



California
Department of
Health Services

SANDRA SHEWRY
Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

November 28, 2005

Dave Colpo
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
205 S.E. Spokane Street
Portland, OR 97202-6413

Dear Mr. Colpo:

The California Department of Health Services (CDHS) recently completed domoic acid analyses in Dungeness crab harvested during November 2005 from selected sites in Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties. CDHS has determined that the levels of domoic acid in Dungeness crab from these areas do not pose a significant public health threat. There are no public health restrictions to commencing Dungeness crab season as scheduled on December 1, 2005. However, CDHS will continue to monitor for marine biotoxins and will advise industry of any potential public health risks as they arise.

CDHS would like to acknowledge the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, California Fish and Game, Pacific Seafood, Caito Fisheries, Jason Rossetto, Aaron Newman, Tom Leshner, and Wes Taylor for their assistance in supplying crab for analysis.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Hernandez
California Department of Health Services
Food and Drug Branch