

## CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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



# Th7.5a

## NOTICE OF IMPENDING DEVELOPMENT DE MINIMIS: CONSENT CALENDAR

DATE: June 27, 2008

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Notice of Impending Development (NOID); **NOID 4-08**

Based on project plans and information submitted by the applicant regarding the development described below, the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission believes the proposed development is de minimis with respect to the purposes and provisions of the certified LRDP and therefore shall be reviewed by the Commission on its Consent Calendar, pursuant to Section 13550(c) of the Commission's Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 5.5).

**Applicant:** University of California, Santa Barbara

**Location:** Coal Oil Point Reserve, southeast of the Venoco Oil Tanks

**Description:** Installation of a NOAA weather station within a 3,600-square-foot area, including a 10-foot-high instrument tower, two 5-foot-high rain gauges surrounded by a 5-foot-high wooden fence, solar panels, a battery box, and three concrete pads, between one and three-feet-in-diameter on which the instrumentation would be placed. No native vegetation would be removed and the project would not result in any adverse impacts to public access.

**Rationale:** The proposed project is relatively minor in nature. There are no individual or cumulative adverse impacts on coastal resources associated with this project and the project is consistent with UCSB's certified 1990 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP). The LRDP identifies the land use designation for the project site as *Nature Reserve*. The installation of a weather station at Coal Oil Point Reserve would be consistent with this designation as it allows for minor developments that support research activities within the Reserve. In order for the weather station to collect accurate data, it must be located in an area that is away from structures or trees and close to the ocean. The weather station would be installed in a disturbed area of the Reserve that is currently vegetated with non-native grasses; no native vegetation would be removed as part of the project. Furthermore, the areas disturbed by the proposed project would be revegetated with native plant species. In order to minimize the visual impacts of the weather station, the instrumentation tower and fencing would be painted with earth tone colors to blend in with the surrounding environment. The weather station would not have any adverse impacts on the existing public access on the Dune Pond Trail. The proposed project would not have any adverse impacts on sensitive biological resources as

**the location for the weather station has been selected to avoid any areas of native vegetation on the Reserve.**

**The purpose of the weather station is to provide future long-term homogenous observations of temperature and precipitation to monitor climate change. In addition to being a component of a national climate change monitoring program sponsored by NOAA, the data collected by the weather station would be utilized by the Reserve to evaluate the impact of climate change on the beach profile at the Reserve as it relates to Western snowy plover and least tern habitat.**

**IMPORTANT:** This NOID is not valid unless the project site has been posted and until the NOID has been reported to the Coastal Commission. This NOID is proposed to be reported to the Commission at the meeting of July 9-11, 2008. If four Commissioners request that this NOID be scheduled for a public hearing on the regular permit calendar, this NOID shall be removed from the consent calendar, pursuant to Section 13103 of the Commission's Regulations.

Persons wishing to object to or having questions regarding this NOID should contact the Commission office at the above address or phone number prior to the Commission meeting date.

Sincerely,

PETER M. DOUGLAS  
Executive Director

By: Jenn Feinberg  
Title: Coastal Program Analyst