

**Note:** Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code; Reference: Section 21083, Public Resources Code.

### **15351. APPLICANT**

“Applicant” means a person who proposes to carry out a project which needs a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement for use or financial assistance from one or more public agencies when that person applies for the governmental approval or assistance.

**Note:** Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code; Reference: Section 21065, Public Resources Code.

### **15352. APPROVAL**

- (a) “Approval” means the decision by a public agency which commits the agency to a definite course of action in regard to a project intended to be carried out by any person. The exact date of approval of any project is a matter determined by each public agency according to its rules, regulations, and ordinances. Legislative action in regard to a project often constitutes approval.
- (b) With private projects, approval occurs upon the earliest commitment to issue or the issuance by the public agency of a discretionary contract, grant, subsidy, loan, or other form of financial assistance, lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement for use of the project.

**Note:** Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code; Reference: Sections 21061 and 21065, Public Resources Code.

### **15353. CEQA**

“CEQA” means the California Environmental Quality Act, California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.

**Note:** Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code; Reference: Section 21050, Public Resources Code.

### **15354. CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION**

“Categorical exemption” means an exemption from CEQA for a class of projects based on a finding by the Secretary for Resources that the class of projects does not have a significant effect on the environment.

**Note:** Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code; Reference: Sections 21080(b)(10) and 21084, Public Resources Code.

### **15355. CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

“Cumulative impacts” refers to two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts.

- (a) The individual effects may be changes resulting from a single project or a number of separate projects.
- (b) The cumulative impact from several projects is the change in the environment which results from the incremental impact of the project when added to other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable probable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time.

**Note:** Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code; Reference: Section 21083(b), Public Resources Code; *Whitman v. Board of Supervisors*, 88 Cal. App. 3d 397, *San Franciscans for Reasonable Growth v. City and County of San Francisco* (1984) 151 Cal. App. 3d 61, Formerly Section 15023.5.