

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 7, 2022

AGENDA NO. 17

REPORT: Lead Agency Projects and Environmental Documents Received

SYNOPSIS: This report provides a listing of CEQA documents received by South Coast AQMD between August 1, 2022 and August 31, 2022, and those projects for which South Coast AQMD is acting as lead agency pursuant to CEQA.

COMMITTEE: Mobile Source, September 16, 2022, Reviewed

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Wayne Natri
Executive Officer

SR:MK:MM:SW: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 August 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022 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 June and July reporting period is included as Attachment B. A total of 52 CEQA documents were received during this reporting period and 13 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.

In January 2006, 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 August 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022, South Coast AQMD received 52 CEQA documents which are listed in the Attachment A. In addition, there are 8 documents from earlier that either have been reviewed or are still under review. Those are listed in the Attachment B. The current status of the total 60 documents from Attachment A and B are summarized as follows:

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

(The above statistics are from August 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022 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 two active projects during August.

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
August 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022**

SOUTH COAST AQMD LOG-IN NUMBER PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF DOC.	LEAD AGENCY	COMMENT STATUS
<i>Industrial and Commercial</i> RVC220816-03 Conditional Use Permit No. 220011	The project consists of reuse of an existing 5,941 square foot industrial building for automobile service operations on 0.62 acres. The project is located on the northeast corner of State Route 74 and Creag Avenue in Harvest Valley and Winchester. Comment Period: 8/4/2022 - 8/4/2022 Public Hearing: 8/4/2022	Site Plan (Received after close of comment period)	County of Riverside	Document reviewed - No comments sent for this document received
<i>Industrial and Commercial</i> RVC220823-04 Application Review No. 220040 (PAR220040)	The project consists of construction of a truck yard facility on 6.74 acres, residential units on 6.08 acres, and 5.2 acres of retail uses on 18.30 acres. The project is located on the southeast corner of Nuevo Road and Olivas Avenue in Lakeview and Nuevo. http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/comment-letters/2022/august/RVC220823-04.pdf Comment Period: 8/15/2022 - 8/25/2022 Public Hearing: 8/25/2022	Site Plan	County of Riverside	South Coast AQMD staff commented on 8/25/2022
<i>Industrial and Commercial</i> RVC220823-09 Plot Plan No. 210021	The project consists of construction of a 16,200 square foot truck yard facility with 167 trailer parking spaces on 7.75 acres. The project is located on the southwest corner of Harvill Avenue and Water Avenue in Mead Valley. Reference RVC210506-02 Comment Period: 8/19/2022 - 9/19/2022 Public Hearing: 9/26/2022	Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration	County of Riverside	Under review, may submit written comments
<i>Waste and Water-related</i> LAC220823-12 Phibro-Tech, Inc. (PTI)	The project consists of renewal of an existing hazardous waste facility permit to continue to store, treat, transfer wastes, and revise the facility cleanup requirements on 4.8 acres. The project is located at 8851 Dice Road near the southwest corner of Dice Road and Burke Street in Santa Fe Springs. Reference LAC190409-04 Comment Period: 8/19/2022 - 10/19/2022 Public Hearing: 9/28/2022	Draft Permit Renewal	Department of Toxic Substances Control	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 A
INCOMING CEQA DOCUMENTS LOG
August 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022**

