



August 18, 2010

Mr. Cliff Ogburn, Town Manager
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RE: Nags Head Beach Nourishment Project (CSE 2203-01)
Progress Update (Late July – Early August)

Dear Cliff:

This letter summarizes CSE's progress on the Nags Head beach nourishment project over the past approximately two weeks.

Permitting/EIS (Task 4A/4B)

Federal Permit – During the past two weeks, CSE has provided USACE with additional working files in a format requested by the USACE for purposes of incorporating data into the Corps' Record of Decision. Raleigh Bland informed us that he was nearly finished with his ROD draft document last week, which runs upwards of 100 pages. From Raleigh, it goes to the legal department of the Corps of Engineers for internal review. Once it is through that review ("a week or two"), the Corps is ready to issue the public notice for the permit.

CSE is unclear about the exact time line and internal reviews that are mandatory within the Corps, but we have been assured that the permit will be issued "soon." During the past two weeks, the USACE and CSE have had several communications with NMFS-Protected Species Section to inform them that the Corps will utilize the existing NMFS Biological Opinion and Take Statement for the Nags Head project. This is one of the legal requirements which must be satisfied for the Corps to proceed with issuance of the permit.

Environmental Monitoring – Samples from the first pre-nourishment environmental monitoring (May 2010) have been analyzed (including 3rd party checks on ~10 percent of the samples). The second pre-nourishment monitoring is taking place this week with CZR Incorporated and CSE staff. Work includes collection of 40 benthic samples along the beach and 20 samples in the offshore borrow areas. Sixty (60) sediment samples will also be collected for sediment testing, as required under the



CAMA permit. CSE is assisting the Town in preparing a scope of work and RFP for future environmental monitoring events.

Engineering Analyses (Task 3)

Engineering & Final Design – Analyses are nearing completion on the engineering and final design report preliminary to preparing plans and specifications for the project. CSE’s analyses include a much-refined erosion analysis which shows that the “decadal” volumetric erosion rates by reach are lower than originally estimated by CSE in 2005 and several times lower than estimated by USACE in 2000. This is good news for the design life of a nourishment project (of any scale) and improves our confidence that a 3.5–4.6 million cubic yard project will provide an improved beach and better protection for at least 10 years along most of the project area. Much of CSE’s analysis time the past month has been devoted to predictive models of shoreline change after the project.

Other elements in the engineering report will be final recommendation of borrow areas and an updated sediment compatibility analysis.

Please call if you have any questions about our progress.

Yours truly,

Coastal Science & Engineering (CSE)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy W Kana". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Timothy W Kana PhD PG
Project Director

cc: D Dusini PE
H Kaczowski PE
S Traynum
T Hair