

# Environmental Permitting Process & Related Terminology

**AQMD** Air Quality Management District; the state is divided into several districts to manage air quality resources; Southern California is served by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

**AQMP** Air Quality Management Plan; A plan that examines current conditions; compares these conditions with state and national benchmarks; identifies areas where improvement could be made; and recommends best management practices to achieve the improvements.

**Biological Resources** - A class of resources found on a project site, according to the California Environmental Quality Act, that includes plant or animals species or habitat that can be classified as either a significant ecological resource or sensitive environmental resource.

**BMP** Best Management Practice; Practices that may include structural and/or behavioral measures that can be implemented to affect the level of any number of environmental impacts such as, air quality, water quality, noise, etc....

**CAA** Clean Air Act; The federal statute addressing air quality.

**CAAQS** California Ambient Air Quality Standards; The state level standards for air quality that generally reflect the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (see below), but for certain pollutants, the California standards are more protective than the national standards, such as Particulate matter and Ozone.

**CARB** California Air Resources Board; The state level board made up of 11 appointed members directed to work with the public, businesses, and local governments to protect the public's health, the economy, and the state's environmental resources through cost-effective reduction of air pollution.

**CDFG** California Department of Fish and Game; The state level agency charged with maintaining native fish, wildlife, plant species, and natural communities for their intrinsic and ecological value and their benefits to people.

**CDC** California Department of Conservation; The state level agency that provides services and information that promote environmental health, economic vitality, informed land-use decisions, and sound management of the state resources. The agency contains many separate divisions such as Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources and Mines and Geology, as listed below.

**CEQA** California Environmental Quality Act; A state statute that requires state and local agencies to identify whether proposed projects may cause significant environmental impacts, and, if so, to avoid or mitigate those impacts, if feasible.

**CNDDDB** California Natural Diversity Database; A program maintained by the California Department of Fish and Game that inventories the status and locations of rare plants and animals in California.

**CSD** Community Standards District; A supplemental district used to address special problems unique to certain geographic areas. It functions as an overlay zone on top of the existing zoning. The Baldwin Hills CSD will address the unique compatibility concerns associated with operating an oil field in the midst of urban development, and will establish permanent development standards, operating requirements and procedures for oil and gas operations in Baldwin Hills.

**CWA** Clean Water Act; A federal statute addressing water quality.

**DOGGR** Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources; A state division under the California Department of Conservation charged with overseeing the drilling, operation, maintenance, and plugging and abandonment of oil, natural gas, and geothermal wells.

**EIR** Environmental Impact Report; A document required under the California Environmental Quality Act to examine the potential significant environmental impacts of a proposed project; the document becomes final when certified by the permitting agency.

**EPA** Environmental Protection Agency; A federal agency charged with developing and enforcing the various federal environmental statutes and regulations.

**GIS** Geographic Information System; An electronic system used to store, process, and display geographic information, especially maps.

## **Historical & Unique Archeological Resources**

A class of resources found on a project site, according to the California Environmental Quality Act, that includes resources listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, or a qualified local register of historical resources; resources determined by the Lead Agency preparing the Environmental Impact Report to be historically or culturally significant.

**HRA** Health Risk Assessment; An assessment of public health impacts associated with exposure to project related emissions of toxic air contaminants. The State of California requires all Air Districts to conduct HRAs for all projects that emit air toxics. CARB developed an air toxics model that is used by all Air Districts.

**LACDPW** Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

**LARWQCB** Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board; A regional board under the State Water Resources Control Board that has authority over water allocation and water quality protection in California.

**LEAD AGENCY** Public agency that has the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a project that is subject to CEQA. In general, a local government agency with jurisdiction over general land uses is the preferred public agency serving as lead agency. The lead agency is responsible for determining the appropriate environmental document, as well as its preparation. Under NEPA, the lead agency is a federal agency with a similar role, i.e. is the agency with the primary responsibility for preparing an EIS. Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning is the Lead Agency for the Baldwin Hills Oil Field Community Standards District Project.

**MMRP** Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; A program that is drafted as a result of finding that a project will have significant environmental impacts in order to periodically monitor the practices that will provide compensation for the impacts.

**NAAQS** National Ambient Air Quality Standards; The federal standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency that apply for outdoor air. The standards require the EPA to set standards on six pollutants: Ozone, Particulate Matter, Carbon monoxide, Sulfur dioxide, Nitrogen oxides, and Lead.

**NOP** Notice of Preparation; A document preceding an Environmental Impact Report that provides notice to interested agencies (responsible, trustee and federal) and stakeholders, that the Lead Agency plans to prepare an Environmental

Impact Report for a project. The Notice of Preparation includes a project description and the scope of the content to be covered by the Environmental Impact Report.

**NPDES** National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System; A permit program that controls water pollution by regulating point sources, including industrial, municipal, and other facilities, that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States.

**SCAQMD** South Coast Air Quality Management District; the state is divided into several districts to manage air quality resources; Southern California is served by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

**SMGB** State Mining and Geology Board; A state board under the California Department of Conservation whose focus is the development, utilization, and conservation of mineral resources; reclamation of mined lands; development of geologic and seismic hazard information; and to provide a forum for public redress.

**SUSMP** Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan; A plan drafted by the County that is required under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit that designate the Best Management Practices to be used in specified categories of development projects.

**SWPPP** Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan; A plan drafted to address storm water pollution prevention practices at specific facilities.

**SWRCB** State Water Resources Control Board; The state board that has authority over water allocation and water quality protection in California; the board has several regional boards to address unique issues that arise in different parts of the state.

**SWTS** Storm Water Treatment System; The generic name for any type of technology employed for the purpose of treating storm water run off to remove/retain pollutants from the run off.

**USACE** United States Army Corps of Engineers; The federal division that serves the Armed Forces and the public by providing engineering services and capabilities in many areas including water resources, environment, infrastructure, and homeland security.

**USFWS** United States Fish and Wildlife Service; The federal division under the United States Department of the Interior that manages and preserves wildlife that includes several units, National Wildlife Refuge System, Bird Habitat Conservation, Federal Duck Stamp, National Fish Hatchery Program, and the Endangered Species Program.

**USGS** United States Geological Survey; The federal scientific agency under the United States Department of Interior charged with studying the landscape, natural resources, and natural hazards that includes four major disciplines, biology, geography, geology, and hydrology.