

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

**Date:** January 5, 2010

**To:** Board of Port Commissioners

**From:** David Merk  
Director, Environmental Services  
dmerk@portofsandiego.org

**Subject:** Summary – November 19, 2009, Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

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The Environmental Advisory Committee met on November 19, 2009.

The following members, constituting a quorum, were in attendance: Commissioner Scott Peters (Committee Chair); Commissioner Lee Burdick; Andrew McAllister, CA Center for Sustainable Energy; Bob Hoffman, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); Bruce Reznik, San Diego Coastkeeper; David Gibson, Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB); Diane Takvorian, Environmental Health Coalition (EHC); Dr. Rick Gersberg, SDSU; and Patti Krebs, Industrial Environmental Association.

Port staff members present were: David Merk, Eileen Maher, Irene McCormack, Karen Holman, Leslie Fitzgerald, Michelle White, Bill Hays, Cody Hooven, Kelly Makley, Katya Mishina, Paul Brown, John Gilmore, Danny Arredondo, and Rachel Verhoeks (minutes).

Other interested parties in attendance were: Sharon Cloward, Port Tenants Association; John Robertus, RWQCB; Deborah Pennell, Shelter Island Marina; Brian Gordon and Chris Stathos, U.S. Navy; Gabe Solmer, San Diego Coastkeeper; Marco Gonzalez, Coast Law Group; Sara Honadei, CERF; Eric Chavez, NMFS; Laura Hunter, EHC; Rudy Murillo and Carlos Neira, Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO); Barry Snyder, Michelle Woo, and Rolf Schottle, AMEC Earth & Environmental; Lawrence Honma, Merkel & Associates; Rob Manriquez, Tetra Tech; Mo Husain, MH Systems; Lee Wilson and Russ McCarthy, Northrop Grumman; Clark Dawson, Clark Dawson Company; Mike Shane, Hubbs-Sea World Institute; Greg Boeh, Pier 32 Marina; David Roberts and Nick Buhbe, Nautilus Environmental; Tim Hushen, SDSU Research Foundation; Elizabeth Taylor, Brown & Winters; Jim Unger, Hornblower; Kathy O'Brien, Sun Harbor Marina; Lynne Eddy, Southwestern Yacht Club; Shelley Griffin, Bay Club Marina; John Adriany, San Diego Yacht Club; Richard Llewellyn, Silver Gate Yacht Club; Edith Gutierrez, City of San Diego; Cleve Hardaver, RBOC; Peter Flournoy, ATA; Becki Wolters, CPDA; Sandy Purdan; and Mark Stephens.

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The following members were absent: Craig Anderson, Solar Turbines; Emily Young, San Diego Foundation; Laurie Black, LJ Black Consulting Group; Lorena Gonzalez, San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council AFL/CIO; Mary Small (for Megan Johnson), CA Coastal Conservancy; and Mitch Perdue, U.S. Navy.

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am. The following is a summary of the meeting.

#### **WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS:**

Commissioner Peters welcomed everyone. He informed the group that RWQCB Executive Director John Robertus had retired, and David Gibson, the new Executive Director, would be taking John's place on the Committee. Commissioner Peters also requested input from the group regarding the past year and the Committee's role and achievements. Please send any comments or suggestions to David Merk.

#### **ACTION ITEMS / DISCUSSION / COMMENTS:**

##### **Water Quality-**

Matt Wartian, Weston Solutions, gave a presentation entitled *Regional Harbor Monitoring Program (RHMP) Bight '08*. He described the RHMP background, RHMP approach and results, and future focused studies and recommendations.

Karen Holman, Port Environmental Services, gave a presentation entitled *Port of San Diego Municipal Stormwater Program*. In it, she provided a program overview including maintenance of the municipal facilities, inspections, development and construction activities, monitoring efforts, cleanup and debris removal efforts, and educational activities.

Brian Gordon, U.S. Navy, provided a brief overview of the various water quality projects the Navy is involved in currently, such as local TMDL efforts, water conservation, water reclamation, and the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP).

Karen Holman, Port Environmental Services, gave a presentation entitled *Port of San Diego Copper Reduction Efforts for San Diego Bay*. In it, she gave an overview of the Shelter Island Yacht Basin copper TMDL problem, strategic approach to address the problem, and current and future activities.

John Adriany, San Diego Yacht Club, briefly described what Port tenants are doing to help address the copper problem and the issues they are encountering such as educating boat owners on why copper is harmful to the environment.

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Gabe Solmer, Coastkeeper, and Marco Gonzalez, Coast Law Group, both provided suggestions and input regarding the copper problem. Suggestions included offering incentives to boat owners who switch paints prior to regulatory enforcement; modifying lease agreements; research and evaluating non-copper paints currently available; and enforcement by the Port now, not later. The Port is already behind in achieving the copper reduction required by the regulatory timeline; therefore, the Port should aim for higher percentages than currently required.

Diane Takvorian, EHC, suggested the Committee recommend implementing an accelerated copper phase out program with incentives for early compliance. The Committee was in favor of this idea and requested staff to pursue.

Jim Unger, Hornblower, thanked Karen Holman for allowing them to participate in the test phase by testing paints on Hornblower boats. As a result, Hornblower selected and converted to non-copper paint.

Commissioner Peters asked the Committee if they were in favor of reallocating funds for SDSU and SIO to conduct a geotech and sea level rise study. The Committee was in favor.

**DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:**

January 19, 2010, will be a workshop on completed Environmental Fund projects.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Diane Takvorian, EHC, provided an update to the group regarding the Tenth Ave. Marine Terminal grant application that the Port was not awarded. There is another grant opportunity in December.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.