

# WHY NCEL?

## NCEL — ONE OF A KIND

The mission of the Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory is "to be the principal Navy RDT&E Center for shore and seafloor facilities and the support of Navy and Marine Corps construction forces". This makes NCEL a truly unique laboratory . . . the only one of its kind in the Navy. To break up a unique organization that is an asset of proven value to Naval operations within the context of its mission would be to lower rather than to raise the level of Naval effectiveness.

## THE PRESENT ORGANIZATION IS EFFICIENT

The Navy benefits greatly by having the NCEL task accomplished under its existing organization. The Navy manages an extensive shore establishment (plant replacement cost \$28 billion), and spends approximately \$1 billion on new construction, operations and maintenance each year. NCEL's research and development programs in such areas as corrosion control, structural design, preventive maintenance, fire protection, sanitary engineering, and environmental protection provide engineering information that assist the Navy in providing and maintaining support facilities for the operating forces either at a lower cost or for greater efficiency . . . and many times, both. The entire NCEL operation has been carefully developed into an integrated organization of scientific and engineering disciplines to provide this service. The breakup and transfer of these functions to other Naval activities having other primary missions will dilute the Navy's capability to operate its shore establishment in a cost effective manner and with modern technology.

(See Tab A)

## THE PRESENT LOCATION IS IDEAL

The Navy benefits by having the NCEL task accomplished at the present location. For its ocean engineering and amphibious work, the location could not be more ideally suited. The basic requirement is for ready access to the ocean, particularly the ocean front, and convenient access to a port facility. While the activities to which the work is being transferred are in coastal locations, they do not offer these favorable features. Greater expense will be involved in operating under these conditions.

## **RELOCATING IS COSTLY**

It is apparent that substantial and unnecessary expense to the taxpayer, far exceeding the savings estimated by the Government in effecting the base closure, will be involved. The cost of relocating personnel to be transferred and the severance and annual leave payoffs to personnel to be separated are estimated at about \$1 million. Facilities and equipment at the present site, which would have to be relocated for the work to continue, could cost an additional million dollars. There is presently no office or laboratory space on the CB Center or at the Naval Undersea Center for the personnel and the functions to be transferred. Construction of new facilities to house these functions could easily exceed \$10 million. Further, the disruption in the work process which is already taking place due to the base closure announcement, and which is expected to continue to some degree until the complete relocation process has been accomplished, will present an intangible but great loss to the Government. Finally, the dispersal of the NCEL operations will prove far more expensive on a continuing basis due to the dispersal of scientific disciplines and the centralized management which has been painstakingly brought together to work on an integrated team basis. Some unique facilities, such as the 72-inch pressure vessel, used by industry as well as Government, would be prohibitively expensive to relocate.

## **NCEL'S TEAM APPROACH TO TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER WOULD BE LOST**

Not only does NCEL contribute to the efficient operation of much of the defense establishment, but perhaps even more important, from the tax-dollar standpoint, are the unique and inherent by-products which spin off to the private sector as a result of NCEL research and development efforts. Past examples are many, and the potential for the future is even greater. Two of the most critical problems facing the nation are our environmental challenges and the energy crisis. NCEL has made major contributions to the resolution of both problems, and believes it is on the threshold of technological breakthroughs which will prove of benefit to the nation as a whole. It will be impossible to bring the current force of personnel resources to bear on this kind of effort if they are dispersed to activities whose mission is primarily directed toward weapons systems.

## **NCEL IS A LEADER IN THE COMMUNITY**

Over the years, NCEL has become a financial mainstay of the surrounding area through payroll, personnel and purchases. In many ways, it has also become a community leader. The loss of these assets would mean an irreparable loss to the economy of Ventura County as well as to its people. Some of the ways in which NCEL has become so deeply involved will be found under Tab B.

