



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

**2020 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT**

DFW 753.5a (Rev. 12/10/19) Previously DFG 753.5a

## RECEIPT

37-2020-0861

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

## SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY  
SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT PLANNING  
& GREEN PORT

LEAD AGENCY EMAIL

DATE 12/01/2020

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING

San Diego County

DOCUMENT NUMBER  
37-2020-0861

## PROJECT TITLE

ECOSPEARS PILOT PROJECT AT AMERICA'S CUP HARBOR AND HARBOR ISLAND EAST BASIN

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME  
ECOSPEARS INC

PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL

PHONE NUMBER  
916-749-8865PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS  
309 CRANES ROOST BLVD SUITE 2000CITY  
ALTAMONTE SPRINGSSTATE  
FLZIP CODE  
32701

## PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

☐ Local Public Agency☐ School District☐ Other Special District☐ State Agency☒ Private Entity

## CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

\$3,343.25 \$ 0.00

☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)

\$2,406.75 \$ 0.00

☐ Certified Regulatory Program document (CRP)

\$1,136.50 \$ 0.00

☒ Exempt from fee☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)

\$850.00 \$ 0.00

☒ County documentary handling fee

\$ 50.00

☐ Other

\$ 0.00

## PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash☐ Credit☒ Check☐ Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE

X

AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

San Diego County

NAIME BAJRAMI

, Deputy

Payment Reference #: CHK # 194893



SAN DIEGO COUNTY CLERK  
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET

**FILED**  
Dec 01, 2020 10:01 AM  
Ernest J. Dronenburg, Jr.  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY CLERK  
File # 2020-000918  
State Receipt # 37-20200861

THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Project Title

ECOSPEARS PILOT PROJECT AT AMERICA'S CUP HARBOR AND HARBOR  
ISLAND EAST BASIN

Check Document being Filed:

- ☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)  
☐ Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)  
☒ Notice of Exemption (NOE)  
☐ Other (Please fill in type):

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SAN DIEGO  
COUNTY CLERK ON December 1, 2020  
Posted December 1, 2020 Removed \_\_\_\_\_  
Returned to agency on \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY \_\_\_\_\_

Filing fees are due at the time a Notice of Determination/Exemption is filed with our office. For more information on filing fees and No Effect Determinations, please refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 753.5.

**Notice of Exemption****CEQA Guidelines Appendix E**

<b>To:</b> ■ Office of Planning and Research 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121 Sacramento, CA 95814  ■ San Diego County Recorder/County Clerk 1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260 San Diego, CA 92101-2480	<b>From:</b> (Public Agency) San Diego Unified Port District Planning & Green Port 3165 Pacific Highway San Diego, CA 92101
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**Project Title:** ecoSPEARS Pilot Project at America's Cup Harbor and Harbor Island East Basin

**Project Location – Specific:** Three sites at America's Cup Harbor (N 32°43.458' W 117°13.483', N 32°43.454' W 117°13.513', and 32°43.433 W 117°13.515')

Three sites at Harbor Island East Basin (N 32°43.619' W 117°11.336', N 32°43.628' W 117°11.447', and 32°43.629 W 117°11.468')

**Project location – City:** San Diego, California

**Project Location – County:** San Diego County

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** *The proposed project is a pilot demonstration of a polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) remediation technology at America's Cup Harbor and Harbor Island East Basin in the City of San Diego. The project would use approximately 30 square feet of submerged area on existing tenant leaseholds in America's Cup Harbor and approximately 30 square feet of submerged area on existing tenant leaseholds in Harbor Island East Basin. The purpose of the project is to demonstrate the effectiveness of the Sorbent Polymer Extraction and Remediation System (SPEARS) to extract PCBs from contaminated sediment through installation of the SPEARS. A "Blue Economy Agreement" by and between the District and ecoSPEARS, Inc. (ecoSPEARS) is currently in place, and other similar agreements may also be required. ecoSPEARS would be responsible for acquiring necessary right of entry permits from the existing tenants at the America's Cup Harbor and Harbor Island East Basin locations where the SPEARS would be installed.*

*The proposed project would require the placement of ecoSPEARS' in-situ soil remediation technology, SPEARS, at two locations in San Diego Bay: Harbor Island's East Basin and America's Cup Harbor. The SPEARS are plastic spikes filled with gravel and ethanol solution. The plastic SPEARS spikes absorb PCBs from the aquatic environment, from both porewater and sediment, like a sponge. When absorbed by the SPEARS, PCBs continue to migrate through the plastic and further dissolve into the ethanol solution. The SPEARS are placed throughout hexagonal mats, which are 31 inches across and are made of a conventional geosynthetic membrane. Each mat is approximately three (3) square feet in area and incorporates two-inch x two-inch square cutouts throughout to allow for proper exchange between the water column and sediment. A combination of 26 12-inch SPEARS would be placed in each mat.*

