



# United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Western Region  
Coastal and Marine Geology Program  
345 Middlefield Road  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
(650) 329-5011

In Reply Refer to:  
Mail Stop 999

April 12, 1999

Mr. Mark Delaplaine  
Federal Consistency Supervisor  
California Coastal Commission  
45 Fremont, Suite 2000  
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Mr. Delaplaine:

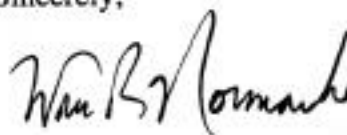
This letter pertains to a geophysical survey that the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) plans to conduct offshore Southern California, currently scheduled for a twelve-day period in June and July, 1999. I am enclosing the following four documents:

1. A Coastal Consistency Determination by the USGS concerning the proposed survey.
2. A request by the USGS to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for an Incidental Harassment Authorization under the Marine Mammals Protection Act.
3. A copy of the response submitted to NMFS addressing the questions and comments raised in your letter of March 18, 1999 to Ms. Donna Weiting.
4. A report prepared by the Cascadia Research Collective dated December, 1998, containing results of a monitoring program conducted for the USGS, during a 1998 survey that used the same equipment we plan to use this year.

This high-resolution seismic-reflection survey and similar surveys planned for future years are essential to the objectives of USGS programs (1) to evaluate seismic hazards from active nearshore faults adjacent to densely populated urban areas and (2) to provide stratigraphic control for aquifer models in the Los Angeles Basin necessary for the study and management of salt water intrusion. These studies are being conducted in cooperation with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, the Water Replenishment District of Southern California and the City of Long Beach.

We at the USGS look forward to explaining our research objectives in greater detail at the Commission meeting in May. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any other materials that we can provide the Commission prior to that time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William R. Normark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "W" and "N".

William R. Normark  
Geologist

4 Enclosures

Copy to: M. Shulters, USGS  
L. P. Muffler, USGS  
A. Alpine, USGS  
T. Casadevall, USGS  
T. Johnson, SCWRD  
W. Jackson, LACDPW  
D. Clarke, City of Long Beach