CEQA Process Flow Chart

Public Agency determines whether the activity is a "project" → Not a project

Project

- Project is ministerial
- No possible significant effect
- Statutory exemption
- Categorical exemption

Not Exempt

Public agency evaluates project to determine if there is a possibility that the project may have a significant effect on environment

Possible significant effect

Determination of lead agency where more than one public agency is involved

Not further action required under CEQA → Notice of Exemption may be filed

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY

Respond to informal consultation

LEAD AGENCY

Lead agency prepares initial study

Consultation

Lead agency decision to prepare EIR or Negative Declaration

Consultation

Lead agency sends Notice of Preparation to responsible agency

Lead agency prepares draft EIR

Consultation

Public Review Period

Lead agency files Notice of Completion and gives public notice of availability of draft EIR

Public Review Period

Lead Agency gives public notice of availability of Negative Declaration

Decision-making body considers final EIR or Negative Declaration prepared by lead agency

Consideration and approval of final EIR by decision-making body

Findings on feasibility of reducing or avoiding significant environmental effects

Consideration and approval of Negative Declaration by decision-making body

Findings on feasibility of reducing or avoiding significant environmental effects

Decision on project

EIR

Consultation

State Agencies

Local Agencies

File Notice of Determination with Office of Planning & Research

File Notice of Determination with County Clerk

File Notice of Determination with County Clerk

File Notice of Determination with Office of Planning & Research