APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

This form should be completed by following the instructions provided in Section IV of the JD Form Instructional Guidebook.

SEO A.	CTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD): May 2012
B.	DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER:Los Angeles, I-710 Corridor Project, SPL-2008-00934
C.	PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Drainage 13 State: CA County/parish/borough: Los Angeles City: Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. N 33.9443° Long. W -118.1727°
D.	REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY): Office (Desk) Determination. Date: April 2, 2012 Field Determination. Date(s):
	CTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.
revi	Are no "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the iew area. [Required] Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide. Waters are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce Explain:
В.	CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.
The	ere Are "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area. [Required]
	1. Waters of the U.S. a. Indicate presence of waters of U.S. in review area (check all that apply): TNWs, including territorial seas Wetlands adjacent to TNWs Relatively permanent waters² (RPWs) that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs Non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs Wetlands directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs Impoundments of jurisdictional waters Isolated (interstate or intrastate) waters, including isolated wetlands
	h Identify (ectimate) size of waters of the U.S. in the review area.

Non-wetland waters: 1,350 linear feet: 35width (ft) and/or 0.98 acres.

Elevation of established OHWM (if known): .

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):³

Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional. Explain: .

Wetlands: 0 acres.

c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on: Established by OHWM.

¹ Boxes checked below shall be supported by completing the appropriate sections in Section III below.

² For purposes of this form, an RPW is defined as a tributary that is not a TNW and that typically flows year-round or has continuous flow at least "seasonally" (e.g., typically 3 months).

Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over TNWs and wetlands adjacent to TNWs. If the aquatic resource is a TNW, complete Section III.A.1 and Section III.D.1. only; if the aquatic resource is a wetland adjacent to a TNW, complete Sections III.A.1 and 2 and Section III.D.1.; otherwise, see Section III.B below.

1. TNW

Identify TNW: .

Summarize rationale supporting determination: .

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is "adjacent": .

B. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRIBUTARY (THAT IS NOT A TNW) AND ITS ADJACENT WETLANDS (IF ANY):

This section summarizes information regarding characteristics of the tributary and its adjacent wetlands, if any, and it helps determine whether or not the standards for jurisdiction established under *Rapanos* have been met.

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over non-navigable tributaries of TNWs where the tributaries are "relatively permanent waters" (RPWs), i.e. tributaries that typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically 3 months). A wetland that directly abuts an RPW is also jurisdictional. If the aquatic resource is not a TNW, but has year-round (perennial) flow, skip to Section III.D.2. If the aquatic resource is a wetland directly abutting a tributary with perennial flow, skip to Section III.D.4.

A wetland that is adjacent to but that does not directly abut an RPW requires a significant nexus evaluation. Corps districts and EPA regions will include in the record any available information that documents the existence of a significant nexus between a relatively permanent tributary that is not perennial (and its adjacent wetlands if any) and a traditional navigable water, even though a significant nexus finding is not required as a matter of law.

If the waterbody⁴ is not an RPW, or a wetland directly abutting an RPW, a JD will require additional data to determine if the waterbody has a significant nexus with a TNW. If the tributary has adjacent wetlands, the significant nexus evaluation must consider the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands. This significant nexus evaluation that combines, for analytical purposes, the tributary and all of its adjacent wetlands is used whether the review area identified in the JD request is the tributary, or its adjacent wetlands, or both. If the JD covers a tributary with adjacent wetlands, complete Section III.B.1 for the tributary, Section III.B.2 for any onsite wetlands, and Section III.B.3 for all wetlands adjacent to that tributary, both onsite and offsite. The determination whether a significant nexus exists is determined in Section III.C below.

1. Characteristics of non-TNWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNW

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: 834 **square miles** Drainage area: **Pick List**

Average annual rainfall: 12–14 inches Average annual snowfall: 0 inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

Tributary flows directly into TNW.

Tributary flows through **Pick List** tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are 1 (or less) river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** river miles from RPW.

Project waters are 1 (or less) aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from RPW.

Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: .

⁴ Note that the Instructional Guidebook contains additional information regarding swales, ditches, washes, and erosional features generally and in the arid West.

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: This unvegetated rectangular concrete channel conveys runoff flows from the north directly into the Los Angeles River. Tributary stream order, if known: . General Tributary Characteristics (check all that apply): Tributary is: ☐ Natural Artificial (man-made). Explain: Rectangular concrete channel. Manipulated (man-altered). Explain: . **Tributary** properties with respect to top of bank (estimate): Average width: 35 feet Average depth: 1-2 feet Average side slopes: Vertical (1:1 or less). Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply): Concrete Silts ☐ Sands ☐ Cobbles ☐ Gravel ☐ Muck Bedrock ☐ Vegetation. Type/% cover: Other. Explain: . Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain: . Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: . Tributary geometry: Relatively straight Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): <1 % Tributary provides for: **Ephemeral flow** Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: 6-10 Describe flow regime: Urban runoff. Other information on duration and volume: Surface flow is: Confined. Characteristics: . Subsurface flow: Pick List. Explain findings: . Dye (or other) test performed: . Tributary has (check all that apply): ☐ Bed and banks \square OHWM⁶ (check all indicators that apply): clear, natural line impressed on the bank the presence of litter and debris changes in the character of soil destruction of terrestrial vegetation shelving the presence of wrack line vegetation matted down, bent, or absent sediment sorting leaf litter disturbed or washed away sediment deposition multiple observed or predicted flow events water staining abrupt change in plant community other (list): ☐ Discontinuous OHWM.⁷ Explain: If factors other than the OHWM were used to determine lateral extent of CWA jurisdiction (check all that apply): High Tide Line indicated by: Mean High Water Mark indicated by: oil or scum line along shore objects survey to available datum; fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore) physical markings;

(iii) Chemical Characteristics:

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vegetation lines/changes in vegetation types.

physical markings/characteristics

tidal gauges other (list):

⁵ Flow route can be described by identifying, e.g., tributary a, which flows through the review area, to flow into tributary b, which then flows into TNW. ⁶A natural or man-made discontinuity in the OHWM does not necessarily sever jurisdiction (e.g., where the stream temporarily flows underground, or where the OHWM has been removed by development or agricultural practices). Where there is a break in the OHWM that is unrelated to the waterbody's flow regime (e.g., flow over a rock outcrop or through a culvert), the agencies will look for indicators of flow above and below the break. ⁷Thid

 $\label{eq:characterize} \begin{tabular}{ll} Characterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily film; water quality; general watershed characteristics, etc.). \\ Explain: Water color and quality is unknown; no water was present during the field visit conducted by the consultant on behalf of the applicant. \\ Identify specific pollutants, if known: N/A . \\ \end{tabular}$

	(iv)]	Biological Characteristics. Channel supports (check all that apply): Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): . Wetland fringe. Characteristics: . Habitat for: Federally Listed species. Explain findings: . Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: . Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: . Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: .
2.	Char	racteristics of wetlands adjacent to non-TNW that flow directly or indirectly into TNW
		Physical Characteristics: (a) General Wetland Characteristics: Properties: Wetland size: acres Wetland type. Explain: . Wetland quality. Explain: . Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: .
	•	(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW: Flow is: Pick List. Explain: . Surface flow is: Pick List Characteristics: . Subsurface flow: Pick List. Explain findings: . Dye (or other) test performed: .
	,	(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW: ☐ Directly abutting ☐ Not directly abutting ☐ Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: . ☐ Ecological connection. Explain: . ☐ Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: .
	((d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW Project wetlands are Pick List river miles from TNW. Project waters are Pick List aerial (straight) miles from TNW. Flow is from: Pick List. Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the Pick List floodplain.
	(Chemical Characteristics: Characterize wetland system (e.g., water color is clear, brown, oil film on surface; water quality; general watershed characteristics; etc.). Explain: Identify specific pollutants, if known:
	(iii)]	Biological Characteristics. Wetland supports (check all that apply): Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width): Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain: . Habitat for: Federally Listed species. Explain findings: . Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: . Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: . Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: .
3.		racteristics of all wetlands adjacent to the tributary (if any) All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: Pick List Approximately () acres in total are being considered in the cumulative analysis.

Directly abuts? (Y/N) Size (in acres) Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: .

C. SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION

A significant nexus analysis will assess the flow characteristics and functions of the tributary itself and the functions performed by any wetlands adjacent to the tributary to determine if they significantly affect the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of a TNW. For each of the following situations, a significant nexus exists if the tributary, in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, has more than a speculative or insubstantial effect on the chemical, physical and/or biological integrity of a TNW. Considerations when evaluating significant nexus include, but are not limited to the volume, duration, and frequency of the flow of water in the tributary and its proximity to a TNW, and the functions performed by the tributary and all its adjacent wetlands. It is not appropriate to determine significant nexus based solely on any specific threshold of distance (e.g. between a tributary and its adjacent wetland or between a tributary and the TNW). Similarly, the fact an adjacent wetland lies within or outside of a floodplain is not solely determinative of significant nexus.

