

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

May 12, 2016

Mr. Antonio V. Gioiello
Chief Harbor Engineer, Port of Los Angeles
Post Office Box 151
San Pedro, CA 90733-0151

TENTATIVE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS BERTHS 210-211 MAINTENANCE DREDGING (FILE NO. 16-067)

Dear Mr. Gioiello:

We have completed our review of your application to this Board for revised waste discharge requirements for your proposed discharge of wastes. Enclosed are copies of tentative waste discharge requirements (WDRs) and a receiving water monitoring program for dredging and disposal of dredged material from the Berths 210-211 Maintenance Dredging Project, Port of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County. A copy of our Standard Provisions, General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (Attachment N) also is enclosed.

In accordance with the California Water Code, this Board, at a public meeting to be held on July 14, 2016, at 9:00 a.m., at the Metropolitan Water District Board Room, located at 700 N. Alameda St., Los Angeles, California, will consider the enclosed tentative requirements and comments submitted in writing regarding any or all portions thereof. The Board will hear any testimony pertinent to these discharges and the tentative requirements. It is expected that the Board will take action at the hearing; however, as testimony indicates, the Board at its discretion may order further investigation.

Written comments and any exhibits must be submitted to the Executive Officer not later than **June 20, 2016**. Failure to comply with this requirement is grounds for the Regional Board to refuse to admit the proposed written comment or exhibit into evidence (Title 23 CCR Section 648.2). If materials are not submitted in a timely manner, the Regional Board may refuse to admit written testimony into evidence unless the proponent can demonstrate why he or she was unable to submit the material on time or that compliance with the deadline would otherwise create a hardship. If any other party demonstrates prejudice resulting from admission of written testimony or exhibits not timely submitted, the Regional Board may refuse to admit it.

IRMA MUÑOZ, CHAIR | SAMUEL UNGER, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

320 West 4th St., Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90013 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles

♻️ RECYCLED PAPER

Should you have any questions, please telephone me at (213) 576-6718.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Michael Lyons', written over a horizontal line.

J. Michael Lyons
Senior Environmental Scientist

Enclosures

cc: Bill Orme, Non-point Source Unit, SWRCB
Jennifer Fordyce, Office of Chief Counsel, SWRCB
Larry Simon, California Coastal Commission (San Francisco)
Bill Paznokas, California Department of Fish and Game (San Diego)
Theresa Stevens, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Ventura)
Allan Ota, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (San Francisco)
Melissa Scianni, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (San Francisco)
Carol Roberts, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Carlsbad)
Bryant Chesney, National Marine Fisheries Service (Long Beach)
Rita Kampalath, Heal the Bay
Kathryn Curtis, Port of Los Angeles
Marco Sanchez, Port of Los Angeles

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION

ORDER NO. R4-2016-xxxx

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
PORT OF LOS ANGELES
(BERTHS 210-211 MAINTENANCE DREDGING)
(FILE NO. 16-067)

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) finds:

1. The Port of Los Angeles (POLA) has filed an application for Waste Discharge Requirements for maintenance dredging operations at Berths 210-211 in Los Angeles Harbor, Los Angeles County.
2. POLA proposes to conduct maintenance dredging operations adjacent to Berths 210 and 211 on Terminal Island in the East Basin of Los Angeles Inner Harbor (Figure 1). Berth 210-211 currently is occupied by SA Recycling, a metal recycling facility that handles the bulk loading of scrap metal for export. POLA proposes to dredge a maximum of 3,500 cubic yards of sediment (Figure 2). Maintenance dredging would restore design depths at the berths to -35 feet mean lower low water (MLLW) with two feet of overdredge depth allowed for a total depth of -37 feet MLLW.
3. The dredged material will be disposed of at the POLA Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) located at Berths 243-245 (Figure 1). The CDF is bermed and storage cell areas are designed in a manner to contain the dredged material on the site and prevent escape of sediment and contaminants into adjacent waters.
4. A sediment characterization study was conducted for Berths 195-200A (not part of the proposed project) and Berths 210-211 on January 20 and 21, 2016. Core samples were collected by vibracore at three locations, two adjacent to Berth 211 (8.3-foot core at C1 and 5.8-foot core at C2) and one adjacent to Berth 210 (3.8-foot core at C3). Sediment from the three cores was homogenized and combined into a single composite sample for physical and chemical analysis.
5. The sediment characterization results showed that the material to be dredged from Berths 210-211 is entirely silt-clay (100.0 % silt-clay). This silt-clay material is not suitable for beneficial reuse for beach replenishment.

May 12, 2016

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Table 1. Sediment Characteristics (2016) – Berths 210-211 Project.

| Parameter | Composite Sample Results | Sediment Screening thresholds |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Grain size: Sand/Gravel | 0.0 % | |
| Grain size: Silt and Clay | 100.0 % | |
| Silver | 0.286 ppm | ERL = 1 ppm ERM = 3.7 ppm |
| Arsenic | 12.1 ppm | ERL = 8.2 ppm ERM = 70 ppm |
| Cadmium | 1.63 ppm | ERL = 1.2 ppm ERM = 9.6 ppm |
| Chromium | 66.0 ppm | ERL = 81 ppm ERM = 370 ppm |
| Copper | 116 ppm | ERL = 8.2 ppm ERM = 70 ppm |
| Mercury | 1.20 ppm | ERL = 0.15 ppm ERM = 0.71 ppm |
| Nickel | 40.6 ppm | ERL = 20.9 ppm ERM = 51.6 ppm |
| Lead | 114 ppm | ERL = 46.7 ppm ERM = 218 ppm |
| Selenium | 0.665 ppm | |
| Zinc | 365 ppm | ERL = 150 ppm ERM = 410 ppm |
| Total DDT | 71 ppb | ERL = 1.58 ppb ERM = 46.1 ppb |
| Total PCB | 185 ppb | ERL = 22.7 ppb ERM = 180 ppb |
| Total PAH | 3,150 ppb | ERL = 4022 ppb ERM = 44792 ppb |
| Total Pyrethroid Pesticides | 7.4 ppb | |

ppm = parts per million; ppb = parts per billion; DDT = dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane; PCB = polychlorinated biphenyls; PAH = polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons; ERL – Effects Range-Low; ERM= Effects Range-Median

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6. Chemical analysis of the composite sample indicated that the concentration thresholds likely to cause toxicity (Effects Range-Median) to marine organisms were exceeded for copper, mercury, total DDT and total PCB (Table 1). The composite sample exceeded the concentration thresholds which possibly could cause toxicity (Effects Range-Low) to marine organisms for arsenic, cadmium, nickel and zinc (Table 1). Therefore, these sediments would not be suitable for ocean disposal at the LA-2 offshore ocean disposal site. However, since all of the constituents were well below the total threshold limit concentrations (TTLC) and thus would not be classified as hazardous waste, the sediments would be suitable for disposal within a confined disposal facility such as the POLA Berths 243-245 CDF.
7. The United States Corps of Engineers (COE) has received permit application SPL-2016-00349-TS for the Berths 210-211 maintenance dredging project. The COE is reviewing the application under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. § 403) and circulated the application for public and agency comment from April 27, 2016 to May 12, 2016. A final permit is expected to be issued after the COE receives final Waste Discharge Requirements adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.
8. The Los Angeles Harbor Department issued a Categorical Exemption for the maintenance dredging project on December 23, 2015.
9. The Regional Board adopted a revised Water Quality Control Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties on June 13, 1994. The Water Quality Control Plan contains water quality objectives for Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor. The requirements contained in this Order as they are met will be in conformance with the goals of the Water Quality Control Plan.
10. The beneficial uses of Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor (All Other Inner Areas) are: industrial process supply, navigation, water contact recreation (potential), non-contact water recreation, commercial and sport fishing, marine habitat, shellfish harvesting (potential), and preservation of rare, threatened or endangered species (one or more species utilize waters or wetlands for foraging and/or nesting).
11. With proper management of the dredging and disposal operations, the project is not expected to release significant levels of contaminants to the Harbor waters or other State waters nor adversely impact beneficial uses.
12. Dredging and disposal operations will be accomplished through the use of temporary equipment. The Waste Discharge Requirements imposed below will not result in any significant increase in energy consumption.

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The Regional Board has notified the Port of Los Angeles and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe Waste Discharge Requirements for this discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.

The Regional Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge and to the tentative requirements.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Port of Los Angeles, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the Clean Water Act as amended, and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

A. Discharge Requirements

1. The removal and placement of dredged/excavated material shall be managed such that the concentrations of toxic pollutants in the water column, sediments or biota shall not adversely affect beneficial uses.
2. Enclosed bay and estuarine communities and populations, including vertebrate, invertebrate and plant species, shall not be degraded as a result of the discharge of waste.
3. The natural taste and odor of fish, shellfish or other enclosed bay and estuarine resources used for human consumption shall not be impaired as a result of the discharge of waste.
4. Toxic pollutants shall not be discharged at levels that will bioaccumulate in aquatic resources to levels which are harmful to human health.
5. There shall be no acute toxicity or chronic toxicity in ambient waters as a result of the discharge of waste.
6. Dredging, excavation or disposal of dredge spoils shall not cause any of the following conditions in the receiving waters:
 - a. The formation of sludge banks or deposits of waste origin that would adversely affect the composition of the bottom fauna and flora, interfere with the fish propagation or deleteriously affect their habitat, or adversely change the physical or chemical nature of the bottom.
 - b. Turbidity that would cause substantial visible contrast with the natural appearance of the water outside the immediate area of operation.

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- c. Discoloration outside the immediate area of operation.
- d. Visible material, including oil and grease, either floating on or suspended in the water or deposited on beaches, shores, or channel structures outside the immediate area of operation.
- e. Objectionable odors emanating from the water surface.
- f. Depression of dissolved oxygen concentrations below 5.0 mg/l at any time outside the immediate area of operation.
- g. Any condition of pollution or nuisance.

B. Provisions

- 1. The Discharge Requirements specified above are valid only for dredging of a maximum of 3,500 cubic yards of sediment and disposal within the POLA Berths 243-245 Confined Disposal Facility.
- 2. POLA shall notify the Regional Board immediately by telephone of any adverse conditions in receiving waters or adjacent areas resulting from the removal of dredge materials or disposal operations; written confirmation shall follow within one week.
- 3. A copy of this Order shall be made available at all times to project construction personnel.
- 4. POLA shall provide the following information to the Regional Board:
 - a. A copy of the final permit issued by the United States Corps of Engineers for the dredge and disposal operations.
 - b. The scheduled date of commencement of each dredging and disposal operation at least one week prior to initiation of dredging.
 - c. Notice of termination of dredging and disposal operations, within one week following the termination date.

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5. POLA shall submit, under penalty of perjury, technical reports to the Regional Board in accordance with specifications prepared by the Executive Officer.
6. In accordance with section 13260(c) of the Water Code, POLA shall file a report of any material change or proposed change in the character, location, or volume of the waste.
7. These requirements do not exempt POLA from compliance with any other laws, regulations, or ordinances which may be applicable; they do not legalize this waste discharge, and they leave unaffected any further restraint on the disposal of wastes at this site which may be contained in other statutes or required by other agencies.
8. In accordance with Water Code section 13263(g), these requirements shall not create a vested right to continue to discharge and are subject to rescission or modification. All discharges of waste into waters of the State are privileges, not rights.
9. This Order includes Attachment N: "Standard Provisions, General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements" ("Standard Provisions") and the attached Monitoring and Reporting Requirements, both of which are incorporated herein by reference. If there is any conflict between provisions stated hereinbefore and said "Standard Provisions", those provisions stated hereinbefore prevail. If there is any conflict between requirements stated in the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program and said "Standard Provisions", the former shall prevail.
10. This Order fulfills the requirements for a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the proposed project. Pursuant to section 3860 of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (23 CCR), the following three standard conditions shall apply to this project:
 - a. this certification action is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to section 13330 of the California Water Code and Article 6 (commencing with 23 CCR section 3867);
 - b. this certification action is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility and requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license or an amendment to a FERC license unless the pertinent

