



CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources, Council Chair
John Garamendi, Lieutenant Governor, State Lands Commission Chair
Linda Adams, Secretary for Environmental Protection
Susan Golding, Public Member
Geraldine Knatz, Public Member
Darrell Steinberg, State Senator
Pedro Nava, State Assemblymember

MEMORANDUM

TO: California Ocean Protection Council

FROM: Neal Fishman, Deputy Executive Officer

DATE: Oct. 25, 2007

RE: OPC Delegations to its Secretary

ATTACHMENT: [OPC Delegations to its Secretary \(October 2007\)](#)

REQUESTED ACTION:

Staff recommends the council approve the following resolution:

“The Ocean Protection Council amends its prior delegation of authority and hereby delegates to its Secretary those authorities contained in the attached document ‘OPC Delegations to its Secretary (October 2007)’.”

BACKGROUND:

To ensure that routine business is carried out between OPC meetings and to reduce the amount of minor decision-making that would need to be acted upon by the OPC at its quarterly meetings, the council has delegated various authorities to its Secretary, the Executive Officer of the State Coastal Conservancy. The conservancy has also delegated various authorities to its Executive Officer over the years, including the ability to effectuate the business of the OPC. Staff is recommending that the OPC expand its delegations to its Secretary to be the same as those now delegated by the Conservancy.

Among the new authority granted by the OPC would be the ability for the Secretary to increase authorized expenditures by up to 15 percent and to substitute grantees for previously approved projects to take into account changing circumstances. Also in accordance with the OPC California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines (approved April 2007), these new delegations would allow the council Secretary to make findings that a proposed action was exempt from CEQA; this would not include the ability to approve negative declarations, Environmental Impacts Reports or statements of overriding considerations under CEQA.

In line with the previous OPC delegations (revised February 2007), the Secretary can still enter into contracts for technical and other services needed to develop and implement Council projects and programs that cost no more than \$200,000, and place items of up to \$200,000 on the consent calendar for approval. Finally, the new delegations would authorize the council Secretary to carry out routine administrative activities and to apply for funding for Council activities. Other delegations are as indicated.