

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000
 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219
 VOICE AND TDD (415) 904-5200
 FAX (415) 904-5400

**F 11****ENERGY, OCEAN RESOURCES, AND FEDERAL CONSISTENCY DIVISION REPORT**

**FOR THE
 APRIL 17, 2015 MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

TO: Commissioners and Interested Parties

**FROM: Alison Dettmer, Deputy Director
 Energy, Ocean Resources & Federal Consistency**

DE MINIMIS WAIVER

APPLICANT	PROJECT	LOCATION
9-15-0265-W Southern California Edison Company	Relocate a 500-kilowatt (kW) diesel generator to the transformer yard area of San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) Unit 2.	San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) San Diego County

NEGATIVE DETERMINATIONS

APPLICANT	PROJECT	LOCATION
ND-0010-15 National Park Service	Invasive Plant (Distaff and Purple Star Thistle) Species Control Study Action: Concur, 3/23/2015	Genazzi Ranch, Golden Gate National Recreation Area Marin County
ND-0013-15 U.S. Coast Guard	Replacement of Aids to Navigation (ATON) Action: Concur, 4/7/2015	Four Locations, San Diego Co.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Senator Barbara Boxer to The Honorable Steve Kinsey, dated January 23, 2015.
 RE: Support for the Huntington Beach Desalination Project



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NOTICE OF COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT DE MINIMIS WAIVER

DATE: April 1, 2015 **PERMIT NO. 9-15-0265-W**

TO: Coastal Commissioners and Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Waiver of Coastal Development Permit Requirements

Based on the plans and information submitted by the applicant for the development described below, the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission hereby waives the requirements for a coastal development permit (CDP), pursuant to Section 30624.7 of the California Coastal Act.

Applicant: Southern California Edison Company
1218 South 5th Ave.
Monrovia, CA 91016

Background & Project Description: Southern California Edison Company (SCE) proposes to relocate a 500-kilowatt (kW) diesel generator within the grounds of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), near Camp Pendleton, in San Diego County. The Coastal Commission previously approved CDP waiver #9-14-1550-W, which included the installation of two diesel generators in the south parking lot of the SONGS facility in order to provide emergency back-up power to the ring bus electrical power distribution system being installed to supply electricity to the facility during plant decommissioning. Under the current proposal, the larger of the two back-up generators, a 1750-kW unit, would remain in the south parking area, as initially proposed. The smaller 500-kW unit would be relocated to the transformer yard area of Unit 2, where it would be used to power telecommunications equipment in the event that normal power is lost. Operation of this back-up generator is not essential for plant nuclear safety. The generator has an 850-gallon fuel tank, and would be refueled by a mobile fuel buggy. The generator is proposed to be installed during a single work day in late April or early May, 2015. The generator would remain in place through the anticipated completion of plant decommissioning in the early 2030s, at which point it would be removed.


Waiver Rationale: For the following reasons, the proposed project will not have a significant adverse effect, either individually or cumulatively, on coastal resources, nor will it conflict with Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act:

- Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas and Sensitive Species: The generator will be relocated from a paved parking lot to a paved area within the Unit 2 transformer yard. All project activities will occur within the developed area of the SONGS site, distant from any sensitive habitats or species.
- Water Quality: Operation and refueling of the back-up generator will be covered by Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plans to ensure the quick clean-up of spills and minimize the release of contaminants to the environment. Per the Spill Prevention Plan, the generator would be situated in secondary containment. No ground disturbance would occur during installation of the generator.
- Visual Resources: The relocation of the generator would be compatible with the industrial visual character of the SONGS site and would not significantly alter views to and along the coast.
- Coastal Hazards: The generator would be located approximately 300 feet inland of the existing SONGS seawall, and would not be threatened by coastal erosion during the project life. The elevation of the generator at 30 feet above sea level would place it above the projected inundation line for a suite of extreme tsunami events recently evaluated by the California Emergency Management Agency.
- Public Access: Work will take place within the power plant site in an area not subject to public access.

