

CEQA

The San Francisco Planning Department (SF Planning) reviews projects for potential environmental impacts. This is CEQA, which stands for the **California Environmental Quality Act**, a state law created in 1970.

THE BASIC GOALS OF CEQA ARE TO:

INFORM

decision makers and the public about the potential significant environmental impacts

PREVENT

significant, avoidable damage to the environment by requiring changes to a project

IDENTIFY

the ways that the environmental damage can be avoided or reduced

DISCLOSE

to the public the reasons why decisions are made if significant impacts occur

WHO IS INVOLVED?

- SF Planning is responsible for conducting environmental review in San Francisco.
- Various stakeholders including the public
- City decision makers
- Government or private project sponsors (person/group proposing the change)

WHEN IS CEQA DONE?

Example projects include:

- Public or private projects
- Board of Supervisors legislation
- Allocation of public funding to projects



To learn more, please visit:

sfplanning.org/whatisCEQA



B. General Plan Evaluation Overview and Summary of Project's Environmental Effects

California Environmental Quality Action (CEQA) section 21083.3 and CEQA Guidelines section 15183 mandate that projects that are consistent with the development density established by existing zoning, community plan, or general plan policies for which an environmental impact report (EIR) was certified, **shall not** be subject to additional environmental review **except as might be necessary to examine whether there are project-specific significant effects that are peculiar to the project or its site.** Guidelines section 15183 specifies that examination of environmental effects shall be limited to those effects that:

- a) Are peculiar to the project or parcel on which the project would be located;
- b) Were not analyzed as significant effects in a prior EIR on the zoning action, general plan or community plan with which the project is consistent;
- c) Are potentially significant off-site and cumulative impacts that were not discussed in the underlying EIR; or
- d) Are previously identified in the EIR, but which, as a result of substantial new information that was not known at the time that the EIR was certified, are determined to have a more severe adverse impact than that discussed in the underlying EIR.

SEC. 890.52. LABORATORY.

Laboratory shall mean space within any structure intended or primarily suitable for scientific research. The space requirements of uses within this category include specialized facilities and/or built accommodations that distinguish the space from office uses (as defined in Section 890.70), light manufacturing (as defined in Section 890.54(a)), or heavy manufacturing (including uses listed in Sections 226(g) through 226(w)).

Examples of laboratories include the following:

- (a) Chemistry, biochemistry, or analytical laboratory;
- (b) Engineering laboratory;
- (c) Development laboratory;
- (d) Biological laboratories including those classified by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and National Institutes of Health (NIH) as Biosafety level 1, Biosafety level 2, or Biosafety level 3;
- (e) Animal facility or vivarium, including laboratories classified by the CDC/NIH as Animal Biosafety level 1, Animal Biosafety level 2, or Animal Biosafety level 3;
- (f) Support laboratory;
- (g) Quality assurance/Quality control laboratory;
- (h) Core laboratory; and
- (i) Cannabis testing (License Type 8—Testing laboratory, as defined in California Business and Professions Code, Division 10).

(Added by Ord. 298-08, File No. 081153, App. 12/19/2008; amended by Ord. [229-17](#), File No. 171041, App. 12/6/2017, Eff. 1/5/2018)

AMENDMENT HISTORY

Undesignated introductory paragraph and division (h) amended; division (i) added; Ord. [229-17](#), Eff. 1/5/2018.



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

MEMO

DATE: July 2014
TO: Planning Department Staff, Shadow Analysis Consultants
FROM: Rachel Schuett, Kevin Guy, SF Planning Department
RE: Shadow Analysis Procedures and Scope Requirements

1650 Mission St.
Suite 400
San Francisco,
CA 94103-2479

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

In the City and County of San Francisco, there are two circumstances which could trigger the need for a shadow analysis:

- (1) If the proposed project would be over 40 feet tall, and could potentially cast new shadow on a property under the jurisdiction of the Recreation and Park Department, per *San Francisco Planning Code Section 295*; and/or
- (2) If the proposed project is subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and would potentially cast new shadow on a park or open space such that the use or enjoyment of that park or open space could be adversely affected.

This memorandum documents the Planning Department's standard procedures for conducting a shadow analysis both for the purposes of CEQA review and for the purposes of *Section 295* review. A complete Shadow Analysis has three main components: (1) Shadow Diagrams, (2) Shadow Calculations, and (3) a Technical Memorandum. In some cases, survey information may also be required.

A shadow analysis should be completed in five sequential steps:

- Step 1. Preliminary Shadow Fan
- Step 2. Project Initiation
- Step 3. Shadow Diagrams
- Step 4. Shadow Calculations
- Step 5. Technical Memorandum



Biosafety Levels



BSL-1

Biosafety level 1

microbes are not known to consistently cause disease in healthy adults and present minimal potential hazard to researchers and the environment



BSL-2

Biosafety level 2

microbes are typically indigenous and associated with diseases of varying severity and pose moderate hazards to researchers and the environment



BSL-3

Biosafety level 3

microbes can be either indigenous or exotic, and they can cause serious or potentially lethal disease through respiratory transmission to researchers



BSL-4

Biosafety level 4

microbes are dangerous and exotic, posing a high risk of aerosol transmissible infections that are frequently fatal without vaccination