Size (in acres)

Draw connections between the features documented and the effects on the TNW, as identified in the *Rapanos* Guidance and discussed in the Instructional Guidebook. Factors to consider include, for example:

- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to carry pollutants or flood waters to TNWs, or to reduce the amount of pollutants or flood waters reaching a TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), provide habitat and lifecycle support functions for fish and other species, such as feeding, nesting, spawning, or rearing young for species that are present in the TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to transfer nutrients and organic carbon that support downstream foodwebs?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have other relationships to the physical, chemical, or biological integrity of the TNW?

Note: the above list of considerations is not inclusive and other functions observed or known to occur should be documented below:

Significant nexus findings for non-RPW that has no adjacent wetlands and flows directly or indirectly into TNWs. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary itself, then go to Section III.D: Drainage 13 is an unvegetated rectangular concrete channel located at the proposed extension of Southern Avenue and Frontage Road, west of I-710. Drainage 13 is approximately 1,350-feet-long and 35feet-wide and conveys urban runoff flows from the north into the downstream TNW. This drainage is located within the Los Angeles River Watershed, which encompasses approximately 834 square miles and generates annual peak flows ranging from 1,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) in dry years to approximately 130,000 cfs during major storm events. The Los Angeles River itself traverses approximately 51 miles, with an elevation drop of about 8,000 feet from its high point at Mt. Waterman to its lowest point at sea level where it outlets to the Pacific Ocean in Long Beach, California. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works has documented that due to the large number of dams occurring in the upper San Gabriel Watershed (640 square miles), storm flows in the San Gabriel River are diverted to the Los Angeles River through the Rio Hondo Bypass channel. As a result of the larger flood events and associated sedimentation generated by the San Gabriel River Watershed, the receiving valley side slopes are very active environments in terms of debris production and erosion. Past storm events in the San Gabriel River Watershed have resulted in substantial sedimentation in existing reservoirs and hence, the Los Angeles River can be similarly affected by large amounts of sediment in a single storm event. Approximately 48 miles of the Los Angeles River's flow path are channelized with either fully-lined concrete or a soft bottom invert. Drainage 13 is located within the lower portion of the Los Angeles River Watershed where according to information reported by Weston Solutions, Inc. (2005),

approximately 32% of the Los Angeles River Watershed consists of impervious areas. The two dominant land uses within the watershed are vacant/forest or open space land (40%) and residential (37%). The urbanization, population density and impervious areas are greatest in the lower portion of the watershed. Many sources of pollution exist within the Los Angeles River Watershed, including anthropogenic and non-anthropogenic sources. The Los Angeles River is identified as a Clean Water Act Section 303(d) impaired water for pH, ammonia, a number of metals, coliform, trash, scum, algae, oil, chlorpyrifos as well as other pesticides, and volatile organics. Bacteria, one of several TMDLs for the Los Angeles River Watershed, originates from point and non-point sources in which each of these sources contributes to the elevated levels of bacteria indicator densities in the Los Angeles River Watershed during dry and wet weather. Based on data from the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board (LARWQCB), discharges from storm drains and tributaries contribute approximately 13% of the flow in the Los Angeles River. However, discharges from storm drains are estimated to contribute almost 90% of the E. coli loading from point sources. Similarly, trash in the Los Angeles River is causing impairment of beneficial uses, including but not limited to, water contact recreation, non-contact water recreation, and wildlife habitat. The LARWQCB indicates stormwater discharge is the major source of trash in the river. Non-point sources are a de minimus source of trash loading to the Los Angeles River. Flow volumes and discharge data specific to this unnamed drainage ditch (Drainage 13) are unknown, although they are expected to be relatively small in relation to the volumes from larger tributaries entering the TNW at upstream and downstream locations. Nevertheless, due to the drainage's close proximity and connection to the Los Angeles River (an approximate flow distance of 200 linear feet to the Los Angeles River), Drainage 13 has the capacity to carry pollutants and/or flood waters to the downstream TNW and in fact, given its concrete substrate, may even further facilitate the conveyance of pollutants and contaminants to the downstream TNW. Therefore, the Corps has determined there is more than a speculative or insubstantial effect on the chemical, physical and/or biological integrity of TNWs and hence a significant nexus exists. .

- 2. Significant nexus findings for non-RPW and its adjacent wetlands, where the non-RPW flows directly or indirectly into TNWs. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:
- 3. Significant nexus findings for wetlands adjacent to an RPW but that do not directly abut the RPW. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:

D. DETERMINATIONS OF JURISDICTIONAL FINDINGS. THE SUBJECT WATERS/WETLANDS ARE (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

1.	TNWs and Adjacent Wetlands. Check all that apply and provide size estimates in review area: ☐ TNWs: linear feet width (ft), Or, acres.				
	Wetlands adjacent to TNWs: acres.				
2.	 RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Tributaries of TNWs where tributaries typically flow year-round are jurisdictional. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial: Tributaries of TNW where tributaries have continuous flow "seasonally" (e.g., typically three months each year) are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.B. Provide rationale indicating that tributary flows seasonally: 				
	Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply): Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft). Other non-wetland waters: acres. Identify type(s) of waters:				

3.	Non-RPWs ⁸ that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Waterbody that is not a TNW or an RPW, but flows directly or indirectly into a TNW, and it has a significant nexus with a TNW is jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.
	Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters within the review area (check all that apply): Tributary waters: 1,350 linear feet 35 width (ft). Other non-wetland waters: acres. Identify type(s) of waters: .
4.	Wetlands directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Wetlands directly abut RPW and thus are jurisdictional as adjacent wetlands. Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow year-round. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW: .
	Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow "seasonally." Provide data indicating that tributary is seasonal in Section III.B and rationale in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW:
	Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.
5.	Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Wetlands that do not directly abut an RPW, but when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisidictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.
	Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.
6.	Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Wetlands adjacent to such waters, and have when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.
	Provide estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.
7.	As a general rule, the impoundment of a jurisdictional tributary remains jurisdictional. Demonstrate that impoundment was created from "waters of the U.S.," or Demonstrate that water meets the criteria for one of the categories presented above (1-6), or Demonstrate that water is isolated with a nexus to commerce (see E below).
DE SUC	DLATED [INTERSTATE OR INTRA-STATE] WATERS, INCLUDING ISOLATED WETLANDS, THE USE, GRADATION OR DESTRUCTION OF WHICH COULD AFFECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE, INCLUDING ANY CH WATERS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY): 10 which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes. from which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce. which are or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce. Interstate isolated waters. Explain: Other factors. Explain:
	ntify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination:
Pro	vide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

E.

 ⁸See Footnote # 3.
 ⁹ To complete the analysis refer to the key in Section III.D.6 of the Instructional Guidebook.
 ¹⁰ Prior to asserting or declining CWA jurisdiction based solely on this category, Corps Districts will elevate the action to Corps and EPA HQ for review consistent with the process described in the Corps/EPA Memorandum Regarding CWA Act Jurisdiction Following Rapanos.

	☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft). ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. ☐ Identify type(s) of waters: . ☐ Wetlands: acres.
F.	NON-JURISDICTIONAL WATERS, INCLUDING WETLANDS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY): If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements. Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce. Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in "SWANCC," the review area would have been regulated based solely on the "Migratory Bird Rule" (MBR). Waters do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain: Other: (explain, if not covered above):
	Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the <u>sole</u> potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment (check all that apply): Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet width (ft). Lakes/ponds: acres. Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: . Wetlands: acres.
	Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply): Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet, width (ft). Lakes/ponds: acres. Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: . Wetlands: acres.
SE	CTION IV: DATA SOURCES.
A.	SUPPORTING DATA. Data reviewed for JD (check all that apply - checked items shall be included in case file and, where checked and requested, appropriately reference sources below):
	 Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant: Project maps, May 2012 . □ Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant. □ Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
	☐ Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report. ☐ Data sheets prepared by the Corps: . ☐ Corps navigable waters' study: . ☐ U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: . ☐ USGS NHD data. ☐ USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
	U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: 7.5', South Gate, California.
	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: USDA 1969 Report and General Soil Map, Los Angeles County, USDA, SCS. National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: . State/Local wetland inventory map(s): . FEMA/FIRM maps: . 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodectic Vertical Datum of 1929) Photographs: ☑ Aerial (Name & Date): Digital Globe, 2008. or ☐ Other (Name & Date): . Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: .
	Applicable/supporting case law: Applicable/supporting scientific literature:
	Other information (please specify): Jurisdictional Delineation Report Interstate 710 Corridor Project, May 2012 (LSA Associates). Other information and reference materials include:

- Modeling Analysis for the Development of TMDLs for Metals in the Los Angeles River and Tributaries, dated July 2004;

- Final Report, Los Angeles River Watershed Management Area Plan (Weston Solutions, Inc., August 2005);
- California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, Attachment A to Resolution No. R10-007, Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan -- LA Region to incorporate the LA River Watershed Bacteria TMDL, dated July 9, 2010; and
- http://dpw.lacounty.gov.

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD: