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# Item Tu 15e

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November 20, 2000 January 15, 2001 May 26, 2001 ALK-LB January 25, 2000 February 13-16, 2001 Commission Action:

# STAFF REPORT: REGULAR CALENDAR

APPLICATION NUMBER: 5-00-333

**APPLICANT:** City of San Clemente

AGENT: William E. Cameron, City Engineer

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Inland of Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) railroad tracks from North Beach to Calafia Beach, San Clemente, County of Orange

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Improvement and upgrade of City's Beach Trunk Sewer System, including the replacement of Linda Lane and La Rambla pump stations; beach sewer improvements; construction of three relief sewers; manhole rehabilitations and tributary sewer connection improvements.

LOCAL APPROVALS RECEIVED: Adoption of Resolution No. 99-86 by the San Clemente City Council on August 4, 1999, which approved Negative Declaration for Linda Lane Pump Station Replacement (SCH# 99061104), Negative Declaration for La Rambla Pump Station Replacement (SCH# 99061101), and Negative Declaration Three Relief Sewers & Beach Trunk Manhole Rehabilitation (SCH# 99061102).

# SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The applicant proposes major improvements to the existing municipal sewer line that runs parallel to the shoreline, inland of the OCTA railroad tracks in the City of San Clemente. The project involves the removal and reconstruction of two pump station structures on the beach and requires trenching to accommodate the supplemental sewer lines. The major issues of this staff report include geologic hazard, water quality, and preservation of scenic resources.

Staff recommends APPROVAL of the proposed development subject to six (6) special conditions which require 1) use of construction best management practices (BMPs) and good housekeeping practices (GHPs); 2) debris disposal site to be located outside of coastal zone; 3) notification to Commission of any changes to proposed project required by RWCQB; 4) maintenance of public access; 5) conformance of the final design and construction plans to the geotechnical reports; and 6) the submittal of landscaping plans which show vegetative screening of the proposed pump stations.

# SUBSTANTIVE FILE DOCUMENTS:

City of San Clemente Certified Land Use Plan; City of San Clemente Wastewater Master Plan, September 1995; *Preliminary Geotechnical Evaluation Three Relief Sewers Project, San Clemente, California* prepared by Ninyo & Moore Geotechnical and Environmental Sciences Consultants dated June 15, 1999; *Report of Geotechnical Investigation for the Proposed Linda Lane and La Rambla Pump Stations, City of San Clemente* prepared by Leighton and Associates dated February 25, 2000; and Negative Declarations for Linda Lane Pump Station Replacement, La Rambla Pump Station Replacement and Three Relief Sewers & Beach Trunk Manhole Rehabilitation prepared by the City of San Clemente and adopted by the San Clemente City Council on August 4, 1999.

### **EXHIBITS:**

- 1. Location Map
- 2. City Limits Map
- 3. Project Site Map (Beach Trunk Sewer Drainage Region)
- 4. (a) Project Plans for Linda Lane Pump Station Replacement (Selected Sheets)
  (b) Project Plans for La Rambla Pump Station Replacement (Selected Sheets)
- 5. Regional Water Quality Control Board Cleanup and Abatement Order 98-43
- 6. Addendum No. 1 to Cleanup and Abatement Order 98-43
- 7. Citywide Public Access Map
- 8. (a) Photos of Linda Lane Pump Station (Existing and Proposed)
  (b) Photos of La Rambla Pump Station (Existing and Proposed)

# STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission APPROVE the permit application with special conditions.

#### **MOTION:**

I move that the Commission approve Coastal Development Permit #5-00-333 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. Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment. 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 this permit is reported to the Commission. 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 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 permit.
- 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 permittee to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject property to the terms and conditions.

# III. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

# 1. <u>Storage of Construction Materials, Mechanized Equipment and Removal of</u> Construction Debris

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

- (a) No construction materials, debris, or waste shall be placed or stored where it may enter a storm drain or be subject to wave erosion and dispersion;
- (b) Any and all debris resulting from construction activities shall be removed from the project site within 24 hours of completion of construction;
- (c) Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Good Housekeeping Practices (GHPs) designed to prevent spillage and/or runoff of construction-related materials, and to contain sediment or contaminants associated with construction activity, shall be implemented prior to the on-set of such activity. BMPs and GHPs which shall be implemented include, but are not limited to: stormdrain inlets must be protected with sandbags or berms, all stockpiles must be covered, and a pre-construction meeting should be held for all personnel to review procedural and BMP/GHP guidelines. Selected BMPs shall be maintained in a functional condition throughout the duration of the project.
- (d) Construction debris and sediment shall be properly contained and secured on site with BMPs, to prevent the unintended transport of sediment and other debris into coastal waters by wind, rain or tracking. Construction debris and sediment shall be removed from construction areas as necessary to prevent the accumulation of sediment and other debris which may be discharged into coastal waters. Debris shall be disposed at a debris disposal site outside the coastal zone, pursuant to Special Condition No. 2.

# 2. Location of Debris Disposal Site

The applicant shall dispose of all demolition and construction debris resulting from the proposed project at an appropriate location outside the coastal zone. If the disposal site is located within the coastal zone, a coastal development permit or an amendment to this permit shall be required before disposal can take place.

# 3. Notification of Changes Required by Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)

The applicant shall provide a copy of the "Completion of System Upgrade" milestone report required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board's Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 98-43 to the Executive Director within seven (7) days of completion of the project.

The applicant shall inform the Executive Director of any changes to the project required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Such changes shall not be incorporated into the project until the applicant obtains a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit (5-00-333), unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is required.

# 4. Maintenance of Public Access

The construction activities authorized pursuant to Coastal Development Permit No. 5-00-333 shall not obstruct public access to San Clemente's beaches during the peak use season, defined as the period starting the day before the Memorial Day weekend and ending the day after the Labor Day weekend of any year. In addition, the applicant shall comply with the following:

- 1) In the event that any vertical accessway to the beach is not open for public use during the "off" peak use season due to construction activities associated with the Beach Trunk Sewer upgrade project, signage shall be posted on site identifying the nearest public accessway providing safe railroad crossing.
- 2) The staging area for construction of the Linda Lane pump station replacement shall conform to the plans submitted by the applicant August 17, 2000 and shall not obstruct the nearby pedestrian railroad undercrossing.
- 3) Lateral public access along the beach shall not be obstructed by construction activities associated with the Beach Trunk Sewer upgrade project at any time.

# 5. Conformance of Design and Construction Plans to Geotechnical Reports

- A. **PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF THE COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT,** the applicant shall submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, evidence that an appropriately licensed professional has reviewed and approved all final design and construction plans and certified that the final plans incorporate all of the recommendations contained in the engineering geologic reports entitled *Preliminary Geotechnical Evaluation Three Relief Sewers Project, San Clemente, California* prepared by Ninyo and Moore and *Report of Geotechnical Investigation for the Proposed Linda Lane and La Rambla Pump Stations, City of San Clemente* prepared by Leighton and Associates approved by the California Coastal Commission for the project site.
- B. 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

# 5-00-333 (City of San Clemente) Page 5 of 13

Executive Director. Proposed changes to the approved final plans shall not occur without a Coastal Commission-approved amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is required.

# 6. Submittal of Landscaping Plans

- A. **PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF THE COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT**, the applicant shall submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, a plan for landscaping to screen the pump station structures at Linda Lane and La Rambla. The plan shall be prepared by a licensed landscape architect.
  - 1) The plan shall demonstrate that:
    - (a) all vegetation planted on the site will consist of native, drought-tolerant plants, such as Saltbrush (Atriplex tridentata); California Sagebrush (Artemesia californica); California Buckwheat (Eriogonum fasiculatum); Toyon/Christmas-berry/California Holly (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*); and Lemonade Berry (*Rhus integrifolia*)
    - (b) all planting will be completed within 60 days after completion of construction,
    - (c) all required plantings will be maintained in good growing conditions throughout the life of the project, and whenever necessary, shall be replaced with new plant materials to ensure continued compliance with the landscape plan,
  - 2) The plan shall include, at a minimum, the following components:
    - (a) a map showing the type, size, and location of all plant materials that will be on the developed site, the irrigation system, topography of the developed site, and all other landscape features, and
    - (b) a schedule for installation of plants.
- B. The permittee shall undertake development in accordance with the approved final plan. Any proposed changes to the approved final plan shall be reported to the Executive Director. No changes to the approved final plan shall occur without a Commission amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is required.

