California State University, Sacramento South Campus Student Housing Mitigated Negative Declaration & Initial Study Response to Comments

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES TO COMMENTS

The California State University, Sacramento (CSU Sacramento) campus circulated an Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/Proposed MND) for public review on August 24, 2018. The IS/Proposed MND provided review for the South Campus Student Housing Project ("Project"). Per Section 15073 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, comments were accepted on the circulated document for a 30-day period ending September 25, 2018. CSU Sacramento received a total of seven responses, one of which served as an addendum to an original response. Per Section 15074(b) of CEQA Guidelines, the comments received must be considered prior to project approval. While CEQA does not require responses to comments, responses may be provided at the discretion of the lead agency and CSU Sacramento has prepared responses to comments received.

Comments during the public review period were received from:

Letter A: Richard Scherer

Letter B (and amendment): Dan Kopp

Letter C: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Board, Stephanie Tadlock

Letter D: City of Sacramento Department of Utilities, Dalia Fadl

Letter E: Sacramento Metropolitan Utilities Department, Nicole Goi

Letter F: City of Sacramento Department of Public Works, Pelle Clarke

Letter G: State of California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, Scott Morgan

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Comment Letter A

From: Scherer, Richard@DGS [mailto:Richard.Scherer@dgs.ca.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2018 12:04 PM
To: Takahashi, Victor K <<u>vtakahas@csus.edu</u>>
Subject: Dan McAuliffe Memorial Ball Parks

Victor -

A-1 Too many times the needs of the few are put before the needs of the many. The destruction of the ball fields that have served many generations of local Sacramento residents, for the needs of non-residents who have a short 4 year residence – is a prime example of this action.

- A-2 Building apartment complexes on vacant ground or a former golf driving range is one thing, but to destroy history is another.
- A-3 Let me remind you and the committee of the following description when CBS television reviewed the BEST facilities in the Sacramento area:

A-4 Built in the late '90s as local officials saw a need to provide a couple of quality fields for Sacramento's burgeoning population, the Dan McAuliffe Memorial Ball Parks were built. With lights that surpass AAA minor league standards, the lights stretch a good 320 feet down both left and right field lines and 410 feet to center field. More than one generation of Sacramento's

A-5 { <u>own residents have played ball there, and many of their kids now do too.</u> In total, there are three fields for you to choose from.

How do you plan to replace the fields and the memories from the past and yet to be made.

It is an embarrassment to know CSUS is planning this action.

Thank you

Richard Scherer

Associate Real Estate Officer - Southern California Unit

Real Estate Services Division

Department of General Services

707 Third Street, 5th Floor, MS-5050 West Sacramento, CA 95605

Phone 916.375.4145 Cell 916.204.3654

Email <u>Richard.Scherer@dgs.ca.gov</u>

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Comment Letter B

South Campus Student Housing MND-IS Comments:

Aesthetics: c) As a long-time resident, I have enjoyed the visual character of the ballfields and quality of habitat it provides for resident breeding birds such as Black Phoebes and American Robins and as foraging habitat for Canada Geese. The removal of this installation will substantially degrade the visual character of an open park-like facility and replace it with asphalt and concrete and a constant, instead of intermediate (game time), occupation during the school year. This should be at least checked as Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated or Potentially Significant Impact.

Population and Housing: a) The first sentence in the reply is doublespeak. How can constructing an infill project that would create new residence halls for up to 1,100 students not be inducing substantial population growth in that area, when that parcel has never contained housing, save maybe prior to construction of HWY 50 in the late 1960's? I prefer students seek housing in the city than be

B-2 concentrated in one giant mess of an instant mini city. I have been considering moving from my nearby residence of 17 years due to the plague of homelessness, but the University is beginning to weigh in heavily on the right time to leave. The recent Crossings population induction, which demanded a new intersection on Folsom that will have me avoiding that corridor and the businesses it houses, and now B-3 this proposal combine as definite factors for Mandatory Findings of Significance b).

Transportation/Traffic: a,b) There is no way to guarantee additional student housing would reduce commuter vehicular trips to campus. Am I to believe the proposed residents of this project would be B-4 forced to walk, ride a bike or ride a campus bus to the university? This prediction of reduced commuter vehicular trips is bogus at best and misleading at the worst; with additional student housing it can only be certain it will increase by 1,100 the number of vehicles accessing that parcel for months at a time compared to the 50 or so that do so intermittently for ball games at the current facility. How is the B-5 second sentence backed up, with any real numbers? And what does it even mean? The IS does nothing but admit traffic congestion will be exacerbated by the proposed project, namely at Howe Avenue and College Town where there are already accidents waiting to happen with unmetered cross traffic. The portion of East University Dr where the current vehicle access to the ballfields is located would become an unruly entrance and exit back-up, forcing folks to alter their many year's long routes just to accommodate transitory citizens. That is near completion with the Crossings intersection on Folsom and adds another combining negative impact for Mandatory Findings of Significance b).

B-1

B-6

Dan Kopp

8295 La Riviera Dr.

Sacramento, CA 95826

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Comment Letter B Amendment

From: Dan Kopp [mailto:rey_ality@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: Takahashi, Victor K <<u>vtakahas@csus.edu</u>>
Subject: Re: South Campus Student Housing MND-IS comments

Victor,

B-7

Please let me know if need to submit an additional comment, or if I have a comment file that can describe what a "smooth mile away" is.

Thank you,

Dan Kopp 8295 La Riviera Dr.

From: Dan Kopp <<u>rey_ality@hotmail.com</u>>
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2018 3:40 PM
To: Takahashi, Victor K
Subject: Re: South Campus Student Housing MND-IS comments

Yes, and please add this article: <u>https://www.kcra.com/article/parking-shortage-frustrates-</u> sacramento-renters-at-new-complex/23189940

B-8 in my comment file, showcasing the increase in vehicle traffic with not only residents but visitors. This is testimony to the University's knowing misinterpretation of the deleterious effects of a misguided master plan that doesn't care much for negative effects on long-term neighbors, but instead favors the University and its transitory student population.

Please let me know Victor is this doesn't suffice, much like the analysis for these projects, and I will gladly write another comment for the IS-MND

Thanks,

Dan Kopp 8295 La Riviera Dr.

Comment Letter C





Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

17 September 2018

Victor Takahashi The Trustees of the California State University and California State University, Sacramento 6000 J Street Sacramento, CA 95819-6002 CERTIFIED MAIL 7014 3490 0001 3008 3807

COMMENTS TO REQUEST FOR REVIEW FOR THE NEGATIVE DECLARATION, STUDENT HOUSING EAST PROJECT, SCH# 2018082052, SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Pursuant to the State Clearinghouse's 24 August 2018 request, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has reviewed the *Request for Review for the Negative Declaration* for the Student Housing East Project, located in Sacramento County.

C-1

Our agency is delegated with the responsibility of protecting the quality of surface and groundwaters of the state; therefore our comments will address concerns surrounding those issues.

I. Regulatory Setting

Basin Plan

The Central Valley Water Board is required to formulate and adopt Basin Plans for all areas within the Central Valley region under Section 13240 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Each Basin Plan must contain water quality objectives to ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses, as well as a program of implementation for achieving water quality objectives with the Basin Plans. Federal regulations require each state to adopt water quality standards to protect the public health or welfare, enhance the quality of water and serve the purposes of the Clean Water Act. In California, the beneficial uses, water quality objectives, and the Antidegradation Policy are the State's water quality standards are also contained in the National Toxics Rule, 40 CFR Section 131.36, and the California Toxics Rule, 40 CFR Section 131.38.

C-2

The Basin Plan is subject to modification as necessary, considering applicable laws, policies, technologies, water quality conditions and priorities. The original Basin Plans were adopted in 1975, and have been updated and revised periodically as required, using Basin Plan amendments. Once the Central Valley Water Board has adopted a Basin Plan amendment in noticed public hearings, it must be approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and in some cases,

KARL E. LONGLEY SCD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESG., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 85670 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley

A RECYCLED PAPER

Student Housing East Project Sacramento County

- 2 -

the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Basin Plan amendments only become effective after they have been approved by the OAL and in some cases, the USEPA. Every three (3) years, a review of the Basin Plan is completed that assesses the appropriateness of existing standards and evaluates and prioritizes Basin Planning issues.

For more information on the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins, please visit our website:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/.

Antidegradation Considerations

All wastewater discharges must comply with the Antidegradation Policy (State Water Board Resolution 68-16) and the Antidegradation Implementation Policy contained in the Basin Plan. The Antidegradation Policy is available on page IV-15.01 at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalleywater_issues/basin_plans/sacsjr.pdf

In part it states:

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Any discharge of waste to high quality waters must apply best practicable treatment or control not only to prevent a condition of pollution or nuisance from occurring, but also to maintain the highest water quality possible consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the State.

This information must be presented as an analysis of the impacts and potential impacts of the discharge on water quality, as measured by background concentrations and applicable water quality objectives.

The antidegradation analysis is a mandatory element in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and land discharge Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) permitting processes. The environmental review document should evaluate potential impacts to both surface and groundwater quality.

II. Permitting Requirements

Construction Storm Water General Permit

Dischargers whose project disturb one or more acres of soil or where projects disturb less than one acre but are part of a larger common plan of development that in total disturbs one or more acres, are required to obtain coverage under the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities (Construction General Permit), Construction General Permit Order No. 2009-009-DWQ. Construction activity subject to this permit includes clearing, grading, grubbing, disturbances to the ground, such as stockpiling, or excavation, but does not include regular maintenance activities performed to restore the original line, grade, or capacity of the facility. The Construction General Permit requires the development and implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

Student Housing East Project Sacramento County

(SWPPP).

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For more information on the Construction General Permit, visit the State Water Resources Control Board website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/constpermits.shtml.

Phase I and II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits¹

The Phase I and II MS4 permits require the Permittees reduce pollutants and runoff flows from new development and redevelopment using Best Management Practices (BMPs) to the maximum extent practicable (MEP). MS4 Permittees have their own development standards, also known as Low Impact Development (LID)/post-construction standards that include a hydromodification component. The MS4 permits also require specific design concepts for LID/post-construction BMPs in the early stages of a project during the entitlement and CEQA process and the development plan review process.

For more information on which Phase I MS4 Permit this project applies to, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/storm_water/municipal_permits/.

For more information on the Phase II MS4 permit and who it applies to, visit the State Water Resources Control Board at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/phase_ii_municipal.sht ml

Industrial Storm Water General Permit

Storm water discharges associated with industrial sites must comply with the regulations contained in the Industrial Storm Water General Permit Order No. 2014-0057-DWQ.

For more information on the Industrial Storm Water General Permit, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/storm_water/industrial_general_permits/index.shtml.

Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit

If the project will involve the discharge of dredged or fill material in navigable waters or wetlands, a permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act may be needed from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE). If a Section 404 permit is required by the USACOE, the Central Valley Water Board will review the permit application to ensure that discharge will not violate water quality standards. If the project requires surface water

¹ Municipal Permits = The Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Water System (MS4) Permit covers medium sized Municipalities (serving between 100,000 and 250,000 people) and large sized municipalities (serving over 250,000 people). The Phase II MS4 provides coverage for small municipalities, including non-traditional Small MS4s, which include military bases, public campuses, prisons and hospitals.

Student Housing East Project Sacramento County

drainage realignment, the applicant is advised to contact the Department of Fish and Game for information on Streambed Alteration Permit requirements.

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If you have any questions regarding the Clean Water Act Section 404 permits, please contact the Regulatory Division of the Sacramento District of USACOE at (916) 557-5250.

Clean Water Act Section 401 Permit – Water Quality Certification

If an USACOE permit (e.g., Non-Reporting Nationwide Permit, Nationwide Permit, Letter of Permission, Individual Permit, Regional General Permit, Programmatic General Permit), or any other federal permit (e.g., Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act or Section 9 from the United States Coast Guard), is required for this project due to the disturbance of waters of the United States (such as streams and wetlands), then a Water Quality Certification must be obtained from the Central Valley Water Board prior to initiation of project activities. There are no waivers for 401 Water Quality Certifications.

Waste Discharge Requirements - Discharges to Waters of the State

If USACOE determines that only non-jurisdictional waters of the State (i.e., "non-federal" waters of the State) are present in the proposed project area, the proposed project may require a Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR) permit to be issued by Central Valley Water Board. Under the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, discharges to all waters of the State, including all wetlands and other waters of the State including, but not limited to, isolated wetlands, are subject to State regulation.

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For more information on the Water Quality Certification and WDR processes, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/help/business_help/permit2.shtml.

Dewatering Permit

If the proposed project includes construction or groundwater dewatering to be discharged to land, the proponent may apply for coverage under State Water Board General Water Quality Order (Low Risk General Order) 2003-0003 or the Central Valley Water Board's Waiver of Report of Waste Discharge and Waste Discharge Requirements (Low Risk Waiver)

R5-2013-0145. Small temporary construction dewatering projects are projects that discharge groundwater to land from excavation activities or dewatering of underground utility vaults. Dischargers seeking coverage under the General Order or Waiver must file a Notice of Intent with the Central Valley Water Board prior to beginning discharge.

For more information regarding the Low Risk General Order and the application process, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2003/wqo/w qo2003-0003.pdf

For more information regarding the Low Risk Waiver and the application process, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at: Student Housing East Project Sacramento County

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/waivers/r5-2013-0145_res.pdf

Regulatory Compliance for Commercially Irrigated Agriculture

If the property will be used for commercial irrigated agricultural, the discharger will be required to obtain regulatory coverage under the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. There are two options to comply:

- Obtain Coverage Under a Coalition Group. Join the local Coalition Group that supports land owners with the implementation of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. The Coalition Group conducts water quality monitoring and reporting to the Central Valley Water Board on behalf of its growers. The Coalition Groups charge an annual membership fee, which varies by Coalition Group. To find the Coalition Group in your area, visit the Central Valley Water Board's website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/for_growe rs/apply_coalition_group/index.shtml or contact water board staff at (916) 464-4611 or via email at IrrLands@waterboards.ca.gov.
- 2. Obtain Coverage Under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Individual Growers, General Order R5-2013-0100. Dischargers not participating in a third-party group (Coalition) are regulated individually. Depending on the specific site conditions, growers may be required to monitor runoff from their property, install monitoring wells, and submit a notice of intent, farm plan, and other action plans regarding their actions to comply with their General Order. Yearly costs would include State administrative fees (for example, annual fees for farm sizes from 10-100 acres are currently \$1,084 + \$6.70/Acre); the cost to prepare annual monitoring reports; and water quality monitoring costs. To enroll as an Individual Discharger under the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, call the Central Valley Water Board phone line at (916) 464-4611 or e-mail board staff at IrrLands@waterboards.ca.gov.

Low or Limited Threat General NPDES Permit

If the proposed project includes construction dewatering and it is necessary to discharge the groundwater to waters of the United States, the proposed project will require coverage under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Dewatering discharges are typically considered a low or limited threat to water quality and may be covered under the General Order for *Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters* (Low Threat General Order) or the General Order for *Limited Threat Discharges of Treated/Untreated Groundwater from Cleanup Sites, Wastewater from Superchlorination Projects, and Other Limited Threat Wastewaters to Surface Water* (Limited Threat General Order). A complete application must be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board to obtain coverage under these General NPDES permits.

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Student Housing East Project Sacramento County

For more information regarding the Low Threat General Order and the application process, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_ord ers/r5-2013-0074.pdf

For more information regarding the Limited Threat General Order and the application process, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_ord ers/r5-2013-0073.pdf

NPDES Permit

If the proposed project discharges waste that could affect the quality of surface waters of the State, other than into a community sewer system, the proposed project will require coverage under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. A

complete Report of Waste Discharge must be submitted with the Central Valley Water Board to obtain a NPDES Permit.

For more information regarding the NPDES Permit and the application process, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/help/business_help/permit3.shtml

If you have questions regarding these comments, please contact me at (916) 464-4644 or Stephanie.Tadlock@waterboards.ca.gov.

