

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY 311 MAIN ROAD, SUITE 1 POINT MUGU, CA 93042-5033

> Ser N45V/0801 December 6, 2005

Ms. Blythe Poneck Bacharowski Acting Chief, Watershed Regulatory Section Los Angeles Region California Regional Water Quality Control Board 320 West 4th Street, Suite 200 Los Angeles, CA 90013-2343

Dear Ms. Bacharowski:

Mr. William Venable, Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC), was informed in your letter on July 22, 2005 that an Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) exception (application) to the Ocean Plan is required for renewal of the San Nicolas Island (SNI) discharge of reverse osmosis reject brine and filter backwash water. Additionally, you requested that this exception application be submitted to your office by March 1, 2006.

At this time, our contractual arrangement with consultants is indicating that the application for SNI will be available for submittal to your office in May 2006. This is due to the extent of site surveys and characterization required for preparing the application, and the contractual and logistical requirements that support the project.

Thus, we are requesting your concurrence with revising the due date for submitting the SNI ASBS exception application to May 2006.

For further discussion, please contact Mr. Venable (william.venable@navy.mil) at telephone (805) 982-3771.

Sincerely,

RONALD J DOW

Director, Environmental Division

By direction of the Commanding Officer

Copy to:

Dominic Gregorio, State Board Xavier Swamikannu, Regional Board

William Venable, NBVC Facilities Environmental Support