

Notice of Preparation

To: California Office of Planning and Research, Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Substitute Environmental Document

Project Title: Carbon Capture, Removal, Utilization, and Storage Program

Lead Agency: California Air Resources Board

Date: May 7, 2026

Review Period: May 7, 2026 to June 6, 2026

As the Lead Agency, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will prepare a substitute environmental document (referred to as an "Environmental Impact Analysis" or "EIA") as part of the Staff Report prepared for the proposed project identified above. CARB would like to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. If the proposed project has no relevance to you or your organization, no action on your part is necessary.

Information on the project description, location, and potential environmental effects, as currently known, are contained in the attached materials. Additional information on this proposed project is available for review on the Program webpage at the following link: [Carbon Sequestration: Carbon Capture, Removal, Utilization, and Storage | California Air Resources Board](#).

The NOP is available for review and comment for 30 days, per California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (14 CCR 15082(b)). The comment period for this NOP begins May 7, 2026 and ends on June 6, 2026. Due to the limits mandated by State law, responses should be sent at the earliest possible date, but no later than 5:00 PM on June 6, 2026.

Please submit your written comments to CaliforniaEnvironmentalQualityAct@arb.ca.gov or via mail to Rebecca Fancher, California Air Resources Board Legal Office/CEQA Unit, P.O. Box 2815 Sacramento, CA 95812-2815. In your response, please indicate the public agency or other entity you represent, and the name and phone number of a contact person.

Date: 5/7/2026

Signature:

Rebecca Fancher

Rebecca Fancher
Staff Air Pollution Specialist
California Air Resources Board

List of Agencies to Review

Distributed to agencies marked with an "X" below:

STATE AGENCIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CalRecycle <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of -- Oil, Gas Geothermal Resources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Wildlife, Department of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated Waste Management Board <input type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California Environmental Protection Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Department of General Services <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Growth Council <input type="checkbox"/> California High Speed Rail Authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department of Conservation - Division of Land Resource Protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OEHHA <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Emergency Services <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional Water Quality Control Board (#1-9) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency <input type="checkbox"/> SF Bay Conservation & Development Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Water Resources Control Board <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of <input type="checkbox"/> University of California <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Standards Commission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department of Public Health <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Nature Conservancy <input type="checkbox"/> Sierra Nevada Nature Conservancy <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Conservancy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
AIR DISTRICTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amador County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Antelope Valley AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bay Area AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Butte County AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Calaveras County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colusa County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County of El Dorado AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eastern Kern APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feather River AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glenn County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Great Basin Unified APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Imperial County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lake County AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lassen County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mariposa County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mendocino County AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modoc County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mojave Desert AQMD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monterey Bay Unified APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> North Coast Unified AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northern Sierra AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northern Sonoma County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Placer County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Diego County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin Valley APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Luis Obispo County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Santa Barbara County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shasta County AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Siskiyou County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South Coast AQMD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tehama County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tuolumne County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ventura County APCD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yolo-Solano AQMD
OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES	

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

A copy of an Initial Study is not attached because CARB complies with the CEQA through its regulatory program certified by the California Secretary for Natural Resources under Public Resources Code section 21080.5 (14 CCR 15251(d)). Public agencies with certified regulatory programs are exempt from certain CEQA requirements, including but not limited to, preparing environmental impact reports, negative declarations, and initial studies (14 CCR 15250).

The EIA will evaluate the potential for impacts to the environment as a result of the proposed project: the Carbon Capture, Removal, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS) Program. The proposed project and the nature of potential impacts that could result from the proposed project are described below.

- **PROJECT TITLE:**

Carbon Capture, Removal, Utilization, and Storage Program

- **PROJECT LOCATION:**

The project has statewide applicability.

- **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

SB 905 directs CARB to develop a new CCUS program that establishes regulatory requirements for CCUS projects operating in the state. The potential regulatory requirements would supplement existing federal, state, and local requirements to ensure the efficacy, safety, and viability of CCUS projects and technologies, as directed by SB 905. The CCUS Program would include requirements for CCUS operators in California to conduct monitoring and reporting. Several of the proposed requirements would only be applicable to geologic storage projects, which are projects where carbon dioxide (CO₂) is injected underground into eligible geologic reservoirs.

For purposes of CEQA, the "project" consists of CARB's proposed regulatory requirements for CCUS projects. These requirements may have impacts on the areas immediately surrounding where projects are occurring. While requirements vary by project type, as described above, the project collective is necessary to provide a comprehensive review of the combined, or cumulative, effect of these regulatory requirements.

- **PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:**

The EIA will evaluate the potential for impacts on the environmental resource areas found in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. Potential adverse impacts would be associated with the reasonably foreseeable compliance responses related to the proposed project, which may include but are not limited to: installation of monitoring equipment; operation and maintenance related to continuous seismic monitoring at geologic storage sites; operation and maintenance related to continuous CO₂ and meteorological monitoring at geologic storage sites; data analysis to detect relationships between injection activities and seismicity; extended operation and maintenance of subsurface monitoring equipment; data analysis to support plume tracking at geologic storage sites; and preparation of technical reports and public-facing documents.

The reasonably foreseeable compliance responses associated with the proposed CCUS Program could potentially adversely or beneficially affect several resource areas, including but not limited to the following, which will be further evaluated in the EIA:

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural and Forest Resources
- Air Quality and Odors
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology, Seismicity, and Soils
- Greenhouse Gases
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Transportation and Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems

Potential cumulative impacts and potential for growth inducement will be evaluated in the EIA, as well as alternatives, including the No Project Alternative.