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Stephanie Tadlock Senior Environmental Scientist

cc: State Clearinghouse unit, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, Sacramento

C-8

C-7

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Comment Letter D

From: Dalia Fadl [mailto:DFadl@cityofsacramento.org]
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2018 1:26 PM
To: Takahashi, Victor K <<u>vtakahas@csus.edu</u>>
Cc: Scott Johnson <<u>SRJohnson@cityofsacramento.org</u>>
Subject: FW: CEQA Notice: CSUS - South Campus Student Housing (Student Housing East)
Importance: High

Good Afternoon Victor,

I reviewed the **Initial Study** for the South Campus Student Housing dated August 2018 and have the following comments:

	•	The Hydrology and Water Quality discussion does not mention the incorporation of post construction stormwater quality measures. The City of Sacramento post construction stormwater quality requirements include:
		 Source Control Measures (waste management area design, vehicle wash area design, other measures as applicable)
D-1 -		 Treatment Control Measures (bioretention planters, vegetated swales, infiltration measures)
		 Low Impact Development Measures (bioretention planters, infiltration measures, pervious pavement)
		Please ensure that the project design incorporates all of these required post construction measures. Please refer to the 2018 Stormwater Quality Design Manual for the Sacramento Area (http://www.beriverfriendly.net/newdevelopment/stormwaterqualitydesignmanual/) for more information on the selection and design of these measures.
D-2 -	•	The City of Sacramento requires a maintenance agreement to be executed for all proposed onsite post construction stormwater quality measures. The maintenance agreement shall be signed and submitted to the City of Sacramento upon approval of the improvement plans. Please refer to the attached maintenance agreement template for more information.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments. Thanks for the opportunity to review.

Thanks-

Dalia Fadl, P.E.

Senior Engineer

City of Sacramento

Department of Utilities

916-808-1449

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Comment Letter E

Powering forward. Together.



Sent Via E-Mail

September 20, 2018

Victor Takahashi California State University, Sacramento 6000 J Street Sacramento, CA 95819 <u>takahashiv@csus.edu</u>

Subject: Student Housing East / 2018082052 / Negative Declaration

Dear Mr. Takahashi:

E-1

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Student Housing East Project (Project, SCH 2018082052). SMUD is the primary energy provider for Sacramento County and the proposed Project area. SMUD's vision is to empower our customers with solutions and options that increase energy efficiency, protect the environment, reduce global warming, and lower the cost to serve our region. As a Responsible Agency, SMUD aims to ensure that the proposed Project limits the potential for significant environmental effects on SMUD facilities, employees, and customers.

It is our desire that the Project MND will acknowledge any Project impacts related to the following:

E-2	 Overhead and or underground transmission and distribution line easements. Please view the following links on smud.org for more information regarding transmission encroachment: https://www.smud.org/en/Business-Solutions-and-Rebates/Design-and-Construction-Services https://www.smud.org/en/Corporate/Do-Business-with-SMUD/Land-Use/Transmission-Right-of-Way
E-3	 Utility line routing Relocation or removal of existing SMUD facilities on or adjacent to the project area. Existing easements on or adjacent to the subject property for SMUD infrastructure.
E-4	Electrical load needs/requirements
E-5	Energy EfficiencyClimate Change
E-6	Cumulative impacts related to the need for increased electrical delivery

SMUD CSC | 6301 S Street | P.O. Box 15830 | Sacramento, CA 95852-0830 | 1.888.742.7683 | smud.org

SMUD would like to offer the following project specific comments:

E-7	 The MND does not acknowledge the need for electrical infiproject would require a pad mounted transformer that will serv therefore, there are existing SMUD distribution (12kV) and e (69kV) facilities within the Student Housing East project area that maintained if areas are developed/redeveloped 	vice this project; sub-transmission		
E-8	 Additional distribution facilities will be required in vacant areas potentially along the Folsom Blvd corridor or College Town University Drive corridors. These areas would need to be evalua biological impacts. 	Drive and State		
E-9	 No additional distribution substations are anticipated No additional sub-transmission routes are anticipated 			
	specifically, SMUD would like to have the following details related tructure incorporated into the project description:	to the electrical		
discu deliv	D would like to be involved with discussing the above areas of int sing any other potential issues. We aim to be partners in the efficient ry of the proposed Project. Please ensure that the information included veyed to the Project planners and the appropriate Project proponents.	t and sustainable		
Environmental leadership is a core value of SMUD and we look forward to collaborating with you on this Project. Again, we appreciate the opportunity to provide input on this NEG.				

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact SMUD's Environmental Management Specialist, Rob Ferrera, at <u>rob.ferrera@smud.org</u> or 916.732.6676.

Sincerely,

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E-11

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nicou to

Nicole Goi Regional & Local Government Affairs Sacramento Municipal Utility District 6301 S Street, Mail Stop A313 Sacramento, CA 95817 Nicole.goi@smud.org

Cc: Rob Ferrera

SMUD CSC | 6301 S Street | P.O. Box 15830 | Sacramento, CA 95852-0830 | 1.888.742.7683 | smud.org

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Comment Letter F



Transportation Division

City Hall 915 | Street, 2nd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814-2604 (916) 808-5307

September 25, 2018

Victor Takahashi Director Facilities Planning and Construction Services 6000 J Street Sacramento, CA 95819-6002 Email: evironmental@dgs.ca.gov

SUBJECT: California State University Sacramento (CSUS) – Mitigated Negative Declaration for the South Campus Student Housing at CSUS

Dear Mr. Takahashi:

The City of Sacramento appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the South Campus Student Housing at CSUS (August 2018). The new student housing facilities would provide up to 1,100 beds in a mix of 4-bedroom, 2-bedroom, and studio apartment units as well as support spaces such as lounges, multipurpose rooms etc.

As CSUS may be aware, the parcel immediately to the east of the South Campus Housing project, currently occupied with a parking lot and low-rise office building, may be the site of a second student housing project. Please note that the proposed northbound project driveway at this signal should be designed to allow future access to future redevelopment of this parcel.

The City of Sacramento Department of Public Works provided comments on CSUS Campus Master Plan 2015 Draft Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2014102021) on March 12, 2015. Many concerns expressed in the above referenced comment letter are still valid, particularly, the comments listed in the bullet points #3 and #6 of the letter:

3. The City has extensive experience dealing with traffic and traffic signals in and around CSUS campus. The City has made many field observations and has regularly monitored these locations through CCTV count stations, and traffic signal controllers from the City's Traffic Operation Center. The traffic study provided in the DEIR for the Campus Master Plan indicates LOS higher (better) than what the City has observed. Vehicular queuing commonly occurs form State University Drive / College Town, west on Folsom Blvd and then south to 65th / Hwy 50.

F-1

F-2

In addition, queuing occurs from State University Drive / College Town east on College Town to Hornet Drive to Folsom Blvd / Bicentennial Way. In addition, there are significant queues that occur at the Hwy 50 to Hornet off-ramp. The City believes the LOS reported in the traffic study does not reflect the actual LOS at these intersections.

The City has observed that a significant amount of the queuing occurs on City streets due to poor operation and inadequate lane capacity at State University Drive/ College Town. It is possible that the LOS reported by the traffic modeling software is better due to the traffic signals being starved. This condition occurs when queue is so significant that vehicles arriving at the back of the queue do not reach the intersection in one cycle

As a result of the existing conditions and knowing that the outcome of the traffic model used in the Campus Master Plan DEIR does not reflect the existing conditions, we are requesting that the traffic analysis revised to better represent the existing conditions. For example traffic simulation at congested intersection provide more accurate outcome of the traffic model and could be utilized in these analysis

6. Adding more student housing on the Campus will increase the pedestrian and bicycle activity on City facilities and will require improvements to the intersections adjacent to the project site. The City is willing to work with Sacramento State University to identify the necessary improvements to the transportation facilities nearby University Campus. <u>Some potential improvements may include widening northbound approach of State University Drive at College Town intersection</u>, relocation of bus stops to change pedestrian crossings, westbound approach right turn channelization, installation of ITS elements, and others. <u>An agreement between the City and CSUS regarding the operation and maintenance of this signal would ensure efficiency of the transportation system operation in the proximity to CSUS.</u>

The response to comments section of the FEIR to comment 3 (2-3 in FEIR) included the statement "...the queuing problem is short-lived; 15 to 20 minutes during the peak of the peak hour and much of the queuing occurs on campus streets rather than City Streets...." The response to comment 6 (2-6 in FEIR) noted how on campus student housing is consistent with many City, County and Campus Master Plan Goals.

The City continues to monitor intersections around CSUS' campus from its Traffic Operations Center. Monitoring indicates that significant vehicular queuing continues to occur at several adjacent intersections due to poor operation and inadequate lane capacity. One of them, as noted in comments on the Campus Master Plan in 2015, is State University Drive and College Town Drive intersection. Adding the project vehicular trips generated by the proposed student housing and increased number of pedestrians will cause more delay and queuing.

Our observations show the queuing problem is not short lived and routinely occurs throughout the entire morning peak hour. Furthermore, the intent of comment 6 was to highlight some of the infrastructure improvements that would be required from increased pedestrian and bicycle activity, such as widening the northbound approach of State University Drive at College Town Drive.

Page 2

F-2 Cont'd Page 3

F-2 Cont'd The northbound direction on State University Drive routinely queues back from the State University Drive and College Town intersection back to Folsom Boulevard. Furthermore, even providing 60 seconds of continuous northbound green at the State University Drive and College Town intersection is not enough time to clear the morning queue. The continuing design issue at this intersection is that the one northbound lane from which lefts, throughs, and right turns movements are allowed is not adequate.

Accordingly, City of Sacramento does not consider the proposed mitigation measure TRA-1 as sufficient to address the increased vehicular volumes and pedestrian activity at State University Drive and College Town Drive intersection. <u>Widening of the northbound approach at this intersection to two lanes and installing ITS elements are imperative to improve the operation of this intersection.</u> Two continuous northbound travel lanes are needed on State University Drive between Folsom Boulevard and College Town Drive.

F-3

City requests the mitigation measure TRA-1 to be modified as follows:

Widen the northbound approach at the State University Drive and College Town Drive intersection to two lanes and install ITS elements to improve the operation of this intersection. Install two continuous northbound travel lanes on State University Drive between Folsom Boulevard and College Town Drive.

Please provide our office with copies of any further actions regarding this project. We would appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on any changes related to this development and we would like to be included on early review of the proposed project site plan.

F-4

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at (916) 808-8930 or by email at <u>pclarke@cityofsacramento.org</u>

Sincerely,

Pelle Clarke Senior Engineer City of Sacramento

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Comment Letter G



STATE OF CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE *of* PLANNING AND RESEARCH



EDMUND G. BROWN JR. Governor

G-1

September 25, 2018

Victor Takahashi California State University, Sacramento 6000 J Street Sacramento, CA 95819

Subject: Student Housing East SCH#: 2018082052

Dear Victor Takahashi:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Negative Declaration 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 24, 2018, 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

Scott Morgan Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures cc: Resources Agency

> 1400 10th Street P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812-3044 1-916-322-2318 FAX 1-916-558-3184 www.opr.ca.gov

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California State University, Sacramento South Campus Student Housing Mitigated Negative Declaration & Initial Study, Dated August 24, 2018 Response to Comments

Letter	Commentator	Comment	Response
A	Richard Scherer	A-1 Too many times the needs of the few are put before the needs of the many. The destruction of the ball fields that have served many generations of local Sacramento residents, for the needs of non-residents who have a short 4 year residence – is a prime example of this action.	As referenced on page 5 of the MND, the City of Sacramento has arranged for a replacement facility to be provided. Additional information regarding the replacement is available in the City Council Report ID: 2014-00895, which memorializes the motion by the City of Sacramento to sell the property on which the existing facility is currently sited and the obligation to construct two new ball fields meeting AAA Minor League standards.
		A-2 Building apartment complexes on vacant ground or a former golf driving range is one thing, but to destroy history is another.	The existing facility was not identified as a previously listed historical resource on the California Historical Resources Information System and has not been officially evaluated for listing or considered an historical resource due within the MND due to its relatively young age. Further, it does not generally appear to meet any of the four criteria for designation under CEQA Section 15064.5 as referenced on page 22 of the MND. http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21238

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A	Richard Scherer	A-3 Let me remind you and the committee of the following description when CBS television reviewed the BEST facilities in the Sacramento area	This comment refers to an opinion of the local media regarding the existing facility; however, it does not address the adequacy of the MND, therefore no further response is required.
A	Richard Scherer	A-4 Built in the late '90s as local officials saw a need to provide a couple of quality fields for <u>Sacramento's</u> <u>burgeoning population</u> , the Dan McAuliffe Memorial Ball Parks were built. With lights that surpass AAA minor league standards, the lights stretch a good 320 feet down both left and right field lines and 410 feet to center field.	This comment references the quality of design related to the existing facility; however, it does not address the adequacy of the MND, therefore no further response is required.
A	Richard Scherer	A-5 <u>More than one generation of Sacramento's own residents</u> <u>have played ball there, and many of their kids now do too.</u> In total, there are three fields for you to choose from.	See response to Comment A-2.

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		Kesponse to comments	
В	Dan Kopp	B-1: Aesthetics: c) As a long-time resident, I have enjoyed the visual character of the ballfields and quality of habitat it provides for resident breeding birds such as Black Phoebes and American Robins and as foraging habitat for Canada Geese. The removal of this installation will substantially degrade the visual character of an open park-like facility and replace it with asphalt and concrete and a constant, instead of intermediate (game time), occupation during the school year. This should be at least checked as Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated or Potentially Significant Impact.	This comment describes the existing facility as habitat for various species of birds as an aesthetic value. Impacts to wildlife habitat are evaluated per the CEQA Guidelines in the Biological Resources section of the Initial Study (pages 19-21). The existing facility does not qualify as a protected habitat. Impacts to aesthetics are evaluated in the Initial study (page 12). The project site/ballfields do not provide scenic vistas. The project proposes to provide a vibrant and visually attractive urban environment that would complement and enhance the adjoining campus' distinct visual identity. Therefore, the project would not result in significant impacts relative to aesthetics.
В	Dan Kopp	B-2 Population and Housing: a) The first sentence in the reply is doublespeak. How can constructing an in-fill project that would create new residence halls for up to 1,100 students not be inducing substantial population growth in that area, when that parcel has never contained housing, save maybe prior to construction of HWY 50 in the late 1960's? I prefer students seek housing in the city than be concentrated in one giant mess of an instant mini city. I have been considering moving from my nearby residence of 17 years due to the plague of homelessness, but the University is beginning to weigh in heavily on the right time to leave.	The project would not result in an increase in the number of full time enrolled students at the campus, but would provide housing for the existing campus population size. The additional housing is expected to alleviate existing demand as discussed on Page 45 of the MND. The regional population would not be impacted by completion of the project.

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B Dan Kopp B-3 The recent Crossings population induction, which demanded a new intersection on Folsom that will have me avoiding that corridor and the businesses it houses, and now this proposal combine as definite factors for Mandatory Findings of Significance b). By, "Crossings application induction" the commenter appears to be referring to The Crossings, a 225-unit student housing project located on Ramona Avenue on the south side of the US-50 freeway. This Subject of an MND dated June 2016. By "new intersection," the commenter appears to be referring to the intersection of Folsom Boulevard with Ramona Avenue. This new intersection, which was the subject of an ER in 2011. Whatever objections the commenter, which was the subject of an ER in 2011. Whatever objections the commenter may have to those project. The current project was the subject of an ER in 2011. Whatever objections the commenter may have to those project. The current project was the day for that section of road (see Exhibit 27 in the Traffic Impact Study).	-			
	B	Dan Kopp	demanded a new intersection on Folsom that will have me avoiding that corridor and the businesses it houses, and now this proposal combine as definite factors for Mandatory	commenter appears to be referring to The Crossings, a 225-unit student housing project located on Ramona Avenue on the south side of the US-50 freeway. This City of Sacramento project was the subject of an MND dated June 2016. By "new intersection," the commenter appears to be referring to the intersection of Folsom Boulevard with Ramona Avenue. This new intersection, which is currently under construction, is part of the Folsom Boulevard Widening/Ramona Avenue Extension Project, which was the subject of an EIR in 2011. Whatever objections the commenter may have to those projects have no bearing on the current, unrelated project. The current project would decrease eastbound traffic (i.e. improve operations) on Folsom Boulevard during the AM peak hour, which is the worst hour of the day for that section of road (see Exhibit 27 in the

