



July 21, 2015

Julie Thomas
Executive Director
Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
9500 Gilman Drive, 0214
La Jolla, CA 92093-0214

Dear Ms. Thomas:

On behalf of Tesoro Refining and Marketing, I enthusiastically endorse the valuable data and services provided by the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego in partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers funded Coastal Data Information Program (CDIP).

For more than 45 years, Tesoro has been serving the fuel transportation needs of the western United States. We are a leading independent refiner and marketer of petroleum products, committed to operating responsibly in the communities we serve. Headquartered in San Antonio, Texas, our operations extend across 18 states.

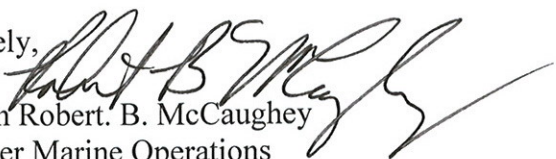
SCCOOS has been a tremendous help with our Precision Navigation system (Protide program). The data received from the wave buoy's you deployed will enable us to substantially cut our lightering offshore and reduce the overall risk of transporting oil on the West Coast. Some other economic and safety benefits include:

- Oil spill risk reduced because the oil will not be handled as many times.
- Lightering to reduce draft eliminates the need for additional vessels to call the port.
- Reduced vessel traffic reduces congestion in the port.
- Reduced risk of collision due to fewer ships in the port.
- Reduced air pollution from ships.
- More efficient use of the port infrastructure with enhanced traffic management.

As a science-based decision support system, the Ocean Observing System's work 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/CDIP focus on coastal observations and product development to provide information necessary to address issues in climate change, ecosystem preservation and management, coastal water quality, maritime operations, coastal hazards and national security.

Sustained funding 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,


Captain Robert B. McCaughey
Manager Marine Operations