



City of South Lake Tahoe

"making a positive difference now"

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM

City of South Lake Tahoe

Purpose:

The basic purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) are to:

1. Inform governmental decision makers and the public about the potential, significant environmental effects of proposed activities.
2. Identify ways that environmental damage can be avoided or significantly reduced.
3. Prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment by requiring changes in projects through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures when the governmental agency finds the changes feasible.
4. Disclose to the public the reasons why a governmental agency approved the project in the manner the agency chose if significant environmental effects are involved.

Process:

The applicant shall complete the attached "**Environmental Information Form**" which provides environmental information about the project.

Categorical Exemption

Planning Staff will start the preliminary review and based on the project description and the Environmental Information Form, decide whether the proposed project falls into a category that has been determined by the State of California not to have a significant affect on the environment. If so, the project is considered to be "Categorically Exempt". The CEQA process is not complete, however, until the applicant has chosen and completed one of the following actions when the project is approved:

1. Have the Planning Department Staff prepare and file a "Notice of Exemption" with the El Dorado County Clerk. A filing fee is required. The statute of limitations for a person or agency to object to the project is 30 days.
2. The applicant prepares and file a "Notice of Exemption" with the El Dorado County Clerk. The statute of limitations for a person or agency to object to the project is 30 days.
3. Not to file a "Notice of Exemption" with the El Dorado County Clerk. The statute of limitations for a person or agency to object to the project is 180 days.

Note: The statute of limitations does not affect the issuance of a building permit. However, the applicant is proceeding at their own risk.

Initial Study

Should the preliminary review determine that the project is **not** “Categorically Exempt”, the applicant shall prepare an “**Environmental Checklist**”. When planning staff determines that an activity is subject to CEQA and that no categorical or statutory exemptions apply, staff will use the completed Environmental Checklist and the project description to prepare an Initial Study to determine whether the project may have the potential to have a significant effect on the environment. The Initial Study is the preliminary analysis to determine whether a Negative Declaration or an Environmental Impact Report is needed.

Negative Declaration:

A Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration is prepared when:

the Initial study shows there is no substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the environment, or

when the Initial study identifies a potentially significant effect, but revisions to the project are made before the document is released for public review, avoids or mitigates the effects.

A Negative Declaration usually adds 45 to 60 days before a project can be approved.

Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

An EIR is prepared when:

there is substantial evidence that any aspects of the project may cause a significant effect on the environment, and changes to the project do not avoid or mitigate the effect.

An EIR usually adds from 3 to 6 months before a project can be approved.

City and TRPA joint review

In some cases, the City and TRPA will hold a preliminary meeting to identify or “scope out” the potential effects of the project and jointly chose the appropriate environmental document. Normally, the City Planning Division will arrange the meeting.

As is the case for most projects involving the both the City and TRPA, there are joint applications as well as fees. You will have to contact TRPA for their application and fees.

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Our Mission is:

Working

together to

create the

best future

for our

community

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM

(to be completed by Applicant)

Attachment 1

I General Information

1. Name of project sponsor _____
Address _____
Phone _____ FAX _____
2. Name of Form preparer _____
Address _____
Phone _____ FAX _____
3. Date Form completed _____
4. Project address _____
Project's Assessor Parcel number _____
Project's legal lot number _____
5. Contact person _____
Address _____
Phone _____ FAX _____
6. Indicate number of the permit applications for the project to which this form pertains _____
7. List and describe any other related permits and other public approvals required for this project, including those required by city, regional, state and federal agencies _____

8. Existing City zoning district _____
9. Existing Plan Area _____
10. Proposed use of site (project for which this form is filed) _____

II Project Description

1. Site size _____
2. Square footage _____
3. Number of floors of construction _____
4. Amount of off-street parking provided _____
5. Attach plans _____
6. Proposed scheduling _____
7. Associated project _____
8. Anticipated incremental development _____

9. If residential, include the number of units, schedule of unit sizes, range of sale prices or rents, and type of household size expected. _____

10. If commercial, indicate the type, whether neighborhood, city or regionally oriented, square footage of sales area, and loading facilities. _____

11. If industrial, indicate type, estimated employment per shift, and loading facilities. _____

12. If institutional, indicate the major function, estimated employment per shift, estimated occupancy, loading facilities and community benefits to be derived from the project. _____

13. If the project involves a variance, special use or rezoning application, state this and indicate clearly why the application is required. _____

**III Are the following items applicable to the project or its effects?
Discuss below all items checked yes (attach additional sheets as necessary).**

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. Change in existing features of any beaches or hills or substantial of ground contours. | | |
| 2. Change in scenic views or vistas from existing residential areas or public lands or roads. | | |
| 3. Change in pattern, scale or character of general area of project. | | |
| 4. Significant amounts of solid waste or litter | | |
| 5. Change in dust, ash, smoke, fumes or odors in vicinity | | |
| 6. Change in lake, stream or ground water quality or quantity, or alteration of existing drainage patterns. | | |

