



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX**

**75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105**

June 16, 2008

Daniel Borunda
U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission
4171 North Mesa Street, C-100
El Paso, Texas 79902

Subject: EPA Comments on the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for Improvements to the Tijuana River Flood Control Project, San Diego, California (CEQ # 20080188)

Dear Mr. Borunda:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. EPA reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and provided comments to the Forest Service (FS) on September 21, 2007. We rated the DEIS as EC-2, *Environmental Concerns, Insufficient Information* and recommended that the U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC): 1) clarify the differences between the No Build and Build Alternatives and 2) describe potential actions associated with the Build Alternatives and anticipated environmental consequences. Our concerns have been addressed in the Final EIS (FEIS) and we look forward to reviewing future documents related to site-specific actions.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this FEIS. When the Record of Decision (ROD) is signed, please send one copy to the address above (mail code: CED-2). If you have any questions, please contact Connell Dunning, Transportation Team Lead, at 415-947-4161 or Susan Sturges of my staff at 415-947-4188 or sturges.susan@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Connell Dunning for

Nova Blazej, Manager
Environmental Review Office

cc: Robert Smith, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Regulatory
Ed DeMesa, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Planning
Jeff Armentrout, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Programs and Project Management