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APPENDIX B: Nordic's Proposed Monitoring Program

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The Nordic shall conduct the following monitoring activities as described in section 2.3.2 of the DEIR.

- a. Baseline monitoring prior to operation of the outfall. This monitoring shall commence once Phase 1 demolition is initiated.
- b. Post-discharge receiving water monitoring shall commence at discharge from Phase 1 and continue for three years following completion of Phase 2 operations (full facility discharge) following the same methodology as the baseline monitoring. The post-discharge monitoring would provide "before-after-control-impact" or "before-after-gradient" design for the biological monitoring program.

The monitoring program would be conducted during the summer/fall period of upwelling "relaxation," when conditions are least energetic, and dilution of the discharge would thus be lowest and would include baseline, pre-discharge monitoring. Two annual surveys would occur during the summer/fall period, ideally in August or September, separated by at least two weeks.

The monitoring shall

- i. Gather coastal oceanographic data with an acoustic doppler current profiler (ACDP) to measure current velocities (deployment and retrieval during the first and second surveys of each year, respectively), and the use of a conductivity, temperature, and depth (CTD) profiler to characterize spatial patterns of temperature and salinity of the ambient waters and any effects in proximity to the discharge. CTD profiles would be collected at approximately 100 to 300 feet (near diffuser) to approximately 500 to 1,000 feet (distant from diffuser), and reference profiles shall be collected greater than one mile from the diffuser. The deployment of the ADCP shall be within 0.5 mile of the diffuser at a similar depth.
- ii. Identify Water quality parameters including monitoring of nutrients (NH_x, NO_x, TN), suspended solids and turbidity, and chlorophyll. Sampling shall include near surface (~1-3 ft below surface and near seabed (approximately 5 feet above bottom) grab samples shall be collected at half of the profiling stations (proportionally by near the diffuser, far from the diffuser, and reference profiles) and analyzed by an appropriately accredited laboratory.
- iii. In addition to the biological sampling required under the NPDES permit, supplemental biological sampling shall be conducted to determine if effluent discharge is having a significant effect on biota in the Ocean Discharge Study Area, defined as the proximal marine waters as modelled in Appendix E to the DEIR. Supplemental biological sampling would occur concurrently with water quality monitoring. The study approach would utilize visual methods, either a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) and/or a drop camera with laser lights for scale. Transects and point surveys shall be conducted at a height of two to five feet above the bottom. Surveys shall be conducted outside of the zone of influence estimated in Appendix E of the DEIR for this time period (e.g.,

reference sites), and within the zone of influence, and along the discharge pipe, at approximately the 82 feet (25 meter) isobath.

The results of the monitoring shall be readily shared with Project stakeholders. Reporting shall be completed following each post-discharge monitoring event by a qualified consultant and shared with the County and stakeholders thereafter once each year.