Ports and the Coastal Environment
Discussion of Issues
Regional SG Meeting
March 13, 2007
Air Quality

- Proximity to urban areas
- Common sources: Marine vessels, tugboats, land-based cargo-handling equipment, trucks, and trains
- Main concerns: PM, NOx, and Sox
- LA/LB have plan to reduce emissions below 2001 levels, even as volume grows
  - vessel speed reduction incentives and port-mandated fuel requirements
  - eliminate “dirty” diesel trucks
  - shore-side electricity

### Air Quality Index (AQI) Values

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Air Quality

• Port of Houston tackling issue
  – ultra-low and low emission vehicles made significant reductions in emissions
  – Established EMS & received IMO 14001 Certification

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Competing Demands for the Waterfront

- Many ports require physical expansion
- Brownfields?
- Many communities would rather have stores and restaurants
- Largest importers?
  - Wal-Mart, Target, Home Depot, Sears, Dole
- Real cost to the economy if ports bog down
Sustainability--Wide Range of Issues
Sustainability

• Increase in costs affect competitiveness
• Must focus on efficiency—demand quality
• Environment
  • Management of estuaries
  • All forms of pollution at ports
  • Managing ecology and habitat
  • Management of chemicals in or near water environments
  • Oil discharge prevention and response
  • Dredging and sediment removal including its disposal
  • Management of ports and marinas and vessels
  • Management of waste from vessels
  • Loading and unloading of ships
  • Ballast water and hull fouling and cleaning.
  • Safety of ships and the people living around harbors
Sustainability

• Vessel Safety
  - Collisions are disastrous