

How to Comment on a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration

What to Do:

- 1) Review the Initial Study, the Negative Declaration, and any proposed mitigation measures.
- 2) Note any omissions or errors in these documents through written or oral comments submitted to the lead agency in the appropriate timeframe.
- 3) Justify your position with substantial evidence (e.g. contrary substantial evidence that, despite revisions, the project may still have a significant adverse environmental effect).

When reviewing and commenting on the Initial Study:

- Is there substantial evidence to support the agency's conclusions?
- Did the Initial Study:
 - o Evaluate the entire project? (or is it being chopped into smaller pieces?)
 - o Describe the existing environmental setting?
 - o Calculate baseline conditions?
 - o Adequately address cumulative impacts?
 - o Determine whether the project would contribute directly or indirectly to the generation of new greenhouse gas emissions?
 - o Determine if the project would be a "catalyst" for future development?

When reviewing and commenting on the proposed mitigation measures:

- Is there substantial evidence supporting the claim that revisions have reduced or avoided potential significant impacts?