioneer Seamount, 50 miles offshore of Half Moon Bay (including power cable to shore at Pillar Point), San Mateo Co.

Dear Mr. Worcester:

The Coastal Commission has received Scripps' above-referenced "No Effects" determination for the repair of the power cable and an extension to the end date for the previously-concurred-with ATOC/MMRP program. On June 15, 1995, the Coastal Commission concurred with a consistency certification and coastal development permit for the ATOC/MMRP project (CC-110-94 & CDP 3-95-40). Scripps' submittals had described the program as lasting for a 2-year duration, and during the Commission's review Scripps agreed that it would seek additional Commission authorization for any extensions of the project beyond the 2-year period. Scripps also committed to removing the transmission equipment and power cable from the seafloor at the end of the 2-year period.

Scripps commenced normal ATOCMMRP operations on December 1, 1995, which would normally mean that the two-year period would end on December 1, 1997. However, because the power cable to the transmission facility has been severed and unusable for an extended period of time, Scripps realizes it will be unable to complete its scheduled 24 months of transmissions and marine mammal studies within a **consecutive**, 2-year (24 month) period. Therefore Scripps seeks to have the 2-year period considered non-consecutively. In other words, the project still consists of 2 years (or 24 months) of transmissions and marine mammal studies, but with an interruption of time in the middle of the program to allow Scripps to repair the cable and complete the scheduled program.

Scripps has applied for and received permission for such an end date extension from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS). Under the NMFS permit, the new end date is either August 31, 1998, or upon completion of the 24-month study, whichever comes first. Scripps agrees that it is not seeking any authorization from the Commission for transmissions beyond that August 31, 1998, date. Thus, Scripps is

seeking a maximum of a 9-month extension, given that the project would normally have been complete on December 1, 1997. Because the overall program remains the same length, Scripps believes the program has not been altered in a manner where it would cause coastal zone effects substantially different from those originally reviewed by the Commission. Scripps also states that the cable repair work itself, which will take place seaward of the coastal zone boundary (i.e., the 3-mile limit of State waters), will not affect any coastal resources.

In reviewing correspondence between Scripps, NMFS, NOAA Sanctuaries and Reserve Division (SRD), and MBNMS, among the issues raised by this extension request have been changes to research protocols, including reducing the frequency of aerial surveys. We therefore asked Scripps to clarify the frequency of the aerial surveys and explain whether this reduced frequency would weaken the statistical validity of the research results. On August 7, 1997, Scripps responded with a letter containing a "power analysis" and concluding that the reduced aerial survey frequency would not compromise the statistical validity of the research. This letter included a communication from the MMRP Advisory Board, which "agreed that the quarterly surveys provide a good compromise for maximizing the power of the final analysis given a reduction in the total number of flights." However the Advisory Board went on to state:

All of the members had concerns about the effectiveness of the acoustic monitoring. Several of the members emphasized the value of other sources of acoustic monitoring such as beamforming ... and a localization capability using several popups. One member hoped that at least two of these methods would be in use when the source was operating in the absence of aerial surveys. All respondents felt that these additional acoustic monitoring capabilities would be highly beneficial.

In response to this concern Scripps has committed to additional acoustic monitoring, including the commitment that: "... more than one acoustic recording system will be used in future MMRP acoustic monitoring efforts at Pioneer Seamount, unless aerial surveys are also in progress."

With this commitment, we **agree** with Scripps that considering the 2-year time period time for the program to occur non-consecutively will not result in any affects on coastal zone resources substantially different that those already considered by the Commission and addressed in its previous review of CC-110-94. We also **agree** with Scripps that the cable repair activity itself will not affect any coastal zone resources.

Please note that any further protocol changes or any extension beyond until August 31, 1998, may trigger the need for additional consistency review. We are particularly concerned over informal discussions which have taken place regarding potentially modifying Scripps' commitment to remove the transmission source and power cable at the conclusion of the research. However we have discussed this issue with Scripps and it is clear that Scripps understands that such a modification would require authorization from the Coastal Commission (as well as from NMFS and MBNMS).

