

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 7, 2021

AGENDA NO. 13

REPORT: Lead Agency Projects and Environmental Documents Received

SYNOPSIS: This report provides a listing of CEQA documents received by the South Coast AQMD between March 1, 2021 and March 31, 2021, and those projects for which the South Coast AQMD is acting as lead agency pursuant to CEQA.

COMMITTEE: Mobile Source, April 16, 2021, Reviewed

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Wayne Natri
Executive Officer

SR:SN:JW:LS:MC

CEQA Document Receipt and Review Logs (Attachments A and B) – Each month, South Coast AQMD receives numerous CEQA documents from other public agencies on projects that could adversely affect air quality. A listing of all documents received during the reporting period March 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021 is included in Attachment A. A list of active projects for which South Coast AQMD staff is continuing to evaluate or prepare comments for the December reporting period is included as Attachment B. A total of 48 CEQA documents were received during this reporting period and 25 comment letters were sent.

The Intergovernmental Review function, which consists of reviewing and commenting on the adequacy of the air quality analysis in CEQA documents prepared by other lead agencies, is consistent with the Board's 1997 Environmental Justice Guiding Principles and Environmental Justice Initiative #4. As required by the Environmental Justice Program Enhancements for FY 2002-03, approved by the Board in October 2002, each attachment notes proposed projects where South Coast AQMD has been contacted regarding potential air quality-related environmental justice concerns. South Coast AQMD has established an internal central contact to receive information on projects

with potential air quality-related environmental justice concerns. The public may contact South Coast AQMD about projects of concern by the following means: in writing via fax, email, or standard letters; through telephone communication; and as part of oral comments at South Coast AQMD meetings or other meetings where South Coast AQMD staff is present. The attachments also identify, for each project, the dates of the public comment period and the public hearing date, if applicable. Interested parties should rely on the lead agencies themselves for definitive information regarding public comment periods and hearings as these dates are occasionally modified by the lead agency.

At the January 6, 2006 Board meeting, the Board approved the Workplan for the Chairman's Clean Port Initiatives. One action item of the Chairman's Initiatives was to prepare a monthly report describing CEQA documents for projects related to goods movement and to make full use of the process to ensure the air quality impacts of such projects are thoroughly mitigated. In response to describing goods movement, CEQA documents (Attachments A and B) are organized to group projects of interest into the following categories: goods movement projects; schools; landfills and wastewater projects; airports; general land use projects, etc. In response to the mitigation component, guidance information on mitigation measures was compiled into a series of tables relative to: off-road engines; on-road engines; harbor craft; ocean-going vessels; locomotives; fugitive dust; and greenhouse gases. These mitigation measure tables are on the CEQA webpages portion of South Coast AQMD's website at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/mitigation-measures-and-control-efficiencies>. Staff will continue compiling tables of mitigation measures for other emission sources.

Staff focuses on reviewing and preparing comments for projects: where South Coast AQMD is a responsible agency; that may have significant adverse regional air quality impacts (e.g. special event centers, landfills, goods movement); that may have localized or toxic air quality impacts (e.g. warehouse and distribution centers); where environmental justice concerns have been raised; and which a lead or responsible agency has specifically requested South Coast AQMD review. If staff provided written comments to the lead agency as noted in the column "Comment Status," there is a link to the "South Coast AQMD Letter" under the Project Description. In addition, if staff testified at a hearing for the proposed project, a notation is provided under the "Comment Status." If there is no notation, then staff did not provide testimony at a hearing for the proposed project.

During the period of March 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021, South Coast AQMD received 48 CEQA documents. Of the 68 documents listed in Attachments A and B:

- 25 comment letters were sent;
- 20 documents were reviewed, but no comments were made;
- 19 documents are currently under review;
- 0 documents did not require comments (e.g., public notices);
- 0 documents were not reviewed; and
- 4 documents were screened without additional review.

(The above statistics are from March 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021 and may not include the most recent “Comment Status” updates in Attachments A and B.)

Copies of all comment letters sent to lead agencies can be found on South Coast AQMD’s CEQA webpage at the following internet address:

<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/commenting-agency>.

South Coast AQMD Lead Agency Projects (Attachment C) – Pursuant to CEQA, South Coast AQMD periodically acts as lead agency for stationary source permit projects. Under CEQA, the lead agency is responsible for determining the type of CEQA document to be prepared if the proposal for action is considered to be a “project” as defined by CEQA. For example, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is prepared when South Coast AQMD, as lead agency, finds substantial evidence that the project may have significant adverse effects on the environment. Similarly, a Negative Declaration (ND) or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) may be prepared if South Coast AQMD determines that the project will not generate significant adverse environmental impacts, or the impacts can be mitigated to less than significance. The ND and MND are written statements describing the reasons why projects will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment and, therefore, do not require the preparation of an EIR.

Attachment C to this report summarizes the active projects for which South Coast AQMD is lead agency and is currently preparing or has prepared environmental documentation. As noted in Attachment C, South Coast AQMD continued working on the CEQA documents for three active projects during March.

Attachments

- A. Incoming CEQA Documents Log
- B. Ongoing Active Projects for Which South Coast AQMD Has or Will Conduct a CEQA Review
- C. Active South Coast AQMD Lead Agency Projects

**ATTACHMENT A
INCOMING CEQA DOCUMENTS LOG
March 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021**

SOUTH COAST AQMD LOG-IN NUMBER PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF DOC.	LEAD AGENCY	COMMENT STATUS
<i>Institutional (schools, government, etc.)</i> LAC210311-05 Mount San Antonio College Technology and Health Building	The project consists of demolition of existing structures and construction of a 152,668-square-foot building on 253,866 square feet. The project is located near the northwest corner of West Temple Avenue and Bonita Drive in the City of Walnut. Comment Period: 3/12/2021 - 4/12/2021 Public Hearing: 5/12/2021	Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration	Mount San Antonio Community College District	Document reviewed - No comments sent for this document received
<i>Institutional (schools, government, etc.)</i> LAC210318-02 Woodrow Wilson High School Aquatic Center	The project consists of demolition of existing basketball courts and construction of a 54,200-square-foot facility on a 1.6-acre portion of 28 acres. The project is located at 4400 East 10th Street on the southeast corner of East 10th Street and Bennett Avenue in the City of Long Beach. Comment Period: 3/18/2021 - 4/17/2021 Public Hearing: N/A	Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration	Long Beach Unified School District	Document reviewed - No comments sent for this document received
<i>Institutional (schools, government, etc.)</i> ORC210316-05 San Joaquin Marsh Reserve Water Conveyance and Drainage Improvement Project	The project consists of construction of water quality and treatment infrastructure on a 199-acre portion of 300 acres. The project is located on the southwest corner of Jamboree Road and Campus Drive in the City of Irvine. Comment Period: 3/11/2021 - 4/9/2021 Public Hearing: N/A	Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration	Regents of the University of California	Document reviewed - No comments sent for this document received
<i>Institutional (schools, government, etc.)</i> ORC210316-06 Chet Holifield Federal Building	The project consists of construction of a one-million-square-foot building on 86.5 acres. The project is located on the southeast corner of Avila Road and Alicia Parkway in the City of Laguna Niguel. Reference ORC200818-02 and ORC191001-08 Comment Period: 3/8/2021 - 4/7/2021 Public Hearing: 3/16/2021	Final Environmental Impact Statement	United States General Services Administration	Document reviewed - No comments sent for this document received

- Project has potential environmental justice concerns due to the nature and/or location of the project. Documents received by the CEQA Intergovernmental Review program but not requiring review are not included in this report.

