

World Oil Tank Installation Project

Appeal from:

Earthjustice | Center for Biological Diversity | Communities for a Better Environment
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice | Coalition for Clean Air
Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice | Sierra Club

EIR Requirement: A “Low Threshold”

“All local agencies shall prepare... an environmental impact report on any project... which may have a significant effect on the environment.”

- CEQA Statute (Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21151)

World Oil Project Impacts

- Project tanks have 50-year lifespan
- 200,000 pounds of VOC air pollutants
- 15,000 barrels of hazardous tank sludge

What this Project is about: Marine Fuel Oil

- World Oil's refinery produces marine diesel fuel
- Project frees up to 188,000 barrels of oil storage for lease to oil refineries

What this Project is about: Marine Fuel Oil



Nearby Vulnerable Populations: Elementary Schools & Parks



What CEQA Requires

“If there is disagreement among expert opinion supported by facts over the significance of an effect on the environment, the Lead Agency shall treat the effect as significant and shall prepare an EIR.”

- Official CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR § 15064(g))

Experts disputing the Port's analysis:

- Dani Ziff, M.M.A., Coastal Program Analyst at California Coastal Commission:

“There is no evidence provided in the IS/ND that suggests the project is located and designed in a way that will avoid **adverse impacts** on the environment and port-adjacent communities under conditions where sea and groundwater levels are higher and storm events are more frequent and severe.”

Experts disputing the Port's analysis:

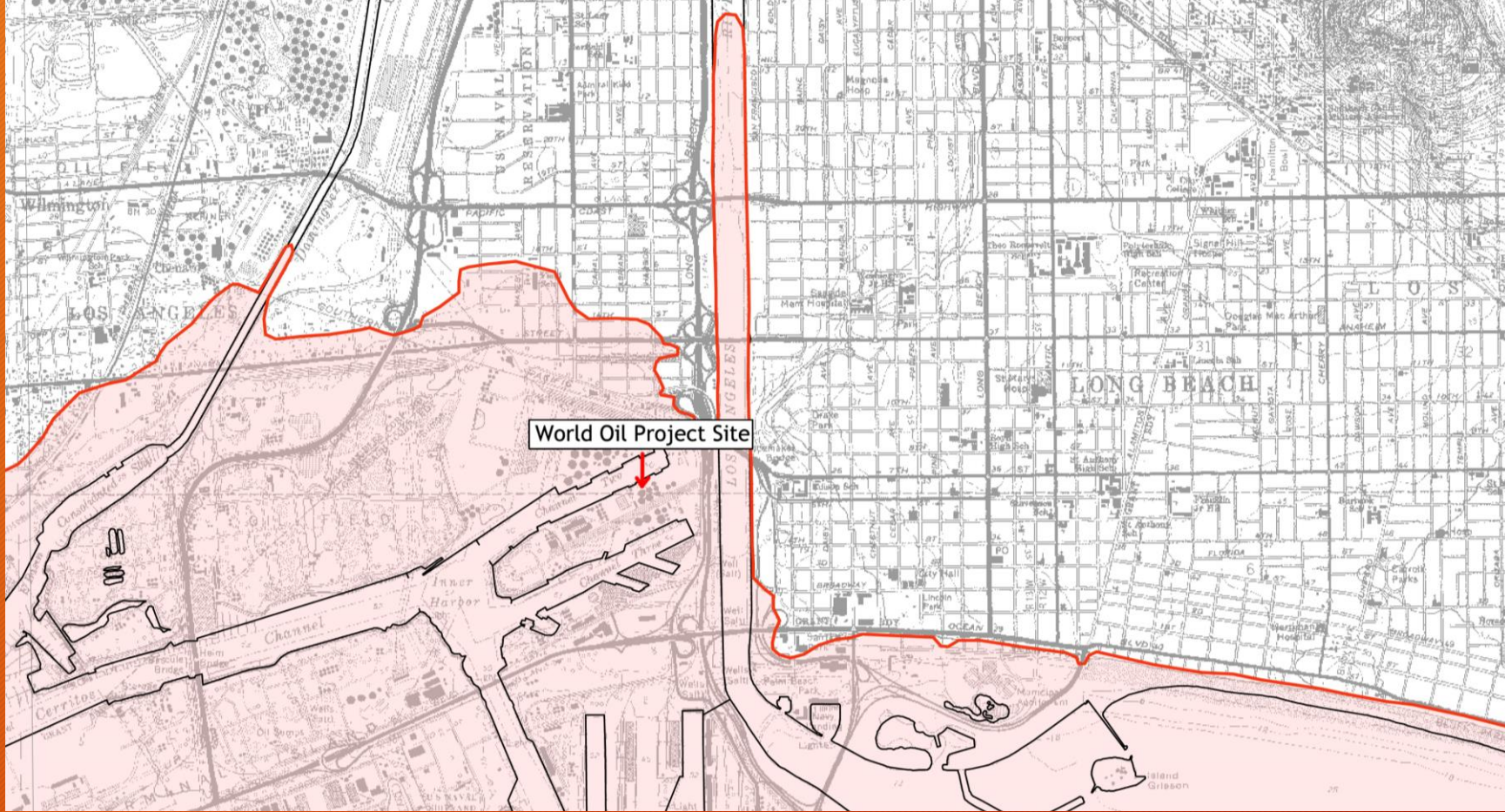
- **Julia May, Senior Scientist at Communities for a Better Environment:**

“The Project has clear potential to cause significantly increased hazards, air and water pollution, and cumulative impacts.”

Experts disputing the Port's analysis:

- Phyllis Fox, Ph.D. (Environmental/Civil Engineering):

“In my opinion, the IS/ND has failed to identify and mitigate significant environmental impacts.”



Flooding Risks

October 2021 Oil Spill



Cumulative Impacts

- Port must consider “closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable probable future projects.”
 - “Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time.”
- Official CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR § 15355(b))

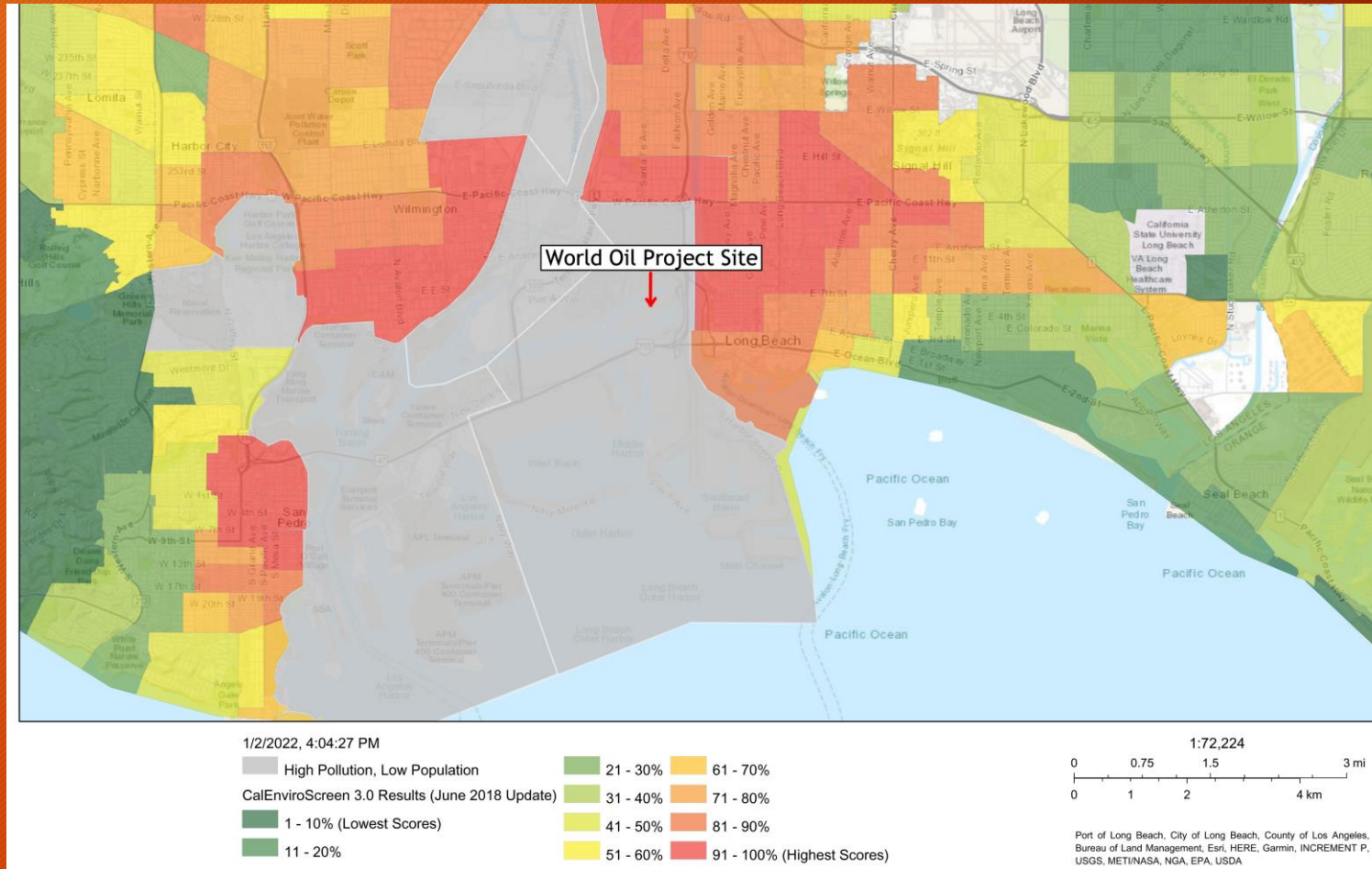
Port Ignored Existing Infrastructure

- Total capacity with Project: 552,000 barrels (nine tanks)
- Port only analyzed: 50,000 barrels (two tanks)

