

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

To All Interested Parties:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) announces the release of the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that the CPUC prepared for the Lodi Gas Storage Project. Implementation of the project would require that Lodi Gas Storage, LLC, obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) from the CPUC. Lodi Gas Storage, LLC, applied to the CPUC for permission to develop a natural gas storage facility near Lodi and construct an approximately 33-mile pipeline in Sacramento and San Joaquin Counties.

Under the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CPUC released a Draft EIR for review and comment in September 1999 for a 45-day review period. Over 200 copies of the EIR were distributed to state and local agencies, libraries, and interested organizations and members of the public. The draft EIR assessed the environmental impacts associated with the proposed project. Because this project involves reopening an existing gas field, the CPUC paid particular attention to noise, air quality, and safety issues associated with the storage field and associated facilities. The Draft EIR also examined the project's compatibility with existing land uses and zoning laws. An approximately 33-mile-long pipeline would cross levees, roads, and railways. The CPUC considered the effects of pipeline construction on agriculture, habitat, and local levees.

This Final EIR, which incorporates the Draft EIR by reference, responds to comments received during the public review period, which closed on November 11. During the public review period, the CPUC held public meetings in Lodi and Isleton to gather comments as part of the environmental review process. The CPUC also held two public participation hearings in Lodi that were attended by the Administrative Law Judge and a Commissioner to hear local concerns. During the public review period, the CPUC received a total of 66 written comments on the draft EIR and 22 individuals made oral comments at the Lodi public meeting. As required by CEQA, the final EIR responds to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process. The CPUC will use the information included in the Final EIR as part of its decision-making process to determine whether to grant the CPCN.

The Final EIR can be viewed at the locations on the reverse side of this letter. The Final EIR can also be viewed at the following website:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/divisions/energy/environmental/info/lo-di-gas.htm>

If you have any questions or would like a copy of the Final EIR, please contact the CPUC information line at 415/989-1446, ext. 85, or Email: cpuc-gas-lo-di@pamsf.com.

The Final EIR can be viewed at the following locations:

Lodi Public Library

201 W. Locust Street

Tel: 209-333-8507

Stockton Public Library

605 N. El Dorado Street

Tel: 209-937-8683

Walnut Grove Public Library

14177 Market Street

Tel: 916-776-1412

Sacramento Public Library

828 I Street

Tel: 916-264-2755

Isleton Public Library

412 Union Street

Tel: 916-777-6638

Isleton City Hall

210 Jackson Boulevard

Tel: 916-777-7770