

GLOSSARY:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) – The California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 establishes state policies and goals for the protection of the environment. CEQA directs all state, regional, and local agencies to evaluate the environmental implications of their actions and to avoid or substantially reduce environmental impacts.

Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) – A report required by CEQA to describe the environmental impact of a proposed project.

EIR Certification – action required by CEQA in which lead agency certifies document is complete, complies with CEQA, and reflects agency's independent judgment.

Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) – the Final EIR includes responses to comments made on the Draft EIR, copies of the comment letters, and any corrections, revisions, additional mitigation, etc. It does not necessarily need to include the entire text of the Draft EIR, only the changes.

General Plan – A statement of policies, including text and diagrams, setting forth objectives, principles, standards, and plan proposals, for the future physical development of a city or county. Required by State law, a General Plan is commonly referred to as a “blueprint” for where, how much and what type of growth is planned for the future.

General Plan Amendment – Any part of the General Plan may be changed through the amendment process, including land use categories or changes to the plan's policies, programs or standards. State law limits amending the General Plan to four times per year. A General Plan amendment requires careful review, detailed studies and public hearings.

Lead Agency – The agency which bears primary responsibility for complying with CEQA. The lead agency is selected based on having the principal responsibility for issuing permits to a project, or for carrying out the project. The lead agency is responsible for determining whether or not a project will significantly impact the environment and, when necessary, for analyzing the project's possible environmental impacts (or contracting for this work to be done under its direction).

Mitigation Measure – CEQA requires that when a significant environmental impact will occur, feasible measures must be proposed that will substantially lessen or avoid that effect. Mitigation measures may involve compensating for the impact, avoiding the impact, restoring the impact, or the like.

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) – A plan that the lead agency must approve at the time the agency approves a project for which mitigation measures have been adopted. The MMRP assigns responsibility for carrying out adopted mitigation measures and provides a mechanism for tracking whether those measures have been implemented.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 establishes national policies and goals for the protection of the environment. NEPA directs all federal agencies to give appropriate consideration to the environmental effects of their decision making and to prepare detailed environmental impact statements (EIS) on proposals for legislation and other major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the environment. NEPA applies to federal agencies. NEPA does not apply to State or local agencies.

Notice of Preparation (NOP) – A required notice that the lead agency for an EIR must circulate to each responsible and trustee agency advising them of its intention to prepare a Draft EIR. A responsible agency includes any public agency, other than the lead agency, which has discretionary approval power over a project. A trustee agency is a state agency having jurisdiction by law over natural resources affected by a project, which are held in trust for the people of California.

Program EIR – A program EIR evaluates a series of actions that work as one large project because they're related geographically, logically, by statute, or by similar impacts. Future actions may or may not require a subsequent or project EIR.

Project EIR – This most common type of EIR applies to one particular project and typically provides a greater level of detail than a program EIR.

Scoping – Early consultation with interested agencies and the public to determine which issues should be addressed in an EIR. A scoping meeting is required for all projects of statewide, area-wide, or regional significance.

Threshold of Significance – An analytical tool for judging whether an impact is significant. Thresholds are not intended to be stand-alone environmental policies, although they are often derived from policies. The “threshold of significance” for a given environmental effect is simply that level at which the Lead Agency finds the effects of the project to be significant. Thresholds can be quantitative or qualitative standards or a set of criteria.

RESOURCES:

Redwood City's New General Plan:

<http://www.redwoodcity.org/phed/planning/generalplan.html>

CEQA Guidelines:

<http://www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/guidelines/>



Participate • Evaluate • Be Informed

For more information about the proposed Saltworks Project, visit: www.RedwoodCity.org/Saltworks

For questions please contact Blake Lyon 650.780.5934. To receive email updates send an email to saltworks@redwoodcity.org or call 650.218.3970.



Understanding the Environmental Review Process

Participate • Evaluate • Be Informed

September 22, 2010
Redwood Room • Veterans Memorial Senior Center
1455 Madison Avenue • Redwood City, CA 94061

AGENDA

1. **Introductions and Goals of Meeting – Blake Lyon**
2. **Introduction to the California Environmental Quality Act – Whit Manley**
 - a. Purposes of CEQA
 - b. Opportunities for Input
 - c. Agency's obligations
 - d. Observations regarding CEQA and the keys to a constructive process
3. **How to participate effectively in the CEQA Process - Pat Collins**
4. **The Saltworks Project Roadmap and Next Steps - Anders Hauge**
5. **Open Discussion - The Audience and Panel, facilitated by Blake Lyon**

SPEAKERS:

Blake Lyon

City of Redwood City (www.redwoodcity.org)

Blake Lyon is a Senior Planner with Redwood City's Planning, Housing, & Economic Development Department. While working in Redwood City, Mr. Lyon has been involved with many current and long range planning projects, and currently serves as the City's Zoning Administrator. Mr. Lyon is the Project Manager responsible for the City's review of the Saltworks project.

