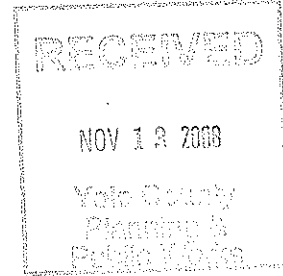




November 10, 2008

David Morrison
Assistant Director
Yolo County Planning and Public Works Department
292 West Beamer Street
Woodland, CA 95695



Subject: Notice of Preparation for the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Yolo County 2030 Countywide General Plan

Dear Mr. Morrison,

The Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District (District) has received the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Yolo County 2030 Countywide General Plan. The District has several comments regarding this NOP.

1. When preparing the air quality analysis for the future environmental document, the Lead Agency should refer to the District's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Handbook, entitled *Handbook for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts*, which can be found on the District's website (<http://www.ysaqmd.org>). This Handbook provides detailed instructions concerning the preparation of air quality analyses in environmental documents. Referring to this Handbook will result in an analysis that adequately addresses most of the District's areas of concern.
2. According to the State's CEQA Guidelines, Section 15125, a proposed project must be consistent with regional plans, including regional air quality attainment plans. The DEIR for the Yolo County General Plan should discuss whether the General Plan is consistent with the goals of the most recent regional air quality attainment plan (AQAP). Because the attainment plan incorporates motor vehicle emission budgets based on projected growth from cities and counties, the DEIR should examine whether the General Plan will result in growth that will cause motor vehicle emissions budgets to be exceeded. Since the AQAP will project motor vehicle emissions budgets under the assumption that future growth will be in accordance with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan ("Blueprint") developed by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), the General Plan should encourage the incorporation of Blueprint concepts into future growth and development.
3. The DEIR for the County's General Plan can set guidelines for future projects that will be built as a result of the General Plan. With this in mind, the District requests that the General Plan recommend that all Best Management Practices be implemented during construction of future projects in the County, and that future projects abide by all applicable air district rules and regulations.
4. Recently, the State Attorney General has provided comments on several environmental documents prepared for projects in California that question the lack of discussion pertaining to climate change. With the passage of Assembly Bill 32 (AB32), an increasing amount of attention is being paid to the climate change issue. As described in the NOP, the District encourages including a discussion in the future environmental document of the proposed General Plan's impact on the ability of the State to achieve the goals of AB32. It may be helpful to point out any components of the General Plan that are consistent with the recently adopted SACOG Blueprint.

In conclusion, YSAQMD appreciates receiving the NOP for the General Plan update and the opportunity to discuss the recommendations presented in this letter. If you require additional information, please contact Tiffany Lathrop at (530) 757-3677.

Sincerely,



Matt Jones
Senior Air Quality Planner