



**CEQA and COASTAL DETERMINATIONS  
and  
NOTICE OF APPROVAL**

Project: Soil Borings by San Diego Unified Port District at National City Marine Terminal  
Location: 1313 Bay Marina Dr, National City, CA 91950;  
 2300 Tidelands Ave, National City, CA 91950; and  
 2740 Tidelands Ave, National City, CA 91950.  
Parcel No.: Various  
Project No.: 2020-111  
Applicant: Amber Jensen, Asset Manager, San Diego Unified Port District, 3165 Pacific Highway,  
 San Diego, CA 92101  
Date Approved: October 20, 2020

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project would involve investigative soil borings by the San Diego Unified Port District (District) and its consultants within National City Marine Terminal in the City of National City, California. Work to specifically complete the proposed project would involve investigative soil borings at various locations within the National City Marine Terminal as part of ongoing investigations to determine subsurface soil content and potential for contaminants. Soil borings would be conducted using the following methods, but would not be limited to, displacement, wash, and auger borings, rotary and percussion drilling, and continuous sampling. No monitoring wells or permanent monitoring facilities would be allowed under this determination. Soil borings would be conducted by the District and/or its consultant(s) commencing in Fall 2020 and may continue on an as-needed and on-going basis in accordance with this determination for a total term of five (5) years, or upon completion of the work, whichever occurs earlier.

Due to its nature and limited scope, construction of the proposed project would generate a minor amount of vehicle trips and would require limited use of equipment. Therefore, significant impacts related to air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and transportation and traffic are not anticipated to occur. Furthermore, the District would be responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state, and local laws regarding construction demolition debris, hazards and hazardous materials, and stormwater.

The following categorical determinations are based on the project submittal and all project information known to the District as of the date of this determination.

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**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

**CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION**

Categorical Exemptions: SG §15304, Class 4/Section 3.d: Minor Alterations to Land; and SG §15306, Class 6/Section 3.f: Information Collection

3.d. Minor Alterations to Land (SG § 15304) (Class 4): Includes minor alterations in the condition of land, water and/or vegetation not involving removal of mature, scenic trees.

AND/OR

3.f. Information Collection (SG § 15306) (Class 6): Includes basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which has not yet been approved, adopted or funded.

The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Exempt pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines and the Sections of the District's *Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA* as identified above. These are appropriate for the proposed project because it consists of investigative soil borings and would result in no permanent effects on the environment, would not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees, and

is for the purpose of basic data collection activities which would not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The District has determined none of the six exceptions to the use of a categorical exemption apply to this project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2).

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062, a 35-day statute of limitations for this CEQA exemption shall apply from the date a Notice of Exemption is posted with the San Diego County Clerk, or a 180-day statute of limitations for this CEQA exemption shall apply if no Notice of Exemption is filed.

## **CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT**

### *PORT MASTER PLAN CONSISTENCY*

Planning District: 5 - National City Bayfront (Precise Plan Figure 15)

Land Use Designation: Marine Related Industrial

The proposed project conforms to the certified Port Master Plan because it consists of investigative soil borings, consistent with the existing certified Land use designation. The proposed project would not change the use of the site nor would it interrupt or expand the existing conforming use of the site.

### *CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION*

Categorical Exclusions: Section 8.d: Minor Alterations to Land; and Section 8.e: Information Collection

8.d. Minor Alterations to Land: Minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees.

AND/OR

8.e. Information Collection: Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major significant disturbance to an environmental resource.

The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Excluded pursuant to the Sections of the District's *Coastal Development Permit Regulations* as identified above. These are appropriate for the proposed project because it consists of investigative soil borings, would not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees, and would not result in a serious or major significant disturbance to an environmental resource.

Pursuant to California Coastal Act Section 30717, there is a 10-working-day period to appeal this "Coastal Act Categorical Determination of Exclusion" to the California Coastal Commission.

For proposed soil borings located outside of the District's CDP jurisdiction, additional approvals may be required from other agencies.

**CALIFORNIA PUBLIC TRUST DOCTRINE**

The proposed project complies with Section 87.(a)(1) of the Port Act, which allows for the establishment, improvement, and conduct of a harbor, and for the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance, and operation of wharves, docks, piers, slips, quays, and all other works, buildings, facilities, utilities, structures, and appliances incidental, necessary, or convenient, for the promotion and accommodation of commerce and navigation.. The Port Act was enacted by the California Legislature and is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine. Consequently, the proposed project is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine.

RANDA CONIGLIO  
President/CEO

Determination by:  
Michael Paul  
Assistant Planner  
Development Services

Signature: Michael Paul  
Date: Oct 20, 2020

Deputy General Counsel

Signature: Chris Burt  
Date: OCT 20, 2020