



**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**  
MARINE CORPS BASE  
BOX 565010  
CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA 92056-5010

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
AC/S Fac  
11000  
**APR 11 2005**

California State Lands Commission  
Mr. Eric L. Gillies, Project manager  
100 Howe Ave, Suite 100-South  
Sacramento, CA 95825

RE: COMMENTS ON DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR DISPOSITION OF  
OFFSHORE COOLING WATER CONDUITS, SONGS UNIT 1 (SCH 2004061092)

Dear Mr. Gillies:

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Disposition of Offshore Cooling Water Conduits, SONGS Unit 1. Camp Pendleton staff has kept abreast of the plans by Southern California Edison to decommission the SONGS Unit 1, including the circulating water conduits. We have stated on numerous occasions that our concerns are the minimization of impacts on Camp Pendleton and Marine Corps training and protecting the conduits for possible future use.

The Draft EIR states that the conduits are in good condition and are expected to remain so for the foreseeable future. The EIR also lists possible suitable uses for the conduits such as an intake and outfall for a future seawater desalinization plant or a future wastewater ocean outfall for Camp Pendleton. The EIR makes it clear that these types of future use of the conduits would benefit the entire area with little construction or environmental impact. Leaving the conduits in place with minor modifications for safety also results in far less construction and environmental impacts than removing them or demolishing them in place.

We recommend that the Commission support the environmentally friendly decommissioning alternatives that cause the least disturbance to the area and maintain the integrity of the conduits and preserve them for future use.

We look forward to working with the Commission on this issue. The Camp Pendleton point of contact is Mr. Edmund L. Rogers, Facilities Manager at (760) 725-6452.

Sincerely,

R. A. EVE  
Colonel. U.S. Marine Corps  
Assistant Chief of Staff, Facilities  
By direction of  
the Commanding General

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1 **3.8 U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, April 11, 2005**

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3 3.8.1 The recommendation for preservation of the conduits for future use is noted.

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