

6-22-10

R-23

From: "Fernando Chavez" [fernando@cerrell.com]
Sent: 06/21/2010 06:16 PM MST
To: "Fernando Chavez" <fernando@cerrell.com>
Subject: WSPA Letter to Army Corps of Engineers

On behalf of the Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA), attached please find a copy of WSPA's letter to the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Long Beach Breakwater Reconfiguration for your records. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Regards,

Fernando

Fernando Chavez
Senior Account Executive

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6 18 10 WSPA Breakwater letter to ACE.PDF



June 18, 2010

Brigadier General Rock Donohue
Division Commander
US Army Corps of Engineers
South Pacific Division

Re: Long Beach Breakwater Reconfiguration

Dear General Donohue:

The Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA) is a non-profit trade association representing twenty-eight companies that explore for, produce, refine, transport and market petroleum, petroleum products, natural gas and other energy supplies in California and five other western states.

WSPA and our member companies are concerned about potential effects of reconfigurations to the Long Beach Breakwater. The 2008 Moffat & Nichols study commissioned by the City of Long Beach found that waves as high as four times present levels are possible with future alterations.

Current conditions at both San Pedro Bay ports, especially in the summer when swells from the south are common, mean that wave surges could occasionally slow or delay the offloading of liquid bulk tankers. These increases in wave size could mean longer delays and scheduling uncertainties that may lead maritime traffic and the jobs it creates to bypass the local ports.

The Moffat & Nichol study also indicated that some reconfigurations create the potential for significant wave energy increases to existing Port infrastructure, the oil islands, anchorages and beaches. More wave energy on these sites would require the Port to consider mitigation and could drastically increase the already high cost projections of reconfiguring the breakwater.

Before the Army Corps commits to the reconnaissance study of the Long Beach Breakwater, WSPA asks that it investigate other, more cost effective alternatives that will not create significant impacts on the Port, the shipping industry, the oil islands or coastal areas of Long Beach and nearby beach communities.

We would like you to meet with representatives of WSPA and other members of the maritime industry to discuss these significant impacts, appropriate mitigation and reasonable alternatives before you commit to a costly examination of the proposed major change to the facilities at the Port of Long Beach. I can be reached at 310-678-7782 or psenecal@wspa.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patty Senecal".

Patty Senecal
Manager, Southern California Region and Infrastructure Issues
970 West 190th Street, Suite 770, Torrance, CA 91205

Cc:

Congresswoman Laura Richardson

Assemblywoman Bonnie Lowenthal, Select Committee on Ports

Gary Gregory Division Chief, Marine Facilities Division, California State Lands Commission

Dick Steinke, Long Beach Port Director

Nick Sramek, POLB Harbor Commission President

Bob Foster, Mayor Long Beach

Robert Garcia, District 1 Long Beach City Council

Suja Lowenthal, District 2 Long Beach City Council

Gary DeLong, District 3 Long Beach City Council

Patrick O'Donnell, District 4 Long Beach City Council

Gerrie Schipske, District 5 Long Beach City Council

Dee Andrews, District 6 Long Beach City Council

Tonia Reyes Uranga, District 7 Long Beach City Council

Rae Gabelich, District 8 Long Beach City Council

Val Lerch, District 9 Long Beach City Council