Notes for August 17, 2023

Southern California Dredged Material Management Team (SC-DMMT) Off-Cycle Meeting

US Army Corps of Engineers - Los Angeles District (2 pages)

Attendance (WebEx):

Stephen Estes (Corps Regulatory)

Lisa Mangione (Corps Regulatory)

Theresa Stevens (Corps Regulatory)

Melissa Scianni (USEPA)

Jules Kelly (CCC)

April Woods (CCRWQCB)

Amanda Canepa (CDFW)

Kris Vardas (Pacific Gas & Electric)

Trevor Rebel (Pacific Gas & Electric)

Josh Gravenmier (Environmental Resource Management)

Project #1: 1:00 – 1:30 PM

- 1) Project name: DCPP Intake Cove Dredging Project
- 2) Applicant's name & affiliation: Kris Vardas
- 3) Project type (Regulatory/Navigation): Regulatory
- 4) Corps project manager who will attend: Lisa Mangione
- 5) Purpose/topic (draft SAP, revised SAP, SAPR): SAPR
- 6) Request for suitability determination? (y/n): Yes
- 7) Documents provided (emailed, or FTP link): SAPR emailed to the SC-DMMT distribution list on August 11, 2023
- 8) Time needed (15, 30, 45 min?): 30 minutes

Jules Kelly (CCC)- There were refusals at Cores 1 and 2. The location of Core 1 had to be adjusted. How does this affect the dredging plan?

Kris Vardas (Pacific Gas & Electric)- There is a rocky reef in that area. No dredging is planned there because it is bedrock.

Jules Kelly (CCC)- There was an arsenic and silver finding in the report that cannot be described as below USACE thresholds.

Kris Vardas (Pacific Gas & Electric)- We will provide a response on that by next Monday.

Jules Kelly (CCC)- Was there consideration of the increased fines percentage?

Kris Vardas (Pacific Gas & Electric)- Yes, pre-construction surveys and post-dredging surveys will be conducted to avoid black abalone and southern sea otter. A turbidity curtain could be problematic because it could get sucked into the intake structure. A biological assessment and a Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan will be submitted.

Jules Kelly (CCC)- If you are planning to submit a request for emergency authorization, when are you planning to do so?

Kris Vardas (Pacific Gas & Electric)- Ideally, entirely by the end of October. We may submit a request for part of the project.

Lisa Mangione (Corps)- We are expecting a permit application within the next few days.

Kris Vardas (Pacific Gas & Electric)- Yes, by tomorrow. Other documents will be submitted by the end of next week.

Melissa Scianni (USEPA)- The chemistry looked okay. Grain size is a little fine in some locations but USEPA would not object. Regarding silver and arsenic, lab reporting limits may be a little high for metals. This means that some came out as non-detect. Probably why they were caveated. You should receive a response from the lab. For us, the levels were not so high as to be a concern. No objections by USEPA to place sediment at the Morro Bay site.

April Woods (CCRWQCB)- Do you plan to use hydraulic suction dredging for the entire project?

Kris Vardas (Pacific Gas & Electric)- Yes. We considered clamshell dredging, but hydraulic dredging was selected.

Amanda Canepa (CDFW)- Why was this area not previously dredged?

Kris Vardas (Pacific Gas & Electric)- Dredging was not needed since 1985. We started observing accumulation over the last couple of years. The accumulation rate has increased.

Jules Kelly (CCC)- The October CCC Hearing is from October 11-13th.

USEPA determines the sediment to be suitable for placement. CCC determines the sediment to be suitable for placement.