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# IV. FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS

The Commission hereby finds and declares:

# A. PROJECT LOCATION, DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

The City of San Clemente is proposing sewer line improvements to their Beach Trunk Sewer facilities located inland of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) railroad tracks from North Beach to Calafia Beach in the City of San Clemente, Orange County (Exhibits 1 and 2). The sites of the proposed improvements are generally depicted in Exhibit 3. The proposed project includes the following improvements:

- 1. Construction of three (3) relief sewers from:
  - Boca Del Canon to La Rambla Pump Station (600' of 18" pipeline)
  - Avenida Victoria (Municipal Pier) to Linda Lane Pump Station (1970' of 12" pipeline)
  - West El Portal to Dije Court (925' of 8" pipeline)
- 2. Replacement/rehabilitations of existing manholes from Main Pump Station (at North Beach) to Calafia State Park
- 3. Existing sewer line lateral connection improvement at Esplanade and West Mariposa
- 4. Replacement of existing Linda Lane Sewer Pump Station (Exhibit 4a): The existing above-grade structure will be removed and replaced. The new pump station will consist of an above- and below-grade structure to house new pumps, electrical/control equipment and a new emergency generator. The Linda Lane project will include minor realignment of the existing sewer line and manholes in the vicinity of the pump station.
- 5. Replacement of existing La Rambla Sewer Pump Station (Exhibit 4b): The existing above-grade structure will be removed and replaced with a larger (20' x 30') structure and a new underground wet well will be constructed. The new pump station will house new pumps, electrical/control equipment and a new emergency generator. The La Rambla project will include minor realignment of the existing sewer line and manholes in the vicinity of the pump station.

According to the applicant, the City of San Clemente's Beach Truck Sewer was constructed 70 years ago. The existing system extends approximately three (3) miles from Calafia State Beach (in the southern portion of the City) to North Beach (in the northern portion of the City). The sewer line is located adjacent to the OCTA railroad corridor at the base of the coastal bluffs running parallel to the shoreline. Due to the flat topography at beach level, two sewer pump stations referred to as the "La Rambla" and "Linda Lane" pump stations were originally constructed to convey sewage to the Main Pump Station near North Beach. From the Main Pump Station, sewage is pumped to the City's Water Reclamation Plant for treatment, reclamation and disposal. The Beach Trunk sewer system provides service to the south end of the City of San Clemente and the City's coastal areas extending between the I-5 Freeway and the ocean.

Several studies, including the Wastewater Master Plan dated 1995, have been conducted to evaluate the City's wastewater system. These studies have determined that portions of the Beach Trunk Sewer and two pump stations need to be upgraded to carry the existing and/or future sewage flows from the tributary areas. Sewer spills have occurred due to infiltration/inflow of rainwater during heavy storm events and limited capacity of the existing facilities. When sewer

# 5-00-333 (City of San Clemente) Page 7 of 13

lines became inundated with excessive storm water, sewage overflow was discharged through manhole rims. Normally, extensive inflow into the Beach Trunk Sewer is not experienced; however, because several existing manhole rims are located in sump areas, ponding of storm waters in these areas caused significant inflow during the extended heavy storms of 1997 and 1998, resulting in overflows.

On March 27, 1998, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), San Diego Region, issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 98-43 to the City San Clemente requiring the implementation of Beach Trunk Sewer improvements to prevent future sewage spills (Exhibit 5). Addendum No. 1 to the Cleanup and Abatement Order establishes a compliance deadline of June 30, 2001 (Exhibit 6). The applicant anticipates a 12-18 month construction period.

Prior to the issuance of the Cleanup and Abatement Order, the City conducted a study of the Beach Trunk Sewer. The *"Beach Trunk Sewer Replacement Preliminary Design Report,"* dated November 1997, summarized these studies. The report investigated alternative solutions to the pump station and gravity sewer deficiencies. The City of San Clemente conducted further evaluation of these alternatives and developed three relief projects considering the following:

- a) The effects of the extensive beach erosion experiences during the winter of 1997/1998;
- b) Deep excavations near eroding bluffs; and
- c) Cost of construction

The City's currently proposed sewer upgrade project incorporates the results of the preliminary design report as well as subsequently prepared technical studies. According to the applicant, construction of the three relief sewers and sewer laterals will provide additional capacity and rehabilitate existing facilities. Additionally, the City anticipates that current pump station deficiencies will be eliminated with the construction of two new pump stations at Linda Lane and La Rambla. Lastly, the City has raised the height of sewer manhole lids, which were previously inundated with stormwater during heavy storm events. As such, the potential for overflow will be reduced.

The proposed project is intended to increase sewer system capacity and correct previous design deficiencies, thereby fulfilling the requirements set forth by the RWQCB to upgrade the Beach Trunk Sewer in an effort to prevent future sewage spills. The proposed project will serve to maintain water quality and ensure public access. Water quality issues will be discussed further in Section B of the current staff report and public access will be discussed in Section C.

# B. WATER QUALITY

Section 30230 of the Coastal Act states, in pertinent part:

Marine resources shall be maintained, enhanced, and where feasible, restored.

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, and minimizing alteration of natural streams.

# 5-00-333 (City of San Clemente) Page 8 of 13

Section 30232 of the Coastal Act states, in pertinent part:

Protection against the spillage of crude oil, gas, petroleum products, or hazardous substances shall be provided in relation to any development or transportation of such materials.

As described previously, the City of San Clemente proposes to improve and upgrade their existing Beach Trunk Sewer System, which runs parallel to the ocean. The sites of the proposed improvements are located landward of the railroad tracks and seaward of the coastal bluffs paralleling the coast. In some areas, the proposed sewer improvements are located adjacent to storm drain channels leading to the ocean. Due to the project's location, there is the potential that an accidental sewage spill could enter existing storm drain channels, thereby contaminating coastal waters.

Recent beach closures occurring throughout Orange County, including those in Newport Beach and Laguna Beach, have been caused by sewage spills. As illustrated by these beach closures, sewage spills negatively affect both marine resources and the public's ability to access coastal resources. The proposed project is expected to improve water quality through the implementation of sewer line improvements, which will prevent future sewer spills.

### **Potential for Accidental Spills**

Commission staff has evaluated alternatives for how an accidental spill could be detected and asked the City Engineering Division to explain how an accidental spill would be detected and controlled. According the City's Principal Civil Engineer,

"The City's existing Beach Trunk sewer system has telemetry systems at its two (2) sewage lift stations to warn if there is a power failure or sewage levels are increasing in the wet wells to an unacceptable elevation. In addition, there is a high liquid level float in a manhole just prior to the La Rambla pump station that provides additional information as to whether sewage is backing up in the sewer trunk above the pump station. The alarms are sent to the City's Water Reclamation Plant Operations Building for monitoring and, if needed, to respond on a 24 hour basis. The two new replacement pump stations at La Rambla and Linda Lane will have standby pumps added to automatically start pumping in case of a failure of the main duty pump or if pump station wet well level exceeds a pre-set level. Permanent emergency generators will be added at each pump station to maintain pump station operation during power failures. The new telemetry system will provide alarms for wet well high levels, equipment and power failures and will also provide information on actual sewage flows through flow meters at the stations. Further, if the generator were to fail at one of the pump stations, the City has a mobile generator that can be brought to the site and connected to the pump station. The equipment and power failure and wet high level alarms, monitoring of sewer flow meters at the two pump stations and the high level float sensor in the trunk line upstream of the La Rambla Pump Station provide the City warnings on a 24 hour basis that are checked by City utilities staff each time there is an alarm."

Commission staff questioned the applicant regarding the feasibility of installing some type of sensor system that would be able to detect a break in the line. As explained by applicant, installing pressure sensors in the Beach Trunk Sewer lines is not feasible because the sewer lines depend on gravity flow and are not typically under pressure. Therefore, sensors would not be a viable warning device. Regarding emergency response, the City has staff on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The City asserts that *"the new pump stations and increased capacity form the new pipelines will increase the Beach Trunk Sewer System's reliability and significantly reduce the potential of accidental spills."* 

5-00-333 (City of San Clemente) Page 9 of 13

# **Construction Impacts to Water Quality**

While the project will prevent future spills, construction impacts also have the potential to negatively affect water quality. Storage or placement of construction materials, debris, or waste in a location which may be discharged into coastal waters would result in adverse impacts upon the marine environment that would reduce the biological productivity of coastal waters. For instance, construction debris entering coastal waters may cover and displace soft bottom habitat. In addition, sediment discharged to coastal waters may cause turbidity which can shade and reduce the productivity of eelgrass beds and foraging avian and marine species ability to see food in the water column. Therefore, to lessen the potential for pollutants and/or debris to appear on the sandy beach or enter coastal waters, the Commission imposes the following special conditions related to water quality. Special Condition No. 1 outlines construction-related requirements to provide for the safe storage of construction materials and the safe disposal of construction debris. Special Condition No. 2 requires that the applicant dispose of all demolition and construction debris at an appropriate location outside of the coastal zone and informs the applicant that use of a disposal site within the coastal zone will require an amendment or new coastal development permit.

