

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

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# W5.1

February 26, 2016

TO: Coastal Commission and Interested Parties

FROM: Steve Kinsey, Commission Chair  
Dayna Bochco, Commission Vice-Chair  
Susan Hansch, Chief Deputy Director

SUBJECT: **Appointment of Acting Executive Director – Commission Discussion and Possible Action, Wednesday, March 9, 2016 Commission Hearing**

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Since the Commission's action to dismiss the Executive Director on February 10, 2016, the Chief Deputy Director, Susan Hansch and the Senior Deputy Director, Jack Ainsworth have been carrying out the Executive Director responsibilities jointly. When the Executive Director is absent, the Chief Deputy and the Senior Deputy have authority to jointly carry out Executive Director duties.

We do believe that because the selection process for a new Executive Director will likely take about six months, it is advisable that the Commission appoint an Acting Executive Director. As Senior Deputy Director, Jack Ainsworth takes over Commission meeting responsibilities when the Executive Director is absent. Given the support of the Commission's staff, Jack Ainsworth is willing to serve as Acting Executive Director for a limited term while the Commission seeks a new Executive Director. If the Commission chooses to appoint Jack Ainsworth as Acting Executive Director, the suggested term would be immediately up to December 8, 2016 or until a new Executive Director begins work, whichever comes first. If the Executive Director's selection process extends beyond December 2016, the Commission can extend the acting status at a future Commission hearing.