



# MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

6 June 2018

Ms. Jolie Harrison, Chief  
Permits and Conservation Division  
Office of Protected Resources  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3225

Dear Ms. Harrison:

The Marine Mammal Commission (the Commission) has reviewed the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) 31 May 2018 notice (83 Fed. Reg. 24977) announcing receipt of a request from Venoco, LLC, (Venoco) to transfer to Chevron USA, Inc., (Chevron) an authorization issued under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The incidental harassment authorization allows Venoco to take small numbers of marine mammals incidental to pile replacement at the Casitas Pier in Carpinteria, California.

The revised authorization would include only a change in the action proponent's name from Venoco to Chevron. Chevron has agreed to comply with the terms, conditions, stipulations, and restrictions of the original authorization as issued to Venoco on 1 November 2017 (82 Fed. Reg. 55579). As such, the Commission concurs with NMFS's proposed transfer of the incidental harassment authorization from Venoco to Chevron, subject to Chevron's compliance with requirements set forth in the original authorization.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding the Commission's recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter O. Thomas".

Peter O. Thomas, Ph.D.,  
Executive Director