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April 14, 2009

JANICE HAHN  
Councilwoman  
Fifteenth District

S. David Freeman  
President, Board of Harbor Commissioners  
Port of Los Angeles  
425 S. Palos Verdes Street  
San Pedro, CA 90731

Dear President Freeman: *David*

**RE: CHANNEL DEEPENING SEIS/SEIR- MASTERPLAN AMENDMENT EFFECT ON  
SOUTHWEST MARINE ADAPTIVE RE-USE, GAMBOL INDUSTRIES**

I am writing you to request that the Board of Harbor Commissioners delay action on the Channel Deepening Project SEIR, which is on your agenda for this Thursday, April 16.

While channel deepening is an important component of the maintenance at the Port, I am concerned that certain elements of the project, most notably the filling in of the dry-docks at Berth 240Z, would forever prevent the future use of this facility for ship repairs and ship building and would deprive the City and Port of Los Angeles the opportunity for new jobs and revenue. These piers fill a vital need and are used every day by one or more large barges and tugs needing lay-over space.

As you may know, the current caretaker of Southwest Marine, Gambol Industries, is in the process of proposing the development of a ship repair and building facility on the site. I was very impressed with the LA Economic Development Corporation's recent report on the economic impacts of this project. It would provide jobs for 440 workers in the first year alone and provide over 2,000 good-paying jobs by their fifth year, and generate over \$200 million in yearly revenue. Investing in alternative revenue sources makes perfect sense, and this is just the kind of revenue diversification that the Port of Los Angeles needs especially with the recent downturn in cargo volumes.

This project certainly deserves some further consideration and review by the Port, and for that reason request that the Board delay its action on the Channel Deepening EIR, and request staff to look at alternatives that may include a partial fill of those slips. In addition, I hope that the Board will take another look at using this location for economic opportunities including this proposal by Gambol Industries.

Sincerely,

*Janice Hahn*  
JANICE HAHN  
Councilwoman, 15<sup>th</sup> District  
City of Los Angeles

cc: Board of Harbor Commissioners  
Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa

