

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 9, 2014

Assistant Secretary Jo-Ellen Darcy  
U.S. Army for Civil Works  
108 Army Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20310-0108

Dear Assistant Secretary Darcy,

We would like to begin by thanking you for the responsiveness of your office to our request for an urgent assessment and an immediate allocation of resources for the damage to the federal breakwater at the San Pedro Bay ports. Your office has kept in constant contact with our offices from our first inquiry shortly after the storm - providing to us regular updates on the assessments you have conducted. We were informed last night by your team that your damage assessments have been completed and you are in the process of categorizing all of the damage to ensure high priority needs will be repaired first.

We would like to meet with your office when the damage categorization is complete to discuss to the repair schedule.

We are appreciative of the high priority you have placed on this urgent situation and understand that Brigadier General R. Mark Toy will tour the damage today. We have staff from our respective offices touring the damage with General Toy.

Since it was built in the 1940s, the three-section federal breakwater stretching from San Pedro to Long Beach Harbor has protected the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, as well as the Long Beach coastline, from storms and the waves they generate.

As you know, last week a storm surge caused by Hurricane Marie inflicted a great deal of damage along the Southern California coast. The middle section of the breakwater, which sits directly in front of the Port of Long Beach, was hit especially hard. The powerful waves caused damage to numerous locations along the middle breakwater, including punching three large holes completely through. The holes led to further damage within the port from wave action and forced the closure of several cargo terminals during the storm surge.

The middle portion of the breakwater is vital to the protection of the San Pedro Bay ports and must be repaired quickly. Thank you once again for all the consideration you and your staff have provided to our offices and the ports throughout this crisis. We look forward to continuing to work with you to fully repair the breakwater damage.

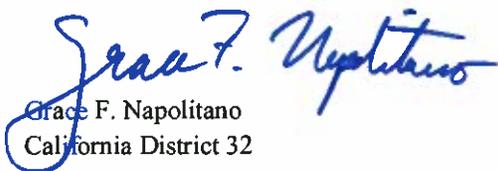
Sincerely,



Alan Lowenthal  
California District 47



Janice Hahn  
California District 44



Grace F. Napolitano  
California District 32