## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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October 27, 2022

Cynthia Herzog California State Lands Commission 100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South Sacramento, CA 95825-8202





RE: Rincon Phase 2 Decommissioning Project SCH # 2022100043 Vic. VEN-101/PM 41 GTS # LA-2022-00515-NOP

## Dear Cynthia Herzog:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above-referenced NOP. The proposed Project would include remediation of the Onshore Facility, removal of Rincon Island's remaining surface structures, removal of the Island's well bay concrete deck and contaminated soil, backfill of the Island with clean soil, decommissioning of onshore pipeline connections, and improvement of the State Coastal Conservancy parcel adjacent to the causeway landing.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. Senate Bill 743 (2013) has codified into CEQA law and mandated that CEQA review of transportation impacts of proposed development be modified by using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the primary metric in identifying transportation impacts for all future development projects. You may reference the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for more information:

## http://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/updates/guidelines/

As a reminder, VMT is the standard transportation analysis metric in CEQA for land use projects after July 1, 2020, which is the statewide implementation date.

In the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report, Caltrans acknowledges that "the analysis will examine proposed Project decommissioning impacts to transportation and public access to roads and highways". Please include a discussion

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related to decommissioning truck trips in the DEIR. We are looking forward to reviewing the transportation and traffic sections in the DEIR.

The existing 6-inch-diameter gas pipeline and the 6-inch-diameter oil pipeline, from their terminations at the causeway abutment to the valve box located on the northeast side of the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way, would be decommissioned. The 6-inch-diameter gas pipeline and the 6-inch-diameter oil pipelines were previously removed from the causeway and are currently terminated with caps at the abutment. Both pipelines proceed north from the abutment under Ocean Avenue, then cross underneath Highway 101 and the adjacent railroad track to an underground concrete vault located on the north side of the railroad track. Both pipelines are installed within a 30-inch-diameter steel pipe casing that passes beneath the freeway and the railroad. The oil pipeline terminates at the concrete vault where it was formerly connected to a separately owned oil pipeline. The gas pipeline continues north and east of the vault, connecting to the nearby privately owned DCOR oil and gas processing facility, as well as the Onshore Facility. The pipelines terminating at the Onshore Facility were capped and the remainder of the pipelines on the Onshore Facility were removed during Phase 1. Any decommissioning work on Highway 101 would need a Caltrans encroachment permit.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin the project coordinator at (213) 269-1124 and refer to GTS # LA-2022-00515AL-NOP.

Sincerely,

MIYA EDMONSON LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

Miya Edmonson

email: State Clearinghouse