Appendix H-3

Confidential Paleontological Records Search Results

April 30, 2025

Sarah Siren
Dudek
605 3rd Street
Encinitas, CA 92024

RE: Paleontological Records Search – Oceanside Pier View Way

Dear Ms. Siren:

This letter presents the results of a paleontological records search conducted for the Oceanside Pier View Way project (Project), located in the western portion of the City of Oceanside, San Diego County, California. The Project site is located along the westernmost block of Pier View Way and its vicinity. The site is bound to the northeast by Pacific Street, to the southeast by Seagaze Drive, to the southwest by the Strand, and to the northwest by residential development, with an additional spur extending approximately 200 feet onto the Oceanside Municipal Pier.

Methods

A review of published geological maps covering the Project site and surrounding area was conducted to determine the specific geologic units underlying the Project site. Each geologic unit was subsequently assigned a paleontological resource sensitivity (Deméré and Walsh, 1993). In addition, a search of the paleontological collection records housed at the San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM) was conducted in order to determine if any documented San Diego Society of Natural History (SDSNH) fossil collection localities occur at the Project site or within the immediately surrounding area.

Results

Published geological reports (e.g., Kennedy and Tan, 2007) covering the Project area indicate that the proposed Project has the potential to impact late Pleistocene- to Holocene-age marine beach deposits and late Pleistocene-age old paralic deposits, Units 6-7 (broadly equivalent to the Bay Point Formation of Kennedy, 1975). These geologic units and their paleontological sensitivity are summarized below.

The SDNHM has 14 recorded fossil localities within a one mile radius of the Project site. Two of these localities are from the Bay Point Formation and are discussed in greater detail below. The remaining 12 localities are from unnamed Pleistocene-age estuarine deposits and the late Miocene- to early Pliocene-age San Mateo Formation, which are not expected to be impacted by Project earthwork. A map (Figure 1) and list of the fossil localities are attached as a confidential appendix at the end of this report (Appendix A).

Marine beach deposits – Late Holocene-age (generally less than 4,200 years old) marine beach deposits underlie the majority of the Project site at the surface. The SDNHM does not have any fossil collection localities from marine beach deposits within a one-mile radius of the Project site. Because of their young geologic age, these deposits are assigned a low paleontological potential.

However, these deposits may be underlain in the subsurface by a unit assigned a high paleontological potential (e.g., the Bay Point Formation, see below).

Old paralic deposits, Units 6-7 (Bay Point Formation) – Old paralic deposits, Units 6-7, of late Pleistocene age (approximately 120,000 to 80,000 years old) underlie the eastern portion of the Project site at the surface, and are broadly equivalent to the nearshore marine deposits of the Bay Point Formation of Kennedy (1975). The SDNHM has two fossil collection localities from the Bay Point Formation within a one-mile radius of the Project site, one of which (SDSNH 7676) was found in close proximity (within 100 feet) of the Project site. This locality, which was discovered during paleontological monitoring of construction of the Oceanside Beachfront Resort project, produced the rib of a baleen whale. The specimen was recovered in-situ at a depth of 25 feet below the surface from a stratum correlated with the 80,000-year-old Bird Rock terrace. The other nearby fossil collection locality (SDSNH 4646) produced the lower molar of a bison, discovered on the beach; it should be noted that the precise stratigraphic origin of this fossil is unknown. More broadly, the Bay Point Formation has been assigned a high paleontological sensitivity for the diverse and well-preserved fossils of marine invertebrates, marine vertebrates, and occasional terrestrial vertebrates that have been recovered from these deposits in western San Diego County.

Summary and Recommendations

The high paleontological sensitivity of the Bay Point Formation in San Diego County (Deméré and Walsh, 1993), as well as the presence of fossil collection localities in the vicinity of the Project site, suggests the potential for construction of the proposed Project to result in impacts to paleontological resources. Any proposed excavation activities that extend deep enough to encounter previously undisturbed deposits of this geologic unit (i.e., below the depth of any previously imported artificial fill or disturbed sediments present within the Project site) have the potential to impact the paleontological resources preserved therein. If such excavation is required for Project construction, implementation of a complete paleontological resource mitigation program during ground-disturbing activities is recommended. The mitigation program must include, at a minimum, measures for construction monitoring, fossil salvage and data recovery, laboratory preparation and curation of the fossils into the permanent fossil collections of an appropriate regional repository, and production of a final paleontological mitigation report.

The fossil collection locality information contained within this paleontological record search should be considered private and is the sole property of the San Diego Natural History Museum. Any use or reprocessing of information contained within this document beyond the scope of the Oceanside Pier View Way project is prohibited.

If you have any questions concerning these findings please feel free to contact me at kmueller@sdnhm.org.

Sincerely,



Kirstin Mueller
Assistant Report Writer
San Diego Natural History Museum

Enc: Appendix A (Confidential): Figure 1. Map of SDSNH fossil localities in the vicinity of the project site; List of SDSNH fossil localities in the vicinity of the project

Literature Cited

Deméré, T.A., and S.L. Walsh. 1993. Paleontological Resources, County of San Diego. Unpublished technical report prepared for the San Diego County Department of Public Works: 1–68.

Kennedy, M.P. 1975. Geology of the San Diego metropolitan area, California. Section A - Western San Diego metropolitan area. California Division of Mines and Geology, Bulletin 200: 9–39.

Kennedy, M.P., and Tan, S.S. 2007. Geologic Map of the Oceanside 30' x 60' Quadrangle, California. California Geological Survey, Regional Geologic Map Series 1:100,000 scale, map no. 2.

SDNHM unpublished paleontological collections data.

Appendix A (Confidential)

Appendix A: Locality List
San Diego Natural History Museum
Department of Paleontology

Locality Number	Locality Name	Location	Elevation (feet)	Geologic Unit	Era	Period	Epoch
4023	State Route 76	City of Oceanside, San Diego County, California	30	unnamed marine deposit	Cenozoic	Quaternary	Pleistocene
4646	Oceanside	City of Oceanside, San Diego County, California	0	Bay Point Formation, unnamed nonmarine deposit	Cenozoic	Quaternary	late Pleistocene
7676	Oceanside Beachfront Resort	City of Oceanside, San Diego County, California	15.1	Bay Point Formation, Bird Rock Terrace	Cenozoic	Quaternary	late Pleistocene
3134	Lawrence Canyon	San Diego County, California	40	San Mateo Formation, lower sandstone unit	Cenozoic	Neogene	late Miocene
3161	Lawrence Canyon	San Diego County, California	82	San Mateo Formation, upper gravel unit	Cenozoic	Neogene	early Pliocene
3297	Lawrence Canyon	San Diego County, California	80	San Mateo Formation, upper gravel unit	Cenozoic	Neogene	early Pliocene
3150	Lawrence Canyon	San Diego County, California	75	San Mateo Formation, upper gravel unit	Cenozoic	Neogene	early Pliocene
3003	Lawrence Canyon	San Diego County, California	100	San Mateo Formation	Cenozoic	Neogene	late Miocene
3149	Lawrence Canyon	San Diego County, California	25	San Mateo Formation, lower sandstone unit	Cenozoic	Neogene	late Miocene
2643	Lawrence Canyon	City of Oceanside, San Diego County, California	0	San Mateo Formation, upper gravel unit	Cenozoic	Neogene	early Pliocene
3298	Lawrence Canyon	San Diego County, California	90	San Mateo Formation, lower sandstone unit	Cenozoic	Neogene	late Miocene
2811	Lawrence Canyon	City of Oceanside, San Diego County, California	0	San Mateo Formation, lower sandstone unit	Cenozoic	Neogene	late Miocene
3123	Lawrence Canyon - general locality	San Diego County, California	0	San Mateo Formation, lower sandstone unit	Cenozoic	Neogene	late Miocene
7712	Oceanside Sand Quarry B	City of Oceanside, San Diego County, California	70	San Mateo Formation	Cenozoic	Neogene	Miocene/Pliocene