SOUTH COAST AQMD LOG-IN NUMBER PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF DOC.	LEAD AGENCY	COMMENT STATUS
<i>Waste and Water-related</i> LAC220823-13 Former Armstrong Flooring, Inc. Site - Summer 2022 Update	The project consists of cleanup actions to remediate soil and soil vapor contaminated with volatile organic compounds on 27.18 acres. The project is located at 5037 Patata Street near the northeast corner of Patata Street and Wilcox Avenue in South Gate within the designated AB 617 Southeast Los Angeles community. Comment Period: 8/18/2022 - 9/19/2022 Public Hearing: N/A	Revised Interim Measures Work Plan	Department of Toxic Substances Control	Document reviewed - No comments sent for this document received
<i>Waste and Water-related</i> LAC220824-02 Angeles Chemical Company, Inc.	Staff provided comments on the Draft Interim Measures Workplan for the project, which can be accessed at: http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/comment-letters/2022/june/LAC220607-05.pdf . The project consists of installation of a soil vapor extraction and thermal treatment to remediate soil vapor and groundwater contaminated with volatile organic compounds on 1.8 acres. The project is located at 8915 Sorensen Avenue near the southwest corner of Sorensen Avenue and Baker Place in Santa Fe Springs. Reference LAC220607-05 Comment Period: N/A Public Hearing: N/A	Response to Comments	Department of Toxic Substances Control	Document reviewed - No comments sent for this document received
<i>Waste and Water-related</i> LAC220825-02 Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo	The project consists of construction of a recycled water treatment facility with a capacity of six million gallons per day. The project includes two sites: 1) Agoura Road Site located at 30800 Agoura Road near the southeast corner of Agoura Road and Flintlock Lane in Agoura Hills and 2) Las Virgenes Reservoir Site located at 32601 Torchwood Place near the northeast corner of Torchwood Place and Three Springs Drive in Westlake Village. Reference LAC210909-02 Comment Period: 8/22/2022 - 10/7/2022 Public Hearing: N/A	Notice of Availability of a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report	Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority	Under review, may submit written comments
<i>Waste and Water-related</i> RVC220823-11 Golden Meadows Parkway Tanks Project	The project consists of construction of two water storage tanks with a combined capacity of four million gallons on 5.6 acres. The project is located on the northeast corner of Evans Road and Wickard Road in Menifee. Comment Period: 8/15/2022 - 9/14/2022 Public Hearing: N/A	Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration	Eastern Municipal Water District	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.

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INCOMING CEQA DOCUMENTS LOG
August 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022**

SOUTH COAST AQMD LOG-IN NUMBER PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF DOC.	LEAD AGENCY	COMMENT STATUS
General Land Use (residential, etc.) SBC220802-05 Citrus Estates (TTM No. 20473, CUP No. 1163)	The project consists of construction of 118 residential units and 73,455 square feet of recreational uses on 37.9 acres. The project is located on the southwest corner of San Bernardino Avenue and Wabash Avenue. Comment Period: 7/28/2022 - 8/29/2022 Public Hearing: N/A	Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration	City of Redlands	Document reviewed - No comments sent for this document received
General Land Use (residential, etc.) SBC220805-01 Shady View Residential Project	Staff provided comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the project, which can be accessed at: http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/comment-letters/2022/july/SBC220601-02.pdf . The project consists of removal of three existing aboveground oil storage tanks, and construction of 159 residential units, one aboveground 250 oil barrel capacity storage tank, two 500 oil barrel capacity storage tanks, and 80.8 acres of open space on 130 acres. The project is located near the southeast corner of Via La Cresta Road and Coyote Street. Reference SBC220601-02 and SBC210701-03 Comment Period: N/A Public Hearing: 8/16/2022	Response to Comments	City of Chino Hills	Document reviewed - No comments sent for this document received
General Land Use (residential, etc.) SBC220825-06 Crest Grove Residential Subdivision Project	The project consists of construction of 67 residential units totaling 1,197,529 square feet on 28.16 acres. The project is located on the northwest corner of Reservoir Road and Wabash Avenue. Comment Period: 8/25/2022 - 10/3/2022 Public Hearing: N/A	Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration	City of Redlands	Under review, may submit written comments

- 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 C
ACTIVE SOUTH COAST AQMD LEAD AGENCY
PROJECTS THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2022

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROPONENT	TYPE OF DOCUMENT	STATUS	CONSULTANT
<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>	<p>Quemetco</p>	<p>Environmental Impact Report (EIR)</p>	<p>The Draft EIR was released for a 124-day public review and comment period from October 14, 2021 to February 15, 2022 and approximately 200 comment letters were received.</p> <p>Staff held two community meetings, on November 10, 2021 and February 9, 2022, which presented an overview of the proposed project, the CEQA process, detailed analysis of the potentially significant environmental topic areas, and the existing regulatory safeguards. Written comments submitted relative to the Draft EIR and oral comments made at the community meetings, along with responses will be included in the Final EIR which is currently being prepared by the consultant.</p>	<p>Trinity Consultants</p>
<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 emission flares with two additional 300-horsepower electric blowers; and 2) increase the landfill gas flow limit of the existing flares.</p>	<p>Sunshine Canyon Landfill</p>	<p>Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)</p>	<p>South Coast AQMD staff reviewed and provided comments on the preliminary air quality analysis, health risk assessment (HRA), and Preliminary Draft SEIR which are to be addressed by the consultant.</p>	<p>SCS Engineers</p>