

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Documentation for All Projects

CARB believes that projects funded under the Community Air Grants Program are likely to be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). To confirm that, and to ensure that all CEQA requirements are met as needed, CARB needs some specific information on the proposed project.

First, confirm whether the proposed project includes construction, air monitoring, or installation of equipment at all, OR if it is purely educational or outreach based. Inform CARB of this in writing as part of your response to this required Attachment in your application package. No further CEQA process is necessary after you have provided notification that the proposed project is purely educational or outreach based.

However, if your project involves some construction, air monitoring, and/or equipment installation, include the following information in your application:

- Provide a detailed description of all the infrastructure or equipment you intend to build or install and where that equipment will be placed. If the final location is not yet known, identify all possible locations or the general type of locations at which installations could occur. Provide as much detail as possible, such as city, street address, and the specific location in or on a particular property, etc. As you prepare this information:
 - Provide a detailed description of the equipment to be used, if any, and how the equipment will be installed.
 - Specify if any ground disturbance will occur, and, if so, describe the extent of the disturbance.
 - Describe whether the project site already has buildings on it, or other forms of human-built disturbance (e.g., is it pristine or not)?
 - Provide a description of the size and extent of any other required construction, such as trenching, electrical installation or wiring, infrastructure installation, paving, or grading.
- Confirm whether there are any plans or permits required for the project, such as an air quality permit, conditional use permit, encroachment permit, building expansion permit, etc., and list those required permits.

Below is a fill-in the blanks template for a sample response to the list of information requested above that can be used (*NOTE: Please ensure you have also reviewed the list of needed information above, and ensure you've included all needed information in your response*):

[Your Group's Name] will use community air grants to **[describe the general nature of the project]**. The project will place **[describe equipment]** at **[list locations or type of locations]**. The construction work will involve **[describe construction activities, including ground disturbance, if any, that will occur]**. The construction locations are **[describe the degree of existing disturbance/use at those locations – e.g., are they pristine or already disturbed/in use]**. After construction, the sites will be **[describe any change to sites –e.g., largely unchanged except for adding monitoring equipment, etc.]** The following permits will be required/obtained **[describe permits and any other environmental conditions that will apply]**.

As a further reference, below is a sample-completed response to the list of information requested above that would assist CARB in analyzing a proposed project under CEQA:

Committee for Clean Air (CCA) will use community air grants to maintain and further expand a particulate matter monitoring program (WRV Air Monitoring Network), in the Western Redrock Valley. CCA will calibrate, select site location, and deploy 15 Dylos C1700 monitors, (approximately 125 x 90 x 185 mm. and weighing around 16 oz.), or similar hardware, pursuant to a technical work plan, at various locations along Redrock Alley, Redrock Square, and at various locations at Redrock Elementary School located at 1001 Redrock Lane. After deployment of monitors, CCA will process, analyze and disseminate data from the monitors. Monitors will be installed on land that is previously disturbed at existing buildings such as residences, schools, or public or private facilities. CCA may be required to obtain encroachment permits where monitors and sensors will be co-located for collaboration and calibration. Monitor data will be relayed, wirelessly through cellular technology, to an existing on-line data visualization network for public viewing presented on the WRV Air Monitoring Network and also submitted to CARB.

The Dylos monitors (or similar hardware) are small devices installed or mounted on walls, panels or poles. Installation of the devices does not involve any construction, trenching or ground disturbing activities. Monitors will be installed at existing buildings such as residences, schools, or public or private facilities. The proposed deployment does not expand the existing use of or modify the structures in any way. Where there is no position that meets EPA and CARB siting guidelines, the installation will require a 5-foot aluminum pole to be placed in an appropriate location. Installation of this aluminum pole requires a minimal addition of four screws to the hosting site, which would attach either to an existing structure or to pavement.