Letter to Mr. Worcester Page 3

In conclusion, we **concur** with Scripps' "No Effects" determination for the previously requested clarifications and modifications to the ATOC/MMRP project. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Delaplaine, federal consistency supervisor, at (415) 904-5289.

Sincerei

PETER DOUGLA

Executive Director

cc: Santa Cruz Area Office (Lee Otter, Tami Grove)

NOAA Assistant Administrator Department of Water Resources

Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services

Governor's Washington D.C. Office

NMFS (Jeannie Drevenak)

NOAA Sanctuaries and Reserves Division (Charles Wahle)

MBNMS

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



September 23, 1997

LCDR H.A. Bouika
Environmental Officer
Department of the Navy
Naval Construction Battalion Center
1000 23rd Ave.
Port Hueneme, CA 93043-4301

RE: **ND-84-97** Negative Determination, Construction of Weapon/Combat Systems Integration Lab, Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), Port Hueneme, Ventura County

Dear LCDR Bouika:

The Coastal Commission staff has received the above-referenced negative determination for the construction of a 2-story, 100,000 sq. ft., weapon/combat system integration laboratory, at the NCBC in Port Hueneme. The purpose of the project is to consolidate scattered and obsolete functions throughout the NCBC into one centralized facility, and the project includes the demolition of 15 existing buildings at the base. The project does not represent a major new program; rather, the functions and operations in the new facility will replace those housed in the existing facilities to be demolished. The buildings to be demolished are dilapidated and obsolete, and their demolition, which will include site restoration and landscaping, will benefit views of the base as seen from the surrounding community. Furthermore, the project site for the new consolidated facility is surrounded by buildings of comparable height or taller; therefore its visibility will be minimal, and landscaping will be provided to further minimize its visual effect. The project site contains no environmentally sensitive habitat, and no fill of coastal waters would occur. Public access and recreation would not be affected by the project.

We agree with the Navy that the project will not affect coastal resources, and we therefore <u>concur</u> 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.

Executive Director

cc: Ventura Area Office

NOAA

Assistant Counsel for Ocean Services

OCRM

Governors Washington D.C. Office

California Department of Water Resources

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



September 23, 1997

Brad Johnson City of San Diego 1010 Second Ave., Suite 1200 San Diego, CA 92101-4905

Re: **NE-133-97** No Effects Determination, City of San Diego, Barrier Rail Replacement, Morena Blvd. Bridge, San Diego River, San Diego

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Coastal Commission has received your "No Effects" Determination for the above-referenced project. The project consists of replacing metal bridge rails on the Morena Blvd. Bridge over the San Diego River with concrete rails. The project is within the Commission's permit jurisdiction; however it has received a waiver of coastal development permit requirements from our San Diego Area office based on the Commission's repair and maintenance regulations. The construction activity would occur on the bridge itself, and would not involve any work within the river. No scenic coastal views would be affected. The project will be scheduled to avoid traffic delays during peak traffic conditions.

The project would not adversely affect coastal resources, and we agree with your "No Effects" letter and your conclusion that no consistency certification needs to be submitted for this replacement project. If you have questions, please contact Mark Delaplaine, federal consistency supervisor, at (415) 904-5289.

Sincerely, Month Delapolanic

PETER DOUGLA

Executive Director

cc: San Diego Area Office
OCRM
Assistant Counsel for Ocean Services
Governor's Washington D.C. Office
NOAA Assistant Administrator
Dept. of Water Resources

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



October 9, 1997

LCDR H.A. Bouika
Environmental Officer
Department of the Navy
Naval Construction Battalion Center
1000 23rd Ave.
Port Hueneme, CA 93043-4301

RE: ND-91-97 Negative Determination, Modification to Previous Storage Building Negative Determination, Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, Ventura County

Dear LCDR Bouika:

The Coastal Commission staff has received the above-referenced negative determination for the modification to a project for which we previously concurred with a negative determination. On September 7, 1995, we concurred with ND-87-95 for the construction of five metal storage buildings along Silver Strand Rd. at the NCBC in Port Hueneme. The proposed modification would consist of reducing the number of buildings from five to three, and raising the heights from 20 ft. for the buildings as originally proposed, to 30 ft. for two of the buildings and 36 ft. for the third.

As we informed you previously, due to the proximity of this site to public streets in the residential community adjacent to the base, we have coordinated our review with concerned members of the community. As you are aware, several members of the community believe the structures are not compatible with community character. The community also requests landscaping to soften the structures' visual effects. In response, the Navy has agreed to work with community representatives on further landscaping plans. We note parenthetically that the Navy identified the need for landscaping in this area over 10 years ago to soften what the Navy identified as "Negative Views along Site Boundary" in the Master Plan it prepared for the Port Hueneme Naval Complex (now NCBC) (see attached Master Plan schematic). We also note that by letter to us dated September 5, 1997, the Navy specifically committed, for the subject project, to implement "Proposed landscaping around the project site" which the Navy stated "...will also provide a pleasing buffer between the adjacent off-base residential community and the site."

Given the fact that there are existing structures of equal or greater heights at the NCBC in the project vicinity, and given the Navy's landscaping commitments to continue to work with the community on landscaping and provide "a pleasing buffer between the adjacent off-base residential community and the site," we agree with the Navy that this modification would not cause scenic public view impacts

on the coastal zone different than those from the project as previously authorized. We therefore **concur** with your negative determination for this modification made pursuant to Section 15 CFR 930.35(d) of the NOAA implementing regulations. In concurring, we expect the Navy to follow through on its landscaping commitments in a timely manner. Please contact Mark Delaplaine at (415) 904-5289 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

PETER M. DOUGLAS
Executive Director

Attachment (Master Plan Site Analysis)

cc:

Ventura Area Office

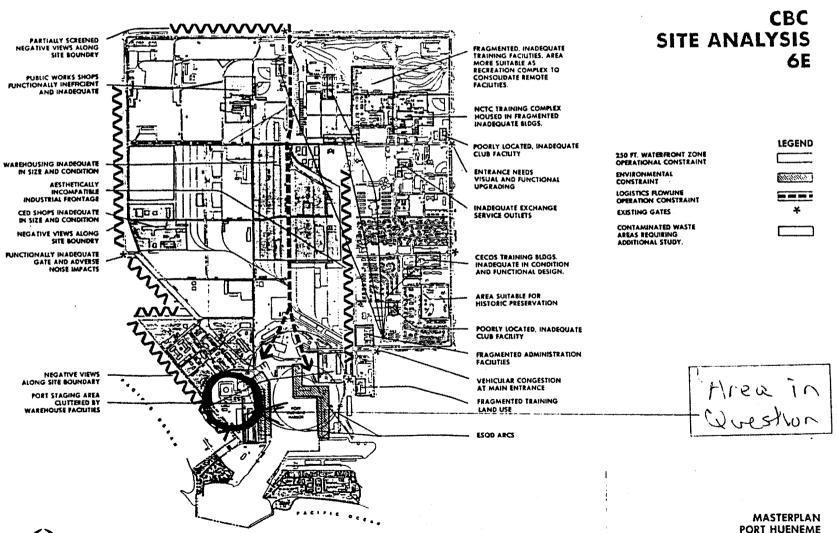
NOAA

Assistant Counsel for Ocean Services

OCRM

Governors Washington D.C. Office

California Department of Water Resources



PORT HUENEME **NAVAL COMPLEX** Assistant period service

·护特别的大学。

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



September 26, 1997

Dave Stalters U.S. Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit Oakland 2000 Embarcadero, Suite 200 Oakland, CA 94606-5337

Attn: Louis Rivero

RE: ND-098-97, Negative Determination for the in-kind replacement of a 100-foot tower, Point Sur Light House

Dear Mr. Stalters:

The Coastal Commission staff has received and reviewed the above-referenced negative determination. The proposed project includes removal of a 100-foot tower and replacing it with a new and stronger 100-foot tower in the same location within the Point Sur Light House Station. The purpose of the project is to replace a structurally unsound tower. According to the Coast Guard's negative determination, the existing structure is in danger of collapsing. Although the proposed project will result in the construction of a tower of similar height and size, the Commission staff believes that it will adversely affect visual resources of the coastal zone. The existing tower is visible from a nearby state park and possibly from Highway 1. As such, the tower adversely affects the visual integrity and character of Big Sur, one of the most scenic areas of the California coast. The proposed replacement project will degrade the scenic resources by extending the life of the tower and allowing the continued degradation of the visual character of this highly scenic area. Additionally, the stronger replacement tower will potentially allow for an increase in number of antennas on the tower. Without the improvements the tower is not capable of supporting new antennas. This potential expansion could increase adverse visual effects of the tower. Accordingly, the Commission staff concludes that the proposed project affects coastal zone resources.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Coastal Zone Management Act, any federal activity affecting coastal resources requires the preparation of a consistency determination. In the consistency determination for the proposed project, the Commission staff recommends that the Coast Guard fully evaluate the project's visual effects on the coastal zone, including an assessment of the visibility of the tower from Highway One, Andrew Molera State Park, and any other publicly accessible area. An important question that the Coast Guard should evaluate in its consistency determination is the need for a communication

September 24, 1997 ND-098-97 Page 2

tower in this location. Additionally, it is important for the Coast Guard to adequately describe the specific purpose of the antennas on the tower. Finally, the consistency determination should contain a thorough alternatives analysis including consideration of a shorter tower, with less visual effect, and alternative locations outside the Big Sur area.

In conclusion, the Coastal Commission staff <u>does not agree</u> with the Coast Guard's determination that the proposed project will not adversely affect coastal zone resources. We, therefore, <u>object</u> to the negative determination made pursuant to 15 C.F.R. Section 930.35(d). This letter serves as notice that the proposed project will require a consistency determination. If you have any questions, please contact James R. Raives of the Coastal Commission staff at (415) 904-5292.

PETER M. DOUGEAS
Executive Director

cc:

Central Coast Area Office

OCRM

NOAA Assistant Administrator

Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services

Department of Water Resources

Governor's Washington D.C. Office

PMD/JRR ND09897.DOC

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



September 17, 1997

John Hendricks Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch 333 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94105-2197

RE: NE-113-97, No-Effects Determination for the Programmatic General Permit replacing certain nationwide permits Napa, Sonoma, and Santa Clara Counties

Dear Mr. Hendricks:

The Coastal Commission has received and reviewed the above-referenced consistency certification. The proposed programmatic general permit does not authorize any activities within or affecting the Coastal Commission's jurisdiction. The proposed Programmatic General Permit replaces certain nationwide permits in Sonoma, Napa, and Santa Clara Counties. This general permit only applies to the portions of those counties within the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Board). Napa and Santa Clara Counties and that portion of Sonoma County within the jurisdiction of the Board are within the watershed of San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. Therefore, activities permitted pursuant to this program will not affect coastal resources within the Commission's jurisdiction. However, they may affect coastal resources within the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. The Corps should coordinate with that agency to assess any Coastal Zone Management Act requirements.

In conclusion, the Coastal Commission staff has determined that the proposed activity **does not require** a consistency certification to be submitted to this agency. If you have any questions, please contact James R. Raives of the Coastal Commission staff at (415) 904-5292.

Executive Director

cc: North Coast Area Office

OCRM

NOAA Assistant Administrator

Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services

Department of Water Resources Governor's Washington D.C. Office

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



October 2, 1997

David Baillie Naval Weapons Station Environmental Department 800 Seal Beach Blvd. Seal Beach, CA 90740-5000

Attn: Lisa Ellen Bosalet

RE: ND-122-97, Negative Determination for the placement of lightning protection at

an ordinance processing wharf, Naval Weapons Station, Seal Beach

Dear Mr. Baillie:

The Coastal Commission staff has received and reviewed the above-referenced negative determination. The proposed project includes placement of lightning protection at an ordinance processing wharf within the Naval Weapons Station, Seal Beach. The Navy will construct 120-foot high lightning pole within the wharf area next to a 12-foot high berm. According to the Navy, the lightning pole is necessary to ground ambient electrical discharges away from the existing ordinance operation. The proposed project is on Federal land and, therefore, pursuant to Federal law, is not within the coastal zone. However, the lightning pole may be visible from the Pacific Coast Highway, public beaches, and other coastal zone locations. Despite this potential impact, the project will not significantly affect coastal resources because it is consistent with the industrial character of the base and there are other tall structures within the vicinity of the project that are also visible from the coastal zone.

In conclusion, the Coastal Commission staff <u>agrees</u> that the proposed project will not adversely affect coastal zone resources. We, therefore, <u>concur</u> with the negative determination made pursuant to 15 C.F.R. Section 930.35(d). If you have any questions, please contact James R. Raives of the Coastal Commission staff at (415) 904-5292.

PETER M. DOUGLA

Executive Director

cc: South Coast Area Office

OCRM

NOAA Assistant Administrator

Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services

Department of Water Resources

Governor's Washington D.C. Office





September 30, 1997

H.A. Bouika LCRD, CEC, USN Department of the Navy Naval Construction Battalion Center 1000 23rd Ave Port Hueneme, CA 93043-4301

RE: ND-129-97, Negative Determination, Installation of ambient air test station and associated facilities, Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, Ventura County

Dear LCDR Bouika:

The Commission staff has received the above referenced negative determination for the installation of an ambient air test station and associated facilities. The project includes a 39 foot high by 18 inch tower to monitor weather, wind direction and speed, temperature, and pressure. Other structures of equal or greater height are within the vicinity of the project. Therefore, the project will not negatively affect the character of the area or visual resources of the coast.

The proposed project is located within the Naval Construction Battalion Center. The project location has been previously developed, and has no environmentally sensitive habitat or species.

We agree that the proposed project will have no negative impact on coastal resources. We therefore concur with your negative determination for this project made pursuant to Section 15 CFR 930.35(d) of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Tania Pollak at (415) 904-5297 if you have any questions.

Executive Director

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

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

September 24, 1997



Keith Lusk Federal Aviation Administration Operations East 10320 Camino Santa Fe, Suite C San Diego, CA 92121

RE: ND-132-97, Negative Determination for the construction of a runway visual range system, Santa Barbara Municipal Airport

Dear Mr. Lusk:

The Coastal Commission staff has received and reviewed the above-referenced negative determination. The proposed project includes construction of a runway visual range system at Santa Barbara Municipal Airport. Although the proposed project is within the coastal zone, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has concluded that the project will not affect coastal resources. The Commission staff agrees with this determination because the project is within an existing airport and is consistent with the use of that facility. The project does not include any dredging, diking, or filling of wetlands and does not affect any other sensitive habitat resources. The project will not affect visual resources of the coastal zone because it is consistent with the character of the area and because the project includes removal of the existing larger visual range system.

In conclusion, the Coastal Commission staff <u>agrees</u> that the proposed project will not adversely affect coastal zone resources. We, therefore, <u>concur</u> with the negative determination made pursuant to 15 C.F.R. Section 930.35(d). If you have any questions, please contact James R. Raives of the Coastal Commission staff <u>at (415)</u> 904-5292.

PETER M. DOUGLAS

Executive Director

cc: South Central Coast Area Office
OCRM
NOAA Assistant Administrator
Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services
Department of Water Resources
Governor's Washington D.C. Office

PMD/JRR ND13297.DOC

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



September 23, 1997

LCDR H.A. Bouika
Environmental Officer
Department of the Navy
Naval Construction Battalion Center
1000 23rd Ave.
Port Hueneme, CA 93043-4301

RE: ND-135-97 Negative Determination, Navy Buildings, Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, Ventura County

Dear LCDR Bouika:

The Coastal Commission staff has received the above-referenced negative determination for the construction of two storage buildings in the northwestern portion of the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) in Port Hueneme. The buildings would be one story (16 ft. high) and small (less than 500 sq. ft. each). They would be located within existing developed areas of the NCBC. The project would not involve any discharges into marine waters. No scenic public views would be affected, and landscaping along Victoria Ave. and Channel Islands Blvd. would shield the buildings from public areas. The project site contains no environmentally sensitive habitat. Public access and recreation would not be affected by the project.

We agree with the Navy that the project will not affect coastal resources, and 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,

Mark D. Malan -

PETER M. DOUGLAS
Executive Director

cc: Ventura Area Office NOAA

Assistant Counsel for Ocean Services

OCRM

Governors Washington D.C. Office

California Department of Water Resources