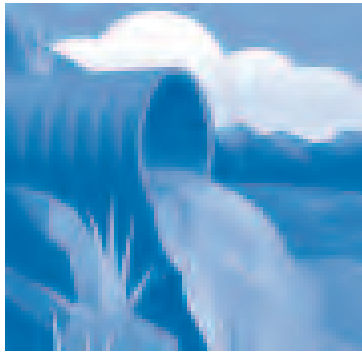




Divers prepare to inspect the outfall.



Rita Robinson, Bureau of Sanitation Director and Club Board Member, speaks to the press at the beginning of the outfall inspection. Others were, from left: Bureau of Sanitation Assistant Director Traci Minamide; Environmental Monitoring Division Manager Mas Dojiri; Rita, Hyperion Treatment Plant Manager Steve Fan; and Environmental Engineering Division Engineer Ken Redd.

# Inspecting the Pipe

■ Hyperion inspects the inside of a very important Sanitation pipeline for the first time.

**PUBLIC WORKS** —Public Works concluded an important inspection of the Sanitation outfall into the Pacific Ocean Nov. 30. It was the pipeline's first internal inspection in its 50-year history.

Beaches had been closed as a precautionary measure while Hyperion Treatment Plant conducted an internal inspection of its Five-Mile Outfall pipe. Beaches were reopened at the end of November.

The inspection required that the Plant's highly treated secondary effluent (processed wastewater) be diverted from its Five-Mile Outfall to the Plant's One-Mile Outfall starting Nov. 28. Flow returned to the Five-Mile Outfall early Nov. 30. A team of divers entered the pipe to assess its structural condition and evaluate its reliability, and preliminary findings indicate that the pipe is in good shape.

The City executed an extensive plan to monitor water quality at the shoreline and at sea. The Environmental Monitoring Division's laboratory studies found low bacterial levels at and around the end of the One-Mile Outfall.

Hyperion Plant's Five-Mile Outfall is a pipe that runs under the ocean and through which Los

Angeles' processed wastewater, called effluent, is discharged daily. It was built in 1960, and is inspected externally every year. The Five-Mile Outfall has never been inspected internally during its near 50-year existence.

To assess the condition of the pipe and to ensure the safety of divers during the operation, Hyperion's highly treated secondary effluent was diverted from the Five-Mile Outfall to the Plant's One-Mile Outfall over the three-day period. As a precaution, beaches were closed from Ballona Creek to the Manhattan Beach Pier, and an extensive water-monitoring program was implemented throughout the diversion.

The inspection included several scientific and engineering exams, including an internal dive inspection, external remote operated vehicle inspection, field studies, hydraulic analysis, pressure evaluations and floor mapping. A six-month study will follow the inspection, and recommendations may be made for repairs or other work to the ocean pipeline to ensure it meets the highest safety standards.

For more information, including updates on the inspection, visit [www.lasewers.org](http://www.lasewers.org).



Public Works has equipment and technicians in place to gather data on the inside of the outfall.

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