

# Cecilia Ponce-Mora

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Port of Los Angeles  
City of Los Angeles  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

July 31, 2007

Re: Berths 136-147 Container Terminal Draft EIR/EIS  
Su: TraPac Container Terminal Expansion Project Public Comments

My name is Cecilia Ponce-Mora and I live at 613 North Gulf Ave., Wilmington, California. I live four blocks from the Port of Los Angeles TraPac Container Terminal. I, my husband and our families have lived in Wilmington all of our lives. Our home has existed prior to the TraPac Container Terminal being built.

The TraPac Container Terminal Draft Environmental Impact Report/EIS fails to address and mitigate the many environmental, public health, public safety, truck traffic, train, economic and community impacts of the TraPac Container Terminal and the Ports day-to-day business activities.

I have attended many Port of Los Angeles public hearing and public meetings where I and numerous other Wilmington residents and organizations have stated our problems or submitted them in written public comments. The Draft EIR/EIS fails to acknowledge our problems or include our numerous recommended mitigation measures.

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The TraPac Draft EIR/EIS fails to address the following specific problems that impact me, my family, my neighbors and community. The Port of Los Angeles has failed to include the mitigation measures that the public requested:

1. The Port of Los Angeles causes a significant amount of air pollution in the Harbor area causing significant public health problems to me, my family and Wilmington residents. The Port of Los Angeles and the U.S. Army

Corps of Engineers know that port and goods movement air pollution causes cancer and numerous other public health problems.

Wilmington is experiencing a public health crisis caused by the Port of Los Angeles and the TraPac Container Terminal that borders us. Almost every family I know has children suffering with asthma.

The Port of Los Angeles and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was requested to purchase and install free air purification systems in every residential home, school, hospital, clinic, convalescent home, community center, library, recreational facility and public use building. They have done nothing except let Harbor residents and children get sick and die.

Promising to clean up the air in the future means nothing while we are sick, suffering and dying now. The proposed Draft EIR mitigation will not significantly stop all the air pollution or our health problems. We the public want "O" air pollution and expect the Port to use the best available technologies. The truth is that they are not.

The Port has failed to conducted any public health interviews or surveys of Wilmington and Harbor residents to determine our health status or the kinds of health problems we have. As public governmental agencies you are responsible for our well being and mitigating the public health problems you have caused.

2. The Port of Los Angeles has deprived my husband the right to live a normal and healthy life. The Port contributes a significant amount of toxic air, land and water pollution which are known to cause cancer and numerous other public health problems.

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My husband Edward Mora has been in Little Company of Mary Sub-Acute Hospital in Torrance for seven years now dying of lung disease. He never smoked, never worked in an industrial environment and has no family history of any respiratory disease.

The Port is partially if not 100% responsible for his illness and the Port has failed to prevent air, land and water pollution where known technologies

exist to prevent it. The Port failed to notify me, my husband and Wilmington residents of the life and health threatening nature of its business activities. The Port failed to provide governmental agency, medical or scientific research public health study information to the public that it knew existed.

The Port has failed to provide any medical financial assistance to impacted families who have identified themselves at previous Port of Los Angeles public hearings and meetings.

The Port of Los Angeles and the U.S. Corps of Engineers was requested to mitigate all of its public health impacts. The Port was requested to establish a minimum annual \$ 25 million Public Health Care Trust Fund to cover the cost of short term and long term medical care and assistance.

As of today the Port of Los Angeles and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is perfectly happy letting us suffer, get sick and die. They have not mitigated our past or current public health problems they have caused.

3. The Port of Los Angeles and its business tenants has deprived me of my husband, my right to live a normal happy family life, my right to financial support and my right to the quality of life. The loss of my husband has caused me and our families personal hardships, extreme stress, economic burdens and significant income losses.

My husband's medical expenses have exceeded \$ 1 million which has and is now being paid by California taxpayers and residents. I have read that the cost of public health care caused by the Port of Los Angeles is over \$ 1 billion annually. Yet they have not contributed one dime to help one resident.

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Despondent Wilmington Resident,

Cecilia Ponce-Mora