
**Circle City Substation and
Mira Loma-Jefferson
66 kV Subtransmission Line Project**

California Public Utilities Commission

Educational Workshop

**February 16, 2016
Circle City Center
365 N. Main Street
Corona, California**

**February 17, 2016
Corona Public Library
650 S. Main Street
Corona, California**

Workshop Participants

- CPUC: Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
 - Connie Chen, CPUC Project Manager

- Environmental Science Associates (ESA): Environmental Consultant to the CPUC
 - Matt Fagundes, ESA Project Manager
 - Claire Myers, ESA Public Involvement
 - Michelle Irace, ESA Public Involvement

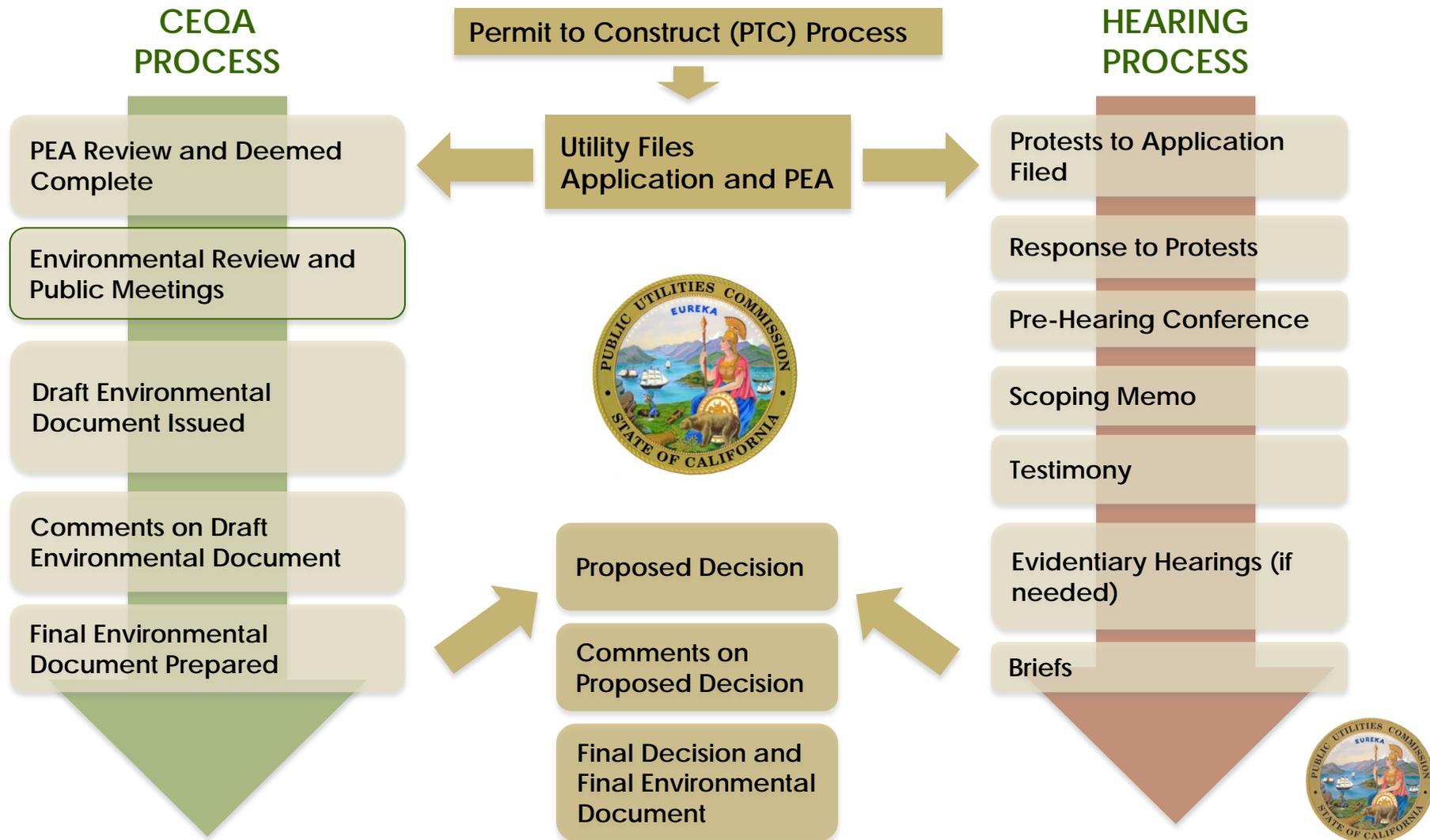


Workshop Outline

- CPUC Review Process
 - Permit to Construct (PTC) Review
 - Environmental (CEQA) Review
- CEQA Overview
- CEQA Process Schedule
- How to Get Involved



CPUC Processes



CEQA Review

CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW	SECTION 1001/GO 131-D REVIEW
<p>Application filed Dec 4, 2015: Application includes the utility's Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) of the proposed project's environmental impact, identifying the utility's preferred project alternative.</p>	
<p>Completeness review - CPUC staff review the application and the PEA for completeness.</p> <p>Agency consultations – CPUC staff meet with agencies.</p> <p>Public workshops – CPUC staff may hold workshops to explain the CEQA process.</p> <p>Notice of Preparation (NOP) – CPUC staff issue NOP giving public notice of the environmental review and inviting public participation.</p> <p>Public scoping process – CPUC staff conduct meetings to solicit information on the impacts of the proposed project and alternatives, and other suggested alternative routes and/or sites. Interested persons may also submit written comments on these scoping issues.</p> <p>Comments on NOP – Interested persons may submit written comment to the CPUC staff, including proposed alternatives to the project and alternative routes.</p> <p>Draft EIR – CPUC staff issue Draft EIR assessing environmental impact of the proposed project and alternatives, identifying mitigation measures for each, and identifying the environmentally preferred alternative.</p> <p>Public meetings on Draft EIR – CPUC staff conduct public meetings to discuss Draft EIR.</p> <p>Public comments on Draft EIR – Interested persons may submit comments stating any objections to the DEIR</p> <p>Final EIR – Final EIR, responding to public comments on the Draft EIR, is issued and submitted into the formal record of the proceeding.</p>	<p>Protests/responses filed – due within 30 days of the application filing date (GO 131-D § XII)</p> <p>Public Participation Hearings (PPH) – to hear public comment. Public statements are not sworn or subject to cross-examination. May be scheduled at outset, prior to CPUC vote, or other appropriate point in the process, as determined by ALJ and assigned Commissioner.</p> <p>Prehearing conference (PHC) – to discuss scope of issues to be addressed, need for evidentiary hearing and schedule for the proceeding, and other procedural matters.</p> <p>Scoping memo – The Assigned Commissioner issues scoping memo determining the issues, schedule and other procedural matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally, evidentiary hearing will be limited to matters other than the environmental issues addressed in the CEQA process. • Whether or not evidentiary hearings are set, the schedule may provide for the filing of briefs.
<p>Proposed and alternate decisions – The ALJ issues proposed decision. The Assigned Commissioner may concurrently issue an alternate decision. Other Commissioners may subsequently issue alternative decisions.</p>	
<p>Comment on proposed and alternate decisions – Generally, all proposed and alternate decisions are subject to 30 days for public review and parties' comment before the CPUC may vote on them.</p>	
<p>CPUC vote – The CPUC votes on the proposed and any alternate decisions at a public business meeting.</p>	

PTC Review



Application Process

Investor Owned Utility (IOU)

Proposes to build infrastructure

Permit to Construct (PTC)

Discretionary Decision
of Commission

Approve

Disapprove

or



Basic Application and Environmental Review Processes (Step 1)

