

**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT**  
Memorandum

Date: January 23, 2009  
To: Board of Port Commissioners  
From: Robert J. (Rocky) Spane, Commissioner  
Subject: Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – December 9, 2008

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This memo is a summary of the December 9, 2008, Environmental Committee meeting.

**Members present:** Chair, Rocky Spane; Commissioners Laurie Black and Mike Najera.

**Port staff present:** David Merk, Eileen Maher, Leslie Fitzgerald, Michelle White, Kelly Makley, Cody Hooven, Jenny Lybeck, Tina Pierce, John Gilmore, Kristine Zortman, and Rachel Verhoecks (minutes).

**Stakeholders present:** Andy Yuen, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS); Craig Anderson, Solar Turbine; John Robertus and Laurie Walsh, Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB); Ruben Guieb, U.S. Navy; Laura Hunter, Environmental Health Coalition; Rudy Murillo, Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO); Jim Peugh, San Diego Audubon Society; Eric Chavez, National Marine Fisheries Service; Pam Yochem, Hubbs-Sea World Institute; Megan Johnson, California Coastal Conservancy; Tim Hushen, SDSU Research Foundation; Tyler Huff and Michelle Woo, AMEC Earth & Environmental; Erica Cunningham, Tierra Data; Kim Foster, Pasha Automotive; Shaun Halvax, BAE Systems; Russ McCarthy and Lee Wilson, Northrop Grumman; Elizabeth Castillo, San Diego Natural History Museum; Robert Mooney, Merkel & Associates; Stanley Maloy, SDSU; and David Roberts and Nick Buhbe, Nautilus Environmental.

- Committee Chair Rocky Spane welcomed and thanked all for attending.
- Eileen Maher provided a funding update on the two Pasha projects concerning lighting and hybrid vehicles.
- The creation of Fact Sheets was suggested so that information could be easily shown and measured (i.e. energy use vs. energy saved). Staff is planning to create such sheets when information is available. Also asked was if press releases related to Environmental Committee topics could be distributed to the group. Staff will explore the distribution of them.
- Eileen reminded the group that Committee information and progress reports can be found online at <http://www.portofsandiego.org/environment/committee.html>.
- Chair Spane inquired about the status of a lobby display that would promote the wide variety of work and tidelands improvements the Committee is responsible for.

- Merkel & Associates Senior Biologist Robert Mooney gave a presentation on the environmental debris removal that occurred in the A-8 Anchorage. The anchorage was surveyed using side-scan sonar; debris objects were mapped and investigated, then removed or recorded for future removal. 357 targets were identified, totaling 7,000 lbs. More debris removal is expected in upcoming months. Chair Spane requested pictures and a short description of the project.
- Eileen Maher provided a status update on completed projects and projects still in progress, including the recently awarded \$1 million EPA grant that will help fund the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve and Emory Cove Restoration. Commissioner Black requested that the Committee be notified of cleanup events and that such events are scheduled for Saturdays to encourage community involvement. The next cleanup event is scheduled for January 17, 9am-12pm; additional information will be distributed and posted online. Chair Spane reiterated how advertisement of the Committee is needed to publicize the work it has accomplished.
- Eileen Maher gave a status report on the 501-505 First St., Coronado settlement.
- Eileen Maher provided an update on the Environmental Fund.
- Michelle White presented an update on the Port's Green Port Program and 2009 goals. Items covered included the six categories, status of projects accomplished during the past year, upcoming projects, and cost vs. benefits project analysis. The Port is currently gathering data to define the Port's carbon footprint and create a baseline inventory. The Environmental Preferable Procurement Policy will go to the BPC for approval in 2009.
- The direction of the Committee and goals for 2009 was discussed. The Restoration & Enhancement Plan was approved by the BPC in November and lists potential projects around the Bay. Projects from the list that could be aggressively pursued should be identified so that funding sources can be found. After discussion, it was decided that four areas need more attention: Habitat Restoration, Energy, Public Relations, and Policies.
- One stakeholder expressed frustration that tenants and stakeholders aren't adequately involved in the review and decision-making process of Port policies. For example, when the energy road map is complete, stakeholders would like the opportunity to review and provide input.
- In preparation of the next Committee meeting, Chair Spane asked the group to brainstorm different options of Committee organization (i.e. main Committee meetings, topic-specific workgroup meetings, etc). The group was reminded that any projects pursued must be above and beyond compliance and mitigation.
- At the next meeting, the Chair stated he'd like to address the following: review the Committee's mission and charter, develop a grading vs. results process, and discuss what the next "big" project could be.
- 2009 Environmental Committee meeting dates:
  - **TENTATIVE** – Tuesday, February 24, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. – Training Room

- Additional 2009 meeting dates will be determined by the Chair of the Board of Port Commissioners in January 2009.
- Commissioners Black and Najera thanked everyone for the hard work and accomplishments during 2008.
- There were no public comments.