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В	Dan Kopp	B-4 There is no way to guarantee additional student housing would reduce commuter vehicular trips to campus. Am I to believe the proposed residents of this project would be forced to walk, ride a bike or ride a campus bus to the university? This prediction of reduced commuter vehicular trips is bogus at best and misleading at the worst; with additional student housing it can only be certain it will	As mentioned throughout the MND, providing additional on-campus housing would not change the number of students enrolled at CSUS (pages 16, 55). Providing additional on-campus housing would eliminate the need for 1,100
		increase by 1,100 the number of vehicles accessing that parcel for months at a time compared to the 50 or so that do so intermittently for ball games at the current facility.	students to commute to the campus, thereby reducing vehicle commuter trips. Per the Transportation Impact Study (Appendix IX), because the trip- generation rate for students is lower when they live on campus, the proposed residence halls would result in a net reduction in vehicle trips to campus (refer to TIS Exhibit 25.)
В	Dan Kopp	B-5 How is the second sentence backed up, with any real numbers? And what does it even mean? The IS does nothing but admit traffic congestion will be exacerbated by the proposed project, namely at Howe Avenue and College Town where there are already accidents waiting to happen with unmetered cross traffic.	The "second sentence" that the commenter is referring to is on page 50 of the IS and reads, "Combining the reduction in commuter vehicular trips with the increase in vehicular trips generated by the project, would result in an overall net reduction in trip generation." As explained in Section 6.A. of the Traffic Impact Study (Appendix IX of the IS/MND), the number of vehicle trips generated by students residing on Sacramento State's campus was calculated using driveway counts at the parking lots of existing residence halls on campus (see TIS Exhibit 20). Similarly, the

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	campus students was calculated using driveway counts at their parking lots. (see TIS Exhibit 24). Because the trip- generation rate for students is lower when they live on campus, the proposed residence halls would result in a net reduction in vehicle trips to campus (see TIS Exhibit 25).
	The Howe Avenue/College Town Drive intersection is fully signalized; i.e. every approach is subject to control by traffic signals. Therefore, it cannot be determined to what "unmetered cross traffic" the commenter is referring. In any case, if the commenter feels that there is some imperfection in the design of this intersection then it is an existing deficiency and not an impact of the proposed project. The existing level of service, while poor, is again an existing deficiency not attributable to the proposed project. The LOS at that intersection in 2020 is expected to be D in the AM peak hour and E in the PM peak hour whether the residence halls are constructed or not. As can be seen in Exhibit 29 of the Traffic Impact Study, the traffic operations analysis shows that the proposed residence halls would have no significant impact on the Howe Avenue/College Town Drive intersection.

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В	Dan Kopp	B-6 The portion of East University Dr. where the current vehicle access to the ballfields is located would become an unruly entrance and exit back-up, forcing folks to alter their many year's long routes just to accommodate transitory citizens. That is near completion with the Crossings intersection on Folsom and adds another combining negative impact for Mandatory Findings of Significance b).	It is assumed the commenter is referring to State University Drive. The proposed driveway on State University Drive would be right-in-right-out with a raised median as reflected in Exhibit 27 of the Traffic Impact Study (Appendix IX of the MND), to prevent left turns which would avoid queuing on State University Drive both for entering or exiting vehicles. Analysis of Plus Project traffic operations shows that the driveway would have acceptable A and B levels of service and have no effect on intersections on Folsom Boulevard as referenced in Exhibit 29 of the Traffic Impact Study.
В	Dan Kopp	B-7 Please let me know if need to submit an additional comment, or if I have a comment file that can describe what a "smooth mile away" is.	Neither the initial study nor the MND references a "smooth mile away." It is unclear what this comment references in terms of the document under review.

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B	Dan Kopp	B-8 Yes, and please add this article: <u>https://www.kcra.com</u> / <u>article/parking-shortage-frustrates-sacramento-</u> renters-at-new-complex/23189940 in my comment file, showcasing the increase in vehicle traffic with not only residents but visitors. This is testimony to the University's knowing misinterpretation of the deleterious effects of a misguided master plan that doesn't care much for negative effects on long-term neighbors, but instead favors the University and its transitory student population.	This comment alludes to parking concerns within the vicinity of the project site. As referenced in the MND (pages 1 and 55), the project would provide surface parking. Parking provided by the project would be in addition to existing parking provided by the campus and evaluated under the approved campus plan, which actually expands student parking facilities.
C	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	C-1 Pursuant to the State Clearinghouse's 24 August 2018 requests, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has reviewed the <i>Request</i> <i>for the Negative Declaration</i> for the Student Housing East Project, located in Sacramento County.	This serves as an introduction to the Water Quality Board's letter and acknowledges CVRWQB's review of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and briefly summarizes the agency's delegation of responsibility for protecting the quality of surface and groundwater. This comment does not address the adequacy of the MND, therefore no further response is required.
С	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	C-2 <u>Basin Plan</u> The Central Valley Water Board is required to formulated and adopt Basin Plans for all areas within the Central Valley region under Section 13240 of the Porter- Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Each Basin Plan must contain water quality objectives to ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses, as well as a program of implementation for achieving water quality objectives with the Basin Plans. Federal regulations require each state to	This comment provides the regulatory setting establishing the responsibility of CVRWQCB with establishing a basin plan requiring all discharges to be compliant with the Antidegradation Policy. The establishment of responsibility to CVRWQCB does not relate to the project and no further response is required.

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		adopt water quality standards to protect the public health or		
		welfare, enhance the quality of water and serve the purposes		
		of the Clean Water Act. In California, the beneficial uses,		
		water quality objectives, and the Antidegradation Policy are		
		the State's water quality standards. Water quality standards		
		are also contained in the National Toxics Rule, 40 CFR Section		
		131.36, and the California Toxics Rule, 40 CFR Section 131.38.		
		The Basin Plan is subject to modification as necessary,		
		considering applicable laws, policies, technologies, water		
		quality conditions and priorities. The original Basin Plans were		
		adopted in 1975m and have been updated and revised		
		periodically as required, using Basin Plan amendments. Once		
		the Central Valley Water Board has adopted a Basin Plan		
		amendment in noticed public hearings, it must be approved		
		by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water		
		Board), Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and in some cases,		
		the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).		
		Basin Plan amendments only become effective after they		
		have been approved by the OAL and in some cases, the		
		USEPA. Every three (3) years, a review of the Basin Plan is		
		completed that assesses the appropriateness of existing		
		standards and evaluates and prioritizes Basin Planning issues.		
		For more information on the Water Quality Control Plan for		
		the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins, please visit our		
		website.		
С	Central Valley Regional	C-3 All wastewater discharges must comply with the	This comment references the	
	Water Quality Control	Antidegradation Policy (State Water Board Resolution 68-16)	requirement to evaluate potential	
	Board	and the Antidegradation Implementation Policy contained in	impacts to waste discharge. As	
		the Basin Plan. The antidegradation Policy is available on	referenced on pages 39-40 of the MND,	
		page IV-15.01 at:	project design would account for all	
		httP://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalleywater_	necessary drainage facilities to	
		issues/basin_plans/sacsjr.pdf	accommodate storm water and	
		In part it states:	discharges. The MND calls for mitigation	

