

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project: California Institution for Men Health Care Facility Improvement Project

Lead Agency: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This Negative Declaration (ND), supported by the attached Initial Study (IS), evaluates the environmental effects of implementing the proposed California Institution for Men (CIM) Health Care Facility Improvement Project (HCFIP), which would occur in the City of Chino, California. The project proponent, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), is proposing renovations and additions to existing health care facilities, the construction of small new facilities, and associated infrastructure improvements, all within the developed area of CIM. Specifically, the project includes construction of three new primary care clinics and a new health care administration building, totaling approximately 18,000 square feet (sf) of new building space. The project also includes approximately 20,000 sf of interior renovations and approximately 8,000 sf of additions for medication distribution rooms, pharmacy, central health services, and other necessary health care improvements. All construction would be consistent in character, design, and height with other existing buildings and would not exceed one story. No high-mast lighting would be installed as part of the project. The project does not include any new beds and would not increase inmate capacity. One additional employee would be hired, primarily for maintenance. Refer to Exhibits 2-1 through 2-3 of the attached IS.

CDCR is the lead agency for this project and has prepared this ND.

FINDINGS

An IS has been prepared to assess the project's potential effects on the environment and the significance of those effects. Based on the IS, and due to environmental protection features that CDCR has committed to before release of the proposed ND and IS for public review, the proposed project would avoid the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur. This conclusion is supported by the following findings:

1. The proposed project would have no impact related to agriculture and forest resources, land use and planning, mineral resources, public services, and recreation.
2. The proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, population and housing, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems.

Questions or comments regarding this ND and IS may be addressed to:

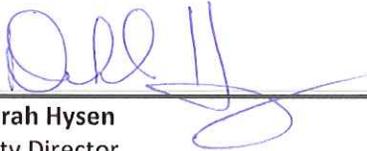
Nancy MacKenzie, Chief
Environmental Planning Section
Facility Planning, Construction and Management
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
9838 Old Placerville Road, Suite B
Sacramento, CA 95827
Ph: (916) 255-2159
Email: Nancy.MacKenzie@cdcr.ca.gov

After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, CDCR may (1) adopt the ND and approve the proposed project, (2) undertake additional environmental studies, or (3) disapprove the project. If the project is approved, CDCR may proceed with implementation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 21082.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act, CDCR has independently reviewed and analyzed the IS and ND for the proposed project and finds that the IS and ND reflect the independent judgment of CDCR.

I hereby approve this project:

(to be signed upon approval of the project after the public review period is complete)



Deborah Hysen
Deputy Director
Facility Planning, Construction and Management
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

5/22/13

[Date]