Staff-Recommended CEQA Thresholds of Significance

This table revises and updates the proposed significance thresholds in the draft September 2009 CEQA Guidelines

POLLUTANT	STAFF RECOMMENDED CONSTRUCTION- RELATED	EXISTING CONSTRUCTION- RELATED	STAFF RECOMMENDED OPERATIONAL-RELATED		EXISTING OPERATIONAL- RELATED		
Project - Level							
Criteria Air Pollutants and Precursors (Regional)	Maximum Daily Emissions (lb/day)		Maximum Daily Emissions (lb/day)	Annual Emissions (tpy)	Maximum Daily Emissions (lb/day)	Annual Emissions (tpy)	
ROG (reactive organic gases)	54	None	54	10	80	15	
NO _x (nitrogen oxides)	54	None	54	10	80	15	
PM ₁₀ (particulate matter exhaust)	82	None	82	15	80	15	
PM _{2.5} (particulate matter exhaust)	54	None	54	10	None	None	
Fugitive Dust	Best Management Practices	Same	54	10	None	None	
Criteria Air Pollutants and Precursors (Local CO)	None	None	9.0 ppm (8-hour average), 20.0 ppm (1-hour average)		Same		
GHGs – Projects other than Stationary Sources	None	None	Compliance with Qualified Climate Action Plan OR Threshold of 1,100 MT of CO ₂ e/yr OR 6.7 MT CO ₂ e/capita/yr (residential) 4.6 MT CO ₂ e/SP/yr (mixed use)		None		
GHGs -Stationary Sources	None	None	10,000 MT/yr		None		
Risks and Hazards – Siting a New Source or Receptor	Cancer Risk > 10 in a million Non-Cancer Hazard Index >1.0 PM _{2.5} level > 0.3 µg/m ³ annual average	None	Compliance with Qualified Local Community Risk Reduction Plan OR Cancer Risk > 10 in a million and Non-Cancer Hazard Index > 1.0 and PM _{2.5} level > 0.3 µg/m ³ annual average Zone of Influence: 1,000 foot radius from fence line of source or receptor		Cancer Risk > 10 in a million Non-Cancer Hazard Index > 1.0		

POLLUTANT	STAFF RECOMMENDED CONSTRUCTION- RELATED	EXISTING CONSTRUCTION- RELATED	STAFF RECOMMENDED OPERATIONAL-RELATED	EXISTING OPERATIONAL- RELATED				
Risks and Hazards – Cumulative Significance Criteria (Source or Receptor)	Cancer Risk > 100 in a million Non-Cancer Hazard Index > 1.0 PM _{2.5} level > 0.8 µg/m ³ annual average Zone of Influence: 1,000 foot radius from fence line of source or receptor	None	Compliance with Qualified Local Community Risk Reduction Plan OR Cancer Risk > 100 in a million and Non-cancer Hazard Index > 1.0 and PM _{2.5} level > 0.8 µg/m³ annual average Zone of Influence: 1,000 foot radius from fence line of source or receptor	None				
Odors	None	None	Screening Level Distances and Complaint History	Screening Level Distances and Complaint History				
Plan Level								
Criteria Air Pollutants and Precursors (Regional and Local)	None	None	Consistency with Current Air Quality Plan control measures AND Rate of VMT increase or vehicle trips is less than the rate of increase in the Plan's population growth rate	The jurisdiction's rate of VMT increase is equal or lower than the population growth rate assumed in the Clean Air Plan's emission inventory				
GHGs	None	None	Qualified Climate Action Plan - emissions inventory - reduction goal consistent with AB32 - implementation measures - monitoring OR 6.7 MT CO2e/capita/yr (residential) 4.6 MT CO2e/SP/yr (mixed use)	None				
Risks and Hazards/Odors	None	None	 Special Overlay zones around: existing or planned sources of TACs and odors; Community Risk Reduction Plan areas 500 feet on each side of all freeways and high volume roadways. 	None				

Notes: CEQA = California Environmental Quality Act; CO = carbon monoxide; CO₂e = carbon dioxide equivalent; GHGs = greenhouse gases; lb/day = pounds per day; MT = metric tons; NO_x = oxides of nitrogen; PM_{2.5}= fine particulate matter with an aerodynamic resistance diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less; PM₁₀ = respirable particulate matter with an aerodynamic resistance diameter of 10 micrometers or less; ppm = parts per million; ROG = reactive organic gases; SO₂ = sulfur dioxide; SP = service population; TACs = toxic air contaminants; TBP = toxic best practices; tons/day = tons per day; tpy = tons per year; yr= year; TBD: to be determined.