### **Regional Water Quality Control Board Compliance**

As discussed previously, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) issued Cleanup and Abatement Order 98-43 to the City of San Clemente following sewer spills caused by storm water infiltration in 1998. Cleanup and Abatement Order 98-43 requires the City to submit milestone reports to the Board to report the progress of the Beach Trunk Sewer System upgrade. In order to ensure notification of any potential design changes, the Commission imposes Special Condition No. 3. This condition requires the City to provide a copy of the final milestone report to the Commission. This notification provision will allow the Commission to verify that the City has completed the project in accordance with the Board's requirements and will keep the Commission informed of any changes to the project. While no modifications to the project as approved by the Commission shall be submitted to the Executive Director for a determination as to whether the changes require an amendment to this permit. Any changes that require an amendment shall not occur without an amendment to this permit (5-00-333).

Only as conditioned for appropriate storage of construction materials and equipment and appropriate disposal of debris, does the Commission find that the proposed development is consistent with Sections 30230, 30231 and 30232 of the Coastal Act.

# C. PUBLIC ACCESS

Section 30212(a)(2) of the Coastal Act states:

(a) Public access from the nearest public roadway to the shoreline and along the coast shall be provided in new development projects except where:

- (I) it is inconsistent with public safety, military security needs, or the protection of fragile coastal resources,
- (2) adequate access exists nearby

Section 30604(C) of the Coastal Act requires that permit applications between the nearest public road and the shoreline of any body of water within the coastal zone shall include a public access and recreation finding. The proposed development is located between the sea and the first public road. Vertical public beach access is available at multiple points along the Beach Trunk Sewer (Exhibit 7). Lateral access to the Pacific Ocean and sandy beach is available immediately adjacent to the proposed sewer line improvement sites, seaward of the OCTA railroad tracks.

# 5-00-333 (City of San Clemente) Page 10 of 13

While the project involves construction near existing public accessways and sandy beaches, the applicant has stated that the proposed construction activities will not obstruct either lateral or vertical access. The project plans for the La Rambla and Linda Lane pump station replacements identify construction staging areas which are located inland of the railroad tracks and out of the way of existing vertical access points. This is particularly important at the Linda Lane site, which serves as a popular access point during the summer months.

Although the applicant intends to minimize impacts to coastal access during construction, the proposed project may take up to 18 months to complete. As such, construction will occur during the peak beach use season, typically defined as Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend. To guarantee that public access is maintained during this peak beach use season, the Commission imposes Special Condition No. 4. The condition requires that, in the event that any vertical accessways are obstructed during the "off" peak season due to construction, signage shall be posted on site to notify the public of the nearest pedestrian railroad crossing. The condition also requires the applicant to stage equipment at the Linda Lane site in accordance with the originally submitted plans. Lastly, the condition requires the applicant to maintain existing lateral public access.

Only as conditioned for maintenance of public access does the Commission find the proposed development consistent with Section 30212 of the Coastal Act.

# D. GEOLOGIC HAZARDS

Section 30253 of the Coastal Act states in relevant part:

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, geologic 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.

(5) Where appropriate, protect special communities and neighborhoods which, because of their unique characteristics, are popular visitor destination points for recreational uses.

The proposed Beach Trunk Sewer line improvements will occur inland of the railroad tracks within and adjacent to the OCTA right-of-way. The sites of the proposed improvements were previously disturbed for the construction of the original sewer line. However, the current project involves the construction of new relief lines and the replacement of pump stations to be located along stretches of beach area (inland of the tracks) and at the toe of existing bluff areas. According to the applicant, the proposed method of construction for these new sewer lines will include microtunneling, boring and open-trench as determined by the geotechnical and field conditions. Many of the bluffs within San Clemente are known to be inherently unstable. In order to assure that geologic conditions at each of the project sites would support the proposed development, the following geotechnical investigations were performed: *Preliminary Geotechnical Evaluation Three Relief Sewers Project, San Clemente, California* prepared by Ninyo and Moore and *Report of Geotechnical Investigation for the Proposed Linda Lane and La Rambla Pump Stations, City of San Clemente* prepared by Leighton and Associates.

# 5-00-333 (City of San Clemente) Page 11 of 13

#### **Results of Geotechnical Investigations**

The geotechnical consultants concluded that the proposed development is feasible from a geotechnical point of view, provided the recommendations presented in their reports are fully implemented in the design and construction of the project. The Geotechnical Investigation of the Linda Lane and La Rambla Pump Stations prepared by Leighton and Associates provides recommendations regarding site preparation, fill placement, and compaction; excavation characteristics; engineered fill; pipe bedding and trench backfill; groundwater level for design; seismic design parameters; foundation design recommendations; lateral earth pressure; corrosion protection; existing condition survey, instrumentation, monitoring, and documentation program; and geotechnical observation and testing. The Geotechnical Investigation for the Three Relief Sewers Project prepared by Ninyo and Moore provides recommendations for excavation characteristics; temporary excavations; construction dewatering; excavation bottom stability; pipe bedding; trench backfill; lateral pressures for thrust blocks and jacking; modulus of soil reaction; and corrosion.

To affirm that the proposed development will assure stability and structural integrity, and neither create nor contribute significantly to erosion, geologic instability, or destruction of the site or surrounding area and to assure that risks to life and property are minimized, the Commission finds that the applicant shall, as a condition of approval, incorporate the geologist's recommendations into the final design and construction plans of the proposed project. Special Condition 5 requires the applicant to submit plans that show evidence of conformance with all geotechnical recommendations

#### Wave Uprush

According to the applicant, the sites of the proposed improvements are located at least 50 feet from the mean high tide line. The City asserts that the sewer pump stations and sewer mains are not currently subject to wave attack and have not been subject to wave attack for at least the last 26 years (based on staff accounts). The mean high tide line is at approximately seven (7) feet above sea level with the railroad tracks being at an elevation of approximately nineteen (19) feet. There is a rock revetment which extends along the length of the railroad tracks seaward of the project sites. The revetment is located about one to three feet higher than the railroad tracks. The revetment is maintained by the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) and the railroad right-ofway is owned by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA). The railroad has a maintenance program in which additional boulders are added to the revetment to protect the track and ballast. During high surf events, the railroad also monitors the conditions of the railroad to ensure that the tracks are not flooded for safe operation of the trains. Based on the information provided by the applicant, the Commission finds that the proposed sewer line improvements will not be subject to wave attack.

As conditioned for conformance with recommendations contained in the geotechnical reports, the Commission finds that the proposed project is consistent with Section 30253 of the Coastal Act.

# E. SCENIC AND VISUAL RESOURCES

Section 30251 of the Coastal Act states, in relevant part:

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...

Much of the proposed project will occur directly adjacent to public accessways and just inland of sandy beaches in San Clemente. While much of the sewer line improvements are to occur underground, the City proposes to replace two (2) pump station structures which are highly visible

# 5-00-333 (City of San Clemente) Page 12 of 13

when looking to and along the coastline. As illustrated in Exhibits 8a & 8b, the proposed structures will be located at sites that are particularly visible when looking inland from the ocean or traveling along the beach. Additionally, the Linda Lane pump station will be located just north of an existing public park. To improve and restore the visual quality of the pump station areas, the Commission imposes Special Condition No. 6. Special Condition No. 6 requires the applicant to submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, a landscaping plan and which screens the new pump station structures at Linda Lane and La Rambla with vegetation. The condition requires the vegetation to consist of native, drought tolerant species, such as Saltbrush (Atriplex tridentata); California Sagebrush (Artemesia californica); California Buckwheat (Eriogonum fasiculatum); and Toyon/Christmas-berry/California Holly (Heteromeles arbutifolia)

The applicant has requested that Special Condition No. 6 not be a "prior to issuance" condition, as the preparation of a landscaping plan may slow the commencement of construction. At present, the City will not meet the RWQCB Cleanup and Abatement Order deadline of June 2001 and they wish to initiate the upgrade project as soon as possible. Additionally, the required landscaping will not occur until after the pump stations have been constructed. Therefore, the applicant has requested that the landscaping plan be submitted at a midway point in the project.

The Commission acknowledges that the preparation of a landscaping plan may require time; however, the applicant had the opportunity during the application process to initiate development of such a plan. Commission staff informed the City's Engineering Division staff of the special condition requirement over one (1) month prior to the Commission hearing. Consequently, the Commission finds that a landscaping plan must be submitted for the review and approval of the Executive Director prior to issuance of the Coastal Development Permit.

As conditioned for appropriate vegetative screening of the proposed pump station structures, the Commission finds that the proposed development is consistent with Section 30251 of the Coastal Act.

# F. GROWTH INDUCEMENT

Section 30254 of the Coastal Act states, in relevant part:

New or expanded public works facilities shall be designed and limited to accommodate needs generated by development or uses permitted consistent with the provisions of this division...