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	Any discharge of waste to high quality waters must apply best	requiring the preparation of a storm
	practicable treatment or control not only to prevent a	water pollution prevention plan, which,
	condition of pollution or nuisance from occurring, but also to	as a standard, will provide for
	maintain the highest water quality possible consistent with	appropriate National Pollutant Discharge
	the maximum benefit to the people of the state.	Elimination System measures.
	This information must be presented as an analysis of the	
	impacts and potential impacts of the discharge on water	
	quality, as measured by background concentrations and	
	applicable water quality objectives.	
	The antidegradation analysis is a mandatory element in the	
	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and land	
	discharge Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) permitting	
	processes. The environmental review document should	
	evaluate potential impacts to both surface and groundwater	
	quality.	
	C-4 Dischargers whose projects disturb one or more acres of	This comment refers to the requirement
	soil or whose projects disturb less than one acre but are part	that a Construction General Permit be
	of a larger common plan of development that in total disturbs	obtained for construction and that the a
	one or more acres, are required to obtain coverage under the	SWPPP be developed as part of that
	General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated	permit. The MND calls for the
	with Construction Activity Construction General Permit Order	development of a SWPPP per mitigation
	2009-0009-DWQ. Construction activity subject to this permit	measure WQ-1 (page 39) to comply with
	includes clearing, grading and disturbances to the ground	this requirement.
	such as stockpiling, or excavation, but does not include	
	regular maintenance activities performed to restore the	
	original line, grade, or capacity of the facility.	
	The Construction General Permit requires the development	
	of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).	
	For more information on the Construction General Permit,	
	visit the State Water Resources Control Board website at:	
	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues	
	/programs/stormwater/constrpermits.shtml	

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C	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	C-5 Phase I and II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits The Phase I and II MS4 permits require the Permittees reduce pollutants and runoff flows from new development and redevelopment using Best Management Practices (BMPs) to the maximum extent practicable (MEP). MS4 Permittees have their own development standards, also known as Low Impact Development (LID)/post-construction standards that include a hydromodification component. The MS4 permits also require specific design concepts for LID/post-construction BMPs in the early stages of a project during the entitlement and CEQA process and the development plan review process. For more information on which Phase I MS4 Permit this project applies to, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at: <u>http://www.waterboards.ca.gov</u>	This comment does not address the adequacy of the MND, therefore no further response is required.			

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<u>/centralvalley</u>	
/water_issues/storm_water/municipal_permits/.	
For more information on the Phase II MS4 permit and who it	
applies to, visit the State Water Resources Control Board at:	
http://waterboards.ca.gov	
/water_issues	
/programs/stormwater/phase_ii_municipal.shtml	
Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit	
If the project will involve the discharge of dredged or fill	
material in navigable waters or wetlands, a permit pursuant	
to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act may be needed from	
the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE). If a	
Section 404 permit is required by the USACOE, the Central	
Valley Water Board will review the permit application to	
ensure that discharge will not violate water quality standards.	
If the project requires surface water drainage realignment,	
the applicant is advised to contact the Department of Fish	
and Game for information on Streambed Alteration Permit	
requirements.	
If you have any questions regarding the Clean Water Act	
Section 404 permits, please contact the Regulatory Division of	
the Sacramento District of USACOE at (916) 557-5250.0	
Clean Water Act Section 401 Permit – Water Quality	
Certification If an USACOE permit (e.g., Non-Reporting	
Nationwide Permit, Nationwide Permit, Letter of Permission,	
Individual Permit, Regional General Permit, Programmatic	
General Permit), or any other federal permit (e.g., Section 10	
of the Rivers and Harbors Act or Section 9 from the United	
States Coast Guard), is required for this project due to the	
disturbance of waters of the United States (such as streams	
and wetlands), then a Water Quality Certification must be	
obtained from the Central Valley Water Board prior to	
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initiation of project activities. There are no waivers for 401	
Water Quality Certifications.	
Waste Discharge Requirement – Discharge to Waters of the	
State If USACOE determines that only non-jurisdictional	
waters of the State (i.e., "non-federal" waters of the State)	
are present in the proposed project area, the proposed	
project may require a Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR)	
permit to be issued by Central Valley Water Board. Under the	
California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act,	
discharges to all waters of the State, including all wetlands	
and other waters of the State including, but not limited to,	
isolated wetlands, are subject to State regulation.	
For more information on the Water Quality Certification and	
WDR processes, visit the Central Valley Water Board website	
at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley	
/help/business_help/permit2.shtml.	
Dewatering Permit If the proposed project includes	
construction or grouondwater dewatering to be discharged to	
land, the proponent may apply for coverage under State	
Water Board General Water Quality Order (Low Risk General	
Order) 2003-0003 or the Central Valley Water Board's Waiver	
of Report of Waste Discharge and Waste Discharge	
Requirements (Low Risk Waiver) R5-2013-0145. Small	
temporary construction dewatering projects are projects that	
discharge groundwater to land from excavation activities or	
dewatering of underground utility vaults. Dischargers seeking	
coverage under the General Order or Waiver must file a	
Notice of Intent with the Central Valley Water Board prior to	
beginning discharge.	
For more information regarding the Low Risk General Order	
and the application process, visit the Central Valley Water	

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		Board website at:	
		http://www.waterboards.c.agov/board_decisions/	
		adopted_orders/water_quality/2003/wqo/wqo2003-	
		0003.pdf.	
		For more information regarding the Low Risk Waiver and the	
		application process, visit the Central Valley Water Board	
		website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley	
		/board_decisions/adopted_orders/waivers/r5-2013-	
		0145_res.pdf	
С	Central Valley Regional	C-6 Regulatory Compliance for Commercially Irrigated	State land is not currently used for
	Water Quality Control	Agriculture If the property will be used for commercial	commercially irrigated agriculture. This
	Board	irrigated agricultural, the discharger will be required to obtain	comment does not address the adequacy
		regulatory coverage under the Irrigated Lands Regulatory	of the MND, therefore no further
		Program. There are two options to comply:	response is required.
		1. Obtain Coverage Under a Coalition Group. Join the local	
		Coalition Group that supports land owners with the	
		implementation of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program.	
		The Coalition Group conducts water quality monitoring and	
		reporting to the Central Valley Water Board on behalf of its	
		growers. The Coalition Groups charge an annual membership	
		fee, which varies by Coalition Group. To find the Coalition	
		Group in your area, visit the Central Valley Water Board's	
		website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov	
		/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/for_growers/app	
		ly_coalition_group/index.shtml or contact water board staff	
		at (916) 464-4611 or via email at	
		IrrLands@waterboards.ca.gov.	
		2. Obtain Coverage Under the General Waste Discharge	
		Requirement for Individual Growers, General Order R5-	
		2013-0100 . Dischargers not participating in a third-party	
		group (Coalition) are regulated individually. Depending on the	
		specific site conditions, growers may be required to monitor	
		runoff from their property, install monitoring wells, and	

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		submit a notice of intent, farm plan, and other action plans	
		regarding their actions to comply with their General Order.	
		Yearly costs would include State administrative fees (for	
		example, annual fees for farm sizes from 10-100 acres are	
		currently \$1, 084+\$6.70/Acre); the cost to prepare annual	
		monitoring reports and water quality monitoring costs. To	
		enroll as an Individual Discharger under the Irrigated Lands	
		Regulatory Program, call the Central Valley Water Board	
		phone line at (916) 464-4611 or e-mail board staff at	
		IrrLands@waterboards.ca.gov.	
С	Central Valley Regional	C-7 If the proposed project includes construction dewatering	If construction dewatering of the site is
	Water Quality Control	and it is necessary to discharge the groundwater to waters of	required, the project will seek coverage
	Board	the United States, the proposed project will require coverage	under a National Pollutant Discharge
		under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	Elimination System as standard under the
		(SPDES) permit. Dewatering discharges are typically	General Permit. This comment does not
		considered a low or limited threat to water quality and may	address the adequacy of the MND,
		be covered under the General Order for Dewatering and	therefore no further response is
		Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (Low Threat	required.
		General Order) or the General Order for Limited Threat	
		Discharges of Treated/Untreated Groundwater from Cleanup	
		Sites, Wastewater from Superchlorination Projects, and Other	
		Limited Threat Wastewaters to Surface Water (Limited Threat	
		General Order). A complete application must be submitted to	
		the Central Valley Water Board to obtain coverage under	
		these General NPDES permits.	
		For more information regarding the Low Threat General	
		Order and the application process, visit the Central Valley	
		Water Board website at:	
		http://waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/	
		board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2013-	
		<u>0074.pdf.</u>	

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		C-8 NPDES Permit If the proposed project discharges waste that could affect the quality of surface waters of the State, other than into a community sewer system, the proposed project will require coverage under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. A complete Report of Waste Discharge must be submitted with the Central Valley Water Board to obtain a NPDES Permit. For more information regarding the NPDES Permit and the application process, visit the Central Valley Water Board website at: <u>http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/help/business</u> <u>help/permit3.shtml</u> .	The proposed project will not discharge waste that could affect the quality of surface waters of the State. No further response is required.
D	City of Sacramento Department of Utilities	 D-1 The Hydrology and Water Quality discussion does not mention the incorporation of post construction stormwater quality measures. The City of Sacramento post construction stormwater quality requirements include: Source Control Measures (waste management area design, vehicle wash area design, other measures as applicable) Treatment Control Measures (bioretention planters, vegetated swales, infiltration measures) Low Impact Development Measures (bioretention planters, infiltration measures, pervious pavement) Please ensure that the project design incorporates all of these required post construction measures. Please refer to the 2018 Stormwater Quality Design Manual for the Sacramento Area (http://www.beriverfriendly.net/newdevelopment/stormwate 	The MND proposes stormwater mitigation measure WQ-1 (Pages 39-40) for stormwater mitigation during construction. The SWPPP will be developed in accordance with the SWRCB General Permit 99-08-DWQ for Construction Activities, which requires post construction stormwater quality best management practices and a maintenance schedule as a standard for all SWPPPs (State Water Resources Control Board Construction General Permit Fact Sheet, Section L, Page 37).

