



Gray Davis  
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse



Tal Finney  
Interim Director

**CQ659**

**Memorandum**

**Date:** September 25, 2002  
**To:** Rhey Solomon, Council on Environmental Quality  
**From:** Katie Shulte Joung, Associate Planner  
**Re:** SCH # 2002084002  
NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) Task Force

Attached please find the entire set of comment letters received by OPR from State Agencies regarding the above referenced document. These letters were received prior to your review end date of September 23, 2002 but were erroneously omitted from the closing letter sent to your agency on September 24, 2002.

Please consider these comments a timely response to your comments. We apologize for any inconvenience this omission may have caused.

**CAET RECEIVED**

**SEP 10 2002**



Gray Davis  
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse



Tal Finney  
Interim Director

September 24, 2002

CQ659

Rhey Solomon  
Council on Environmental Quality  
NEPA Task Force  
P.O. Box 221150  
Salt Lake City, UT 84122

Subject: NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) Task Force  
SCH#: 2002084002

Dear Rhey Solomon:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Federal Other Document to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on September 23, 2002, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Terry Roberts  
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures  
cc: Resources Agency

Document Details Report  
State Clearinghouse Data Base

SCH# 2002084002  
Project Title NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) Task Force  
Lead Agency Council on Environmental Quality

CA 659

Type FOT Federal Other Document  
Description The NEPA Task Force will focus on modernizing the NEPA process. Rapid advances in technology and information security concerns following the events of September 11, 2001 are the most recent factors highlighting the need to reassess NEPA practices. Federal agencies' environmental processes (analyses conducted, documents produced, and operational implementation and management) under the NEPA planning umbrella continue to raise questions over the efficiency, effectiveness and management of the NEPA process in the 21st century.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Rhey Solomon  
Agency Council on Environmental Quality  
Phone 202 456-5432 Fax 916 323-3018  
email state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov  
Address NEPA Task Force  
P.O. Box 221150  
City Salt Lake City State UT Zip 84122

Project Location

County  
City  
Region  
Cross Streets  
Parcel No.  
Township Range Section Base

Proximity to:

Highways  
Airports  
Railways  
Waterways  
Schools  
Land Use

Project Issues

Reviewing Agencies Caltrans, Division of Aeronautics; Air Pollution Control Dist./Air Quality Mgmt. Dist.; Air Resources Board, Airport Projects; Air Resources Board, Transportation Projects; Air Resources Board, Major Industrial Projects; San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission; Department of Boating and Waterways; Caltrans, District 1; Caltrans, District 2; Caltrans, District 3; Caltrans, District 4; Caltrans, District 5; Caltrans, District 6; Caltrans, District 7; Caltrans, District 8; Caltrans, District 9; Caltrans, District 10; Caltrans, District 11; Caltrans, District 12; California Highway Patrol; California Coastal Commission; Colorado River Board; Department of Commerce; Department of Conservation; Department of Corrections; Delta Protection Commission; Department of Water Resources; California Energy Commission; Department of Fish and Game, Region 1; Department of Fish and Game, Region 2; Department of Fish and Game, Region 3; Department of Fish and Game, Region 4; Department of Fish and Game, Region 5; Department of Fish and Game, Region 6; Department of Fish and Game, Region 6 (Inyo & Mono Region); Department of Fish and Game, Marine Region; Department of Fish and Game, Headquarters; Department of Food and Agriculture; Department of Forestry and Fire Protection; Department of General Services; Department of Health Services; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Housing and Community Development; Integrated Waste Management Board; Native American Heritage Commission; Office of Emergency Services; Other Agency(ies);

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.

Document Details Report  
State Clearinghouse Data Base

C...  
CQ659

Department of Parks and Recreation; Public Utilities Commission; Reclamation Board; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 1; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 2; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 3; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 4; Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 5 (Fresno); Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 5 (Redding); Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 5 (Sacramento); Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 6 (So Lake Tahoe); Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 6 (Victorville); Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 7; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 8; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 9; Resources Agency; Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; State Clearinghouse; State Lands Commission; State Water Resources Control Board; Statewide Health Planning; State Water Resources Control Board, Clean Water Program; State Water Resources Control Board, Delta Unit; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Loans and Grants; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights; Tahoe Regional Planning Agency; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Caltrans, Division of Transportation Planning; California Department of Justice, Attorney General's Office

---

*Date Received* 08/02/2002      *Start of Review* 08/02/2002      *End of Review* 09/23/2002

CQ659

2002084002

note: comment period extended  
to 9/23/02

August 2, 2002

POC  
Title  
Agency 1  
Agency 2  
Address 1  
Address 2  
City, State Zip

Subject: NEPA Task Force  
Request for Comments

Dear POC:

Attached please find an announcement published in the Federal Register on July 9, 2002 from the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Task Force (Task Force). CEQ seeks "ideas and examples of opportunities to improve and modernize the federal environmental analysis process, and comments on ways to improve NEPA implementation."

As the state, single-point of contact for NEPA documents pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12372 (Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs), the State Clearinghouse requests that you forward any comments by August 23, 2002 to the following:

State Clearinghouse  
P. O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044  
(916) 323-3018 FAX

Additional information about the task force may be found on the internet at:  
<http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/ntf/>

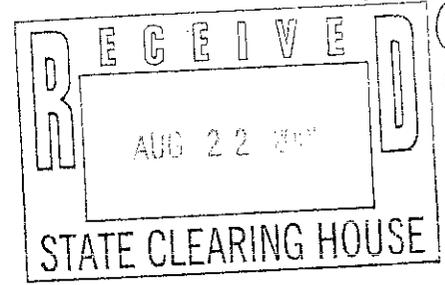
Sincerely,

Terry Roberts  
Director, State Clearinghouse



August 21, 2002

Terry Roberts  
Director, State Clearinghouse  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044



Dear Ms. Roberts,

2002084002

Subject: NEPA Task Force and Request for Comments

Thank you for drawing to our attention this opportunity to suggest improvements to the National Environmental Policy Act process.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation in furthering its mission to provide high quality out-door recreation for the people of the State of California leases federal lands, receives grants of federal monies, and seeks necessary federal permission to develop facilities or provide resource protection and enhancement, all activities which may trigger the NEPA. We therefore have some familiarity with the NEPA process.

The single greatest concern with the NEPA and its implementation is timely assurance of process completion. Procedurally, NEPA is unlike the California Environmental Quality Act and its Guidelines, which specify periods for the preparation of its various environmental documents. NEPA has no such time frame and provides no specific statute of limitation. Due to this deficiency, we can be faced with an open-ended process subject to unanticipated delays and unnecessary uncertainty. The provision of reasonable timeframes for completion of environmental documents and their processing would greatly enhance the efficiency of both state and federal programs and projects.

Please include our comments in your response to the National Environmental Policy Act Task Force.

Sincerely,

B. Noah Tilghman  
Senior Park and Recreation Specialist  
Environmental Stewardship Section  
Natural Resource Division