

Appendix C
SHPO Concurrence Letter

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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July 21, 2003

REPLY TO: FHWA030703B

Gary N. Hamby, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Region Nine, California Division
980 Ninth Street, Suite 400
SACRAMENTO CA 95814-2724

Re: Replacement of the Gerald Desmond Bridge, Port of Long Beach, Long Beach,
Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Hamby:

Thank you for submitting to our office your June 30, 2003 letter and Historic Properties Survey Report (HPSR) regarding the proposed replacement of the Gerald Desmond Bridge, a structure located at the Port of Long Beach in Long Beach, Los Angeles County. The Gerald Desmond Bridge has been determined, by consensus, to be ineligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The proposed undertaking will replace the physically and functionally deficient bridge with a seismically resistant structure that will meet vehicular and shipping needs for its planned 100-year design life. The undertaking will also involve construction of two new high-voltage transmission towers adjacent to the existing towers, which will be left standing. The undertaking will also necessitate reconfiguration of adjacent freeway and arterial interchanges. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed undertaking appears adequate and meets the definition set forth in 36 CFR 800.16(d). An archeological resources record search conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center, California State University, Fullerton and a field reconnaissance survey of the project area by qualified archeologists in October 2002 revealed no known archeological resources.

FHWA is seeking my comments on its determination of the eligibility of five (5) pre-1957 architectural and engineering properties for inclusion on the NRHP in accordance with 36 CFR 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Eight (8) post-1957 architectural and engineering properties were also identified within the project APE. I concur with FHWA's determination that these post-1957 properties are ineligible for inclusion on the NRHP. FHWA is also seeking my comments on its determination of the effects the proposed undertaking will have on historic properties in accordance with 36 CFR 800. A review of the HPSR leads me to concur with FHWA on the following:

- The Long Beach Generating Station is eligible for inclusion on the NRHP under Criteria A and D as defined in 36 CFR 60.4. The property has strong associations with the industrial development of the Long Beach Harbor and the Los Angeles area and has retained sufficient and continuing use of technology built to early 20th century specifications. This functioning

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technology affords an opportunity to study and understand early engineering techniques as they relate to early power plant development and operation.

- The four (4) remaining pre-1957 properties evaluated in the HPSR are not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP under any of the criteria established by 36 CFR 60.4. The properties have no strong associations with significant historical events or persons, and are not examples of outstanding architectural or engineering design or function.
- On the basis of the above comments, I can now concur with FHWA's determination that the proposed undertaking, as described, will have no adverse effect on historic properties.

Thank you again for seeking my comments on this undertaking. If you have any questions, please contact staff historian Clarence Caesar by phone at (916) 653-8902, or by e-mail at ccaes@ohp.parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Dr. Knox Mellon
State Historic Preservation Officer