



February 5, 2009

Ms. Alexis Strauss
Director, Water Division
Region 9
United States Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Strauss,

Foss Maritime Company is a tug and barge company based in Seattle, Washington, with 20 tugboats and 12 barges operating in California waters that are subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's Vessel General Permit (VGP), which comes into effect on February 6.

Attached is a letter that the California Water Resources Control Board sent to EPA Region 9 modifying its certification of the VGP. Foss supports the deletions made by the California Water Resources Control Board on February 4, 2009 and requests that EPA promptly remove the conditions from the VGP.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Susan Hayman
Vice President, Environmental and Corporate Development
Foss Maritime Company

Cc: Doug Eberhardt, Manager, NPDES Permits & Storm Water, EPA
Martha Segall, Associate Division Director, Permits Division, EPA
Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director, Division of Water Quality