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Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Mr. Scott Gibson
City of Los Angeles
Bureau of Engineering
Bridge Improvement Group
1149 S. Broadway, Room 750
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested
Claim No. 7009 2820 0001 6537 9676

AMENDMENT OF WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED NORTH SPRING STREET VIADUCT WIDENING AND REHABILITATION PROJECT Corps' Project No. 2011-00746-MAS), LOS ANGELES RIVER, CITY OF LOS ANGELES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY (File No.11-167)

Dear Mr. Gibson:

We are in receipt of your request on April 10, 2014, to amend your Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the subject project issued on February 28, 2012 (Certification).

The City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering Bridge Improvement Group (Applicant) is requesting to change the impacted acreage to U.S. waters in the Certification because the calculation of impacted acreage has increased. We note that the application for the Amendment included required additional fees based on the increased impacted acreage.

In response to your request, Under Attachment A, *Project Description,* the narrative shall be revised to include new language as <u>double underlined</u>; deleted language as ~~strikethrough~~:

Project Description:

Work within the Los Angeles River will construct the bridge foundation, river pier extension, and debris nosing. Five foot diameter cast in place drilled hole piles (CIDH), a cast-in-place concrete pile cap, the extension of the river pier, and debris nosing in order to protect the river pier from debris will be installed. The widened viaduct will be supported with CIDH or driven as reinforced precast concrete piles. Details of work within, above, and adjacent to the channel are described in the following paragraphs:

<u>Drill and Drive Piles, Place Pile Caps</u>
The widened viaduct will be supported with cast-in-drilled-hole piles or, where specifically required, driven reinforced precast concrete piles. CIDH are created by drilling a hole into the ground at the diameter and depth of the desired pile. A steel reinforced cage is then lowered into the drilled hole, and concrete pumped in.

Work will encroach into the five-foot groundwater buffer as is common in work within the river. The ground water elevation is about equal with the channel bottom.

The City of Los Angeles has obtained an industrial waste permit which will allow excess waste to be pumped into the City sewer system. If groundwater is encountered during the installation of CIDH or foundation, groundwater will be tested. ~~If contaminated, the groundwater will be pumped into storage baker tanks and then disposed of at a legal point of disposal. If not contaminated, then the Applicant will obtain a U-Permit from the Bureau of Engineering Permit Section and the groundwater will be pumped to the closest sewer maintenance hole for disposal.~~ If the test results meet the industrial waste permit requirements, groundwater will be pumped to the closest City sewer maintenance hole for disposal. If the test results exceed the limits required in the permit, then groundwater will be pumped into a storage tank and then disposed of at an approved legal point of disposal.

If dewatering is needed, the Applicant will follow the guidelines and meet the requirements of the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation (BOS).

The cast-in-drilled-hole method will be used at the east and west arch abutments, and the center pier. Drilling muds will not be used on this project. All of the work associated with constructing the footing and the piers up to the bottom of the arches will be performed during the dry season. The channel bed restoration will be finished before the start of the wet season.

During construction, drilling equipment and pile drivers will require temporary staging near the bridge. Work will be conducted in accordance with the approved emergency evacuation plan and best management practices. Due to the size and complexity of the work, the drilling and driving equipment will be stored in the channel overnight for the duration of the equipment to be used for the operation. When the equipment is no longer needed for drilling operations, it will be removed outside the river channel to an approved nearby storage location. Prior to October 15 of each year, all construction equipment will be removed. The channel will be

evacuated prior to any water releases.

No work will take place in the river channel unless there is a five day clear forecast. All equipment, large or small, including all materials, will be removed from the channel starting five days in advance of any storm or rain event.

Pour Columns
Following construction of the viaduct footings, the columns and piers will be formed, reinforcement placed, and concrete poured.

Construction Falsework
Falsework (which are temporary structures used to support structural members or forms to hold concrete in place until it hardens) will be used to support the concrete placement for the arches, arch girders, and the viaduct deck.

Viaduct Construction
Following erection of the falsework, cast-in-place girders for the widening will be placed, new utility conduits will be installed, and the viaduct deck will be poured.

Water Diversion
Portions of the existing Los Angeles River channel will be removed for the installation of the above mentioned improvements. In order to construct the piles, pile cap, extension of the river pier, and the new debris nosing, the existing runoff in the concrete low flow channel will be diverted around the work area on a temporary basis. Any diversion of water necessary for project implementation shall be conducted in compliance with a water diversion plan. The Applicant will be required to prepare a water diversion plan that complies with all regulatory permits and agreements. ~~This plan will be submitted and approved by the City and this Regional Board prior to construction.~~

Water Diversion Plan
As submitted to this Regional Board on July 3, 2014, the water diversion will begin at approximately 380 feet north of the bridge, and extend to approximately 350 feet south of the bridge, for a total temporary impact of 108,800 SF. The water diversion will be constructed with K-Rail, sand bags, a Quickset^{tm} concrete lip, slurry

berm, and two-sack slurry. The low flow dry crossing will be constructed with 12-inch by 12-inch timber posts and steel plates. The low flow wet crossing will be constructed with 4-inch by 12-inch timber posts, steel plates and wooden ramps.

In the event that water breaches the diversion, silt fences or gravel sand bags and waterproof membranes will be placed around disturbed areas within the Los Angeles River channel. All BMPs, erosion control, sediment control, and necessary control measures will be implemented to prevent the degradation of water quality.

After forms are removed, the remaining portion of the concrete channel will be replaced including the low flow channel in its original location. The extension of the center pier and debris nose will impact 1,618 square feet of the Los Angeles River on a permanent basis. The work on bridge abutments will also impact 860 square feet on the west side of the Los Angeles River and 880 square feet on the east side of the Los Angeles River. The total permanent impacts to the Los Angeles River will be 3,358 square feet or 0.084 acres.

Access to the site will be from the San Fernando Portal to the north and the 6th Street Portal to the south.

The construction is estimated to take ~~18~~36 months with a beginning construction ~~started~~ date of~~n July 20, 2012~~February 2013 and a construction completion date of October 2016.

In response to your request, under Attachment A, Item 12, impacts to U.S. Waters, will read:

12. Impacted Waters of the United States:	Non-wetland waters (unvegetated streambed): ~~0.11~~ 2.49 temporary acres (730 linear feet) and ~~0.084~~ 0.077 permanent acres (108 linear feet)

In response to your request, under Attachment B, Item 20 shall read:

20. The Applicant shall restore the proposed ~~**0.11**~~ **2.49 acres** of TEMPORARY IMPACTS to waters of the United States and all other areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge or a threatened discharge to waters of the State. The Applicant shall implement all necessary Best Management Practices to control erosion and runoff from areas associated with this project.

I have determined that the above-proposed modifications do not constitute a significant change in the nature or scope of the activities described for the project in your original application. Therefore, all of the proposed modifications are hereby incorporated into 401 Certification No. 07-131 and no additional action by this agency pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act is necessary. This determination is limited to the proposed modifications contained in your notification to this Regional Board dated October 8, 2008 and described herein, and does not eliminate the Applicant's responsibility to comply with any other applicable laws, requirements and/or permits.

Should you have questions concerning this certification action, please contact Dana Cole, Section 401 Program, at (213) 576-6759.

Sincerely,

Chief Deputy E.O.

Samuel Unger
Executive Officer for

8-13-14
Date

cc: Distribution List (attached)

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