



**DRAFT / COPY**

To be filed with Los Angeles County Clerk and State Clearinghouse following approval by the Chief Executive Officer

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**To:** County of Los Angeles  
Registrar-Recorder/Clerk  
Business Filing & Registration  
12400 Imperial Highway, Room 1201  
Norwalk, California 90650

**From (Lead Agency):** Port of Long Beach  
City of Long Beach Harbor Department  
Environmental Planning Division  
415 West Ocean Boulevard  
Long Beach, California 90802

**Lead Agency Contact:** Anjana Mepani, Environmental Officer  
Telephone: (562) 283-7100  
Email: Anjana.Mepani@polb.com

Governor’s Office of Land Use  
and Innovation  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113  
Sacramento, California 95814  
(via State Clearinghouse CEQAnet)

**Applicant:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,  
Los Angeles District  
915 Wilshire Blvd., Ste 110  
Los Angeles California 90017

**Applicant Contact:** Cheryl L. Connett, Real Estate Division Chief  
Telephone: (213) 264-1379  
Email: Cheryl.L.Connett@usace.army.mil

**Project Title:** Right of Entry Agreement for U.S. Army military exercise

**State Clearinghouse No.:**

**Project Location – Specific:** Port of Long Beach Property at Pier S West Lot (APN 7436-029-912), Navy Mole Paved Lot (APN 7436-032-913), Port’s Joint Command and Control Center (1249 Pier F Avenue), and the Port’s Maintenance Facility (725 Harbor Plaza)

**Project Location – City:** Long Beach

**Project Location – County:** Los Angeles County

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** Right of Entry Agreement with the U.S. Army for temporary use of Port property for military training exercises for a duration of approximately four weeks involving the use of the Pier S West Lot (APN 7436-029-912) as the central receiving and shipping point yard consisting of empty container loading and vehicle staging, including placement of sleeping tents, laundry, showers, portable restrooms, field feeding, and other equipment. Port property at the Navy Mole Paved Lot (APN 7436-032-913) will be used for vehicle and equipment staging, empty container loading, showers, field feeding, and portable restrooms. The U.S. Army has coordinated with the U.S. Maritime Administration MARAD for the transport of containers loaded at the Pier S West Lot via trucks to/from MARAD’s National Reserve Fleet Vessel *Cape Inscription* berthed at Pier 15 on the Navy Mole. The Port’s Joint Command and Control Center (1249 Pier F Avenue) will serve as a headquarters and for use of its classified network capabilities. Further, the Port’s Maintenance Facility (725 Harbor Plaza) conference room will be used for mandatory soldier briefings.

**Exempt Status: (check one):**

- Ministerial Exemption [Section 21080(b)(1); 15268];
- Declared Emergency (Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project [Section 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)]
- Categorical Exemption.

*State type and section number: Section 15301 Existing Facilities and Section 15304(e) Minor Alterations to Land*

Statutory Exemption.

*State code number:*

Common Sense Exemption (Section 15061(b)(3))

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

Section 15301 Existing Facilities (Class 1): The Class 1 Categorical Exemption consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. There will be negligible expansion of existing or former use, as the Pier S West Lot and Navy Mole Paved Lot have both previously been used for vehicle parking, container and chassis staging, laydown yard, and storage. The Port's Joint Command and Control Center's existing use includes serving as a center for joint military command and control. Further, the Port's Maintenance Facility's existing conference room will be used for mandatory soldier briefings.

Section 15304(e) Minor Alterations to Land (Class 4): Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. This includes minor temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment, including carnivals, sales of Christmas trees, etc. The authorizing and entering into a right of entry agreement for an approximately four-week military exercise is a minor temporary use of land with no permanent effects on the environment.


The Port has determined that none of the exceptions to the exemptions in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15300.2 foreclose the use of the categorical exemption CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15304(e) (Minor Alterations to Land). Therefore, the project is exempt from CEQA and no further environmental review is required.

**Lead Agency**

**Contact Person:** Anjana Mepani **Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** (562) 283-7100

**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes  No

**Signature:**  **Date:** 6/4/25 **Title:** Director of Environmental Planning

Renee Moilanen

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant