



**I. Rooney**  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection



**Pete Wilson**  
Governor

# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region

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August 5, 1998

Mr. Adam S. Birkenbach  
Chief Harbor Engineer  
Port of Los Angeles  
P.O. Box 151  
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### WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS LOS ANGELES HARBOR CHANNEL DEEPENING DREDGING PROJECT (CF NO. 98-024) BERTHS 118-120 MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT (CF NO. 98-053)

Reference is made to our letter dated July 2, 1998, which transmitted tentative requirements for dredging and disposal operations in the vicinity of Berths 118-120 and the channel deepening project within Los Angeles Harbor.

In accordance with the California Water Code, this Board, at a public meeting held on August 3, 1998, reviewed the tentative requirements, considered all factors in the case and adopted Order Nos. 98-062 (Berths 118-120) and 98-063 (Channel Deepening) relative to these waste discharges (copies enclosed). The Standard Provisions, which were sent to you with the tentative requirements, were adopted without change and are part of these orders. A copy will be mailed upon request.

All monitoring reports should be sent to the Regional Board, Attention: Data and Information Management Unit. Reference all technical monitoring reports required by these Orders to our Compliance File Nos. 7926 (Berths 118-120) and 7927 (Channel Deepening). We would appreciate it if you would not combine other reports, such as progress or technical reports, with your monitoring reports, but would submit each type of report as a separate document.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 266-7616.

**J. MICHAEL LYONS**  
Environmental Specialist IV

Enclosures

cc: See attached mailing list

**California Environmental Protection Agency**

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Mr. Adam S. Birkenbach  
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### Mailing List

Bill Campbell, Non-point Source Loan Unit, SWRCB  
Larry Simon, California Coastal Commission (San Francisco)  
Jim Raives, California Coastal Commission (San Francisco)  
Bill Paznokas, California Department of Fish and Game (Long Beach)  
Fari Tabatabai, U.S. Corps of Engineers (Los Angeles)  
Brian Ross, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (San Francisco, WTR-8)  
Steven John, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Los Angeles)  
Martin Kenney, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Carlsbad)  
Robert Hoffman, National Marine Fisheries Service (Long Beach)  
Mark Gold, Heal the Bay  
Jaque Forrest, Heal the Bay  
Todd Le, Port of Los Angeles

***California Environmental Protection Agency***

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

**ORDER NO. 98-062**

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT  
(BERTHS 118-120 MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT)  
(FILE NO. 98-053)**

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

1. The Los Angeles Harbor Department, Port of Los Angeles (the Port) has filed an application for Waste Discharge Requirements for dredging activities in Los Angeles Harbor.
2. The Port proposes to conduct a maintenance dredging project at Berths 118-120 (Latitude 33°45'25"; Longitude 118°15'50") within the Southwest Slip of Los Angeles Inner Harbor. The proposed project involves dredging of up to 8,000 cubic yards of sediment to deepen the berth to a depth of -40 feet Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW). Existing depth in the area varies from approximately -37 to -38 feet MLLW.
3. The Port proposes to dispose of the dredged material at the Anchorage Road Soil Storage Site (ARSSS). The ARSSS, formerly an oil well facility, has an impermeable dike around its perimeter to prevent sea water intrusion.
4. The Port has conducted a sampling and testing program for the dredge material at Berths 118-120. Core samples were collected at six locations and composited into a single sample for chemical analysis. The sediment chemistry results are summarized in the table below.
5. A grain size analysis for sediment samples from Berth 118-120, conducted by the Port, showed 69 percent sand (coarse grained material), and 17 percent silt and 13 percent clay (fine grained material). Sediment containing high levels of silt and clay is unsuitable for use as beach nourishment.
6. The Regional Board adopted a revised Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles River Basin on June 13, 1994. The Water Quality Control Plan contains water quality objectives for the 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.

## Sediment Characteristics - Berths 118-120 Maintenance Dredging Project

Parameter	Composite of 6 core samples
Silver	0.24 ppm
Arsenic	6.2 ppm
Cadmium	0.57 ppm
Chromium	53 ppm
Copper	56 ppm
Mercury	0.73 ppm
Nickel	23 ppm
Lead	48 ppm
Selenium	0.37 ppm
Zinc	130 ppm
Total DDT	54.3 ppb
Total PCB	330 ppb
Total PAH	5900 ppb

7. The beneficial uses of the inner harbor waters are: industrial service supply, navigation, water contact recreation (potential use), non-contact water recreation, commercial and sport fishing, marine habitat, preservation of rare and endangered species, and shellfish harvesting (potential use). The beneficial uses of the outer harbor waters are: navigation, water contact recreation, non-contact water recreation, commercial and sport fishing, marine habitat, preservation of rare and endangered species, and shellfish harvesting (potential use).
8. On July 10, 1997, the Port received a Coastal Permit Exclusion from the City of Los Angeles, Property Management Division of Harbor Department, for this project. On July 16, 1995, the City of Los Angeles, Office of the City Clerk, issued a Notice of Exemption for the maintenance dredging project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.).
9. On November 8, 1997, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued Permit No. 90-00457-CSC for dredging and disposal operations within the Port of Los Angeles associated with maintenance dredging projects over a five-year period.
10. 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.

The Board has notified the discharger 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 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 Los Angeles Harbor Department, 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.
  - 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 above specifications are valid only for dredging and disposal of bottom material as proposed.
- 2. The discharger shall notify this Board immediately by telephone of any adverse conditions in receiving waters or adjacent areas resulting from the removal of dredge materials; 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. The discharger shall provide the following information to the Board:
  - a. A copy of the final Department of the Army permit issued for the dredge and disposal operations.
  - b. The scheduled date of commencement of each dredging operation and an engineering plan and profile of the excavation and the disposal site, other than the "LA-2" ocean disposal site, at least two weeks prior to commencement.
  - c. Notice of termination of the operation, within one week following the termination date.
- 5. The discharger shall submit, under penalty of perjury, technical reports to the Board in accordance with specifications prepared by the Executive Officer.
- 6. In accordance with Section 13260(c) of the Water Code, the discharger 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 the discharger 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. This Order includes the attached "Standard Provisions and General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements" ("Standard Provisions"). If there is any conflict between provisions stated hereinbefore and said "Standard Provisions", those provisions stated hereinbefore prevail.
9. Pursuant to provisions of California Codes of Regulation 3857, the Regional Board is issuing the Waste Discharge Requirements in lieu of a Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the proposed dredging project.
10. This order shall expire on June 30, 2000.

I, Dennis A. Dickerson, 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 August 3, 1998.



DENNIS A. DICKERSON  
Executive Officer

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**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LOS ANGELES REGION  
MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 7926  
FOR  
LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT, PORT OF LOS ANGELES  
(BERTHS 118-120 MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT)  
(FILE NO. 98-053)**

Receiving Water Monitoring

The following sampling protocol shall be undertaken during the dredging and/or fill 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	30.5 meters (100 feet) up current of the dredging operations, safety permitting.
B	30.5 meters (100 feet) down current of the dredging operations, safety permitting.
C	91.5 meters (300 feet) down current of the dredging operations.

The following shall constitute the receiving water monitoring program:

Water Column Monitoring

<u>Parameters</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
Dissolved oxygen <sup>1</sup>	mg/l	A thru C	Weekly
Light transmittance <sup>1</sup>	% Transmittance	" "	"
pH <sup>1</sup>	pH units	" "	"
Suspended solids <sup>2</sup>	mg/l	A & C	Twice Monthly
Metals and organics <sup>3</sup>	µg/l	A & C	Monthly

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

<sup>2</sup>Three depths (surface, mid-depth, bottom) shall be sampled.

<sup>3</sup>One depth (mid-depth) shall be sampled. Metals analyses shall include arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, silver, selenium and zinc. Organic analyses shall include DDTs, PCBs, PAHs, phthalates and tributyltin.



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.

The discharger 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.

#### 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.

#### 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 State Department of Health Services, or approved by the Executive Officer.

The discharger 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.

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.

#### REPORTING

Monitoring reports shall be submitted within 10 days following each weekly sampling period. In reporting, the discharger 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 must affirm in writing that:

All analyses were conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Water Resources Control Board 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.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR REPORTING

For every item where the requirements are not met, the discharger 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.

Each report shall contain the following completed declaration:

"I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on the \_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_  
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:



DENNIS A. DICKERSON  
Executive Officer

Date: August 3, 1998