



# MAYOR REX RICHARDSON

March 4, 2024

Chairman Tom Carper  
Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Shelley Moore Capito  
Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works  
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Support for De-authorizing the East San Pedro Bay Restoration Feasibility Study with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Capito:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I write in support of de-authorizing the East San Pedro Bay Restoration Feasibility Study with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers through the Water Resources Development Act of 2024. De-authorizing the project will help to pave the way for the Port of Long Beach's (Port) Pier Wind Compensatory Mitigation Project.

The Port proposes to construct Pier Wind, a 400-acre terminal purpose-built for the staging and integration, and/or foundation fabrication of floating offshore wind turbines in the Long Beach Outer Harbor. The construction of Pier Wind will involve the creation of approximately 430 acres of new land in the Long Beach Outer Harbor. This fill project to create reclaimed land will result in the loss of soft bottom Outer Harbor habitat, and these impacts must be mitigated in accordance with State and federal regulations. The Port seeks to advance the local goals of the East San Pedro Bay Ecosystem Restoration Study, such as erosion and shoreline protection along the Belmont Peninsula, when selecting mitigation elements for Pier Wind.

The Port is exploring the concept of constructing a mitigation project in the East San Pedro Bay, due to its proximity to the Pier Wind Project and for the opportunity to capitalize on the work that has already been done to evaluate restoration efforts in the East San Pedro Bay. Given the Port's interest in moving forward with these projects at the local level, the City is requesting Congress to de-authorize the East San Pedro Bay Restoration Feasibility Study with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers through the Water Resources Development Act of 2024. The Pier Wind project will help California harness the powerful wind in deep waters to generate renewable energy while enhancing air quality by reducing reliance on fossil fuels. Furthermore, the Pier Wind project will help meet the state's goal of producing 25 gigawatts of offshore wind power by 2045 and contribute toward lowering the national cost of offshore wind power by 70 percent by 2035.

The Pier Wind Project would provide the crucial infrastructure necessary to support offshore wind in California and help to achieve environmental goals, economic growth, and energy independence. For these reasons, the City respectfully requests Congress to de-authorize the East San Pedro Bay Restoration Feasibility Study with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers through the Water Resources Development Act of 2024.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Richardson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mayor Rex Richardson  
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Senator Alex Padilla  
The Honorable Senator Laphonza Butler  
The Honorable Congressman Robert Garcia, 42nd District  
The Honorable Congressman Nanette Barragan, 44th District