

Meeting Date: November 5, 2025  
Agenda Item No. 04  
Distribution Date: October 31, 2025  
Batch No. 01

**From:** [C Cotton](#)  
**To:** [FGG, Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [Government Affairs](#); [CouncilMember Joe LaCava](#); [Congressman Scott Peters](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Re: 11/04/2025 and 11/05/2025 County of San Diego Board of Supervisors Agendas FINAL  
**Date:** Friday, October 31, 2025 2:47:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)  
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Good Afternoon:

My understanding of line Item #4 is as follows:

In December 2020, opponents of the project filed a lawsuit challenging the County's approvals and certification of the EIR, among other actions taken with respect to the Project, entitled *Center for Biological Diversity et. al. v. County of San Diego, et. al.* (Lawsuit). In March 2025, the opponents and Applicants entered into a Settlement Agreement to stay the Lawsuit. The Settlement Agreement requires the Applicants to make several revisions to the Project (Revised Project) and return to the Board for consideration.

What was the settlement agreement to stay the Lawsuit?

In response to the Settlement Agreement, today's request is a request by the applicant for the Board to amend the Defense and Indemnification Agreement (Agreement). This would be the first amendment to the Agreement and would authorize the release of the entire security in the interim while a Revised Project is processed as required by the Settlement Agreement. This amendment would require the security to be reinstated prior to the Board considering the Revised Project, and immediately if, for any reason, litigation on the original Project resumes. The Applicants have indicated they tentatively plan on resubmitting the Revised Project in late 2025 or early 2026.

Is the tentative plan available?

The Project, as approved by the Board in 2020, included a mixed-use community that consists of 1,938 residential units, approximately 40,000 square feet of commercial use, approximately 25.1 acres of public/private parks, a 6.1-acre homeowners association (HOA) neighborhood facility, an approximately 2.3-acre joint use site for a fire station and sheriff storefront, a 10.1-acre school site, 9.0 miles of multi-use community trails and pathways, 790.3 acres of preserve/open space land to be conveyed to the Otay Ranch Resource Management Plan (RMP) Preserve, an additional 69.3 acres of biological open space, and 76.4 acres of internal open space.

Although there are no military base projects located *in* Otay Valley Ranch, which is a residential and planned community, there is a U.S. Navy training site, Naval Training Site Otay Mesa which is located nearby and is used for specialized military training.

**Naval Training Site Otay Mesa:** This facility is situated near the U.S.-Mexico border and is used for tactical operations, border security training, and urban warfare simulations.

While Otay Ranch is a residential area, the Navy training site is a separate, neighboring facility used for military operations.

### **Military Installations near**

Naval Base Coronado is a consortium of nine Navy installations:

Naval Air Station North Island, Coronado (NASNI); Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado (NAB); Naval Outlying Landing Field, Imperial Beach (NOLF IB); Naval Auxiliary Landing Field, San Clemente Island (NALF SCI); Silver Strand Training Complex-South, Coronado (SSTC-South), formerly known as the Naval Radio Receiving Facility; Naval Training Site Otay Mesa, Camp Michael Monsoor Mountain Warfare Training Center, La Posta; Camp Morena, La Posta and the Remote Training Site, Warner Springs (RTSWS).

How does the Environmental lawsuit impact our neighboring military installation communities?

Thank You,  
Cassandra Cotton

On Fri, Oct 31, 2025 at 1:39 PM C Cotton <[92130connects@gmail.com](mailto:92130connects@gmail.com)> wrote:

Good Afternoon:

My understanding of line Item #2 is as follows:

**International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)** in California primarily focuses on managing the Tijuana River flood control channel, operating the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant, and working to resolve transboundary water quality issues in the Tijuana River Valley through monitoring and ongoing projects.

**Treaty Compliance:** Manages projects and coordinates with Mexico to address ongoing water quality problems, as mandated by the **1944 treaty**.

Broader IBWC responsibilities that apply to California:

**Water Management:** Works to ensure the equitable distribution of water resources from the **Rio Grande and Colorado River**.

**Flood Protection:** Maintains infrastructure like levees and floodways to protect lands along boundary rivers from flooding.

**Boundary Demarcation:** Helps maintain the land and river boundaries between the two countries.

There is NO proposed **Statement of Work (SOW)** developed by the **Office of Economic Development and Government Affairs (EDGA)** and not made publicly available.

EDGA Board memo from October 2024 (mentioned in one snippet) indicated ongoing progress on an action plan that included the creation of a Small Business Development Unit and the designation of a Small Business Manager to serve as a liaison which might be Board and the **Department of Purchasing and Contracting (DPC)** to expedite the procurement process related to SOW.

In 2022, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was using the \$300 million committed in the **United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)**. The EPA had progressed from planning to the **design and construction phase**, following the release of a Record of Decision in June 2022. Perhaps providing our constituents with an updated status report of the current phase would be helpful.

**Associated Agreements:** The USMCA funding is part of a broader effort that includes a separate agreement with Mexico, known as **Minute 328**, which details Mexico's commitments to fund its own wastewater collection and treatment projects.

**The South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP)** is undergoing a multi-year, **\$600 million project** to repair and expand its infrastructure, with work launched in October **2024**. The project aims to double the plant's capacity and includes rehabilitating existing facilities, performing concrete repairs, and installing a new bypass system. Initial repairs have focused on the grit facilities due to severe wear, with the full rehabilitation and expansion projected to take up to five years.

**Arc flash study:** An Arc Flash Study must be conducted to ensure the safety of electrical systems.

Funding is being secured through a combination of federal appropriations, including **\$156 million** from the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

Thank You,  
Cassandra Cotton