Utility Files Application

CPUC and its Environmental Consultant Review

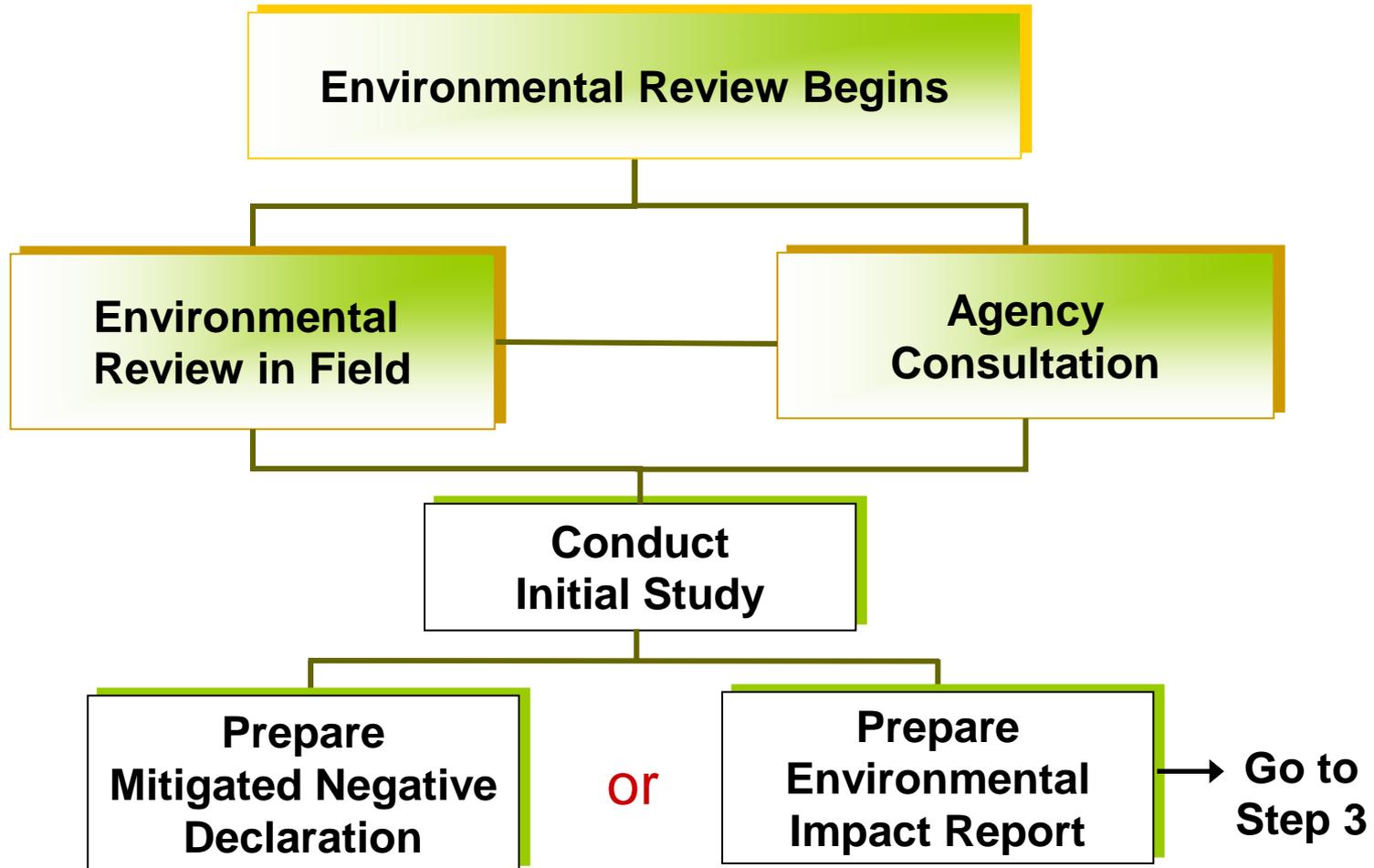
**Application
Deemed Complete**

**Environmental
Review Begins**

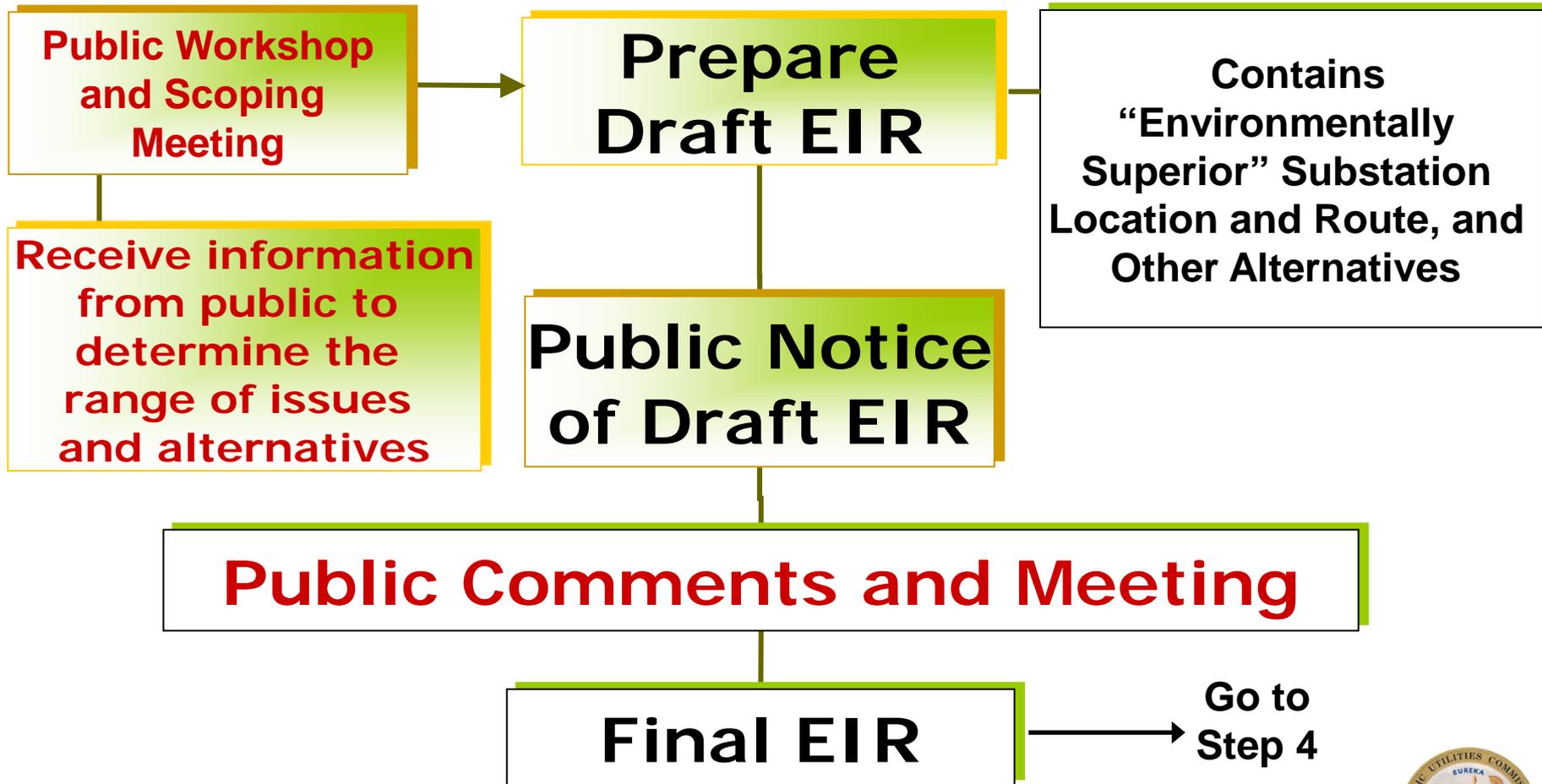
→ **Go to
Step 2**



Basic Application and Environmental Review Processes (Step 2)



Basic Application and Environmental Review Processes (Step 3)



Basic Application and Environmental Review Processes (Step 4)



To Get Involved in the PTC Process

Get on the Service List

- Go to:
http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/published/service_lists/sl_index.htm
- Information you need:
- Project Name: Circle City Substation and Mira Loma-Jefferson 66 kV Subtransmission Line Project
 - Proceeding Number: A.15-12-007
 - Administrative Law Judge: Kimberly Kim
- Questions
 - (415) 703-2021 or process_office@cpuc.ca.gov



CEQA Overview

- ❑ The California Environmental Quality Act
 - Inform decision makers and the public about the potential significant environmental effects of a proposed project
 - Identify ways that environmental damage can be avoided or significantly reduced
 - Prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures
 - Disclose to the public the reasons why a governmental agency approved the project if significant environmental effects are involved
- ❑ Focus on physical impacts to the environment



CEQA: Project Description

□ Construction

- What would be built
- How would the project be built
 - Construction methodology
 - Equipment required
 - Workers required
- Project schedule

□ Operations

- How would the project be operated
- Operational personnel required

□ Maintenance

- How is the project maintained
- When is maintenance performed
- Maintenance personnel required



CEQA: Resource Areas

- ❑ Aesthetics
- ❑ Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- ❑ Air Quality
- ❑ Biological Resources
- ❑ Cultural Resources
- ❑ Energy
- ❑ Geology and Soils
- ❑ Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- ❑ Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- ❑ Hydrology and Water Quality
- ❑ Land Use and Planning
- ❑ Mineral Resources
- ❑ Noise
- ❑ Population and Housing
- ❑ Public Services
- ❑ Recreation
- ❑ Transportation and Traffic
- ❑ Utilities and Service Systems



For Each Resource Area . . .

- Define and Describe Existing Setting
 - Environmental setting
 - Regulatory setting
- Establish Thresholds of Significance
 - What defines a “significant” impact
- Identify Impacts and Mitigation Measures
 - Applicant Proposed Measures
 - CPUC Mitigations
 - Significance after mitigation



CEQA: Project Alternatives

- ❑ Must identify a range of reasonable alternatives
- ❑ Must be feasible
 - Legal, regulatory, technical
- ❑ Must meet most basic project objectives
- ❑ Must avoid or substantially lessen significant effects of the project
- ❑ May be more costly



Alternatives may include . . .

- ❑ Considered by the Applicant, developed by CEQA team, suggested by public/agencies
- ❑ Alternative locations
- ❑ “Non-wires” alternatives
 - Energy conservation / demand management
 - Renewable energy resources
- ❑ “No Project” alternative



CEQA: Cumulative Impacts

- ❑ Consider past, present, reasonably foreseeable projects
- ❑ Projections in adopted General Plan
- ❑ Within same geographic scope
- ❑ Incremental effect of Proposed Project
 - Individually small
 - May be cumulatively significant



To Get Involved in the CEQA Process

- ❑ You're on the right track!
 - Please stay for the Scoping Meeting
- ❑ Scoping Process
 - Notice of Preparation sent on January 29, 2016
 - Comment Period closes on February 29, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.
 - How to comment:
 - ❑ At this Scoping Meeting, via Email, and/or Comment Letter
- ❑ Draft EIR
 - Anticipated August 2016
 - How to comment:
 - ❑ At the Comment Meeting, via Email, and/or Comment Letter



Project Information

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www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/esa/Circle_City/index.html

