



South Coast  
Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182  
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

E-MAILED: December 11, 2009

December 11, 2009

Mr. Albert Fontanez, Senior Planner  
City of Huntington Park  
6550 Miles Avenue  
Huntington Park, CA 90255

**Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft MND) for the Proposed Pacific  
Charter School**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The following comments are meant as guidance for the Lead Agency and should be incorporated into the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration.

The SCAQMD staff is concerned that locomotive emissions from nearby rail traffic were not included in the Health Risk Assessment (HRA). Because locomotive diesel exhaust is considered a carcinogenic toxic air pollutant and could adversely impact the proposed school, the SCAQMD staff recommends that the locomotive emissions from all rail traffic within a quarter miles of the proposed school site be included in the HRA analysis of the Final MND. A more detailed discussion of this issue is included in the attachment accompanying this letter.

Please provide the SCAQMD with written responses to all comments contained herein prior to the adoption of the Final MND. The SCAQMD staff would be happy to work with the Lead Agency to address these issues and any other questions that may arise.

Please contact Daniel Garcia, Air Quality Specialist – CEQA Section, at (909) 396-3304, if you have any questions regarding these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Nakamura".

Susan Nakamura  
Planning Manager  
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

Attachment

SN:EE

LAC091112-02  
Control Number

**Rail Emissions**

Figure 27 on page 155 of the Draft MND presents railroad tracks and grade crossings. This figure shows a BNSF rail line approximately 500 feet from the proposed project. The SCAQMD staff is concerned that the emissions from this rail line were not included in the health risk assessment. In addition, page 154 of the Draft MND identifies this rail lines as being used by MTA. Because locomotive diesel exhaust particulate matter is considered a carcinogenic toxic air pollutant, SCAQMD staff recommends that the health risk to the proposed project from all locomotives that use this rail line be included in the Final MND.