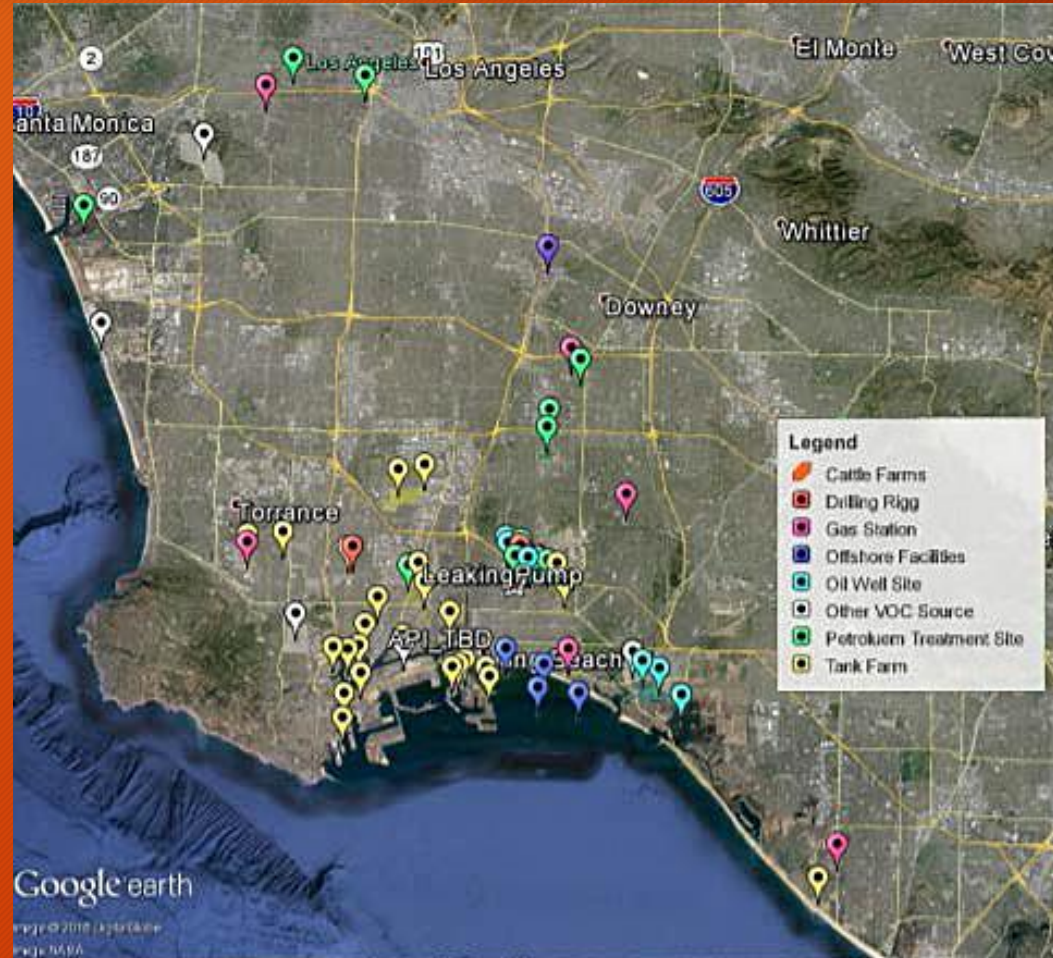


Figure 2-2. Project Site Plan

Cumulative Impacts: Community Burden



Cumulative Impacts: Oil Storage Tanks

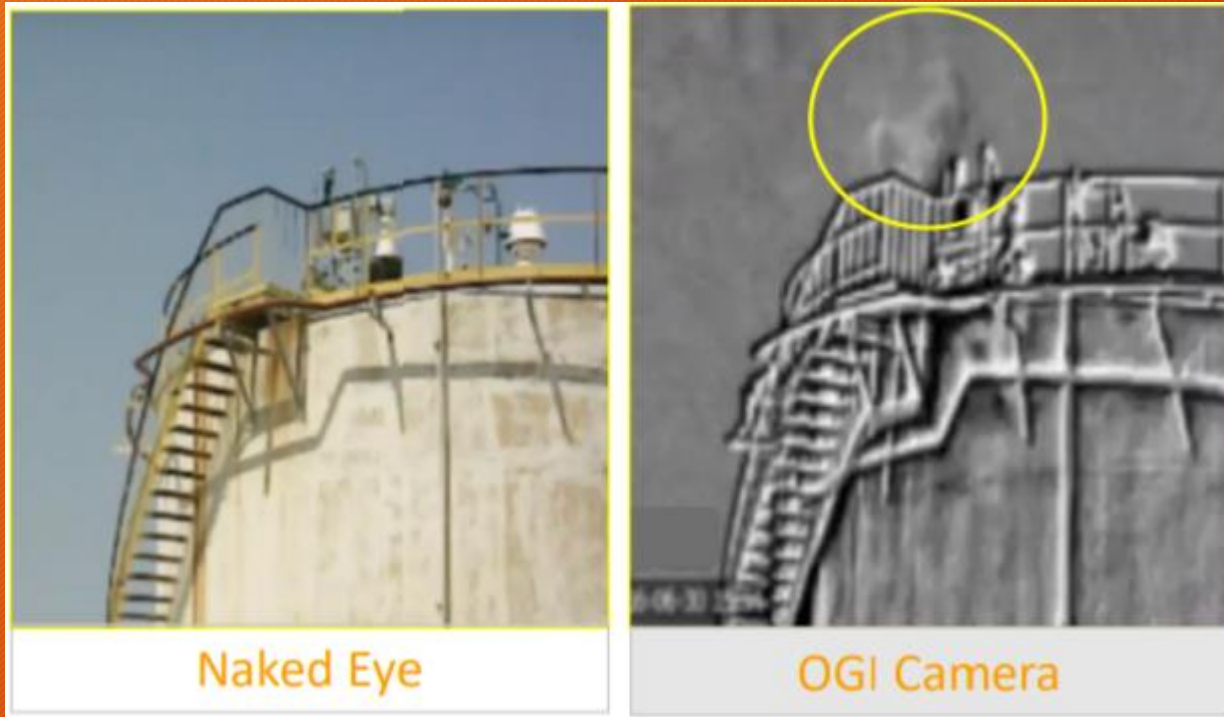


Cumulative Impacts: Oil Storage Tanks

1,108 Stationary Tanks

- 1 Even distribution of the four different types of tanks
- 2 About 70 percent of tanks are large capacity (>1 million gallons)

Tank Size Category (gal)	# Tanks	Total Gallons Stored	Average Tank Capacity (gal)
≤50000	70	3 million	43,000
>50,000 to 150,000	43	4 million	93,000
>150,000 to 1 million	217	100 million	460,000
>1 million	778	3 billion	3.9 million



SCAQMD Studies: Underestimated Emissions

Conclusion

The Port must
prepare an EIR for
the World Oil Project
under CEQA.