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November 5, 2020

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 Pacific Marine Mammal Center (PMMC) in Laguna Beach, CA, 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.

Since 1971, PMMC has stayed true to its mission of rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing marine mammals that get stranded along 52 miles of Orange County coastline, all while inspiring ocean stewardship through research, education and collaboration.

Collaborating with institutions, such as SCCOOS, has been incredibly helpful as we evolve from a reactionary-based organization that solely responds to animal stranding calls to an organization that provides a broad base of services, including being a research partner that supports the scientific community with answering difficult questions that can broadly impact the sustainable health of our marine mammals, the ocean waters that they live in, and the eco-systems that affect us all.

Specifically, we greatly appreciate SCCOOS's collaborative work with CeNCOOS, along 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 science-based decision support products to provide information necessary to address marine operations, coastal hazards, climate variability and change, and ecosystems, fisheries, and water quality, making them a valued partner to so many organizations, including PMMC.

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,

Peter Chang

Chief Executive Officer

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