State Water Resources Control Board



Division of Water Quality

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November 1, 2007

Mr. William Venable, PE Environmental Division Department of the Navy Naval Base Ventura County Complex 311 Main Road, Building 1 Point Mugu, CA 93042

Dear Mr. Venable:

APPLICATION PACKAGE FOR DISCHARGES INTO SAN NICOLAS ISLAND AREA OF SPECIAL BIOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Thank you for your application package dated April 30 2007, requesting an exception from the California Ocean Plan (Ocean Plan) waste discharge prohibition for your storm water and nonpoint source discharges into the San Nicolas Island (SNI) Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS). This letter is to inform you that we have deemed this portion of your application complete. The information you provided supports the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board's) consideration of an exception to the Ocean Plan for your storm water and nonpoint source discharges which will be included in the General Exception.

Staff is currently preparing an Initial Study for the General Exception and anticipates having a draft version released for public review and comment in Spring 2008. SNI's point source discharge Reverse Osmosis plant will be reviewed as an Individual Exception once we receive your completed application.

The terms and conditions of the General Exception were released for public review and comment on June 14,2006, an initial staff draft proposal for the special conditions in an exception, referred to as "Special Protections," to address storm water and nonpoint source discharges into ASBS statewide. The State Water Board plans to consider these Special Protections for adoption under the exception provisions of the Ocean Plan. The proposed special conditions in the Special Protections would limit waste discharges to protect beneficial uses, including marine aquatic life and maintenance of natural water quality in ASBS.

Staff will likely propose that the exception require minimizing or eliminating dry weather flows and reducing pollutants draining to ASBS, in order to maintain natural water quality in the receiving waters. In the meantime and as we have previously requested, you must continue to plan for and institute best management practices to eliminate all dry weather flows and to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff. If the exception is granted, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) may allow your nonpoint source and/or storm water discharges to be covered under a Conditional Waiver, Waste Discharge Requirements, and/or a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Storm Water Permit, with appropriate provisions required in your storm water management plans. In all cases, the Los Angeles Water Board will enforce the mitigation measures to be described in the exception granted by the State Water Board.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (916) 341-5458 or dpolhemus@waterboards.ca.gov or Dominic Gregorio, Senior Environmental Scientist, Ocean Unit, at (916) 341-5488 or dgregorio@.waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director

Division of Water Quality

cc: Ms. Tracy Egoscue, Executive Officer

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

320 W. 4thStreet, Ste 200 Los Angeles, CA 90013

Mr. Reed Sato, Director Office of Enforcement State Water Resources Control Board 1001 | Street Sacramento, CA 95814