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March 1, 2016

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE BERTHS 177-178 TRANSIT SHED DEMOLITION PROJECT

The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) has prepared an Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) to address the environmental effects of the Berths 177-178 Transit Shed Demolition Project (Project). The proposed Project consists of the demolition of a 135,000 square foot cargo transit shed at 802 S. Fries Avenue in Wilmington, CA. The transit shed is part of a 40-acre cargo terminal operated by Pasha Stevedoring and Terminals (Pasha), which had used the shed to store steel sheets, coils, and other cargo as part of their terminal operations since 1986. The transit shed sustained significant damage from a fire that occurred in September 2014, and has since remained vacant and been deemed unusable. The transit shed will be demolished to the top of the pavement with the foundations left in place, and no new structures will be built. Upon Project completion the site will be returned to Pasha, who will then continue to use the open property to store cargo in a manner consistent with the previously-existing use before the damage occurred.

The IS/ND has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et.seq.* and the State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15000 *et.seq.* This IS/ND includes a discussion of the proposed project's effects on the existing environment. This document is an IS/ND because there are no impacts associated with the proposed Project that must be mitigated in order to be below significance thresholds. In accordance with the CEQA Statutes and Guidelines, the IS/ND is being circulated for a period of 30 days for public review and comment. The public has an opportunity to provide written comments on the information contained within the IS/ND.

The 30-day review period starts on **March 1, 2016**, and ends on **March 31, 2016**. A copy of the document is available for public review on the Port of Los Angeles website at: <a href="http://www.portoflosangeles.org">http://www.portoflosangeles.org</a>; the Harbor Department's Environmental Management Division located at 222 West 6th Street, Suite 900, San Pedro; the Los Angeles City Library San Pedro Branch at 931 S. Gaffey Street; and at the Los Angeles City Library Wilmington Branch at 1300 North Avalon, Wilmington.

Comments on the IS/ND should be submitted in writing prior to the end of the 30-day public review period and must be postmarked by March 31, 2016. Please submit written comments to:

Christopher Cannon, Director Environmental Management Division City of Los Angeles Harbor Department 425 S. Palos Verdes Street San Pedro, CA 90731

Written comments may also be sent via email to <u>ceqacomments@portla.org</u>. Comments sent via email should include the project title in the subject line and a valid mailing address in the email.

For additional information, please contact Miller Zou with the Harbor Department's Environmental Management Division at (310) 732-3921.

Singerely.

CHRISTOPHER CANNON

Director of Environmental Management

CC:LO:LM:MZ:mrx APP #150716-083