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4.1 Background

Since the 1970s, public awareness and concern has increased over evidence that lowincome and minority communities often suffer disproportionately from exposure to unhealthy environmental conditions. In response to increasing concerns, in 1994, President William J. Clinton issued Executive Order (EO) 12898 to raise awareness and bring environmental justice issues into public policy debate. EO12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations, directed each federal agency to make achieving environmental justice part of its mission. The President specifically recognized the importance of using the procedures under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to identify and address environmental justice concerns. Although the federal/NEPA environmental document is being prepared and processed separate of this Draft EIR, because federal action is required for the proposed Project, this assessment is being included in the CEQA document. In addition, addressing environmental justice is consistent with California state law regarding environmental justice and the City of Los Angeles General Plan environmental justice policies related to ensuring the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and income levels, including minority populations and low-income populations of the state as related to activities that substantially affect human health or the environment ensures.

The purpose of this analysis is to determine whether or not disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of the proposed Project are likely to fall on minority and/or low income populations. This analysis focuses on high and adverse (significant unavoidable) effects as addressed in Sections 3.1 through 3.13 of this Draft EIR and examines the race and income characteristics of the populations receiving those effects.

4.2 Environmental Setting

The Project site is located in the Port of Los Angeles and adjacent to two City of Los Angeles communities: Wilmington (to the north) and San Pedro (to the west). For this assessment, the area of potential effect was determined in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) guidance for identifying the "affected community," which requires consideration of the nature of likely Project impacts and identification of a corresponding unit of geographic analysis. Therefore, the area of potential Project effect for purposes of environmental justice corresponds to the areas of effect associated with the specific environmental issues analyzed in the Draft EIR. Areas of potential effect differ somewhat for each environmental issue.

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Environmental justice guidance from CEQ (1997) defines "minority persons" as "individuals who are members of the following population groups: American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian or Pacific Islander; Black (not of Hispanic origin); or Hispanic" (CEQ, 1997). Hispanic or Latino refers to an ethnicity whereas American Indian, Alaskan Native, Asian, Pacific Islander, and Black/African-American (as well as White or European-American) refers to racial categories: thus, for Census purposes, individuals classify themselves into racial categories as well as ethnic categories, where ethnic categories include Hispanic/Latino and non-Hispanic/Latino. The 2000 Census¹ allowed individuals to choose more than one race. For this analysis, consistent with guidance from CEQ (1997) as well as USEPA (1998, 1999), "minority" refers to people who are Hispanic/Latino of any race, as well as those who are non-Hispanic/Latino of a race other than White or European-American.

The same CEQ environmental justice guidance (CEQ, 1997) suggests low-income populations be identified using the national poverty thresholds from the Census Bureau; guidance from USEPA (1998, 1999) also suggests using other regional low-income definitions as appropriate. Due to the higher costs of living in southern California compared to the nation as a whole, a higher threshold is appropriate for the identification of low-income populations. For the purposes of this analysis, low-income people are those with a household income of 1.25 times the national census poverty threshold. The 1.25 ratio is based on application of a methodology developed by the National Academy of Sciences (Citro and Michael, 1995) and incorporates detailed data about fair market rents over the period of 1999-2007 for Los Angeles County from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), 2007). Appendix G.1 of the HUD report contains a detailed description of the method used to derive the low-income definition.

To establish context for this environmental justice analysis, race and ethnicity (i.e., minority) and income characteristics of the population residing in the vicinity of the proposed Project were reviewed. Table 4-1 presents population, minority, and low-income status from the 2000 Census and the Los Angeles City Planning Department for Wilmington, San Pedro, Los Angeles County, and city of Los Angeles, and California. The table also presents similar data for other cities in the general vicinity of the Port. Significant unavoidable impacts from the proposed Project could potentially affect areas within a one-mile radius of the proposed Project site, and thus is considered the affected area. The affected area includes portions of San Pedro and Terminal Island.