The proposed project is an upgrade to an existing under-capacity and deteriorated sewer system. The City's Negative Declarations for the improvement projects state that the proposed sewer line improvements will not increase the development potential of the area served by the proposed improvements. The project is located within a fully developed area of the City of San Clemente. Increasing the capacity of the storm water system will not be pivotal to increasing development density in this area. Therefore, the Commission finds the proposed development will not be growth-inducing and is consistent with Section 30254 of the Coastal Act.

# G. LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM

Section 30604(a) of the Coastal Act provides that the Commission shall issue a coastal permit only if the project will not prejudice the ability of the local government having jurisdiction to prepare a Local Coastal Program which conforms with Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act. The Commission certified the Land Use Plan (LUP) for the City of San Clemente on May 11, 1988, and certified an amendment approved in October 1995. On April 10, 1998, the Commission certified with suggested modifications the Implementation Plan (IP) portion of the Local Coastal Program.

# 5-00-333 (City of San Clemente) Page 13 of 13

The suggested modifications expired on October 10, 1998. The City re-submitted on June 3, 1999, but withdrew the submittal on October 5, 2000.

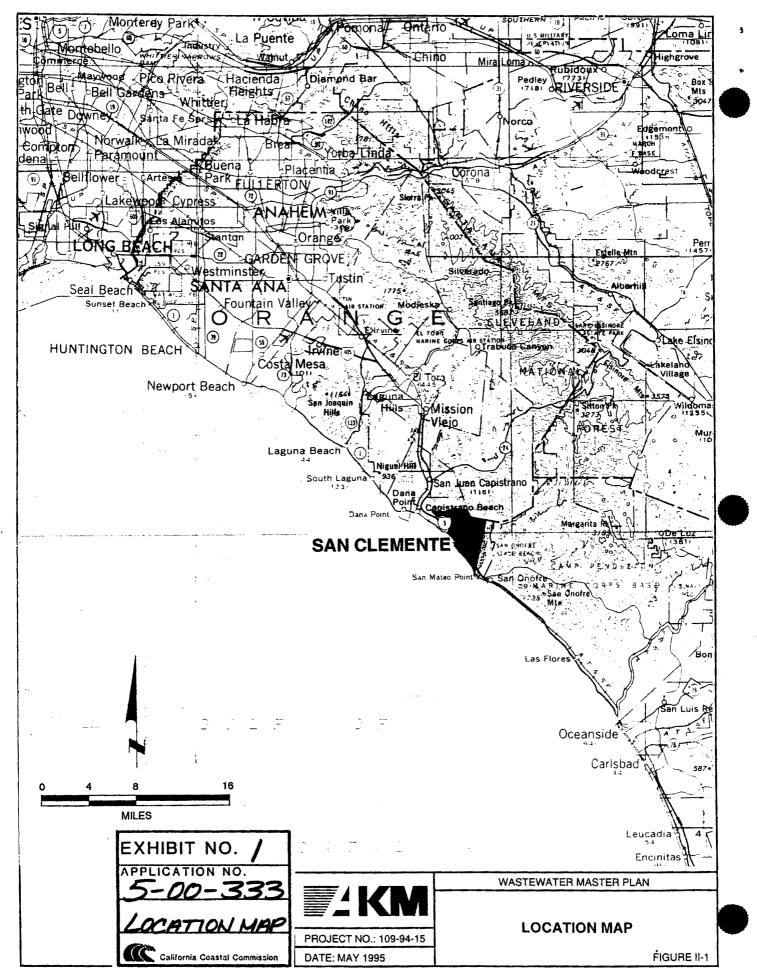
As conditioned, the proposed development is consistent with the policies contained in the certified Land Use Plan regarding public access. Therefore, approval of the proposed development will not prejudice the City's ability to prepare a Local Coastal Program for San Clemente that is consistent with the Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act as required by Section 30604(a).

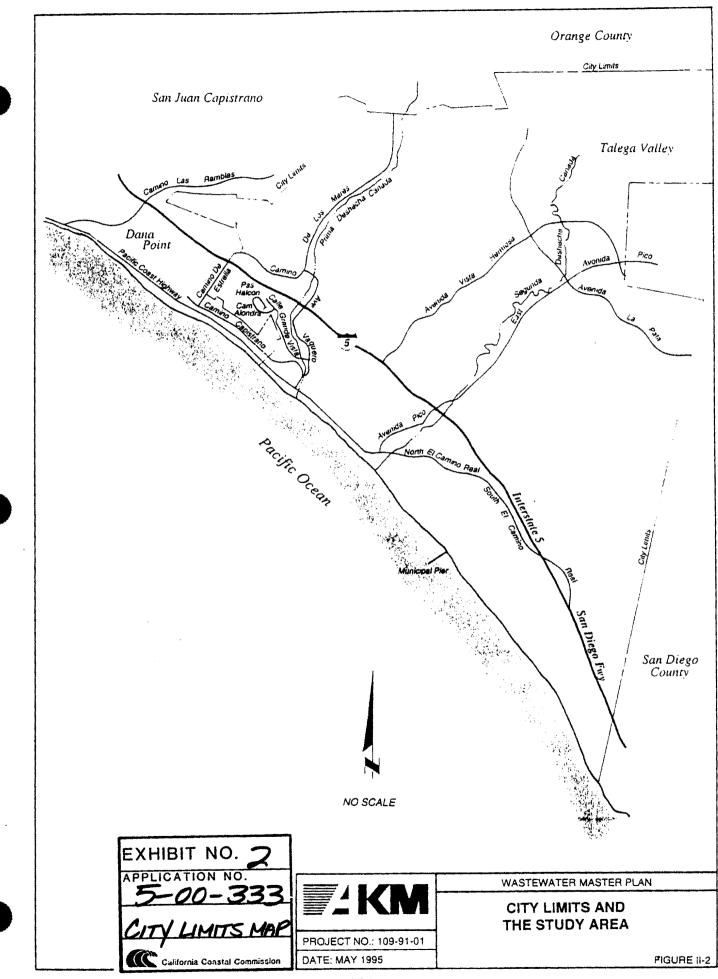
# H. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

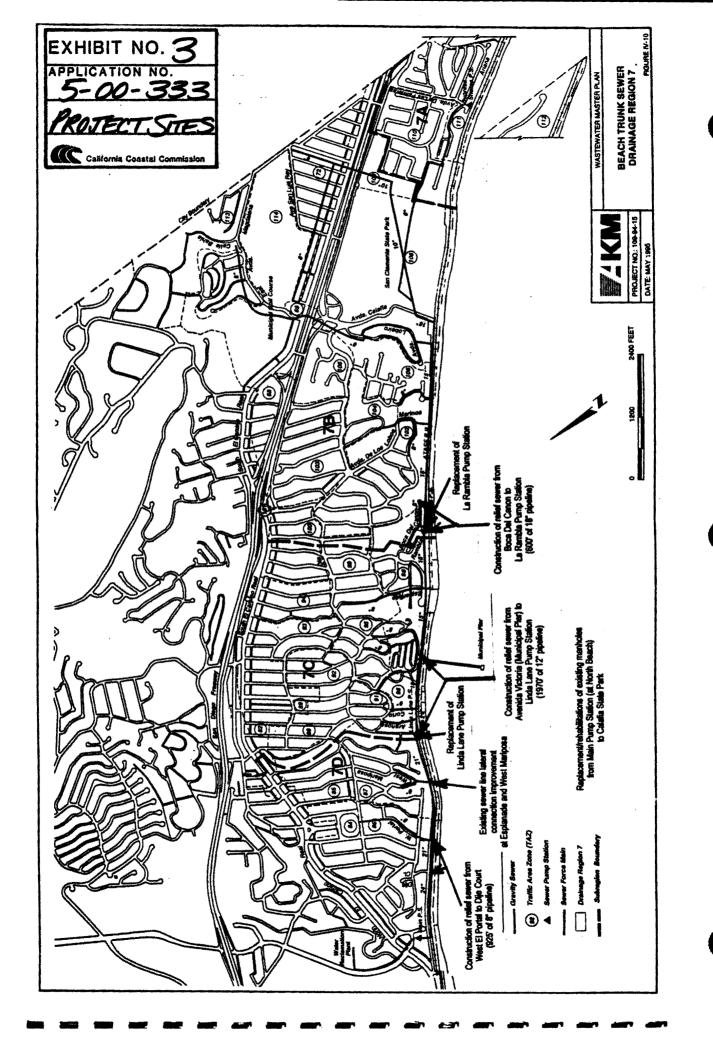
Section 13096 of the Commission's regulations requires Commission approval of coastal development permit applications to be supported by a finding showing the application, as conditioned by any conditions of approval, to be consistent with any applicable requirements of the California Environmental Quality 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 which the activity may have on the environment.

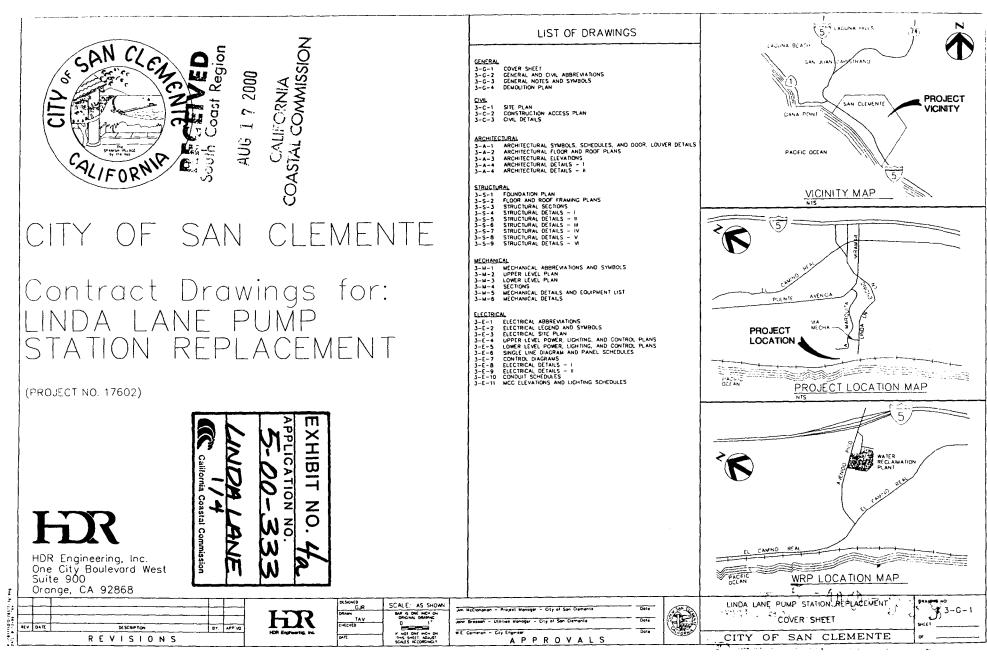
As explained in the findings set forth above in this staff report, all feasible mitigation measures have been adopted to avoid or reduce any significant adverse effects the project may have on the environment. In addition, the Commission finds that there are no other feasible alternatives available that would avoid or substantially reduce any significant adverse effects the project may have on the environment. Therefore, the proposed project, as conditioned, is consistent with the applicable requirements of CEQA.

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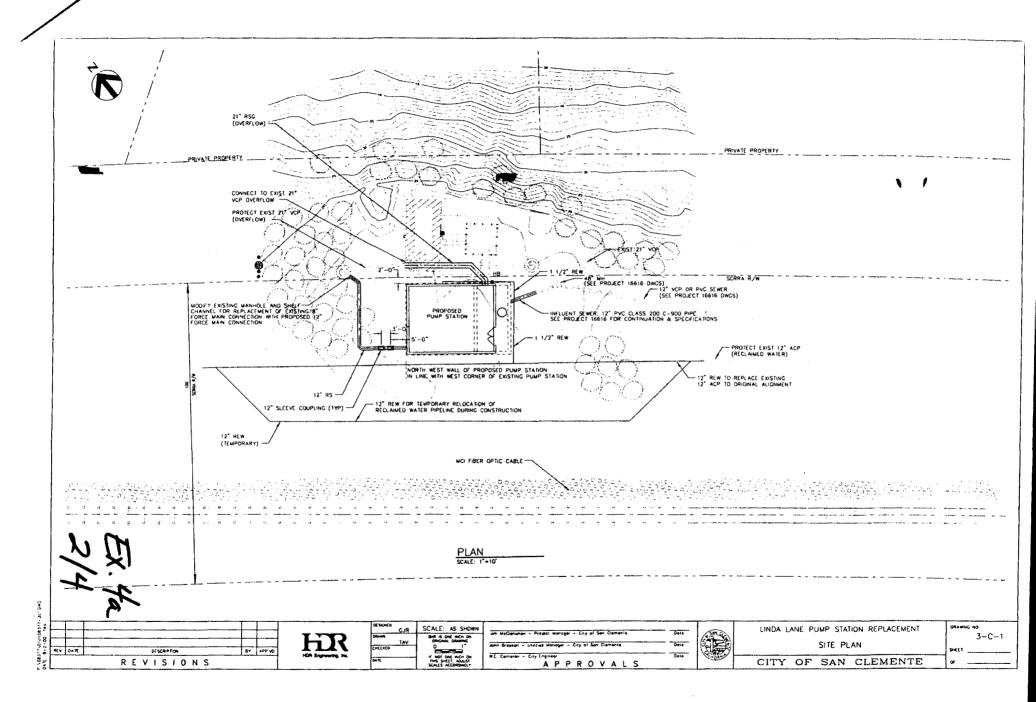




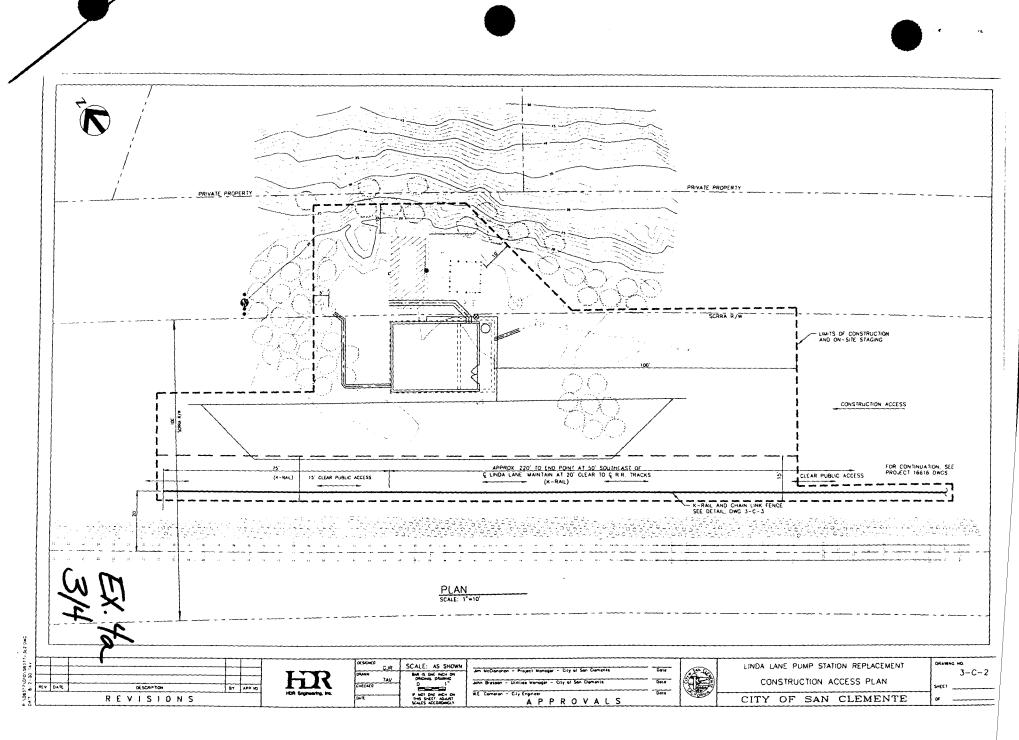


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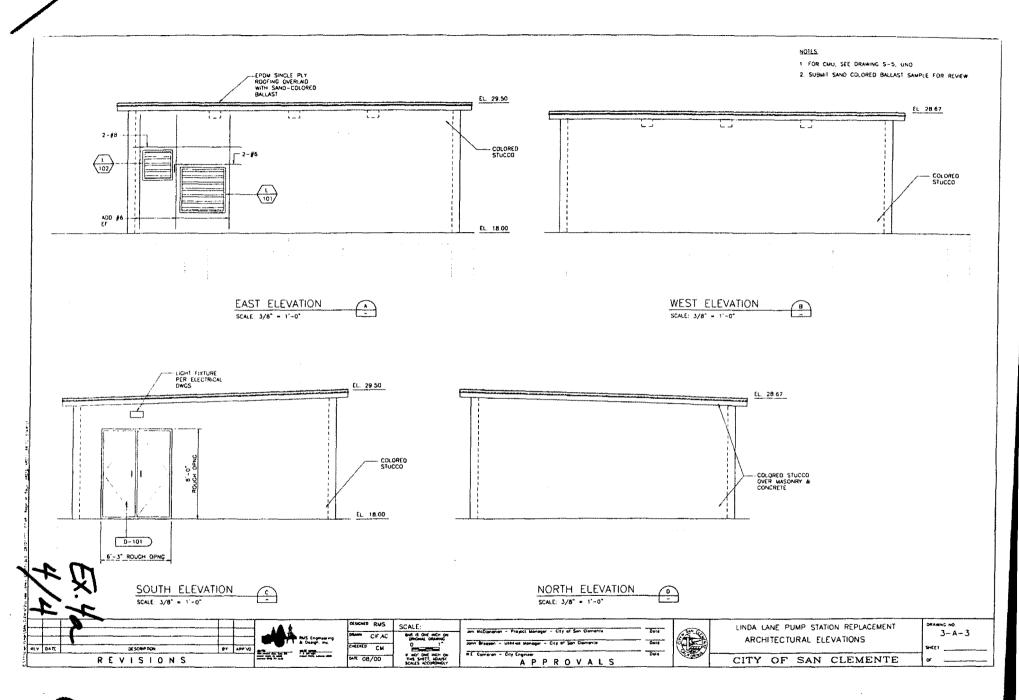
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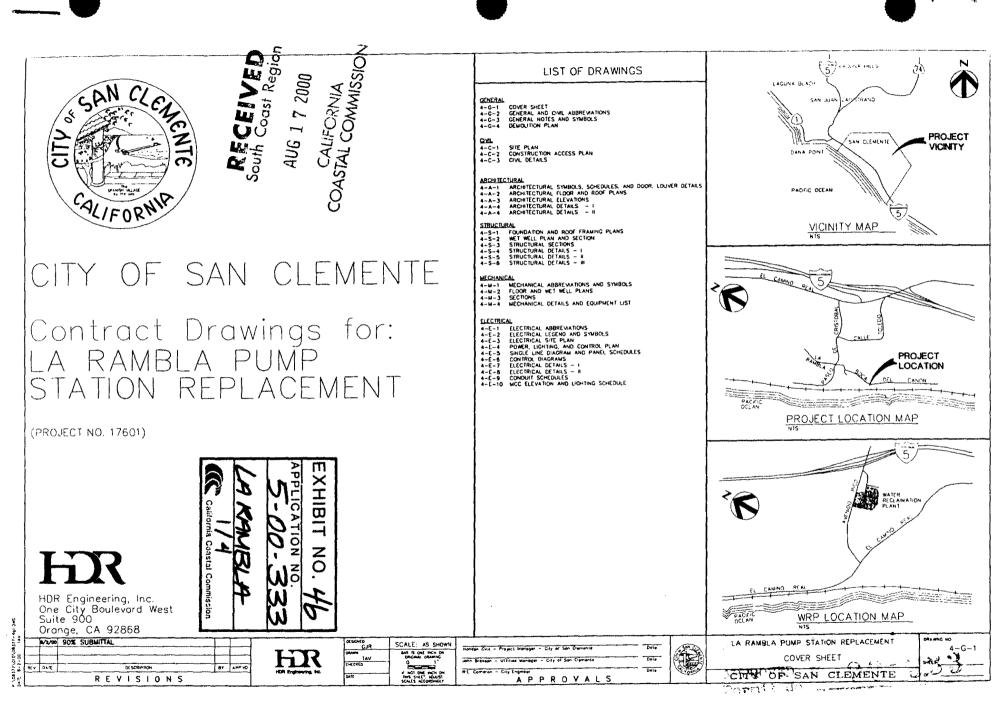


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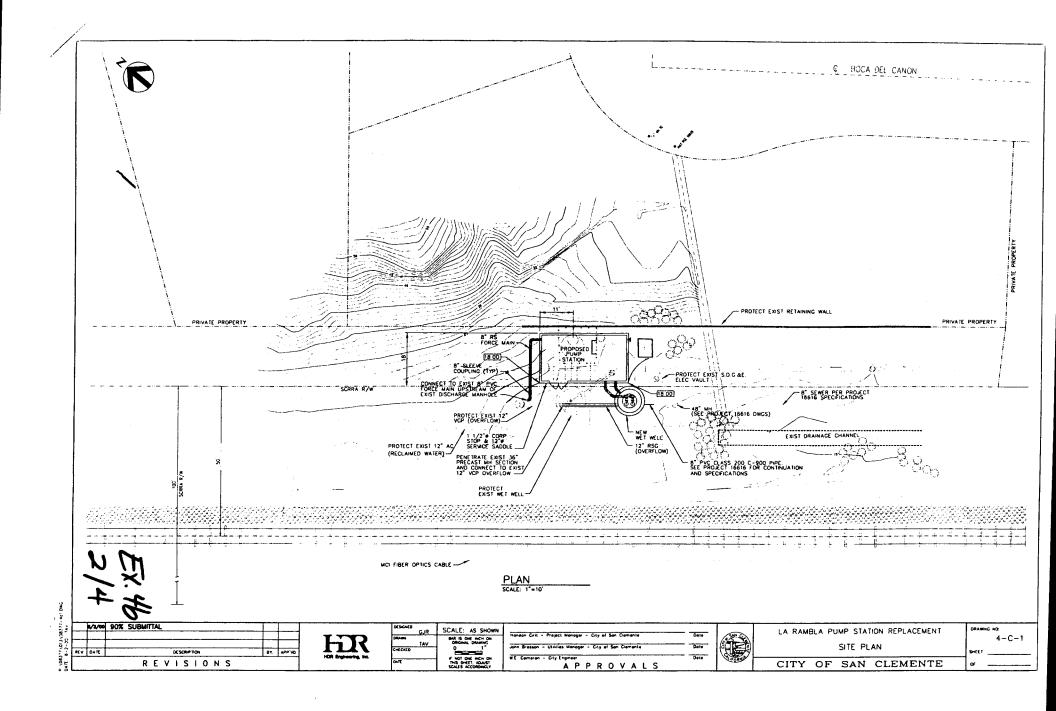
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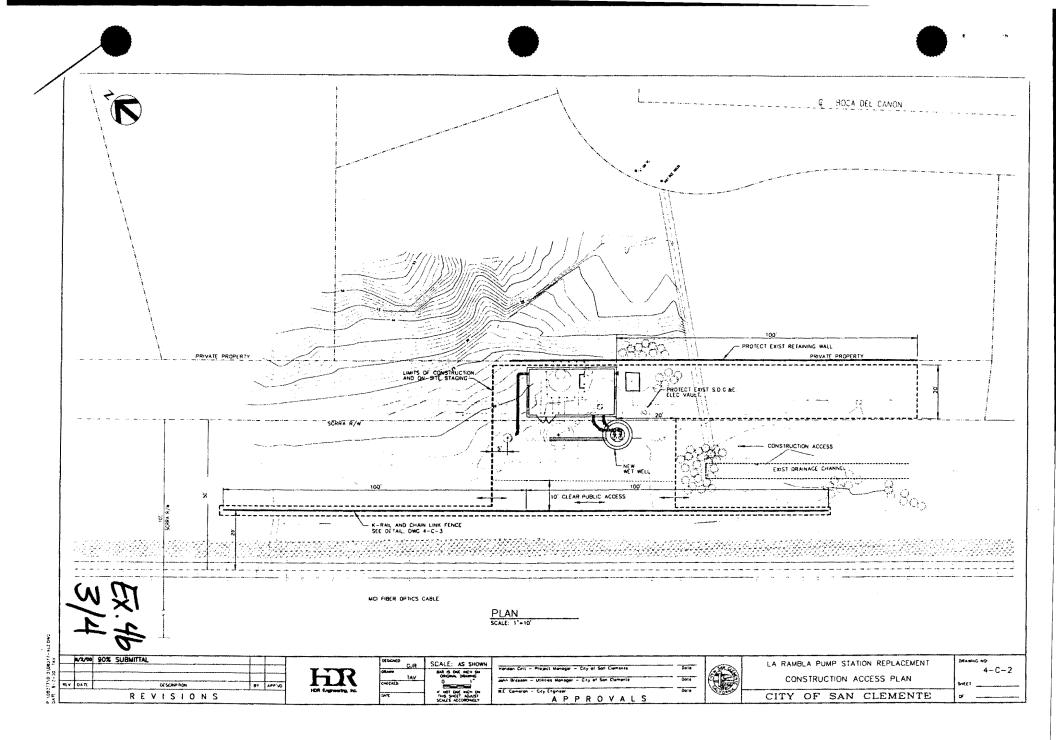