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		<u>erqualitydesignmanual</u>) for more information on the selection and design of these measures.	
D	City of Sacramento Department of Utilities (cont'd)	D-2 The City of Sacramento requires a maintenance agreement to be executed for all proposed onsite post construction stormwater quality measures. The maintenance agreement shall be signed and submitted to the City of Sacramento upon approval of the improvement plans. Please refer to the attached maintenance agreement template for more information.	The MND proposes stormwater mitigation measure WQ-1 (Pages 39-40) for stormwater mitigation during construction. The SWPPP will be developed in accordance with the SWRCB General Permit 99-08-DWQ for Construction Activities, which requires post construction stormwater quality best management practices and a maintenance schedule as a standard for all SWPPPs (State Water Resources Control Board Construction General Permit Fact Sheet, Section L, Page 37).
E	Sacramento Municipal Utilities Department	E-1 The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Student Housing East Project (Project, SCH 2018082052). SMUD is the primary energy provider for Sacramento County and the proposed Project area. SMUD's vision is to empower our customers with solutions and options that increase energy efficiency, protect the environment, reduce global warming, and lower the cost to serve our region. As a Responsible Agency, SMUD aims to ensure that the proposed Project limits the potential for significant environmental effects on SMUD facilities, employees, and customers.	This serves as an introduction to the Sacramento Municipal Utilities Department letter and acknowledges SMUD's review of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and briefly summarizes the agency's vision and responsibility to its customers. This comment does not address the adequacy of the MND, therefore no further response is required.

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E	Sacramento Municipal	E-2 It is our desire that the Project MND will acknowledge any	The project has been coordinating with
	Utilities Department	Project impacts related to the following:	SMUD regarding the electrical
		 Overhead and or underground transmission and 	infrastructure needs of the housing
		distribution line easements.	project. All new or re-aligned
		Please view the following links on smud.org for more	transmission and distribution facilities
		information regarding	and associated easements would be
		transmission encroachment:	located within the project footprint, as
		 https://www.smud.org/en/Business-Solutions-and- 	analyzed in the MND or the adjacent
		Rebates/Design-and-Construction-Services	right-of-way.
		 https://www.smud.org/en/Corporate/Do-Business-with- 	
		SMUD/Land-Use/Transmission-Right-of-Way	
E	Sacramento Municipal	E-3 (It is our desire that the Project MND will acknowledge	All re-routing of utility lines and
	Utilities Department	any Project impacts related to the following:)	relocation and/or removal of existing
		Utility line routing	SMUD facilities would occur within the
		Relocation or removal of existing SMUD facilities on or	project footprint as analyzed in the MND
		adjacent to the project area.	(or the adjacent right-of-way). No
		• Existing easements on or adjacent to the subject property	facilities would be placed outside of the
		for SMUD infrastructure.	project study area, and therefore, all
			impacts associated with the placement of
			such facilities have been adequately
			described within the MND.
E	Sacramento Municipal	E-4 (It is our desire that the Project MND will acknowledge	The project has been coordinating with
	Utilities Department	any Project impacts related to the following:)	SMUD regarding electrical infrastructure.
		 Electrical load needs/requirements 	All onsite electrical infrastructure will be
			constructed compliant with code.
E	Sacramento Municipal	E-5 (It is our desire that the Project MND will acknowledge	As discussed on page 34 of the MND, the
	Utilities Department	any Project impacts related to the following:)	proposed student housing facilities would
		Energy Efficiency	be designed to comply with 2016 energy
			efficiency requirements prescribed by
			Title 24 of the California Building Code
			with project design meeting Calgreen
			criteria. These measures would ensure

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			the energy efficiency of the project during operations.
E	Sacramento Municipal Utilities Department	 E-6 (It is our desire that the Project MND will acknowledge any Project impacts related to the following:) Climate Change 	As discussed on page 34 of the MND and in response to comment E-5, the proposed student housing facilities would be designed for energy efficiency, which, in turn would reduce reliance on energy resources. In addition, the proposed project connects student residences to the campus and reduces automobile commuter trips as stated on page 35 of the MND. Reduction of commuter trips (reduced trip length) also would contribute to emissions reductions.
E	Sacramento Municipal Utilities Department	 E-7 (It is our desire that the Project MND will acknowledge any Project impacts related to the following:) Cumulative impacts related to the need for increased electrical delivery 	Refer to the response to E-2. The project is a student housing project and would not place substantial new demands on the energy transmission system; therefore, the project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to the energy transmission and distribution system in the project area.
E	Sacramento Municipal Utilities Department	 E-8 SMUD would like to offer the following project specific comments: The MND does not acknowledge the need for electrical infrastructure. This project would require a pad mounted transformer that will service this project; therefore, there are existing SMUD distribution (12kV) and sub-transmission (69kV) facilities within the Student Housing East project area that will need to be maintained if areas are developed /redeveloped 	See response to comments E-2 and E-3.

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E	Sacramento Municipal Utilities Department	 E-9 SMUD would like to offer the following project specific comments: Additional distribution facilities will be required in vacant areas when developed potentially along the Folsom Blvd corridor or College Town Drive and State University Drive corridors. These areas would need to be evaluated for potential biological impacts. 	See response to comment E-3. All project distribution lines and associated infrastructure would be located within the project site analyzed in the MND. The vacant areas referenced in the comment do not support sensitive biological resources. The MND acknowledges the presence of mature trees (see page 20), and mitigation for nesting birds is provided (MM-BIO-1)
E	Sacramento Municipal Utilities Department	 E-10 SMUD would like to offer the following project specific comments: No additional distribution substations are anticipated No additional sub-transmission routes are anticipated 	This comment does not address the adequacy of the MND, therefore no further response is required.
E	Sacramento Municipal Utilities Department	E-11 More specifically, SMUD would like to have the following details related to the electrical infrastructure incorporated into the project description: SMUD would like to be involved with discussing the above areas of interest as well as discussing any other potential issues. We aim to be partners in the efficient and sustainable delivery of the proposed Project. Please ensure that the information included in this response is conveyed to the Project planners and the appropriate Project proponents.	This comment requests collaboration as project design is advanced. The project proponent accepts the benefit for both parties to collaborate going forward.
E	Sacramento Municipal Utilities Department	E-12 Environmental leadership is a core value of SMUD and we look forward to collaborating with you on this Project. Again, we appreciate the opportunity to provide input on this NEG. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact SMUD's Environmental Management Specialist, Rob Ferrera, at rob.ferrera@smud.org or 916.732.6676.	This serves as a conclusion to the Sacramento Municipal Utilities Department letter and identifies a key staff contact at SMUD for follow up. This comment does not address the adequacy of the MND, therefore no further response is required.