Table 4-1 shows that within Wilmington (as the neighborhood is defined by the Los Angeles Planning Department), minorities constitute 87.1 percent of the population and low-income persons constitute 32.2 percent of the population. Within the San Pedro community, minorities constitute 55.3 percent of the population and low-income persons constitute 22.5 percent of the population. Thus, the communities closest to the Project site represent a *minority population concentration* under CEQ guidance, which indicates such a concentration exists if the percent exceeds 50 percent, and the Wilmington community also represents a *low-income population concentration* because the low-income population exceeds the city percentage of 29.1 percent.

¹ 2000 Census data is used in this analysis because community-level information from the 2010 Census is not currently available.

Table 4-1: Minority and Low-Income Populations

Area	Total Population	Percent Minority Population	Percent Low- Income Population (1.25% of poverty level)	
California	33,871,648	53.4	19.2	
Los Angeles County	9,519,338	69.1	23.9	
City of Los Angeles	3,694,834	70.4	29.1	
San Pedro	76,028	55.3	22.5	
Wilmington	72,215	87.1	32.2	
Nearby Cities				
Carson	89,730	88.0	13.4	
Lomita	20,046	46.4	15.5	
Long Beach	461,522	66.9	29.8	
Palos Verdes Estates	13,340	23.9	2.2	
Rancho Palos Verdes	41,145	36.9	3.5	
Rolling Hills	1,871	23.56	1.3	
Rolling Hills Estates	7,676	29.4	3.3	
Torrance	137,946	47.6	8.8	
West Carson	21,138	70.7	13.3	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

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4.3 Applicable Regulations

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11 12 In 1994, in response to growing concern that minority and/or low-income populations bear a disproportionate amount of adverse health and environmental effects, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, formally focusing federal agency attention on these issues. The executive order contains a general directive that states that "each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations."

Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in

Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

1 2	California Government Code Sections 65041 – 65049; Public Resources Code Sections 71110 - 71116
3 4 5	Environmental justice is defined by California state law as "the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies."
6 7 8 9 10	The California Public Resources Code Section 71113 states that the mission of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) includes ensuring that it conducts any activities that substantially affect human health or the environment in a manner that ensures the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and income levels, including minority populations and low-income populations of the state.
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	As part of its mission, Cal/EPA was required to develop a model environmental justice mission statement for its boards, departments, and offices. Cal/EPA was asked to develop a working group on environmental justice to assist it in identifying any policy gaps or obstacles impeding the achievement of environmental justice. An advisory committee including representatives of numerous state agencies was established to assist the working group pursuant to the development of a Cal/EPA intra-agency strategy for addressing environmental justice. California Public Resources Code Section 71110 – 71116 charges the Cal/EPA with the following responsibilities.
19 20 21 22	 Conduct programs, policies, and activities that substantially affect human health or the environment in a manner that ensures the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and income levels, including minority populations and low- income populations of the state.
23 24 25 26	 Promote enforcement of all health and environmental statuses within Cal/EPA's jurisdiction in a manner that ensures the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and income levels, including minority populations and low-income populations of the state.
27 28	• Ensure greater public participation in the agency's development, adoption, and implementation of environmental regulations and policies.
29 30 31	 Improve research and data collection for programs within the agency relating to the health and environment of minority populations and low-income populations of the state.
32	 Coordinate efforts and share information with the USEPA.
33 34	 Identify differential patterns of consumption of natural resources among people of different socio-economic classifications for programs within the agency.
35 36 37	 Consult with and review any information received from the Working Group on Environmental Justice pursuant to developing an agency-wide strategy for Cal/EPA.
38 39	• Develop a model environmental justice mission statement for Cal/EPA's boards, departments, and offices.
40 41 42	 Consult with, review, and evaluate any information received from the Working Group on Environmental Justice pursuant to the development of its model environmental justice mission statement.

Develop an agency-wide strategy to identify and address any gaps in existing 1 2 programs, policies, or activities that may impede the achievement of 3 environmental justice. 4 California Government Code Sections 65040 – 65040.12 identify the Governor's Office 5 of Planning and Research (OPR) as the comprehensive state agency responsible for long-6 range planning and development. Among its responsibilities, the OPR is tasked with 7 serving as the coordinating agency in state government for environmental justice issues. 8 Specifically, the OPR is required to consult with the Cal/EPA, State Resources Agency, 9 the Working Group on Environmental Justice, and other state agencies as appropriate, 10 and share information with the CEO, USEPA, and other federal agencies as appropriate 11 to ensure consistency. 12 Cal/EPA released its final Intra-Agency Environmental Justice Strategy in August 2004 13 (California Environmental Protection Agency, 2004). The document sets forth the agency's broad vision for integrating environmental justice into the programs, policies, 14 15 and activities of its departments. It contains a series of goals, including the integration of environmental justice into the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement 16 of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. 17 18 City of Los Angeles General Plan 19 The City of Los Angeles General Plan has adopted environmental justice policies as 20 outline in the Framework Element of the Transportation Element; these policies are summarized below (City of Los Angeles, 2010). The Framework Element is a "strategy 21 22 for long-term growth which sets a citywide context to guide the update of the community 23 plan and citywide elements." 24 The Framework Element includes a policy to "assure the fair treatment of people of all 25 races, cultures, incomes, and education levels with respect to the development, 26 implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies, 27 including affirmative efforts to inform and involve environmental groups, especially 28 environmental justice groups, in early planning stages through notification and two-way 29 communication." 30 The Transportation Element includes a policy to "assure the fair and equitable treatment 31 of people of all races, cultures, incomes, and education levels with respect to the 32 development and implementation of citywide transportation policies and programs, 33 including affirmative efforts to inform and involve environmental groups, especially 34 environmental justice groups, in the planning and monitoring process through notification and two-way communication." 35 36 The City of Los Angeles also has committed to the Compact for Environmental Justice, 37 which was adopted by the City's Environmental Affairs Department as the city's

project include the following:

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foundation for a sustainable urban environment. Statements relevant to the proposed

All people in Los Angeles are entitled to equal access to public open space and 1 2 recreation, clean water, and uncontaminated neighborhoods. 3 All planning and regulatory processes must involve residents and community 4 representatives in decision making from state to finish. 5 South Coast Air Quality Management District: Environmental Justice Program 6 In 1997, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) adopted a set of 7 guiding principles on environmental justice, addressing the rights of area citizens to clean 8 air, the expectation of government safeguards for public health, and access to scientific 9 findings concerning public health. Subsequent follow-up plans and initiatives led to the 10 SCAOMD Board's approval in 2003-04 of an Environmental Justice Workplan. 11 SCAQMD intends to update its workplan as needed to reflect ongoing and new 12 initiatives. 13 SCAQMD's environmental justice program is intended to "ensure that everyone has the 14 right to equal protection from air pollution and fair access to the decision making process that works to improve the quality of air within their communities." Environmental justice 15 is defined by SCAQMD as "equitable environmental policymaking and enforcement to 16 17 protect the health of all residents, regardless of age, culture, ethnicity, gender, race, 18 socioeconomic status, or geographic location, from the health effects of air pollution." 4.4 Assessment 19 20 Although not required by CEQA, the following assessment of potential disproportionate 21 environmental effects to low-income or minority populations is consistent with the 22 environmental justice guidelines for NEPA in the federal document Environmental 23 Justice: Guidance Under the National Environmental Policy Act (CEQ, 1997). 4.4.1 Methodology 24 25 To identify whether a proposed action is likely to have disproportionately high and 26 adverse human health or environmental effects on low-income or minority populations 27 (i.e., environmental justice impacts), demographic data were gathered for the potential 28 impact area. For the proposed Project, the U.S. Census Tract group data for all census 29 tracts that fall within a radius of one mile from the proposed Project boundaries was 30 gathered. As described previously, the one mile distance represents the area within 31 which significant unavoidable impacts from the proposed Project could potentially occur. 32 Low-income populations are defined as census tracts with a higher percentage of the 33 population below the 125 percent of the poverty level than the City of Los Angeles as a 34 whole (29.1 percent), as identified in the 2000 U.S. Census. Minority populations are 35 defined as block groups with greater than 50 percent non-Caucasian populations, as 36 identified in the 2000 U.S. Census. 37 The purpose of this environmental justice analysis was to identify whether there would be 38 any high and adverse effects as a result of the proposed ALBS improvements. The 39 environmental analyses prepared for this Draft EIR were reviewed to determine which