*Each location would consist of three mat clusters. The mat clusters at the Harbor Island East Basin would be placed at a water depth of approximately 15 feet. The mat clusters at America's Cup Harbor would be placed at a water depth of approximately 20 feet. Each mat cluster is composed of three (3) mats and the three (3) mats within each cluster would be placed within a few feet of each other. In total, 18 mats would be deployed, nine (9) mats in Harbor Island's East Basin and nine (9) mats in America's Cup Harbor, and 468 SPEARS would be deployed (264 at each location).*

*The SPEARS deployment process would require the use of a boat equipped with a davit arm and an electric winch, which would allow a Vibecore Plate to be lowered in the water down to the sediment layer to deploy the mats into the sediment. An on-board GPS unit would be used to record the exact coordinates where each mat would be placed. Once the SPEARS are installed, the Vibecore Plate would automatically eject the mat and the Vibecore Plate would be raised back to the surface and into the boat. During deployment, an underwater camera would be used to inspect positioning and installation of the mat and anchor. Prior to installation, the camera would also be*



used to ensure that no eelgrass is present at the area of deployment. In addition, a third-party pre-construction eelgrass survey would be conducted prior to deployment to ensure that the SPEARS would not be placed on eelgrass.

Once in place, each mat would also be anchored via a secondary conventional marine anchor, to prevent the mats from being washed away with shifting currents. One (1) anchor would be positioned approximately six (6) feet away from each mat, totaling nine (9) anchors at each location. Each anchor would contain a small subsurface buoy that would float two (2) feet above the sediment and would serve as a locator for the mats as well as provide an access point for surface retrieval of the SPEARS.

The SPEARS retrieval process would require the use of a boat equipped with a davit arm and an electric winch. An underwater camera on an extending pole would be used with previously recorded GPS coordinates to locate the mats. The pole with a custom gaff and an underwater camera would be used to hook and capture the retrieval line to pull mats from the seafloor. After removal, the SPEARS would be processed at an offsite laboratory facility. It would take approximately six (6) days to install and remove the SPEARS and mats and up to four (4) people onsite for the installation and removal.

Post-treatment sediment sampling would be completed after the six-month deployment to establish concentrations within the sediment and porewater after the SPEARS deployment. Sediment sampling would involve collecting core samples through coring two (2) feet deep on a triangular grid at each of the sites where the SPEARS were deployed. Samples collected during sampling would be sent to a facility off-Tidelands for processing, sampling, and internal analysis by ecoSPEARS, as well as third-party analysis.

The pilot project requires a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pre-certified Nationwide Permit #5 Scientific Measurement Devices, and a Regional Water Quality Control Board nationwide pre-certified permit notification #5 Notice of Intent as part of the entitlement process, which would be obtained prior to the proposed project start date. Furthermore, the applicant would be responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state, and local laws regulating construction demolition debris, noise, and stormwater.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** San Diego Unified Port District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** ecoSPEARS, Inc. 309 Cranes Roost Blvd, Suite 2000, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701; (916) 749-8865

**Exempt Status:** (Check one): ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);  
☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));  
☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));  
☒ Categorical Exemption: Minor Alterations to Land (SG § 15304) (Class 4),  
Information Collection (SG § 15306) (Class 6)  
☐ Statutory Exemption. State code number:

Reason why project is exempt: *The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Exempt pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land), and/or 15306 (Information Collection) and Sections 3.d(6), and/or 3.f of the District's Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA because the proposed project because the project involves the installation of SPEARS for remediation of PCBs and sediment sampling; includes minor temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment and would also collect data and information on environmental factors and conditions around the proposed project. It would not result in any significant cumulative impacts due to impacts of the Project, and would not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. Sections 3.d(6), and 3.f of the District's CEQA Guidelines are as follows:*

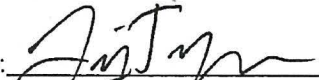
3.d. Minor Alterations to Land (SG § 15304) (Class 4): Includes minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation not involving removal of mature, scenic trees, including, but not limited to:

(6) Minor temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment.

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 environmental resources. 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.

Lead Agency Contact Person and telephone number: Lily Tsukayama (619) 686-8199

Signature:  Date: 11/17/2020 Title: Associate Planner

- ☒ Signed by Lead Agency
- ☐ Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR/Clerk:



# San Diego County



Transaction #: 5109138  
Receipt #: 2020642493

Ernest J. Dronenburg, Jr.  
Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk  
1600 Pacific Highway Suite 260  
P. O. Box 121750, San Diego, CA 92112-1750  
Tel. (619) 237-0502 Fax (619) 557-4155  
[www.sdarcc.com](http://www.sdarcc.com)

Cashier Date: 12/01/2020  
Cashier Location: SD

Print Date: 12/01/2020 10:03 am

COUNTY CLERK  
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY RM 260  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

## Payment Summary

Total Fees:	\$50.00
Total Payments:	\$50.00
Balance:	\$0.00

## Payment

CHECK PAYMENT #194893 \$50.00

Total Payments \$50.00

## Filing

CEQA - NOE Document #: 2020-000918 Date: 12/01/2020 10:01AM Pages: 4  
Map #: 20200861

Fees: Fish & Wildlife County Administrative Fee \$50.00

Total Fees Due: \$50.00

Grand Total - All Documents: \$50.00