



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Pacific OCS Region  
760 Paseo Camarillo, Suite 102  
Camarillo, CA 93010-6064

**FEB 21 2019**

Dr. Clarissa Anderson  
Executive Director  
Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System  
Scripps Institution of Oceanography  
9500 Gilman Drive, 0206  
La Jolla, CA 92093-0214

Dear Dr. Anderson:

On behalf of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) in the Pacific Region, I enthusiastically endorse the valuable data and services provided by the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego.

BOEM, in the Pacific Region, has responsibilities for leasing and plans for energy development on the outer continental shelf (OCS) in Washington, Oregon, California and Hawaii. As part of the leasing and plans processes BOEM conducts environmental analysis to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and consultations for the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Subject matter experts within BOEM utilize data provided by SCCOOS for these environmental analyses for the OCS off of California. It is important that BOEM continues to have access to Ocean Observing data for our ongoing operations.

As a science-based decision support system, the Ocean Observing System works interactively with local, state and federal agencies, resource managers, industry, policy makers, educators, scientists and the general public to provide data, models and products that advance our understanding of the current and future state of our coastal and global environment. SCCOOS focuses on coastal observations and product development to provide information necessary to address issues such as marine operations, coastal hazards, climate variability and change, and ecosystems, fisheries, and water quality

I understand that SCCOOS is funded primarily by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Sustained funding for SCCOOS will be crucial to the maintenance of the program's ocean observing network and to the continuity of the important data products and services that these observations enable. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Susan F. Zaleski  
Biological Oceanographer  
Office of Environmental Analysis