April 25, 2019

Dear Chair Butner and Port Commissioners,

We are writing concerning the port entering into an Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) with Eagle Rock Aggregates.

We have concerns that there may be environmental issues which need to be explored. An aggregate facility is a new use for Berths 20-24 and will include tens of thousands of additional truck trips impacting West Oakland. In addition to the truck trips, the use would generate large amounts of particulate matter and dust that would go into the air in West Oakland, as well as settling into the bay. We are requesting that the Port require an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) if you enter into an ENA.

Diesel trucks remain the single highest sources of diesel emissions in West Oakland, responsible for 61% of the population weighted risk. The 2017 study states, “The contribution of Port-related activities to the total cancer risk in West Oakland increased to 29%, with Port trucks being the highest contributor.” Adding these additional vehicles needs to be studied in an EIR.

Moreover, West Oakland and our downtown Oakland communities are exposed to some of the highest levels of air pollution in the Bay Area, making it critical that we study the potential impacts of dust from an aggregate facility. We also need to consider the impact of dust and runoff entering our Bay and how it may adversely impact fish and other aquatic species.

Any proposed change of use at this site needs to be thoroughly and adequately studied to determine the impacts on our West Oakland residents, our overall community and our water and marine life. I strongly urge you to require an EIR for any ENA that the Port enters into at Berths 20-24.

Sincerely,

Sophie Hahn
Chair, Sierra Club Bay Chapter
Northern Alameda County Group

Xavier Johnson
Vice-Chair, Sierra Club Bay Chapter
Northern Alameda County Group