



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST
937 NO. HARBOR DR.
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92132-0058

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N45JWW.sb/0446
December 20, 2004

Mr. Dominic Gregorio
Division of Water quality, Ocean Standards Unit
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Dear Mr. Gregorio:

SUBJECT: EXCEPTION REQUEST FOR SCI WWTP DISCHARGE INTO ASBS
(COMPLIANCE FILE NO. CI-6432)

In accordance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0110175 and the conditions in State Water Resources Control Board Resolution NO. 77-11, the Navy owned wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) at San Clemente Island (SCI) discharges to a maximum flow of 25,000 gallons per day. We request an exception to the California Ocean Plan prohibition against discharges to an Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) in order to increase the allowable flow to 48,000 gallons per day (80% of 60,000-gpd WWTP design capacity).

The SCI Range Complex supports the largest concentration of Naval Forces in the world and is growing in importance to the Navy's mission. It is absolutely vital to the successful fulfillment of our national security mission. Our current NPDES permit expires June 2005 and similar to the 1979 permit, limits the discharge volume to an average daily flow of 25,000 gallons per day. We have had this volume restriction for twenty-five years with no provision for population growth on the island. The existing discharge volume limitation threatens our ability to support training, research, development, and test and evaluation work vital to our nation's defense. We appreciate your support as we renew our NPDES permit with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region.

If additional information is required, please contact Mr. Rob Chichester, Water Program manager, CNRSW Environmental Department at telephone (619) 524-6417.

Sincerely,

A. J. GONZALES
Captain, U.S. Navy
Program Director Environment

Copy to:
California Regional Water Quality
Control Board, Los Angeles Region
Attn: Dr. Jau Ren Chen
320 West Fourth Street Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013