

LM

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September 13, 2007

Dr. Spencer D. MacNeil
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District
 P.O. Box 532711
 Los Angeles, California 90053-2325

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 U.S. Army
 Corps of Engineers
 Los Angeles

Dr. Ralph Appy
 Port of Los Angeles
 425 South Palos Verdes Street
 San Pedro, California 90731

Subject: Berths 136-147 [TraPac] Container Terminal Project

Dear Dr. MacNeil and Dr. Appy:

The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce has had the opportunity to review the DRAFT Environmental Impact Statement/DRAFT Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/EIR) for the Berths 136-147 [TraPac] Container Terminal Project ("the Project") and would like to make the following comments.

The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce has represented business and other organizations in the area for over 100 years. Our diverse membership includes large Fortune 500 companies, medium sized regional and local corporations, and small businesses. Our membership also includes non-profits who receive our financial support through a variety of programs and sponsorships.

Our membership and support of the community is all consistent with our Mission Statement "The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce promotes, supports and enhances a positive business environment and improves the quality of life in the community."

We would like to congratulate the Port of Los Angeles for producing the draft EIR/EIS for the Project, the first of its type in many years. We believe that the issuance of this and subsequent EIR/EIS's is essential to the improvement of the environment.

We believe that the Project will be beneficial to the community through the introduction of components of the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan which TraPac would not otherwise be obligated to implement. The requirements for emission reductions from ocean

going vessels, trains, handling equipment, harbor craft, and truck is something this community has been looking forward to for a long time.

Enough cannot be said about the 30-acre landscaped buffer zone, which is a part of the Project that will separate the industrial activity from the residential community. Community members, as well as port staff and consultants, have dedicated thousands of hours into this component of the Project. While not everyone agrees with every aspect of the buffer, it has been thorough vetted in public and the buffer appeals to a wide range of the community.

Growth in the port is inevitable. Since it is not the port that creates the demand for growth but consumers, it is wise to get out in front of the increase in activity and parlay the opportunity for growth with a decrease in air emissions among other environmental mitigation.


As a chamber of commerce, we are particularly interested in the vitality of the business community. The Project, including construction, will provide hundreds of new jobs. We encourage the Port to consider utilizing qualified local companies and personnel for the construction phase of this project, and we encourage TraPac to consider utilizing local personnel for facility staffing increases the occur as a result of the Project.

For these reasons, the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce supports the project, but we would like to voice our concern about the potentially negative impact due to truck traffic intruding into the Wilmington community outside of designated truck routes. We highly recommend that this intrusion be avoided through a number of methods including signage, enforcement, education, and other methods which would alert the truck driving population of the inappropriateness and illegality of entering the residential and commercial areas of Wilmington.

As you know, if the Project is not approved, the future of the buffer will be in doubt, the opportunity to achieve "green growth" will be lost, and the prospect for a reduction in air emissions will be delayed.

We look forward to participating in the process of moving the Project forward. If the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce can help in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,



Patrick Wilson
President

cc: Geraldine Knatz, Executive Director, Port of Los Angeles
S. David Freeman, President, Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners
Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza, Vice President, Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners
Kaylynn L. Kim, Commissioner, Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners
Douglas P. Krause, Commissioner, Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners
Joseph R. Radisich, Commissioner, Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners