



South Coast
Air Quality Management District

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E-MAILED: March 5, 2010

March 5, 2010

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Community & Strategic Planning Division
City of Santa Monica
1685 Main Street, Room 212
Santa Monica CA 90401

**Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the
Proposed Santa Monica Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE)**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The following comments are meant as guidance for the lead agency and should be incorporated into the Final EIR.

SCAQMD staff is pleased to note the incorporation of mitigation measures MM4.2-1 and MM4.2-2 that address potentially significant air quality impacts. The lead agency's inclusion of recommendations from the California Air Resources Board Land Use Handbook into its Municipal Code will substantially reduce the exposure of sensitive receptors to major sources of toxic air contaminants for future projects.

As determined by the lead agency, construction related air quality impacts remain significant and unavoidable because project specific calculations are infeasible at this time. SCAQMD staff therefore recommends that the lead agency contact SCAQMD through the CEQA process for individual projects as they develop. Project specific mitigation measures, including potential use of the cleanest burning construction equipment available, may reduce this impact to a less than significant level for each individual future project.

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21092.5, please provide the SCAQMD with written responses to all comments contained herein prior to the adoption of the Final EIR. Should you have any questions regarding the enclosed comments, feel free to contact me at (909) 396-3244.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian V. MacMillan".

Ian MacMillan
Program Supervisor, CEQA Inter-Governmental Review
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

IM:GM
LAC100202-04
Control Number