October 16, 2017

The Honorable Kevin Muldoon
City of Newport Beach
100 Civic Center Drive
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Case No: 12-09-1324S
Community: City of Newport Beach, CA
Community No: 060227

RE: California Coastal Analysis Mapping Project/Open Pacific Coast Study

Dear Honorable Kevin Muldoon:

This letter acknowledges receipt of letters dated August 30, 2017 and September 6, 2017 from Dave Cliff, City Manager, and Seimone Jurjis, Assistant Community Development Director regarding the Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for the City of Newport Beach, dated August 15, 2016. Mr. Jurjis submitted scientific and/or technical data in support of an appeal of the Base Flood Elevations and Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries for Newport Bay and the open Pacific coast.

The Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is considering the request as an appeal because it satisfied the data requirements defined in Title 44, Chapter I, Part 67 of the Code of Federal Regulations and it was submitted during the 90-day appeal period.

FEMA will evaluate the issues raised in the referenced letters and the submitted data. If additional data or information are required to resolve the appeal, FEMA will contact your community. If warranted, FEMA will revise the Preliminary FIRM and FIS report and send revised copies to your office for review.

Until this appeal is resolved, FEMA will not issue a Letter of Final Determination. Therefore, processing of the FIRM and FIS report for your community will be delayed.
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FEMA makes Scientific Resolution Panels (SRPs) available to support the appeal resolution process. SRPs are independent panels of experts in hydrology, hydraulics, and other pertinent sciences established to review conflicting scientific and technical data and provide recommendations for resolution. An SRP is an option after FEMA and a local community have been engaged in a collaborative consultation process for at least 60 days without a mutually acceptable resolution of the appeal. Please refer to the enclosed SRP Fact Sheet for further information.

If you have additional questions, please contact Ed Curtis of our FEMA staff in Oakland, California, either by telephone at either by telephone at (510) 627-7207 or by e-mail at Edward.Curtis@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Juliette Hayes, Chief  
Risk Analysis Branch  
FEMA Region IX

Enclosure:  
SRP Fact Sheet

cc:  
Floodplain Administrator, City of Newport Beach  
Dave Cliff, City Manager  
Kim Brandt, AICP, Community Development Director  
Seimone Jurjis, PE, CBO, Assistant Community Development Director  
Samir Ghosn, PE, Principal Civil Engineer  
Ying Poon, Everest International Consultants, Inc.  
James Eto, State NFIP Coordinator, California Department of Water Resources