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certification application was filed pursuant to 23 CCR subsection 3855(b) and the application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought;

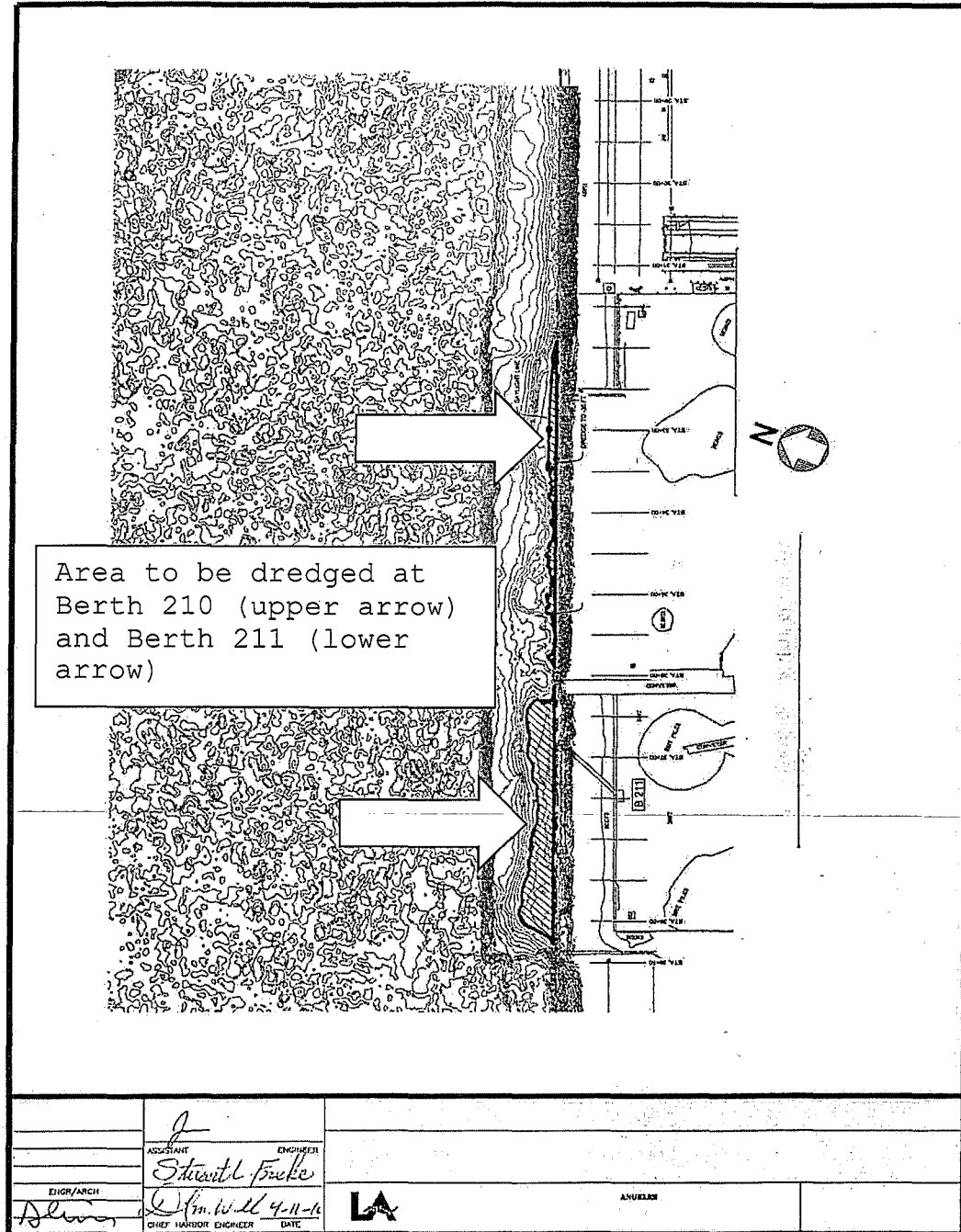
- c. this certification is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required pursuant to 23 CCR division 3, chapter 28, and owed by the applicant.

