



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL BASE POINT LOMA
140 SYLVESTER ROAD
SAN DIEGO, CA 92108-3521

4500

Ser N00P/002

January 5, 2007

Mr. R. F. Haas
Deputy Chief of Public Works
City of San Diego
202 C Street, MS 9A
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mr. Haas:

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR LICENSE TO CONDUCT GEOLOGIC EVALUATIONS
ON U. S. NAVY PROPERTY ON NAVAL BASE POINT LOMA**

Your letter of December 4, 2006 to Ms. Ringel was forwarded to me for response. As the Installation Commanding Officer for Naval Base Point Loma, environmental and real property actions on the Installation are my responsibility.

As you know, proposals to accommodate secondary treatment facilities by expanding the Point Loma Waste Treatment Plant onto additional Navy property date back to 1959 when the "Site C" facility was first proposed by the City to the Chief of Naval Operations. Since that time, and in subsequent City proposals in 1975, 1987, 1995 and 2005, the Navy has been steadfast in its position that large scale expansion of the facility north, onto Navy property, is inconsistent with our military mission and that the City should seek alternative options. Today, the proposed expansion represents 70 percent of the remaining developable property not overly encumbered by environmental or historic preservation requirements on Naval Base Point Loma. Encroachment onto federal property represents the most significant challenge to maintaining, for future decades, the 155 year history of National defense by military facilities on Point Loma Installations.

The Navy has been supportive of City Waste Treatment Plant operations, both in past and present. Today, multiple no-cost piping easements and 24/7 access to the facility on Navy owned roadways are maintained. In 1996, the Navy authorized patent transfer of an additional 5 acres to support waste treatment plant operations when California Coastal Commission rulings prevented use of City owned open space in the southern section of the facility, an area that remains underutilized today.

I understand the need for the City to fully explore all alternatives, and that further discussion and resolution of this issue cannot be achieved without a comprehensive cost benefit analysis. Therefore, Naval Base Point Loma is willing to support preliminary geological investigations in support of a full cost benefit analysis, as long as those investigations can be executed under a NEPA Categorical Exclusion. However, since the Navy's position remains that expansion of the waste treatment plant to the north is

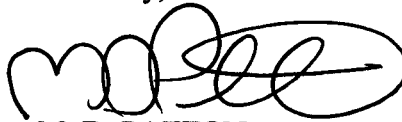
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inconsistent with the Installation's mission, any exploration on base property with potential environmental impacts requiring an environmental assessment, or environmental impact statement, will not be authorized without a corresponding change in the Navy position.

I regret that Naval Base Point Loma cannot be more supportive of the City's request. Efficient and productive City services directly effects the Navy, as a federal tenant of the City, just as it does local residents. But the City proposal, if implemented, would have a real and permanent impact on the ability of Naval Base Point Loma to execute our military mission, today and in the future.

My direct point of contact for this matter is CDR Michael Roth, USN,
(619) 524-8501, michael.b.roth@navy.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. D. Patton', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

M. D. PATTON
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer