

REGULATORY ASSISTANCE

California Environmental Quality Act Compliance Services

Founded in 1974, Trinity Consultants helps organizations overcome complex, mission-critical challenges in EHS, engineering, and science through expertise in consulting, technology, training, and staffing. We support clients in geographies worldwide and across a broad range of sectors including industrial, energy, manufacturing, mining, life sciences, and commercial/institutional.

About CEQA

The California Legislature enacted the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in 1970 (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq). The CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR 15000 et seq) incorporate and interpret both the statutory mandates of CEQA and the principles advanced by judicial decisions and new statutes. CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines require state and local government agencies to inform decision makers and the public about the potential environmental impacts of proposed projects, and to reduce those environmental impacts to the extent feasible.

CEQA and its guidelines are immensely important to California businesses and public agencies, as these regulations affect every sector of the California economy and thousands of "projects" within the state. A "project" is generally defined to include a vast array of private and public sector



actions, including commercial constructions, industrial facility expansions, modifications to a power plant, highways and other public works, utility projects, residential developments and many others.

CEQA Documents

The public agency approving the CEQA "project" is known as the Lead Agency. The Lead Agency is initially responsible for preparing a brief CEQA Checklist (also known as an Initial Study) to assess whether the project has the potential for significant adverse environmental impacts. If a project will not cause any significant adverse environmental impacts, the Lead Agency may issue a "Negative Declaration" or "Mitigated Negative Declaration" document. If the project may cause significant adverse environmental impacts, the Lead Agency must prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). An EIR contains in-depth technical studies of potential impacts and measures to reduce or avoid those impacts, as well as an analysis of project alternatives. The CEQA process provides a mechanism to inform decision makers and the public of the potential environmental impacts and to facilitate public review and input.

Air Quality and Other Technical Studies

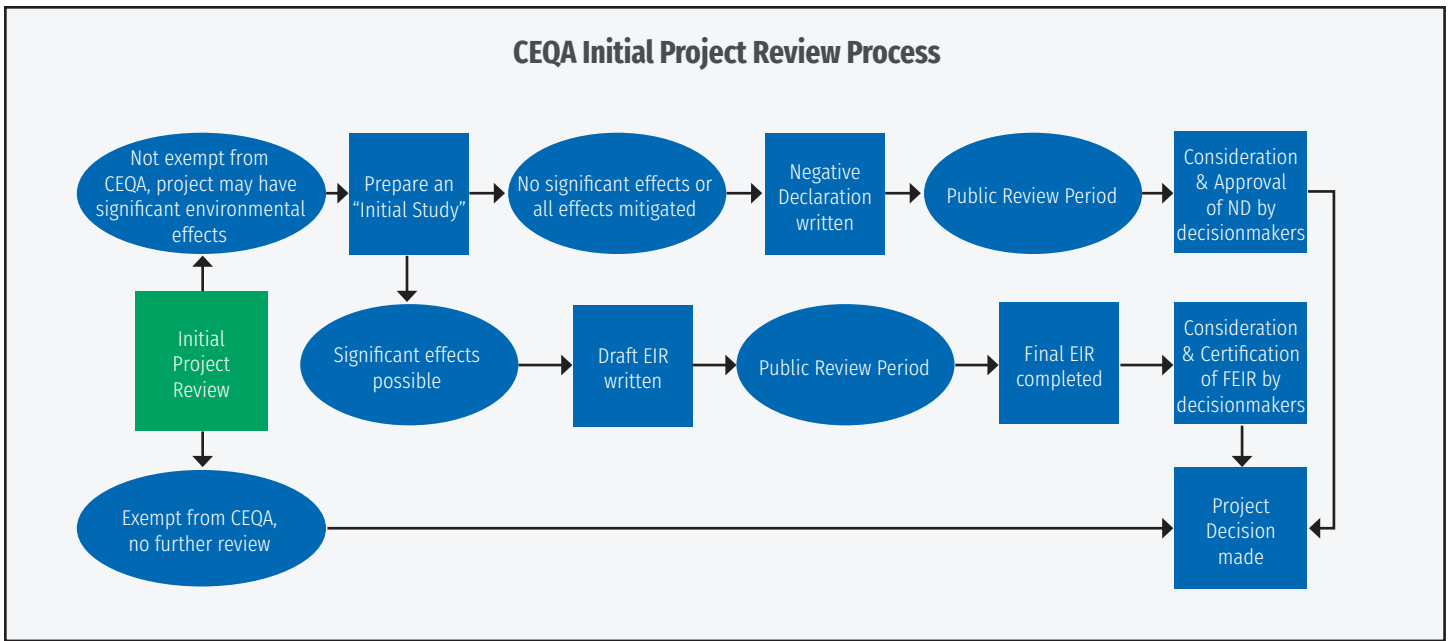
An in-depth air quality technical study is typically required in air basins or districts which exceed state and federal ambient air quality standards and for projects which have the potential to exceed air quality impact thresholds. These air quality impact analyses (AQIAs) become the basis of an Air Quality Chapter in an EIR and include complex emission estimates and modeling to comply with CEQA and other regulatory requirements, including the following:

- ▶ Ambient air quality modeling
- ▶ Criteria pollutant emission estimates for all construction and operational activities – stationary, mobile, and area sources
- ▶ Cumulative criteria pollutant emission impacts
- ▶ Greenhouse gas emission estimates, inventories, reduction strategies, and climate action plans (AB 32)
- ▶ Health risk assessments (AB 2588)
- ▶ Odor assessments

Partnering with Trinity Consultants

Trinity Consultants' experienced environmental professionals provide CEQA documentation and AQIA services. Trinity's CEQA regulatory expertise, technical proficiency, responsiveness, and creative thinking are key to ensuring complete client satisfaction. Trinity's Quality Management System, ISO 9001-certified in its Dallas headquarters office, ensures that clients receive consistent, high quality CEQA services.

CEQA Initial Project Review Process



Trinity's CEQA team has diverse project experience covering a wide range of industry sectors:

- ▶ Agriculture and food processing
- ▶ Commercial
- ▶ Major industrial facilities
- ▶ Mining
- ▶ Oil and Gas
- ▶ Power generation
- ▶ Remediation
- ▶ Residential development
- ▶ Solid waste and landfills
- ▶ Transportation infrastructure
- ▶ Water treatment
- ▶ Wastewater facilities

Our CEQA-related services also include:

- ▶ Power plant environmental compliance documents for the California Energy Commission
- ▶ Air and multi-disciplinary permit coordination
- ▶ Agency negotiation and strategic planning
- ▶ Due diligence and records review
- ▶ Enforcement, litigation, liability, and expert witness support

Trinity's California team works effectively with all California air quality districts, the California Air Resources Board, and city/county agencies statewide.

Whatever your CEQA-related challenges may be, Trinity can partner with you to ensure an appropriate, streamlined program that meets your compliance obligations and maintains operational flexibility.

Trinity Can Help

For more information on how Trinity can help with any of your CEQA needs, please contact Vineet Masuraha, Managing Director, at 949.567.9880 or Valerie Rosenkrantz at 352.562.1520.

Or contact one of our California offices.

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ISO 9001:2015 certified at our corporate office in Dallas, Texas