11. This Order shall expire on December 31, 2017.

I, Samuel Unger, P.E., Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, on July 14, 2016.

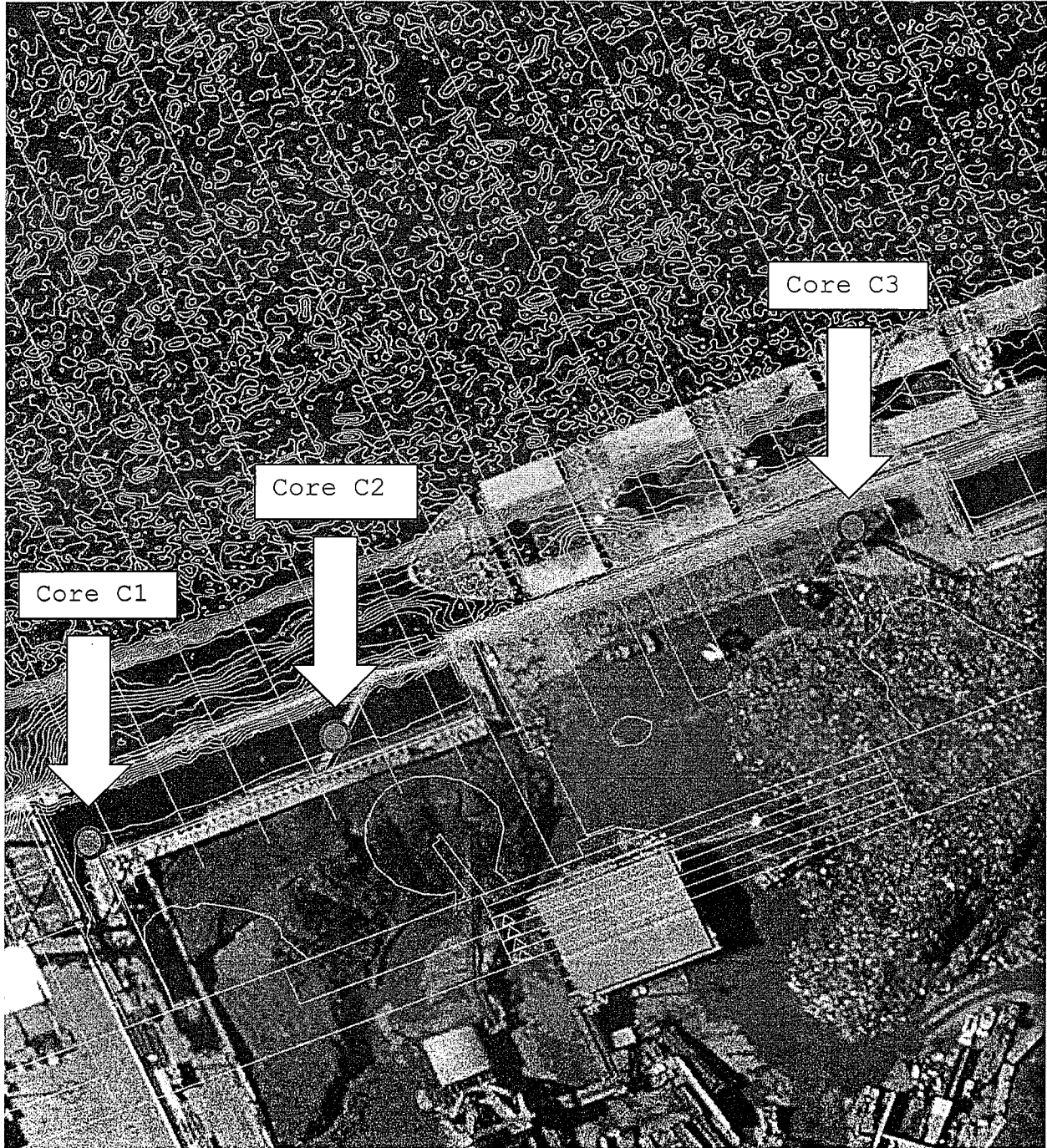
SAMUEL UNGER, P.E.
Executive Officer

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Figure 2.
Dredging footprint for Berths 210-211 Maintenance Dredging Project.



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Figure 3.
Location of core sampling locations for sediment characterization study.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. xxxx
FOR
PORT OF LOS ANGELES
(BERTHS 210-211 MAINTENANCE DREDGING)
(FILE NO. 16-067)

1. Receiving Water Monitoring

The following sampling protocol shall be undertaken by the Port of Los Angeles (POLA) during the proposed dredging project. Sampling for the receiving water monitoring shall commence at least one week prior to the start of the dredging and fill operations and continue at least one week following the completion of all such operations. Sampling shall be conducted a minimum of once a week during dredging operations. Sampling shall be conducted down current of the dredge sites at least one hour after the start of dredging operations. All receiving water monitoring data shall be obtained via grab samples or remote electronic detection equipment. Receiving water samples shall be taken at the following stations:

| <u>Station</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------|---|
| A | Station A is located approximately 200 feet beyond the construction project boundary. This station represents an early-warning screening station to determine if Best Management Practices may need to be implemented. |
| B | Station B is located approximately 300 feet beyond the construction project boundary. This station defines the dredging mixing zone boundary, beyond which temporary water quality impacts related to dredging activities are not to occur. |
| C | Station C is located approximately 1,500 feet from the construction project boundary. This station defines the harbor background and provides a baseline for comparison to determine if temporary water quality impacts are present at Station B. |