ATTACHMENT B
ONGOING ACTIVE PROJECTS FOR WHICH SOUTH COAST AQMD HAS
OR IS CONTINUING TO CONDUCT A CEQA REVIEW

SOUTH COAST AQMD LOG-IN NUMBER PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF DOC.	LEAD AGENCY	COMMENT STATUS
Waste and Water-related ORC210225-05 South Coast Water District Lift Station No. 2 Replacement Project	The project consists of demolition of 3,000 square feet of existing sewer treatment facilities, and construction of a sewer lift station with a capacity of 3,000 gallon per minute, a sewer pipeline inertie system, an odor control scrubber, and roadway improvements on 1.2 acres. The project is located near the northeast corner of Country Club Drive and South Pacific Coast Highway in the City of Laguna Beach. http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/comment-letters/2021/march/ORC210225-05.pdf Comment Period: 2/25/2021 - 3/29/2021 Public Hearing: 4/22/2021	Mitigated Negative Declaration	South Coast Water District	South Coast AQMD staff commented on 3/16/2021
Transportation LAC210216-02 Metro C Line (Green) Extension to Torrance Project	The project consists of construction of a 4.6-mile light rail transit (LRT) system with two stations. The project is located between the Redondo Beach Green LRT station at 5251 Marine Avenue near the northwest corner of Marine Avenue and Hindry Avenue in the City of Redondo Beach and the Torrance Regional Transit Center station at 20500 Madrona Avenue near the southeast corner of Madrona Avenue and Del Amo Boulevard in the City of Torrance. http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/comment-letters/2021/march/LAC210216-02.pdf Comment Period: 1/29/2021 - 3/15/2021 Public Hearing: 2/23/2021	Revised Notice of Preparation	Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority	South Coast AQMD staff commented on 3/9/2021
Retail RVC210223-05 Shops at Jurupa Valley (MA20035)	The project consists of construction of a 3,500-square-foot convenience store, a 4,800-square-foot car wash facility, a 26,000-square-foot hotel with 60 rooms, 151,300 square feet of retail uses, 18,400 square feet of restaurant uses, 46,000 square feet of office uses, and a gasoline service station with 12 pumps on 32 acres. The project is located on the northeast corner of Mission Boulevard and Pyrite Street. http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/comment-letters/2021/march/RVC210223-05.pdf Comment Period: 2/22/2021 - 3/9/2021 Public Hearing: N/A	Site Plan	City of Jurupa Valley	South Coast AQMD staff commented on 3/9/2021
General Land Use (residential, etc.) LAC210225-01 Long Beach RiverPark Residential Project	The project consists of construction of 227 residential units and five acres of open space on 20 acres. The project is located on the northwest corner of West Wardlow Road and Golden Avenue in the designated AB 617 Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach community. http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/comment-letters/2021/march/LAC210225-01.pdf Comment Period: 3/29/2021 - 4/12/2021 Public Hearing: 3/24/2021	Notice of Preparation	City of Long Beach	South Coast AQMD staff commented on 3/16/2021
General Land Use (residential, etc.) RVC210217-01 MA16045	The project consists of subdivision of 917.3 acres for future development of 1,697 residential units, 18.4 acres of recreational uses, a 13.4-acre school, and 515.1 acres of open space. The project is located on the northeast corner of Muriel Drive and Paramount Drive Reference RVC190212-07, RVC181205-06, RVC180605-11, RVC170705-16, and RVC160422-03 http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/comment-letters/2021/march/RVC210217-01.pdf Comment Period: 2/17/2021 - 3/10/2021 Public Hearing: N/A	Site Plan	City of Jurupa Valley	South Coast AQMD staff commented on 3/2/2021

- Project has potential environmental justice concerns due to the nature and/or location of the project.

** Disposition may change prior to Governing Board Meeting

**ATTACHMENT C
ACTIVE SOUTH COAST AQMD LEAD AGENCY PROJECTS
THROUGH MARCH 31, 2021**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROPONENT	TYPE OF DOCUMENT	STATUS	CONSULTANT
<p>Matrix Oil is proposing to: 1) install one new flare with a maximum rating of 39 million British thermal units per hour (MMBtu/hr) at Site 3 of the Sansinena Oil Field; and 2) increase the throughput of the existing flare at Site 9 from the previous permit limit of 13.65 million standard cubic feet over a 30-day period (MMSCF/30 days) to the maximum rating of 39 MMBtu/hr which is equivalent to 25.39 MMSCF/30 days.</p>	Matrix Oil	Mitigated Negative Declaration	The consultant provided a preliminary draft Mitigated Negative Declaration which is undergoing South Coast AQMD staff review.	Yorke Engineering
<p>Quemetco is proposing to modify existing South Coast AQMD permits to allow the facility to recycle more batteries and to eliminate the existing daily idle time of the furnaces. The proposed project will increase the rotary feed drying furnace feed rate limit from 600 to 750 tons per day and increase the amount of total coke material allowed to be processed. In addition, the project will allow the use of petroleum coke in lieu of or in addition to calcined coke, and remove one existing emergency diesel-fueled internal combustion engine (ICE) and install two new emergency natural gas-fueled ICEs.</p>	Quemetco	Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	A Notice of Preparation/Initial Study (NOP/IS) was released for a 56-day public review and comment period from August 31, 2018 to October 25, 2018, and 154 comment letters were received. Two CEQA scoping meetings were held on September 13, 2018 and October 11, 2018 in the community. South Coast AQMD staff is reviewing the preliminary Draft EIR and has provided comments to the consultant.	Trinity Consultants
<p>Sunshine Canyon Landfill is proposing to modify its South Coast AQMD permits for its active landfill gas collection and control system to accommodate the increased collection of landfill gas. The proposed project will: 1) install two new low emissions flares with two additional 300-hp electric blowers; and 2) increase the landfill gas flow limit of the existing flares.</p>	Sunshine Canyon Landfill	Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)	South Coast AQMD staff reviewed and provided comments on the preliminary air quality analysis and health risk assessment (HRA), which are being addressed by the consultant.	SCS Engineers