

2 PUBLIC REVIEW PROCESS

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This Chapter lists the public agencies, organizations, and individuals who provided comments on the Draft EIR, provides copies of written comments received, and responds to those comments. As required by CEQA, these responses to comments address significant environmental issues raised (PRC §21091(d); CEQA Guidelines Sections 15088(a), 15132).

2.2 OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE DRAFT EIR

2.2.1 Notification

On May 15, 2015, the CPUC published and distributed the Notice of Availability (NOA) of a Draft EIR to advise interested local, regional, and state agencies, and the public, that a Draft EIR had been prepared and published for the proposed project. Individuals who own or live on properties within 500 feet of the areas disturbed by the proposed project were notified with a postcard that included information on the availability of the Draft EIR and the public meeting. The NOA solicited both written and oral comments on the Draft EIR during a 45-day comment period (May 15, 2015 through June 29, 2015), and provided information on a forthcoming public comment meeting. The NOA presented the background, purpose, description, and location of the project, as well as the contact name to request additional information about the proposed project.

In addition to the NOA, the CPUC notified the public about the June 4, 2015, public meeting to receive comments on the Draft EIR through newspaper legal advertisements and the project website. The CPUC published legal advertisements in the Star News on May 29, 2015 and the San Diego Union Tribune on May 31, 2015. Additionally, an electronic copy of the NOA and the Draft EIR were posted on the CPUC's website at: http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/panoramaenv/Salt_Creek/index.html. The NOA, newspaper legal advertisement, and the public meeting sign in sheets are provided in Appendix A. Notifications provided basic project information and the date, time, and location of the public meeting. The public was encouraged in the NOA, newspaper legal advertisements, and at the public meeting, to submit written comments and concerns regarding the project and the adequacy of the Draft EIR by mail, facsimile, or email to the CPUC.

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2.2.2 Public Comment Meeting

The CPUC held a public meeting on June 4, 2015 to accept comments on the Draft EIR from agencies, organizations, and individuals. The meeting was held at 6:30 p.m. at the Monteville Recreation Center located at 840 Duncan Ranch Road, Chula Vista, California. The CPUC provided notification of the public review period and the public hearing to: 1) public agencies; 2) adjacent property owners and occupants within 500 feet of the project area; and 3) organizations. Oral comments were received at the June 4, 2015 public meeting, and written comments were due by June 29, 2015. Some comments were received after the end of the comment period and were accepted.

A presentation (Appendix A) was given at the June 4, 2015 meeting that included an overview of the CPUC's decision-making process, including the environmental review process; project background; project description; summary of significant unavoidable impacts of the proposed project; project alternatives; and public comment process. Following the presentation, public comments were taken. All attendees were encouraged to submit comments.

2.3 COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EIR

The CPUC received seven comment letters from various federal and state agencies, the Applicant, and individual members of the public. Comments were also heard at the public meeting held at the Monteville Recreation Center on June 4, 2015. The CPUC has considered all comments and provides responses to all written comments, as well as verbal comments from the public meeting, in this document.

2.4 LIST OF COMMENTERS

Table 2.4-1 lists the persons and agencies that submitted comments on the Draft EIR. Comments within each comment letter are numbered (e.g., A1-1, A1-2); these comment numbers are also provided in Table 2.4-1. The comment letters and comment responses are included in Chapter 3, below. If revisions were made to the EIR based on the comments, the revisions are provided with the response to the specific comment and are indicated in the text of this Final EIR with ~~strikethrough~~ for deletions of text and underline for additions of text.

2.4.1 Summary of Comments

Agency comments included a clarification regarding the timing for submittal of the Highway Closure Plan to Caltrans. Applicant comments included editorial corrections, technical clarifications and corrections, and provision of supplemental data on special-status Hermes copper butterfly. Individual comments included concerns about health and safety, impacts on property values, selection of the environmentally superior alternative, and support for the proposed project.

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Table 2.4-1 Commenters on the Draft EIR and Corresponding Comment and Response Numbers

Comment Letter Designation	Date of Letter	Commenter	Response Numbers
Federal and State Agencies			
A1	5/22/2015	Therese Bradford, USACE Los Angeles District	A1-1
A2	6/17/2015	Jacob Armstrong, Caltrans District 11	A2-1
A3	6/30/2015	Scott Morgan, California State Clearinghouse	A3-1 and A3-2
Applicant			
B1	6/29/2015	David Geier, SDG&E	B1-1 through B1-192
Individuals			
C1	6/4/2015	Jonathan Greenwood	C1-1 and C1-2
C2	6/4/2015	Janice Gutierrez	C2-1
C3	6/4/2015	Marco Torres	C3-1
C4	6/4/2015	Transcript from the public meeting for the Draft EIR: Jonathan Greenwood, Marco Torres, Raul Cardenas, and Derrick Roche	C4-1 through C4-15

2.4.2 Summary of Changes to the Draft EIR

The Draft EIR was revised in response to comments. The information presented in this Final EIR includes minor clarifications and modifications to the Draft EIR. Revisions included:

- Minor modifications to the proposed project to reflect comments from the Applicant
- Editorial changes
- Minor changes to mitigation measures
- Technical clarifications

CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5(a) requires recirculation of an EIR “when significant new information is added to the EIR after public notices is given of the availability of the draft EIR for public review”. The minor modifications and clarifications presented in this Final EIR do not contain new significant information as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5.

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