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The following shall constitute the receiving water monitoring program:

Water Column

| <u>Monitoring Parameters</u> | <u>Units</u> | <u>Station</u> | <u>Frequency</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Dissolved oxygen ¹ | mg/l | A-C | Weekly ² |
| Light transmittance ¹ | % Transmittance | " " | " |
| pH ¹ | pH units | " " | " |
| Suspended solids ³ | mg/l | " " | " |

¹Measurements shall be taken throughout the water column (at a minimum, at 2-meter increments).

²During the first two weeks of dredging, stations shall be sampled two times per week.

³Mid-depth shall be sampled

Water column light transmittance values from Stations A and C, and from Stations B and C shall be compared for the near surface (1 meter below the surface), for mid-water (averaged values throughout the water column, excluding the near surface and bottom) and for the bottom (1 meter above the bottom). When the difference in % light transmittance between stations A and C (for the near surface, mid-water or bottom) is 30% or greater, POLA shall notify the contractor and implement additional BMPs to reduce turbidity. Stations B and C shall be resampled after BMPs have been in place for at least 2 hours. If after resampling, light transmittance values still exceed the 30% trigger, then water samples shall be collected on the first date of exceedance at mid-depth (or the depth at which the maximum turbidity occurs) and analyzed for trace metals, DDTs, PCBs and PAHs (these chemical analyses do not need to be performed on the second or third day following the first exceedance, but will be required on days two and three whenever subsequent exceedance events occur). At a minimum, one set of water samples shall be collected and analyzed for these chemical constituents during the first month of the dredging operation, even if no exceedances of the light transmittance criteria occur.

