

APPENDIX B

CNPRC FACILITY UPGRADE PROJECT NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Lead Agency:	University of California
Project Proponent:	University of California, Davis
Project Location:	Yolo County; UC Davis; west of County Road 98
Project Description:	<p>The proposed project consists of four facility components, the construction and operation of which would upgrade the capabilities and functionality of the California National Primate Research Center (CNPRC) at the University of California, Davis. These include: 1) two 840-gsf modular freezer buildings for long-term storage of frozen research samples; (2) up to twenty 980-gsf modular buildings for indoor holding of CNPRC animals from the adjacent outdoor research field corrals; (3) two 840-gsf modular buildings and one 1,150-gsf modular building that would be used for administrative and research office space; and (4) a new, one-story 7,433-gsf building for laboratory and work space to replace the existing 6,000 gsf Temporary Building 196 (TB 196), which would be demolished. Details of these four projects are provided below. All of these improvements would be within the perimeter of the existing developed area at the CNPRC.</p>

The CNPRC is presently operating with a shortage of freezer space for long-term storage of frozen research samples. Additional space is required because of the increasing need to maintain existing research samples and to provide long-term storage space for samples from future research projects. Adequate freezer storage would help to minimize animal usage by allowing future data verification and new analysis of preserved samples from completed research trials. This would help reduce the use of new animals when reanalysis is needed to duplicate a completed trial. The two proposed freezer modules would provide the needed additional space. The proposed freezer modules would not increase the employment or the amount of activity at the CNPRC, but would improve research efficiency.

The CNPRC proposes up to twenty 840-gsf new animal holding building modules for holding, rearing, and research space, to provide indoor housing for animals. The CNPRC animal population expands seasonally as young are born to animals residing in the CNPRC field corrals. In response to new research interests that increasingly require stricter protocols than can be achieved with outdoor housing, the CNPRC is proposing the use of indoor animal holding for a certain percentage of the increased animals that would otherwise have

been housed outdoors. The new holding facilities would permit the movement of immature animals from outdoor field corrals to indoor animal holding buildings. No new animals would be introduced to the CNPRC as a result of animal holding modular building construction. The ultimate number of animals at the facility is governed by the birth rate among mature animals housed in the field corrals. Up to ten new employees would be needed at the CNPRC for the care of the animals housed indoors in the new animal holding modules.

Existing office space at the CNPRC is overcrowded. Three new modular buildings would provide adequate office space for employees currently working at the CNPRC, as well as for the ten new employees needed for animal maintenance in the animal holding modules described above.

The replacement and expansion of the single-story building TB 196 would result in replaced and upgraded research workspace. The existing TB 196 building is in poor condition and is unsuitable for renovation. The new building would provide modern research laboratory space, surgery support space, animal testing space, and animal housing space presently provided by TB 196.

Incorporation by Reference:

This Negative Declaration incorporates by reference in their entirety the texts of the Tiered Initial Study prepared for the project; the 1994 LRDP; the 1994 LRDP EIR; the WWTP Replacement Project EIR; the 1997-98 Major Capital Improvement Projects SEIR; the Center for the Arts Performance Hall and South Entry Roadway and Parking Improvements Tiered Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration; the USDA Western Human Nutrition Research Center Tiered Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration; the Veterinary Medicine Laboratory, the Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory Facilities Focused Tiered EIR, and the Segundo Housing Improvement Projects Tiered Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration; and the Findings and Overriding Considerations adopted by The Regents in connection with the 1994 LRDP EIR, the WWTP Replacement Project EIR, the 1997-98 Major Capital Improvement Projects, and the Veterinary Medicine Laboratory and Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory Facilities Focused Tiered EIR, the Conference Center, Hotel, and Graduate School of Management Building Focused Tiered EIR, and the West Entry Parking Structure and Office Building Project.

Determination:

In accordance with CEQA, a Tiered Initial Study has been prepared by UC Davis that evaluates the environmental effects of the proposed project. On the basis of the project's Tiered Initial Study, the campus found that the proposed project may incrementally contribute to, but not exceed, certain cumulative significant impacts previously identified in the 1994 LRDP EIR,

and that for such impacts, no new mitigation measures, other than those previously identified in the 1994 LRDP EIR, are required or available. As analyzed in the Draft Tiered Initial Study, with implementation of all relevant 1994 LRDP EIR mitigation measures, there is no substantial evidence that the project as mitigated may have a significant effect on the environment. No project-specific impacts were identified and no project-specific mitigation measures are proposed. Therefore, preparation of an environmental impact report is not required.

Public Review:

In accordance with Section 15073 of the CEQA Guidelines, the Draft Tiered Initial Study for the project was circulated for public and agency review from March 20, 2003 to April 18, 2003. No comments were received during the review period.

ATTEST:

Date

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