Whitman F. Manley

Remy, Thomas, Moose & Manley – Land Use and Environmental Law (www.rtmmlaw.com)

The lead speaker for the evening will be Whit Manley, an attorney with Remy, Thomas, Moose and Manley LLP in Sacramento. Mr. Manley counsels clients throughout California in both the public and private sector, and represents clients in trial and appellate litigation. His practice focuses on CEQA and related land use and environmental laws. Mr. Manley is co-author of *Guide to CEQA* (11th ed., 2007, Solano Press). He advises the City concerning the CEQA process for the Saltworks project.

Anders J. Hauge

Hauge Brueck Associates – Environmental Planners (www.haugebrueck.com)

Anders (Andy) Hauge is the owner and manager of Hauge Brueck Associates, LLC and is the Manager of the City of Redwood City's Saltworks Project CEQA Documentation contract. Andy is a land use and environmental planner responsible for managing environmental documents, general plan programs and public outreach programs since 1971. He is experienced in preparing environmental documents in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and has successfully completed joint environmental documents that combine CEQA and NEPA requirements.

Patricia I. Collins

Winzler & Kelly – Planners, Scientists, and Engineers (www.w-and-k.com)

Pat Collins is a Senior Project Manager with Winzler & Kelly, and is the Assistant Project Manager for the Saltworks Project CEQA Documentation contract. Pat has a B.A. in Ecology and an M.S. in Environmental Health from U.C., Berkeley and has been preparing CEQA/NEPA documents since 1973. She teaches environmental impact reporting at Sonoma State University and for workshops sponsored by the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP).

“The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing.”

- Albert Einstein

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

| CEQA Activity | City | Applicant | Agencies | Community |
|---------------------------------|------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Define proposed project | | ✓ | | |
| Community involvement process | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Develop and study alternatives | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Conduct technical studies | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Prepare environmental documents | ✓ | | | |
| Comment on documents | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Certify EIR | ✓ | | | |
| Funding of EIR process | | ✓ | | |

HOW TO COMMENT EFFECTIVELY DURING SCOPING

Comments will be most helpful to the City if they are accompanied by technical information or factual observations supporting the request or recommendation. If there is technical or factual information that you believe the City should consider in preparing the EIR, please provide the City with a copy of the study or report containing that information. If recommendations or requests are based on personal observations, please provide details regarding those observations.

Identification of environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR

During the scoping period the City will provide an initial study of environmental impacts as part of the Notice of Preparation. Review this study and identify additional issues that should be evaluated in the EIR.

Identification of evaluation criteria with thresholds of significance (see Glossary on the back page)

During the scoping period the City will provide a list of evaluation criteria with thresholds of significance used by the City in EIRs prepared over the past few years. Review this list and identify new evaluation criteria or modify the recently utilized criteria; suggest new or modified thresholds of significance.

Identification of evaluation methodology

The evaluation of impacts requires the use of various methods and models to determine the impacts of the project and alternatives. Consider the evaluation criteria when recommending a particular methodology or model for use in evaluation of impacts.

Identification of alternatives to the proposed project

CEQA requires the EIR to evaluate the No Project Alternative and a reasonable range of alternatives. Consider potential impacts that should be avoided or reduced when recommending alternatives for evaluation in the EIR. When suggesting alternatives, explain how they would avoid significant impacts, explain why they are feasible and explain how they will achieve most of the project objectives.

Identification of mitigation measures

Consider potential impacts that should be avoided or reduced when recommending mitigation measures for consideration in the EIR. When suggesting mitigation measures, explain how they would avoid or reduce significant impacts and explain why they are feasible.

Identification of existing environmental conditions

Describing the existing environmental conditions against which the project and alternatives will be evaluated is as important as the evaluation of environmental impacts. Recommendations of maps and documents that describe the existing conditions of the project site and vicinity are requested.

SALTWORKS ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