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mitigation measures were implemented.

environmental or human health effects would remain significant after proposed

There are five census tracts located within a one-mile radius of the Project site boundaries as shown on Figure 4-1. The proposed Project is located in Census Tract 2961, which includes the portion of Terminal Island within the boundaries of the Port of Los Angeles. Census Tract 2961 has a population of approximately 1,434, which is primarily made of up of the population on Reservation Point, which includes a federal correctional institution and housing for prison wardens and U.S. Coast Guard personnel. The population within the Port also includes those living in vessels moored at the Port marinas (liveaboards). As shown in Table 4-2 below, census Tracts 2961, 2962.10, and 2962.20 have a minority population over 50 percent and exceed the City of Los Angeles's percentage of low-income population (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).

Table 4-2: Minority and Low-Income Characteristics in the Vicinity of the Proposed Project Site

Census Tract	Total Population	Percent Minority	Percent Low-Income
2961	1,434	54.11%	30.97%
2962.10	2,858	62.84%	42.94%
2962.20	3,605	63.91%	62.69%
2971.10	4,547	46.40%	48.12%
2971.20	3,358	45.44%	39.65%
Total	15,802	53.87%	48.43%

U.S. Census Bureau Census, 2000

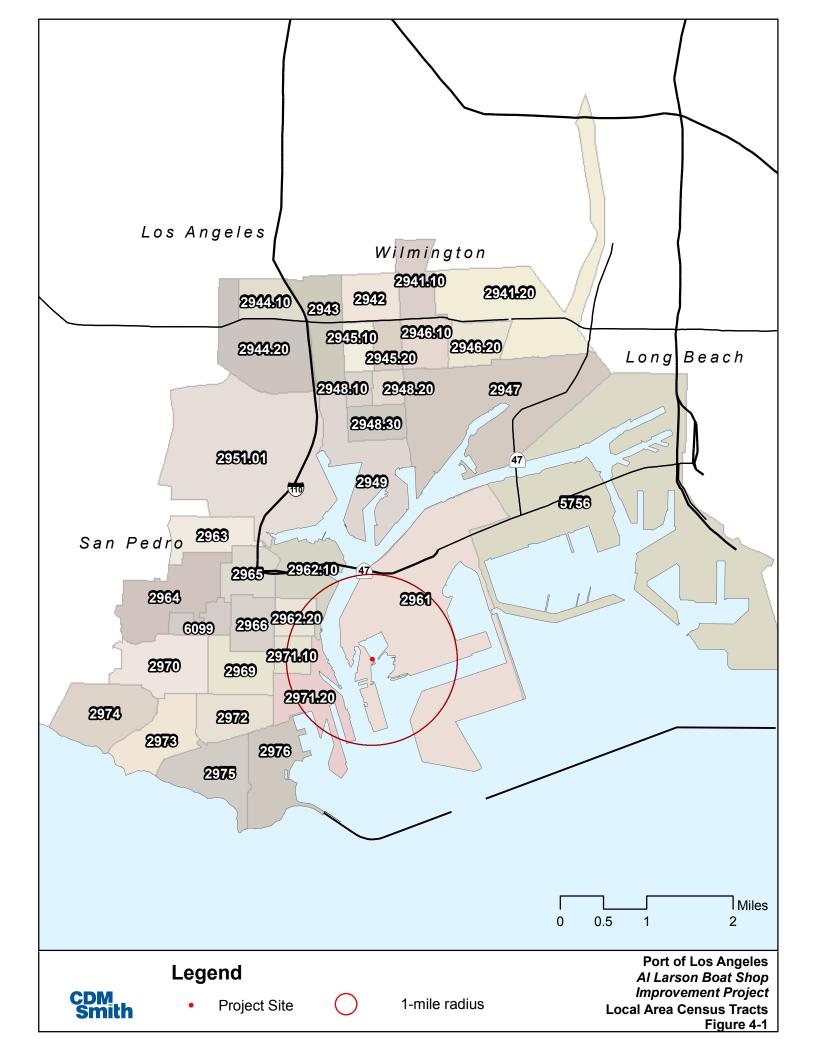
Based on the above information, it is concluded that the population within one mile of the proposed Project site is predominantly nonwhite, and exceeds the City's average poverty level.

4.4.2 Assessment of Proposed Project and Cumulative Effects

Individual impacts associated with the proposed Project are described for each specific resource in Chapter 3, Environmental Analysis, and proposed Project contributions to cumulative impacts are presented in Chapter 5, Cumulative Analysis. This section provides a summary of unavoidable significant impacts resulting from the proposed Project and identifies those that would represent disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority and low-income populations.

The following unavoidable significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed Project:

• Impacts AQ-1 and AQ-2- Project construction would result in significant ambient air quality impacts during Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3. Residual air quality impacts would be temporary during construction activities, but would result in significant ambient air quality concentrations impacts in the immediate vicinity of the proposed Project area, specifically Fish Harbor and the northern portion of Reservation Point. This impact would affect Census Tract 2961 which



is comprised of low income and minority population groups, including residents at Reservation Point (including federal correctional institution inmates, warden housing and U.S. Coast Guard housing) and the liveaboards in the Al Larson Marina. Therefore, the proposed Project would result in a disproportionately high and adverse effect on minority and low-income populations.

Mitigation Measures - MM AQ-1 through MM AQ-6

Determination After Mitigation – Mitigation measures would reduce potential air quality and health risk impacts associated with construction, however impacts after mitigation would remain significant and unavoidable. Therefore Impacts AQ-1 and AQ-2 would result in a disproportionately high and adverse effect on minority and low-income populations.

• Impact AQ- 4 - Project operation would exceed SCAQMD operational thresholds impacts for NO₂, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5} in the immediate vicinity of the proposed Project area. Therefore the proposed Project would result in a disproportionately high and adverse effect on minority and low-income populations.

Mitigation Measures – None available

Determination After Mitigation – The main source of NOx emissions is the air compressors used during spray coating operations. The air compressors must be portable and cannot feasibly be replaced with electric units and no other feasible methods to reduce emissions were identified. As a result, no mitigation measures are proposed to reduce NO₂ emissions and the impact would remain significant and unavoidable. Therefore Impact AQ-4 would result in a disproportionately high and adverse effect on minority and low-income populations.

• Impact AQ-6 - Project construction would result in significant residential cancer and acute residential and occupational health risk impacts at receptors near the Project boundary. The peak residential impact occurs at the liveaboards directly to the south of the proposed Project within Census Tract 2961. The maximum occupational impact occurs at a marine fueling station (currently operated by ExxonMobil/General Petroleum) directly north of the Project site, which is also within Census Tract 2961. Census Tract 2961 is comprised of low income and minority population groups; therefore, the proposed Project would result in a disproportionately high and adverse effect on minority and low-income populations.

Mitigation Measures – MM AQ-1 through MM AQ-6

Determination After Mitigation – Mitigation measures MM AQ-1 through MM AQ-6 would reduce potential cancer risk air quality and health risk impacts associated with construction, however the impacts would remain significant for the area within 492 feet southwest of the Project boundary in Census Tract 2961, which includes the liveaboards, and immediately to the north of the proposed Project, which includes the employees at the marine fueling station (ExxonMobil/GP site). Therefore, Impact AQ-6 would result in a disproportionately high and adverse effect on minority and low-income populations.

Impact AQ-8 - Project construction would result in significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions impacts. However GHGs do not have localized impacts, the

