

May 25, 2016

**Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)**

**Chevron USA, Inc.
Eureka Terminal Seismic Retrofit Project
40.778, -124.196¹
WDID No. 1B16002WNHU, ECM PIN CW-820937**

Humboldt County

On January 8, 2016, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the Chevron USA, Inc. (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for activities related to the proposed Chevron Eureka Terminal Seismic Retrofit Project.

Project Description

The purpose of the Project is to seismically retrofit the existing wharf to comply with California Building Code standards for marine oil terminals, which is overseen by the California State Lands Commission (CSLC). The existing wharf structure supports a fuel transfer pipeway and CSLC has determined that the structure supporting the pipeway is not seismically secure. Project activities would occur over a two year period beginning in 2016 and planned to be complete by 2018.

Phase One work would occur in 2016 and involve the retrofit of the wharf unloading platform and replacement of the two westernmost trestle bays. The wharf retrofit would require the removal of approximately 31 existing timber piles, installation of four 24-inch-diameter steel piles, and installation of a 31.5-foot by 37.5-foot prefabricated concrete platform structure. The south side of bents 32 to 34 along the trestle pipeway would be removed (including six existing 14-inch-diameter treated timber piles), and two sixteen-inch-diameter steel piles and a cantilever pipeway support would be installed.

Phase two work would occur in 2017, and involve the retrofit of the trestle pipeway. The existing support system for the trestle pipeway would be replaced with a cantilever support system and would require the removal of 38 existing timber piles and installation of twenty 16-inch-diameter steel piles. The steel piles would be placed approximately every 30 feet along the south side of the pipeway. 34 14-inch-diameter treated timber piles would be removed from underneath the pipeway.

¹ WGS84 datum

Work along the trestle in the intertidal zone would be performed from a floating barge during high tides, allowing the barge to float above the eelgrass.

Impacts

The proposed Project would result in approximately 0.004 acres (190 square feet) of permanent impacts to Humboldt Bay as a result of pile placement. Pile removal and installation would also result in temporary impacts to Humboldt Bay due to turbidity, noise, and vibration.

Mitigation for Project Impacts

Because 69 piles comprising 74 square feet of existing fill will be removed from Humboldt Bay, mitigation is not required.

Other Agency Permits

The Applicant has applied to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for coverage under a Nationwide Permit pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Applicant is consulting with the National Marine Fisheries Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife to address potential effects to special-status species from pile-driving.

CEQA

As lead agency, the Humboldt Bay Harbor Recreation and Conservation District (Harbor District) prepared a Mitigated Negative Declarations for the Project (SCH no. 2016052046). The Harbor District issued a Notice of Intent to Adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration on May 16, 2016.

Public Comments

Regional Water Board staff are proposing to regulate this Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authority. In addition, staff will consider all phone calls and comments submitted in writing and received within a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this notice and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Brendan Thompson at (707) 576-2699 or Brendan.Thompson@waterboards.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

The information contained in this public notice is only a summary of the applicant's proposed activities. The Regional Water Board's Project file includes the application for certification and additional details of the proposed Project, including maps and design drawings. Project documents and any comments received are on file and may be reviewed or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.