

## **12.0 Final Subsequent EIR Comments and Responses**





## **12.0 FINAL SUBSEQUENT EIR COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**

### **12.1 INTRODUCTION**

#### **PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

In accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §§ 15120 through 15132 and §15162, the Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) prepared a Draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (DSEIR) for the Sustainable Water Facility Project (SCH #2014061073).

The DSEIR was made available for public review and comment for a 45-day period that occurred between August 31, 2016 and October 6, 2016. The CCSD subsequently extended the public review period to October 26, 2016, resulting in an overall review period of 65 days. The DSEIR was made available for review and comment to the public, responsible and trustee agencies, interested groups, and organizations. The DSEIR was also made available directly to State agencies through the State of California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit. Although not required by CEQA, the CCSD also conducted a noticed Open Public Comment Session on October 11, 2016 at the Veteran's Hall in Cambria, in an effort to solicit and receive verbal comments on the DSEIR.

#### **FINAL SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

Before approving a project, CEQA requires that the Lead Agency prepare and certify a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR). The contents of a FEIR are specified in CEQA Guidelines §15132, as follows:

- (a) The draft EIR or a revision of the draft.
- (b) Comments and recommendations received on the draft EIR either verbatim or in summary.
- (c) A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the draft EIR.
- (d) The responses of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process.
- (e) Any other information added by the Lead Agency.



The FEIR allows the public and Lead Agency an opportunity to review revisions to the DEIR, the comments and responses, and other EIR components, such as the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), before project approval. The FEIR serves as the environmental document to support a decision on a proposed project. The Final Subsequent EIR (FSEIR), which was completed on May 31, 2017, consisted of the following components:

- Section 12.1, Introduction;
- Section 12.2, Lists of Public Agencies, and Persons and Organizations Commenting on the DSEIR;
- Section 12.3, Comments and Responses; and
- Section 12.4, Errata to the Draft Subsequent EIR.

## **REVISED FINAL SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15088, *Evaluation of and Response to Comments*, the CCSD, as Lead Agency, evaluated comments on environmental issues received during the noticed comment period (and extension) from public agencies and persons who reviewed the DSEIR. The FSEIR, which included all comment letters and the CCSD's proposed responses to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process, was submitted to each public agency on May 31, 2017. Following the May 31, 2017 FSEIR release, the CCSD received requests for additional time to review the FSEIR, as well as the Project's Adaptive Management Plan (AMP). Also following the May 31, 2017 FSEIR release, the CCSD received 28 additional comment letters, including four (4) from Public Agencies and 24 from persons and organizations. As permitted by CEQA Guidelines, the CCSD has elected to also respond to these new comments. Therefore, this Revised FSEIR includes new comment letters and the CCSD's proposed responses to the new comments.

It is noted, none of the corrections/clarifications identified in this FSEIR constitute "significant new information" pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15088.5. The new information added merely clarifies/amplifies and makes insignificant modifications to the DSEIR. The corrections/clarifications do not involve changes in the Project or environmental setting, or significant new information. They do not result in a new impact or substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact identified in the DSEIR. No new or substantially different mitigation measures than those identified in the DSEIR are required. Moreover, the new information does not affect the DSEIR's overall conclusions. Therefore, recirculation of the DEIR is not warranted.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15090, prior to approving a project the Lead Agency must certify that:

1. The FEIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA;



2. The FEIR was presented to the decision-making body of the Lead Agency, and that the decision-making body reviewed and considered the information in the FEIR prior to approving the Project; and
3. The FEIR reflects the Lead Agency's independent judgment and analysis.

These certifications, or "Findings of Fact," are included in a separate *Findings* document. Both the FSEIR and the Findings will be submitted to the Lead Agency for consideration of the proposed Project.



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