1 effect of GHG emissions is realized on a global scale. GHGs would therefore not 2 disproportionately affect minority and low-income populations because the effect 3 of GHG emissions is global. 4 Mitigation Measures – MM AQ-7 through MM AQ-10 5 **Determination After Mitigation** – Emissions of GHGs would remain 6 significant and unavoidable after mitigation, but impacts would not 7 disproportionately affect minority and low-income populations. 8 Impact CUL-2 – Project construction would require the demolition of multiple 9 structures on the site, two of which are historic structures: the Office and 10 Workshop and the Machine Shop. Because these buildings qualify as historical 11 resources as defined by CEQA and may qualify for listing as a City of Los 12 Angeles HCM, the demolition would represent a significant impact to an historic 13 resource. The buildings are potentially historic given direct association with 14 events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of 15 California's history (the diesel engine) and cultural heritage (fishing, tugboat, and 16 vachting industries). Further the Machine Shop embodies the distinctive 17 characteristics of the maritime industrial building type, the mid-twentieth century 18 period, from the late 1930s until the late 1950s, and West Coast region. This loss 19 of historic resources would not disproportionately affect the low-income and minority populations within one mile of the proposed Project site. 20 21 Mitigation Measures – MM CUL-2 and MM CUL-3 22 **Determination After Mitigation** – Impacts on historical resources would remain 23 significant and unavoidable after mitigation, but impacts would not 24 disproportionately affect minority and low-income populations. 25 **Impact NOS-1** – Temporary noise generated during certain construction 26 activities would have unavoidable significant impacts on sensitive receptors in 27 Fish Harbor (dredging and pile driving) and Reservation Point (pile driving). 28 This impact would affect residents in Census Tract 2961 which is comprised of low income and minority population groups. Therefore, the temporary 29 construction noise impacts would cause disproportionately high and adverse 30 31 effects on minority and low-income populations. 32 Mitigation Measures – MM NOS-1 through MM NOS-3 33 **Determination After Mitigation** – Mitigation measures would reduce potential 34 noise impacts associated with construction, however impacts after mitigation 35 would remain significant and unavoidable. Therefore Impact NOS-1 of the 36 proposed Project would result in a disproportionately high and adverse effect on 37 minority and low-income populations. 38

Public Outreach 4.5

CEQA requires that all state and local government agencies consider the environmental consequences of projects over which they have discretionary authority before taking action on them. The purpose of this Draft EIR is to inform agencies and the public of significant environmental effects associated with the proposed Project, to describe and evaluate reasonable alternatives to the Project, and to propose mitigation measures that would avoid or reduce the significant effects of the proposed Project.

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The LAHD has made considerable efforts to provide public outreach, beyond what is minimally required by the CEQA Guidelines. The Notice of Preparation/Initial Study (NOP/IS) and Draft EIR are presented at public meetings at locations and times convenient for the affected community.

Notification of document availability is extensive and utilizes a variety of media. CEQA notices are placed in several newspapers, including papers such as the Los Angeles Times, Daily Breeze, La Opinion, Sentinel, Long Beach Press Telegram, and Metropolitan News. Meeting notices are sent to all active community organizations and anyone who has requested to be on the LAHD CEQA mailing list. A free copy of documents is provided to community organizations.

The LAHD also consults with community groups through the Port Community Advisory Committee (PCAC), a special stakeholder advisory committee of the Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners. This committee, which meets monthly, includes representatives from a number of community groups. The PCAC also has subcommittees and focus groups that address a broad range of environmental issues, including studies on those impacts that might result in disproportionate impacts on relevant populations. Greater detail regarding PCAC involvement and Port outreach is available in Appendix B.

4.5.1 Alternative Forms of Distribution

The Draft EIR for this Project has been distributed directly to numerous agencies, organizations, and interested groups and persons for comment during the formal review period. The Draft EIR has also been made available for review at the LAHD, Environmental Management Division, and at three Los Angeles public library branches: Central, San Pedro, and Wilmington. In addition to the printed copies, the Draft EIR also is available at no cost on Compact Disk and in electronic format on the LAHD website at:

http://www.portoflosangeles.org/environment_pn.htm

4.5.2 Spanish Translation

With a large Hispanic population adjacent to the Port, meeting notifications and summary documents of major CEQA documents (such as a readers guide) will be provided in Spanish as well as English. The Readers Guide for this Draft EIR is available in a Spanish translation. The purpose is to assist Spanish-speaking members of the local community in understanding the purpose of the Draft EIR, project overview, project description, environmental impacts, alternatives to the proposed Project, areas of controversy, and issues to be resolved.

The LAHD also provides an interpreter at public meetings, where required, and publishes its regular community newsletter, *The Main Channel*, in both English and Spanish.

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