UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

April 30, 2008

Chris Mobley
CINMS Superintendent
NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
113 Harbor Way, Suite 150
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

Subject: Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS), Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, California (CEQ # 20080112)

Dear Mr. Mobley:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

Based on our review, we have rated the SDEIS as Lack of Objections (LO) (see enclosed "Summary of Rating Definitions"). EPA supports the proposed regulatory changes to revise the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) discharge regulations. The new regulations will better enable the CINMS to ensure protection of its valuable resources by preventing potentially harmful effects of sewage and graywater discharges from large ships. We commend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for their work on this project and their efforts to protect California's rich offshore marine ecosystems.

EPA appreciates the opportunity to review this SDEIS. When the Final EIS is released for public review, please send one copy to the address above (mail code: CED-2). If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 972-3846 or Ann McPherson, the lead reviewer for this project, at 415-972-3545 or mcpherson.ann@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Nova Blazej, Manager
Environmental Review Office

Enclosure: Summary of EPA Rating Definitions