Important: This waiver is not effective unless the project site has been posted and until the waiver has been reported to the Coastal Commission. This waiver is proposed to be reported to the Commission at the meeting of April 15-17, 2015, in San Rafael. If four or more Commissioners object to this waiver, a coastal development permit will be required.

Sincerely,

CHARLES LESTER
Executive Director

By: 

JOSEPH STREET
Environmental Scientist
Energy, Ocean Resources & Federal Consistency Division

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F11

DATE: April 8, 2015

TO: Coastal Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: Charles Lester, Executive Director
Alison Dettmer, Deputy Director
Mark Delaplaine, Manager, Energy, Ocean Resources and Federal
Consistency Division

RE: Negative Determinations Issued by the Executive Director
[Executive Director decision letters are attached]

PROJECT #:	ND-0010-15
APPLICANT:	National Park Service
LOCATION:	Genazzi Ranch, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Marin Co.
PROJECT:	Invasive plant (distaff and purple star thistle) species control study
ACTION:	Concur
ACTION DATE:	3/23/2015

PROJECT #:	ND-0013-15
APPLICANT:	U.S. Coast Guard
LOCATION:	Four locations, San Diego Co.
PROJECT:	Replacement of Aids to Navigation (ATON)
ACTION:	Concur
ACTION DATE:	4/7/2015

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March 23, 2015

Cicely A. Muldoon
Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
ATTN: Dylan Voeller
Point Reyes, CA 94956

Subject: Negative Determination ND-0010-15 (Distaff and Purple Star Thistle Control Study,
Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Marin County)

Dear Ms. Muldoon:

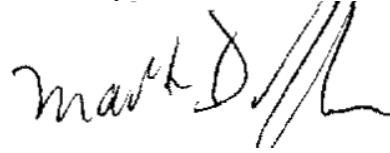
The Coastal Commission staff has reviewed the above-referenced negative determination. The National Park Service (NPS), in cooperation with the University of California Cooperative Extension, proposes to implement a distaff thistle and purple star thistle control study on the Genazzi Ranch, located on Golden Gate National Recreation Area lands administered by Point Reyes National Seashore. The NPS states that distaff and purple star thistle are invasive plant species that present a threat to both coastal grassland habitat and ranch viability by displacing other grassland vegetation and reducing livestock forage. The intent of the proposed study is to provide information to support invasive plant management decisions. Two treatments would be conducted: (1) applications of two different herbicides with different concentrations and timing; and (2) three replicates of mowing, organic herbicide, and both mowing and organic herbicide.

While the overall study area encompasses approximately 26 acres infested with the two invasive plant species, only 19,200 square-feet of this area would be treated with the organic or non-organic herbicides. The treatments would occur between March and August 2015, followed by periodic site visits over two growing seasons to measure treatment efficiency. All herbicide treatment would be conducted using a backpack sprayer with a calibrated nozzle. No herbicide spraying will occur when there is more than a 20% chance of rain in the following 24 hours, within 24 hours after rain, when the weather is foggy or plants are wet, or when winds are consistently greater than 10 mph at plant level. Mowing with a tractor mower attachment would be conducted by the ranch operator under the NPS grazing lease and permit. All of the proposed treatment areas will avoid wetland and other sensitive habitats and no spraying would occur within 15 feet of wetland or riparian habitat.

The Commission staff **agrees** that the proposed project will provide useful information on controlling invasive species, is designed to avoid sensitive habitat, and is protective of agricultural resources. We therefore **concur** with your negative determination made pursuant to

15 CFR 930.35 of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Larry Simon at (415) 904-5288 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Lester", with a stylized flourish at the end.

(for) CHARLES LESTER
Executive Director

cc: CCC – North Central Coast District

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April 7, 2015

Dave Stalters
Chief, Environmental Division
U. S. Coast Guard
Civil Engineering Unit Oakland
1301 Clay St., Suite 700N
Oakland, CA 94612-5203

Re: **ND-0013-15** U.S. Coast Guard, Negative Determination, Replace of Four Aid to Navigation Structures, San Diego Co.

ATTN: William Robinson

Dear Mr. Stalters:

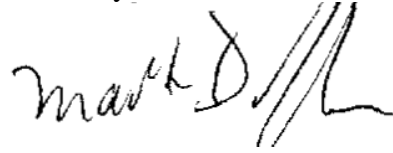
The Coastal Commission staff has reviewed the above-referenced negative determination submitted by the U.S. Coast Guard for the replacement of four deteriorated Aid to Navigation (ATON) structures in San Diego County. ATONs mark federal channels and aid navigation by noting hazards. Their maintenance is federally mandated. The four locations are, north to south, the Oceanside Breakwater, the Mission Bay north jetty, the San Diego Bay Entrance Range (just south of Shelter Island), and the Zuniga jetty.

The projects include replacements of existing towers, foundations, and equipment. Construction will take place using a barge-mounted crane. A marine mammal biological monitor will be present throughout all construction activity and will have the authority to stop work and/or expand buffer zones if such actions are necessary to protect marine mammals in the project area. The Coast Guard is consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. One of the four replacements (at San Diego Bay Entrance Range) will involve pile driving for the replacement of 3 timbers piles with steel piles. Noise effects will be minimized through use of a vibratory hammer, and turbidity will be minimized. Eelgrass and Caulerpa surveys will be conducted prior to construction, and if either is found mitigation will be included.

Under the federal consistency regulations (Section 930.35), a negative determination can be submitted for an activity “which is the same as or similar to activities for which consistency determinations have been prepared in the past.” The Commission staff has concurred with past Coast Guard negative determinations for ATON replacements throughout the coastal zone, including ND-032-94, ND-096-95, ND-085-97, ND-129-98, ND-081-99, ND-022-07, ND-002-08, ND-056-12, and ND-006-13. Where sensitive coastal resources were present in those cases, the Coast Guard agreed to implement similar measures to those described in the previous

paragraph. We agree that the projects, as proposed, would be “the same as or similar to” the ATON structure replacements we previously concurred with, and would not adversely affect coastal zone resources. We therefore **concur** with your negative determination made pursuant to 15 CFR 930.35 of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Mark Delaplaine at (415) 904-5289 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Lester", written over a set of three parallel diagonal lines.

(for) CHARLES LESTER
Executive Director

cc: San Diego Coast District
Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District

United States Senate

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
SUITE 112
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0505
(202) 224-3553
<http://boxer.senate.gov>

January 23, 2015

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

Dear Chair Kinsey:

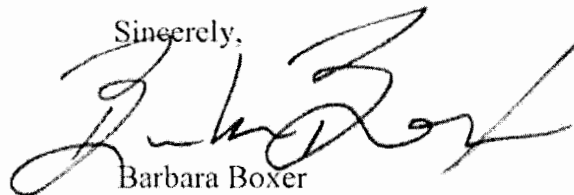
I am writing to express my support for the Huntington Beach Desalination Project. This past year has been one of the driest water years on record in California. Consequently, communities are continuing to seek innovative ways to manage their water supplies. Desalination projects, like the Huntington Beach Desalination Project, can serve as reliable water sources for communities facing these very real water challenges.

As you know, the Huntington Beach Desalination Project could produce as much as 50 million gallons of water per day. This facility would serve approximately 300,000 residents in Orange County and meet about eight percent of the county's water demand. It would also make the county less dependent on existing sources of water, such as its local groundwater basin and imported water from the State Water Project and Colorado River, and would provide greater water certainty during times of drought.

Last week, I reintroduced "W21: Water in the 21st Century," a bill that provides incentives and investments to communities across the nation to help them manage their water needs with an eye toward the future. As part of the bill, I included investments for research into technologies that develop additional water, such as desalination, because I recognize that California's water challenges are best met with a comprehensive approach to water management. The Huntington Beach Desalination Project is a clear example of how communities can use technology to improve the management of water resources now and in years to come.

As dry conditions persist, the Huntington Beach Desalination Project could become an important part of providing greater water reliability to residents in Orange County. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
United States Senator