Computational Research and Theory Facility

Final Environmental Impact Report

SCH # 2007072106

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the University of California procedures for implementing CEQA, following completion of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) the university is required to consult with and obtain comments from public agencies that have jurisdiction by law or discretionary approval power with respect to the proposed project, and to provide the public with opportunities to comment on the Draft EIR.

On November 9, 2007, the University of California, as the Lead Agency under CEQA, issued a Draft EIR on the Computational Research and Theory Facility Project (CRT) proposed by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL or Berkeley Lab). A 56-day public comment period (November 9, 2007, through January 4, 2008), which is longer than the 45-day comment period required by state law, was provided by the university. During this period, on December 10, 2007, LBNL held a public meeting to receive verbal comments on the Draft EIR. A court reporter prepared a transcript of the meeting.

The Final EIR is an informational document prepared by the Lead Agency that must be considered by decision makers before approving or denying the proposed project. Section 15132 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* specifies that the Final EIR shall consist of:

- The Draft EIR or a revision to the draft.
- Comments and recommendations received on the Draft EIR either verbatim or in summary.
- A list of the persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR.
- The response of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process.
- Any other information added by the Lead Agency.

The Draft EIR, which is incorporated by reference, and this Response to Comments document constitute the Final EIR. Copies of the Final EIR are available for review during normal business hours at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory at the following address and website:

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
One Cyclotron Road, MS 69-201
Berkeley, California 94720
Contact: Jeff Philliber, Environmental Planning Group Coordinator
planning@lbl.gov
http://www.lbl.gov/community/

This document has been prepared pursuant to the *State CEQA Guidelines*. The Final EIR incorporates comments from public agencies and the general public, and contains responses by the Lead Agency to those comments that are relevant to the Draft EIR analysis. The Board of the Regents of the University of California (the Regents) is responsible for reviewing and certifying the adequacy of this environmental document and making a decision with respect to the proposed project.

1.2 FORMAT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

This document is organized into five sections. Following this introduction (**Section 1.0**), **Section 2.0, Project Refinements**, presents changes to the project description, some of which were made in response to comments on the Draft EIR. **Section 3.0, Revisions to the Draft EIR**, presents changes to the text of the Draft EIR, some of which were made in response to comments on the Draft EIR. **Section 4.0, Comments on the Draft EIR and Responses to Comments**, contains a list of persons who presented comments at the December 10, 2007 public hearing; a list of persons, agencies, and organizations that submitted written comments on the Draft EIR; a transcript of the public hearing; reproductions of the written comments; and responses to those comments. Each comment is labeled with a number in the margin. **Section 5.0, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program**, contains the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the project, and **Section 6.0, Report Preparation, Organizations and Persons Consulted**, lists persons involved in the preparation of the Final EIR.