

ATTACHMENT H

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Orange

Public Services Division

Santa Ana, CA 92702

From: (Public Agency): City of Newport Beach Planning Division
100 Civic Center Drive P.O. Box 1768
Newport Beach, CA 92658-8915

(Address)

Project Title: Moorings "C" Field Pilot Project

Project Applicant: City of Newport Beach

Project Location - Specific:

Off-shore within Newport Harbor, Mooring C Field, 5.5 acres

Project Location - City: Newport Beach Project Location - County: Orange

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Field C Pilot mooring reconfiguration project (project) proposes to replace the existing single-row mooring system within the Mooring "C" Field with a double-row mooring system to improve navigation safety and optimize space within the mooring field. During the process, one or two rows may be initially reconfigured. This would allow for testing of the new layout and for making any necessary adjustments. There will be follow-up on the reconfiguration, including regular inspections from harbor patrol boats as well as interviews with affected permittees and other stakeholders. The relocation of moorings and permittees for the first one or two rows is estimated to take two weeks. Completing the reconfiguration for the rest of C Field is estimated to take 30 days.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Newport Beach

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Newport Beach

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 2
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project would replace the existing single-row mooring system within the "C" Field with a double-row system as a pilot program to test the safety and viability of the double-row system within Newport Harbor. The new mooring system would be in the same location and serve the same purpose as the one being replaced. The reconfiguration would result in a negligible increase in capacity of the mooring field. The use of a Categorical Exemption is precluded where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances (Section 15300.2 (c)). The project is within an area where eelgrass is known to be present. As such, an eelgrass impact assessment was conducted to show that the project would not have effects on eelgrass habitat (Attachment A). No other exceptions to the use of a categorical exemption were determined to be applicable.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Jim Campbell Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 949-644-3210

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____