

Coastal group stops work on Deer Park

Work on the Deer Park shopping center has been stopped by the regional coastal commission.

A halt to construction was ordered by the commission staff because the project came into the coastal zone at the first of the year and therefore needs a permit or an exemption. Commission Executive Director Ed Brown said Wednesday that his office notified the developer early this year that the Deer Park site came into the revamped coastal zone as of the first of the year.

Prior to Jan. 1, Brown pointed out, the project site was not in the coastal zone. But, under coastal legislation adopted last year in

Sacramento, the freeway became the easterly boundary of the zone at the beginning of 1977.

To qualify for an exemption from the permit requirement, Brown said, the developer will have to show that substantial work had been done prior to Jan. 1, in reliance on permits from other jurisdictions. Some of the Deer Park project will probably qualify for exemptions, he said.

But, Brown said, portions of the project which were not underway by the first of the year will need permits, Brown said.

The exemptions will be considered by the coastal commission May 16, Brown said.