In the event that the water column light transmittance values from Stations B and C exceed the 30% trigger described above, POLA shall conduct light transmittance monitoring described above daily until two consecutive days with no exceedances have been demonstrated. POLA shall notify the Regional Board, the California Coastal Commission, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Army Corps of Engineers within 24 hours following observance of a transmissivity exceedance. POLA shall investigate whether the exceedance is due to obvious dredging operational problems and can be corrected easily and quickly. However, if the turbidity problem persists or recurs, POLA shall look for other causes of the problem and evaluate whether additional, more aggressive best management practices are required to eliminate the exceedances; this evaluation shall be performed in consultation with the four regulatory agencies listed above.

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Color photographs shall be taken at the time of sampling to record the presence and extent of visible effects of dredging operations. These photographs shall be submitted with the receiving water monitoring reports.

POLA shall provide Regional Board staff with a receiving water monitoring program field schedule at least one week prior to initiating the program. Regional Board staff shall be notified of any changes in the field schedule at least 48 hours in advance.

2. Observations

The following receiving water observations shall be made and logged daily during dredging or excavating operations:

- a. Date and time;
- b. Direction and estimated speed of currents;
- c. General weather conditions and wind velocity;
- d. Tide stage;
- e. Appearance of trash, floatable material, grease, oil or oily slick, or other objectionable materials;
- f. Discoloration and/or turbidity;
- g. Odors;
- h. Depth of dredge operations during previous day;
- i. Amount of material dredged the previous day;
- j. Cumulative total amount of material dredged to date.

3. General Provisions

All sampling, sample preservation, and analyses shall be performed in accordance with the latest edition of "Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for Analysis of Pollutants" promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

All chemical analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analysis by the California Department of Public Health, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP), or approved by the Executive Officer.

POLA shall calibrate and perform maintenance procedures on all monitoring instruments and equipment to insure accuracy of measurements, or shall insure that both activities will be conducted by third parties under POLA supervision.

A grab sample is defined as an individual sample collected in fewer than 15 minutes. All samples shall be representative of the waste discharge under normal operating conditions.

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5. Reporting

Monitoring reports shall be submitted within 10 days following each weekly sampling period. In reporting, POLA shall arrange the monitoring data in tabular form so that dates, time, parameters, test data, and observations are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized to demonstrate compliance with the waste discharge requirements. A final report, summarizing the results of the weekly monitoring and reporting the total volume discharged, shall be submitted within one month of completion of the project.

Each monitoring report shall contain a separate section titled "Summary of Non-Compliance" which discusses the compliance record and corrective actions taken or planned that may be needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with waste discharge requirements. This section shall clearly list all non-compliance with waste discharge requirements, as well as all excursions of effluent limitations.

Each monitoring report must affirm in writing that:

All analyses were conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the California Department of Public Health or approved by the Executive Officer and in accordance with current EPA guidelines or as specified in the Monitoring Program.

For any analysis performed for which no procedure is specified in the EPA guidelines or in the Monitoring Program, the constituent or parameter analyzed and the method or procedure used must be specified in the report.

6. General Provisions for Reporting

For every item where the requirements are not met, POLA shall submit a statement of the actions undertaken or proposed which will bring the discharge into full compliance with requirements at the earliest time and submit a timetable for correction.

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Each report shall contain the following completed declaration:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted.

Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of a fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Executed on the _____ day of _____, 20____,
at _____.

_____(Signature)

_____(Title)"

These records and reports are public documents and shall be made available for inspection during business hours at the office of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region.

Ordered by:

Samuel Unger, P.E.
Executive Officer

Date: July 14, 2016

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