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	Response to comments		
F	City of Sacramento Department of Public Works	F-1 The City of Sacramento appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the South Campus Student Housing at CSUS (August 2018). The new student housing facilities would provide up to 1,100 beds in a mix of 4-bedroom, 2 bedroom, and studio apartment units as well as support spaces such as lounges, multipurpose rooms etc.	This serves as an introduction to the City of Sacramento Department of Public Work's letter and acknowledges the department's review of the Mitigated Negative Declaration. This comment does not address the adequacy of the MND, therefore no further response is required.
F	City of Sacramento Department of Public Works	F-2 As CSUS may be aware, the parcel immediately to the east of the South Campus Housing project, currently occupied with a parking lot and low-rise office building, may be the site of a second student housing project. Please note that the proposed northbound project driveway at this signal should be designed to allow future access to future redevelopment of this parcel.	The project has been in discussions with the owners of the adjacent property, who have mentioned several possible uses for the site, including student housing or office uses. The proposed design for the driveway and signal modifications for the College Town Drive/Fairbairn Road intersection would allow for joint use of the driveway with either of those uses, upon negotiations between the parties.
F	City of Sacramento Department of Public Works	 F-3 The City of Sacramento Department of Public Works provided comments on CSUS Campus Master Plan 2015 Draft Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2014102021) on March 12, 2015. Many concerns expressed in the above referenced comment letter are still valid, particularly, the comments listed in the bullet points #3 and #6 of the letter. 3. The City has extensive experience dealing with traffic and traffic signals in and around CSUS campus. The City has made many field observations and has regularly monitored these locations through CCTV count stations, and traffic signal controllers from the City's Traffic Operation Center. The traffic study provided in the DEIR for 	The City's reference to discussions dating back to 2015 show that the problems described are existing deficiencies unrelated to the current project, which was not contemplated at that time. By state law, a new project cannot be required to rectify existing deficiencies (See California General Code Section 66001(g)). The proposed project <i>reduces</i>

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the Campus Master Plan indicates LOS higher (better) than what	vehicular traffic through the intersection
the City has observed. Vehicular queuing commonly occurs form	(see Exhibit 27 in the TIS).
State University Drive / College Town, west on Folsom Blvd and	
then south the 65 th / Hwy 50.	
In addition, queuing occurs from State University Drive/College	
Town east on College Town to Hornet Drive to Folsom Blvd /	
Bicentennial Way. In addition, there are significant queues that	
occur at the Hwy 50 to Hornet off-ramp. The City believes the LOS	
reported in the traffic study does not reflect the actual LOS at these	
intersections.	
The City has observed that a significant amount of the queuing	
occurs on City streets due to poor operation and inadequate lane	
capacity at State University Drive / College Town. It is possible that	
the LOS reported by the traffic modeling software is better due to	
the traffic signals being starved. This condition occurs when queue	
is so significant that vehicles arriving at the back of the queue do	
not reach the intersection in one cycle.	
As a result of the existing conditions and knowing that the outcome	
of the traffic model used in the Campus Master Plan DEIR does not	
reflect the existing conditions, we are requesting that the traffic	
analysis revised to better represent the existing conditions. For	
example traffic simulation at congested intersection provide more	
accurate outcome of the traffic model and could be utilized in these	
analysis.	
6. Adding more student housing on the Campus will increase the	
pedestrian and bicycle activity on City facilities and will require	
improvements to the intersections adjacent to the project site. The	
City is willing to work with Sacramento State University to identify	
the necessary improvements to the transportation facilities nearby	
University Campus. Some potential improvements may include	
widening northbound approach of State University Drive at College	
Town intersection, relocation of bus stops to change pedestrian	
crossings, westbound approach right turn channelization,	
installation of ITS elements, and other. An agreement between the	
City and CSUS regarding the operation and maintenance of this	
signal would ensure efficiency of the transportation system	
operation in the proximity to CSUS.	

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	The response to comments section of the FEIR to comment 3 (2-3 in	
	FEIR) included the statement " the queuing problem is short-	
	lived; 15 to 20 minutes during the peak of the peak hour and much	
	of the queuing occurs on campus streets rather than City streets"	
	The response to comment 6 (2-6 in FEIR) noted how on campus	
	student housing is consistent with many City, County and Campus	
	Master Plan Goals.	
	The City continues to monitor intersections around CSUS' campus	
	from its Traffic Operations Center. Monitoring indicates that	
	significant vehicular queuing continues to occur at several adjacent	
	intersections due to poor operation and inadequate lane capacity.	
	One of them, as noted in comments on the Campus Master Plan in	
	2015, is State University Drive and College Town Drive intersection.	
	Adding the project vehicular trips generated by the proposed	
	student housing and increased number of pedestrians will cause	
	more delay and queuing.	
	Our observations show the queuing problem is not short lived and	
	routinely occurs throughout the entire morning peak hour.	
	Furthermore, the intent of comment 6 was to highlight some of the	
	infrastructure improvements that would be required from	
	increased pedestrian and bicycle activity, such as widening the	
	northbound approach of State University Drive at College Town	
	Drive.	
	The northbound direction on State University Drive routinely	
	queues back from the State University Drive and College	
	Town intersection back to Folsom Boulevard. Furthermore,	
	even providing 60 seconds of continuous northbound green	
	at the State University Drive and College Town intersection is	
	not enough time to clear the morning queue. The continuing	
	design issue at this intersection is that the one northbound	
	lane from which lefts, throughs, and right turns movements	
	are allowed is not adequate.	
		1

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F	City of Sacramento	F-3 Accordingly, City of Sacramento does not consider the	As indicated in the TIA, the current
	Department of Public	proposed mitigation measure TRA-1 as sufficient to address	project would, in fact, <u>reduce</u> vehicular
	Works	the increased vehicular volumes and pedestrian activity at	traffic at this intersection, not increase it
		State University Drive and College Town Drive intersection.	(see Exhibit 27 in the Traffic Impact
		Widening of the northbound approach at this intersection to	Study).
		two lanes and installing ITS elements are imperative to	The current project's only impact on this
		improve the operation of this intersection. Two continuous	intersection is to increase pedestrian
		northbound travel lanes are needed on State University Drive	traffic. The mitigation measure suggested
		between Folsom Boulevard and College Town Drive.	in the City's letter would arguably worsen
		City requests the mitigation measure TRA-1 to be modified as	conditions for pedestrians by increasing
		follows:	the width of road they must cross and
		Widen the northbound approach at the State University	increasing the vehicle flow opposing their
		Drive and College Town Drive intersection to two lanes and	movement. Therefore, the measure
		install ITS elements to improve the operation of this intersection. Install two continuous northbound travel	requested by the City would be an
		lanes on State University Drive between Folsom Boulevard	inappropriate response to increased
		and College Town Drive.	pedestrian activity. In contrast, the
			University's proposed mitigation
			measure, which would increase the
			capacity of the intersection to safely
			accommodate increased pedestrian
			traffic, is a more appropriate response.
			It should be noted that the City of
			Sacramento General Plan Policy M
			1.2.2.B. states that LOS "F" is allowed in
			Priority Investment Areas (see page 2-
			166 in
			http://www.cityofsacramento.org/-
			/media/Corporate/Files/CDD/Planning/G
			eneral-Plan/2035-
			<u>GP/Mobility.pdf?la=en</u>). Figure M1 in this
			document shows that the project site is
			in a Tier 1 Priority Investment Area. This

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			is discussed in Section 3.B of the TIS. The University's proposed treatment of this intersection is therefore consistent with the City General Plan.		
			The University is not averse to further discussions with the City regarding ways to improve traffic flow in the project vicinity. However, such discussions would need to be outside the context of the environmental review of the current project.		
F	City of Sacramento Department of Public Works	F-4 Please provide our office with copies of any further actions regarding this project. We would appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on any changes related to this development and we would like to be included on early review of the proposed project site plan. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at (916) 808-8930 or by email at pclarke@cityofsacramento.org	This comment requests continued communication as the proposed project advances. California State University acknowledges and will abide the request. This comment does not address the adequacy of the MND in analyzing the current project therefore no further response is required.		
G	State of California Governor's Office of Planning and Research	The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Negative Declaration 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 24, 2018, 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.	This comment acknowledges compliance with the State Clearinghouse review requirements. The enclosed letter is a copy of the Central Valley Water Resources Control Board (Letter C, above). This comment does not address the adequacy of the content of the MND in analyzing the current project therefore no further response is required.		
		Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:			

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"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.	