Introductions

• Liane Randolph, Deputy Secretary and General Counsel, Natural Resources Agency

• Christopher Calfee, Senior Counsel, Governor’s Office of Planning and Research
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The attached "Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970" are intended to be of help in either: a) eliminating the need to prepare environmental impact reports; or b) preparing such reports.

Before reading these Guidelines I strongly recommend that the reader first peruse the "flow chart" attached hereto as Appendix A in order to visualize the process.

Due to the generally acknowledged severe time constraints, it is quite possible that these Guidelines have certain "rough edges". The Resources Agency apologizes for these in advance. Nevertheless, it is our hope that this document will provide a balanced and workable system for all who will work with it.
Background

• California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code §§ 21000 et seq.)
  – Guidelines for public agencies on implementation
  – Developed by OPR, adopted by Natural Resources Agency
  – Review for updates every two years

• Administrative Procedure Act process

• CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR 15000 et seq.)

• Last comprehensive update: late 1990s
Objectives

• Make the environmental review process more efficient and meaningful

• Reflect adopted policy priorities
  – addressing climate change
  – promoting of infill development
  – conserving natural and fiscal resources

• Conform to statutory changes to CEQA and cases interpreting CEQA

• Others?
Providing Input

• Consider limits on time and resources
• Input sought:
  – Mandatory Updates
  – Process Improvements
  – Substantive Improvements
  – Technical Improvements
• Provide factual, legal support for suggestions
• Submit electronically: CEQA.Guidelines@ceres.ca.gov
• Submit before August 30, 2013
Public Comment

• Please remember:
  – Identify yourself and your affiliation
  – We may limit time to accommodate all participants wishing to speak
  – Comments will be webcast and recorded
Next Steps

• Evaluate suggestions in light of update objectives

• Depending on level of input, release draft proposal by early 2014

• Opportunities for input
  – OPR’s initial development process
  – Natural Resources Agency’s APA process

• Update materials available at [www.opr.ca.gov](http://www.opr.ca.gov)
Resources and Additional Information

• Existing CEQA Statute and Guidelines
  – http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/

• Published Cases
  – http://www.lexisnexis.com/clients/CACourts/

• Office of Administrative Law, “How to Participate in the Rulemaking Process”
  – Note, the formal rulemaking process begins after OPR submits the draft Guidelines to the Natural Resources Agency
Thank you!