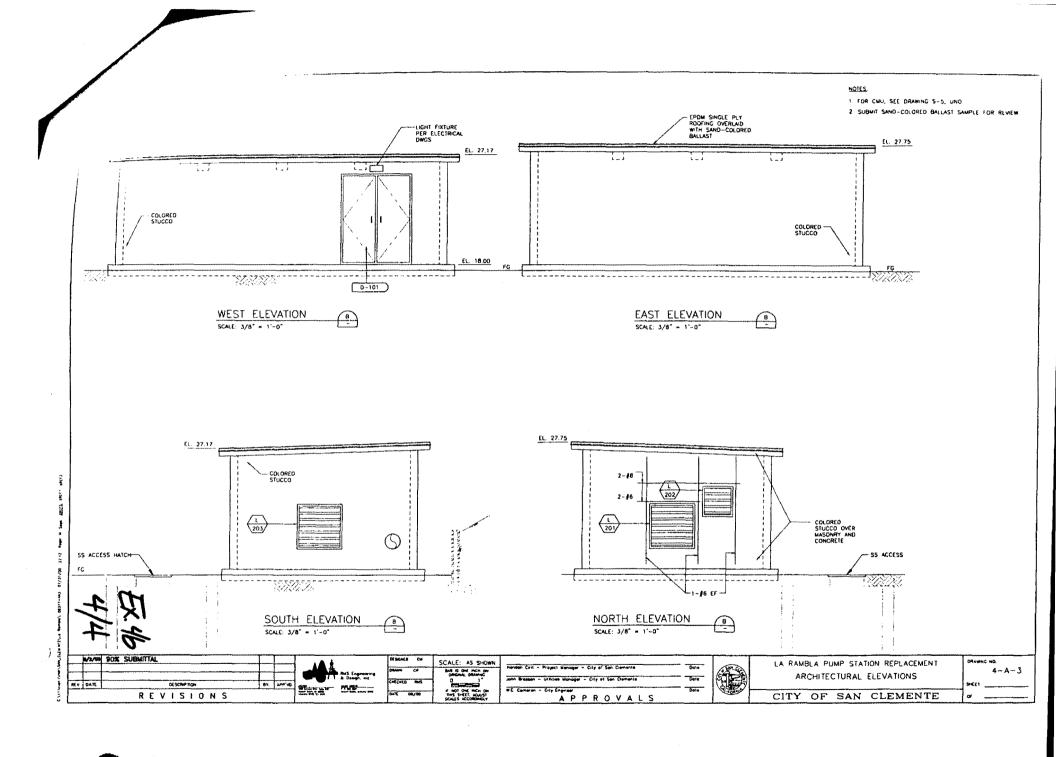


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01/23/2001 15:07 #450 P.002



San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

9771 Cadramort Mona Blod, Suits "A" Sm Diego, CA 92124-1124 (619) 467-2952 FAX (619) 571-4972 March 27, 1998



WH

NU.357

CERTIFIED-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED P 520 099 744

Mr. A.J. Howard Utilities Superintendent City of San Clemente 380 Pico Ave., Bldg. J San Clemente, California 92672

Dear Mr. Howard:

#### ISSUANCE OF CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER NO. 91-43 FOR SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS FROM THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

Enclosed is a copy of Clasmip and Abatement Order No. 98-43 concerning sanitary sower overflows resulting from stormwater flows. The Clasmip and Abatement Order is issued to the City of San Clemente under the authority of the California Water Code Section 13304.

The enclosed Cleanup and Abstement Order directs the City of San Clemente to initiate the necessary remedial and preventative actions to chase the threat of spills at the the noted sections of pipeline and to submit a report that includes an engineered assessment of the cause of the spills, descriptions of the City's efforts to shate the affects of the spill and a discussion of excessive infiltration or inflow in the noted sections of pipeline.

Please note that you may contest the issuance of the Cleanup and Abstement Order by requesting that the Regional Board conduct a public hearing on this matter. In order to schedule a public hearing for the May 13, 1998 Board meeting, a written request should be submitted to this office no later than April 17, 1998.

I strongly urge a prompt and complete response to each directive in Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 98-43. My staff will be happy to work with you in your efforts toward achieving compliance with this Order. If you have any questions, please contact John Phillips at (619) 627-3928.

Respectfully.

JOHN H. ROBERTUS

JRH:rwm:jrp

Attachment: Cease and Desist Order No. 98-43

File: 01-0758.02 Sept: hereals violations-138, ter



Our mission is to preserve and exhance the quality of Catifornia's water resources. and answer their preser allocation and efficient us: for the benefit of preserve and future generations



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From:

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#### CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER NO. 98-43 for the CITY OF BAN CLEMENTE ORANGE COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (heroinafter Regional Board), finds that:

- The City of San Clemente is subject to Order No. 96-04, General Waste Discharge Requirements Prohibiting Sanitary Sower Overflows by Sewage Collection Systems.
- Prohibition A.1 of Order No. 98-04 states that the discharge of sewage from a sanitary sewer system at any point upstream of a sewage treatment plant is prohibited.
- 3. The City of San Clemente has discharged wastes in violation of Order No. 96-04 on March 25, 1998. The first discharge was a result of stormwater surcharge and occurred at a manhole near Victoria and Del Mar, along the walkway near the San Clement pler and resulted in the closure of the beach for 1300 feet near the pler. The volume spilled was approximately 200 gallons. The second discharge, a result of stormwater surcharge and flooding of a pump station, occurred near Riviera Beach (Boca de la Playa) and resulted in the closure of the beach for 1000 yards north and south of the Riviera Street underpass. The volume spilled was approximately 1200 gallons.

By sewer overflow report fax dated March 25, 1998, the City of San Clemente reported the spill. The City of San Clemente reported that the above noted spills were caused by surcharge, flood damage and infiltration. The City further reported that no spilled sewage was recovered and that both spills reached the Pacific Ocean.

5. This enforcement action is being taken for the protection of the environment and, as such is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.) In accordance with Section 15108, Chapter 3, Title 14, California Administrative Code.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, pursuant to Section 13304 of Division 7 of the California Water Code:

 The City of San Clemente shall initiate the necessary remedial and preventative actions to cease the threat of sewage spills from the section

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EX.5 3/3

Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 98-43 2

March 27, 1996

of pipeline noted in this Order and shall abate the effects of past violations of Order No. 98-04 forthwith.

- 2. The City of San Clemente shall submit a report by May 30, 1998 that includes the following:
  - An engineered assessment of the causes of the sewer spills cited in this Order, and
  - A description of the City's efforts to abate the effects of the sewer spills, and
  - c. either:
    - (1) A technical report with supporting documentation prepared and signed by registered civil engineer, licensed in the State of California, certifying that the subject section of the City's sewer system will not be subject to excessive infiltration or inflow (i/i) in the future; or
    - (2) If certification cannot be completed by May 30, 1998, the City shall submit a time schedule for completing the necessary studies to determine *VI* conditions in the sewer; or
    - (3) If the City is aware or becomes aware that the subject section of the sewer system is susceptible to excessive infiltration/inflow, a plan and time schedule to rehabilitate the subject pipeline.

Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13350, any person who intentionally or negligently violations a cleanup and abatement order may be liable civiliy in an emount which shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000), but shall not be less than (\$500), for each day in which the cleanup and ebalement order is violated.

IN H. ROBERTUS

Executive Officer

Date issued: March 27, 1998

File: 01-0768,02

11/22/2000 15:19 #180 P.007



#### California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region Peter M. Rooney Internet Address: http://www.swrob.ca.gov/-rwqcb9 Pete Wilso Secretary for 9771 Clairemont Mar: Boulevard, Suite A. Sar: Diago, Californie 93124-1324 Governor Environmental Phone (619) 467-2952 \* FAX (619) 571-6972 Protection

July 2, 1998

Mr. A.J. Howard

CERTIFIED-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED P 520 099 682 R Utilities Superintendent City of San Clemente **JH -** 8 '99 380 Pico Ave., Bldg. J

Dear Mr. Howard:

San Clemente, California 92672

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ISSUANCE OF ADDENDUM NO. 1 TO CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER NO. 98-43, CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

Enclosed is a copy of Addendum No. 1 to Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 98-43. The Cleanup and Abatement Order was issued to the City of San Clemente on March 27, 1998.

Addendum No. 1 establishes a compliance deadline of June 30, 2001 for construction of the Beach Trunk sewer upgrades and requires submittal of milestone progress reports on the implementation and construction of the Beach Trunk Sewer Replacement. The Beach Trunk Sewer Replacement project was described in the May 28, 1998 technical report submitted by the City in compliance with CAO Order 98-43. The Addendum requires the City to submit reports to this office when the design contract is awarded, when construction starts, with progress reports every 90 days, and upon completion of construction.

Please note that you may contest the issuance of the Addendum by requesting that the Regional Board conduct a public hearing on this matter. In order to schedule a public hearing for the August 12, 1998 Board meeting, a written request should be submitted to this office no later than July 28, 1998.

I commend the City for your prompt response to Cleanup and Abatsment Order No. 98-43. If you have any questions, please contact John Phillips at (619) 627-3928.