# EDITORIAL

## Ocean Ind

ENGINEERING, CONSTRUCTION AND

Two U.S. Navy research laboratories, both located on the West Coast, are a delight for any taxpayer who is privileged to visit them. Both the Undersea Research and Development Center (NUC), San Diego, and the Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory (NCEL), Port Hueneme, Calif., are highly efficient and utterly devoid of bureaucratic fat. The staffs are small, highly efficient and inclined to be downright frugal. Working in facilities comprised largely of World War II wooden buildings, the scientists and engineers seem to squeeze the last drop of utility out of each piece of equipment. A typical case in point: when NCEL carried out experimental work in concrete structures some years back, there was a dome-shaped structure which wasn't badly damaged by the static loading tests. Rather than break up the large section, engineers suspended it in the air, constructed a building under it and thus effected a permanent addition to their limited facilities.

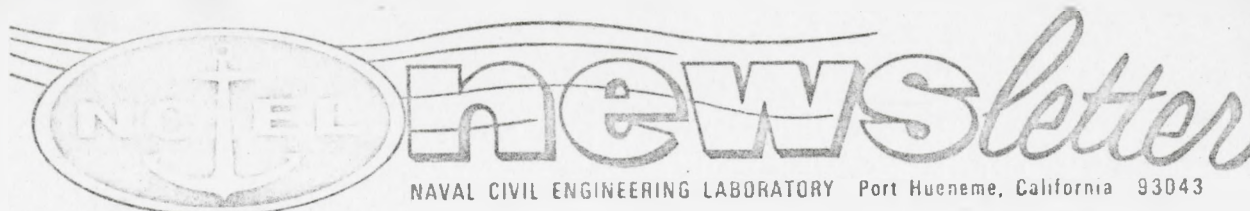
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OPERATIONS

But even more important for those who support these activities with tax dollars, much of the research and development work produces spinoffs which find utility in our industry. Proof of this can be found in the back issues of *Ocean Industry*. For taken together, NUC and NCEL have comprised the largest single source of technical material published in this magazine. The material which follows is typical of the output of these activities.

In the parlance of the U.S. Navy, the ultimate accolade is a simple, "Well done!" And in appreciation for all the splendid work carried out at NUC and NCEL, the editors of *Ocean Industry*, wish to extend to all the hard-working personnel at both stations a "Well done!"





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16 April 1973

## COMMUNITY COOPERATION . . . A WORTHWHILE EFFORT

The most recent Domestic Action Program Report, a report required at intervals by the CNO's Domestic Action Council to show how Navy activities are functioning within their local communities, reveals some interesting facts about NCEL.

Laboratory personnel are making significant contributions, in many and varied ways. We are active in the Boy Scouts of America, in the YMCA, in Little League, Connie Mack and Babe Ruth baseball, plus the Ventura Youth Basketball Association. A large percentage of NCEL people are members of church groups, and work with the young people and the needy. For more than 12 years, we have been involved in the Ventura County Science Fair, judging entries and donating trophies and books. One of every 16 members of the professional staff is taking an active part in local environmental work.

NCEL participates in employment programs for young people. Twelve students are employed under the Youth Opportunity Program. Plans have been formulated for the Lab to take part in the Public Service Careers Program for worker-trainees, and five have already been hired. For years we have welcomed both elementary and high school students as well as interested adults for guided tours of the Laboratory. The "Urban Forum" television series gave thousands of viewers an insight into our work. NCEL is annually involved in the Ventura County Career Days, during which students from 14 to 20 high schools learn about careers in various "industries", including ours. Twelve NCEL cycling enthusiasts pedaled 1084 miles and raised \$851 for the March of Dimes. In a joint venture, NCEL and the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District established an air monitoring station for the County.

These are some, but certainly not all, of the ways in which individual NCEL employees and the Laboratory as a whole are participating in the betterment of our area. The sum total of these efforts has had an impact in which we can all take pride and satisfaction.

PART FIVE

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

As NCEL is part of the Navy, it is also part of the community in which it functions. Further, it is part of the Nationwide environmental effort.

The people of NCEL never forget this interrelationship. As individuals they willingly donate their free time to environmental efforts. As a Navy activity, NCEL is involved in a broadly-based public relations endeavor which seeks to inform the community, the Navy and the Nation as a whole of its efforts. A representative sampling of this community service and public relations effort is included in the lettered tabs of this section.

One in every 16 of the Laboratory's professional staff is involved in gratuitous environmental work in the surrounding communities.

### VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES

NCEL people are not only concerned about their environment during working hours. Numerous employees carry that concern into their free time and express it through involvement with a wide range of community organizations which are deeply committed to environmental quality.

Some of these employees and their activities are:

Ray E. Bergman:	Member, Camarillo Committee of 100 Transportation Subcommittee
Robert A. Breckenridge:	Member, Sierra Club
Dr. Richard W. Drisko:	Member, Ventura County Air Pollution Control District Advisory Committee Member, Ventura County Air Pollution Control District Energy Action Board Member and past president, Oxnard Advisory Committee Chairman, Oxnard Advisory Committee Subcommittee on Beautification and Environmental Quality Member, Environmental Coalition Chairman, Environmental Coalition Air Pollution Committee and a chief contributor to "Air Pollution Report on Ventura County"
Rebecca Dunham:	Member, Environmental Coalition Prepared cover for "Air Pollution Report on Ventura County" Prepared cover for "Water for Survival" report independently written by retired NCEL Senior Project Engineer, John T. Tucker
Linda Garcia:	Member, Environmental Coalition Did type composition on "Air Pollution Report on Ventura County" Did type composition on "Water for Survival" report independently written by retired NCEL Senior Project Engineer, John T. Tucker

Henry L. Gill: Member, Camarillo Committee of 100  
Commercial and Industrial Development Subcommittee

Dr. Lawrence W. Hallanger: Member, Environmental Coalition

Dr. Peter J. Hearst: Member, Sierra Club  
Past Chairman, Sierra Club Council  
Arrangements Chairman, Sierra Club Environmental  
Education Conference (held 23-25 Feb. 1973)  
Vice Chairman, Point Mugu State Park Advisory  
Committee  
Member, Oxnard Citizens for Responsible Govern-  
ment, active in environmental section  
Member, Environmental Coalition  
A chief contributor to Environmental Coalition  
"Air Pollution Report on Ventura County"

Richard J. Malloy: NCEL donated Mr. Malloy's services to the  
Ventura County Regional Sanitation District.  
Mr. Malloy wrote a plan for disposal of  
wastes.

William R. Nehlsen: Planning Commissioner, City of Ventura  
hears Environmental Impact appeals

Frances Rugen: Member, Environmental Coalition  
President, Oxnard Branch, American Association  
of University Women; active in the organization's  
Environmental Study Group


Stanley K. Takashi: Member, Ventura County Flood Control Advisory  
Committee; appointed by Ventura County Board  
of Supervisors for a 4 year term

Hisao Tomita: Member, Camarillo Committee of 100  
Subcommittee on Open Spaces


Rex Winters: Member, Citizens Advisory Committee on Point  
Mugu State Park  
Teacher, ecology course at La Verne College

Joyce Wilsey: Member, Environmental Coalition  
Copy editor, Environmental Coalition "Air Pollution  
Report on Ventura County"  
Copy editor, "Water for Survival" report indepen-  
dently written by retired NCEL Senior Project  
Engineer, John T. Tucker





# Environmental Coalition Ventura County Good Guy Award




WHEREAS, the Environmental Coalition of Ventura County annually gives GOOD GUY awards to those individuals or entities who have consistently worked for the protection of our environment; and

WHEREAS, the Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory at Port Hueneme, California, has contributed enormously to the protection of our space craft earth; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Coalition wishes to recognize the unselfish dedication to our common goals shown by the staff and personnel of the Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory at Port Hueneme:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory at Port Hueneme, California, is hereby presented the GOOD GUY award for 1972, for their unstinting devotion to environmental and ecological matters.



Passed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1972

Environmental Coalition

Judith R. Rains

Judith R. Rains,  
President

NEWS RELEASE

*For immediate release*



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NAVY INTERNAL RELATIONS ACTIVITY, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF INFORMATION

NCEL PICKED AS OUTSTANDING

No. 0098 (2/23/73)

PORT HUENEME, Calif. (NAVNEWS)...The Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory here has been selected as the outstanding U.S. government activity in the State of California for superior engineering employment practices.

The selection was made by the California Society of Professional Engineers.