

**APPENDIX B**  
**SUREWEST TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER PROJECT AT UC DAVIS**  
**NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

- Lead Agency:** University of California
- Project Proponent:** University of California, Davis
- Project Location:** Yolo and Solano Counties; UC Davis; west of the intersection of Garrod Drive and State Route 113; south of the intersection of Old Davis Road and Interstate 80
- Project Description:** The proposed project includes the construction and operation of a 155-foot tall SureWest telecommunications tower with ancillary structures in the west campus, located northwest of Garrod Drive and adjacent and east of the existing 150-foot tall UC Davis telecommunications tower. The project also includes construction of a single-story, 336 square-foot SureWest Controlled Environment Facility in the south campus, located west of Old Davis Road. An approximately 750-foot long telecommunications conduit would be installed to connect the proposed Controlled Environment Facility to an existing SureWest conduit located south near the intersection of Old Davis Road and the Union Pacific Railroad Tracks.
- In exchange for use of University land, SureWest would provide high-speed data network interconnection service through existing conduits between the UC Davis campus and the UC Davis Medical Center (UCDMC) in Sacramento, California, and between the UC Davis campus and the UC Davis McClellan Nuclear Radiation Center (MNRC) in Sacramento, California. Due to increased video conferencing and other data communication between UC Davis and the UCDMC, the campuses have exceeded their current data connection. The MNRC and UC Davis currently have a very slow speed data connection. Higher speed network connections would greatly benefit research efforts and general operations at UC Davis, the UCDMC, and the MNRC. The proposed project would ensure these fiber interconnections and would avoid the traditionally high expense associated with such improvements. In addition, the proposed project would improve wireless communication service on campus and in the area, including along State Route 113 and Interstate 80.
- Mitigation Measure:** As identified in the Draft Tiered Initial Study for the project, the project incorporates relevant mitigation measures from the 1994 Long Range Development Plan Environmental Impact Report.
- Incorporation by Reference:** This Negative Declaration incorporates by reference in their entirety the text 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 and Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory Facilities Focused Tiered EIR; the Segundo Housing Improvement Projects Tiered Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration, the Conference Center, Hotel, and Graduate School of Management Building Focused Tiered EIR; and the Findings and Overriding Considerations adopted by The Regents in connection with these documents.

**Determination:**

In accordance with CEQA, a Draft 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 Draft 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. In addition, the proposed project would result in no new significant impacts other than those previously identified in the 1994 LRDP EIR and no new mitigation measures, other than those previously identified in the 1994 LRDP EIR would be required. As assessed in the Draft Tiered Initial Study, with implementation of all relevant 1994 LRDP EIR mitigation measures, there is no substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. 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 May 29 to June 28, 2002. Comments received during the review period and responses to these comments are presented in the final Tiered Initial Study.

**ATTEST:**      July 19, 2002  
Date

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