Respectfully,

JOHN H. ROBERTUS Executive Officer

JHR:rwm:irp

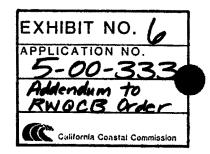
Attachment: Addendum No. 1 to Cease and Desist Order No. 98-43

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California Environmental Protection Agency

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Ex.6 2/3

### CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN DIEGO REGION

#### ADDENDUM NO. 1

#### TO

# CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ORDER NO. 98-43 CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE, SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (hereinafter Regional Board), finds that:

- Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 98-43 required the City of San Clemente to initiate the actions to cease the threat of sewage spills and to abate the effects of past violations of Order No. 96-04 and to submit a report that included an engineered assessment of the causes of the sewer spills, a description of the City's efforts to abate the effects of the sewer spills, and a technical report certifying that the subject section of the City's sewer system will not be subject to excessive infiltration or inflow in the future or a time schedule for completing the necessary studies to determine inflow/infiltration conditions.
- 2. The City has submitted a technical report that describes the City's current efforts to identify existing and future deficiencies in the Beach Trunk sewer system. The report stated that the City is considering upgrade alternatives to increase capacity and improve reliability. The City anticipates awarding a design contract in September 1998 and starting construction in fiscal year 1999/2000.
- 3. The report described in Finding 2 above complies with the requirements contained in Directive No. 2 of CAO Order No. 98-43.
- 4. The Regional Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the modification of CAO Order No. 98-43.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT, pursuant to Section 13304 of Division 7 of the California Water Code, the City of San Clemente shall complete the system improvements to increase system capacity and reliability by June 30, 2001.

The City of San Clemente shall submit written progress reports to the Regional Board Executive Officer according to the following schedule:

From:

From:

Addendum No. 1 to Order No. 98-43 July 2, 1998

Milestone Report	Due Date	
Award of System Upgrade Design Contract	Within 30 days of awarding contract	
Start of System Upgrade Construction	Within 30 days of Start	
Progress Report on System Upgrade Construction	Every 90 days from Start of Construction	
Completion of System Upgrade Construction	Within 7 days of completion	

2

Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13350, any person who intentionally or negligently violates a cleanup and abatement order may be liable civilly in an amount which shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000), but shall not be less than (\$500), for each day in which the cleanup and abatement order is violated.

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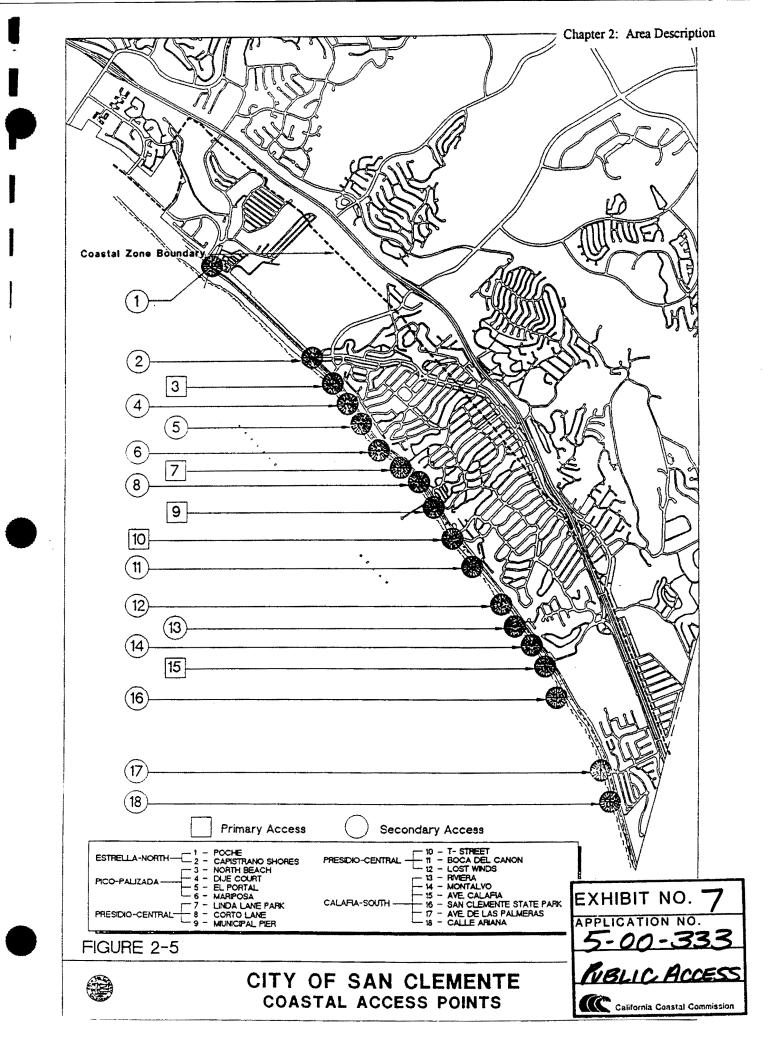
JOHN H. ROBERTUS **Executive** Officer

Date issued: July 2. 1998

File: 01-0758.01, 01-0758.02

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EX.6





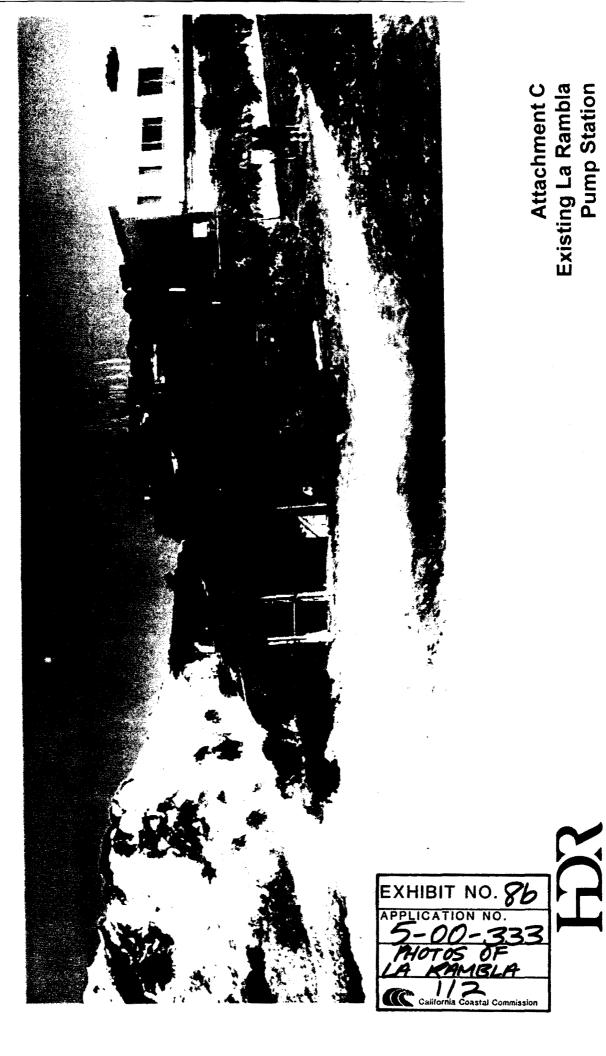
Attachment C Existing Linda Lane Pump Station

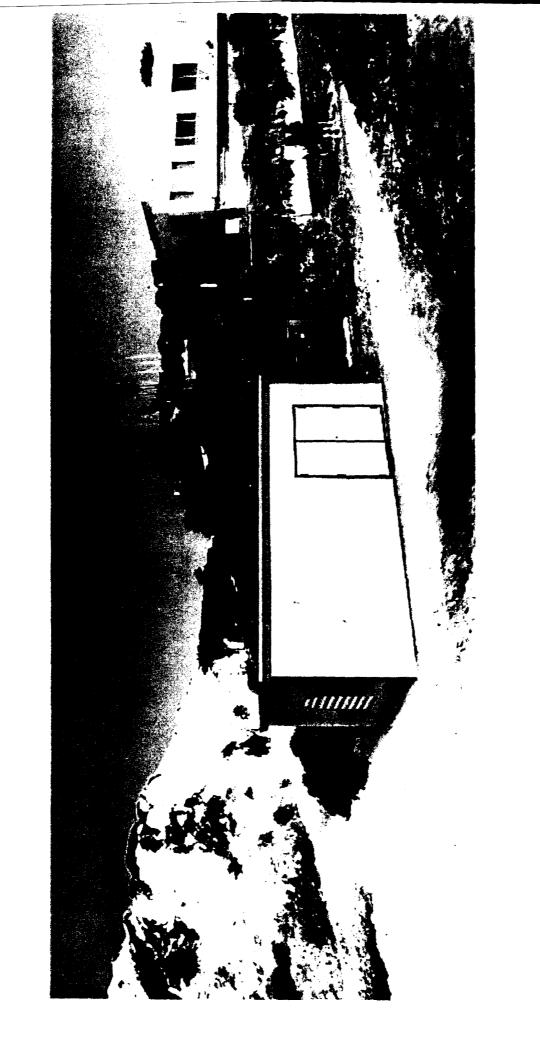






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Attachment D Proposed La Rambla Replacement Pump Station



