

**EXHIBIT 6-I INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE EXTERNAL CERTIFICATIONS  
(ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT QUALITY CONTROL REVIEW CERTIFICATION) FORM**

The following quality control review process is required by the local agency/consultant for all draft and final EA and EIS documents.

**Technical Specialist Reviewers:**

The purpose of the technical specialist review is to ensure the accuracy of specific resource studies and technical information summarized in the environmental document. A technical specialist review will be completed for each resource topic discussed in the environmental document. The review will be conducted for those sections in each chapter that contain information about the individual resource or technical area under consideration (e.g., Summary, Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences, and Avoidance, Minimization and/or Mitigation Measures; Cumulative Impacts).

The local agency's or consultant's technical specialists who are responsible for conducting the technical studies and preparing the technical reports shall review the technical report(s) to ensure that:

- the technical reports were required in the fully signed PES form
- the format and content of each technical report is consistent with the format and content requirements set forth in the SER
- the qualifications of the preparer of the technical report are consistent with the qualifications set forth in the SER
- technical report is accurate and regulatory requirements are appropriately addressed
- the technical report clearly summarizes/concludes how the mandates of the applicable federal law have been met
- there is consistency between the technical study and the information as summarized in the environmental document
- all mitigation commitments are appropriately characterized and are feasible to implement
- all anticipated permit and/or approval actions have been accurately identified within the environmental document

The technical specialist signs the External Certifications (Environmental Document Quality Control) form certifying that they have performed the quality control review and the environmental document meets State and federal requirements in their area of expertise and is consistent with the applicable technical study.

**Technical Edit Reviewer:**

The local agency or consultant (environmental project manager), responsible for preparing, or overseeing the preparation of the NEPA document, shall review the technical reports and the NEPA document to ensure that:

- the NEPA document prepared is consistent with the NEPA class of action identified in the PES Form
- the format and content of the NEPA document is consistent with the applicable Annotated Outline:
  - Correct Title Page
  - All chapters and necessary resource topics are present and complete
  - All appendices are present and complete
  - All required correspondence relative to procedural and regulatory requirements
  - Complete, clear, legible and logical exhibits and figures
- the conclusions of the technical reports are consistently stated in the NEPA document
- the NEPA document is written in a clear and concise manner
- grammar, punctuation and spelling are correct

- the Environmental Document Review Checklist is complete, providing cross-referenced page numbers on the checklist
- the External Certifications (Environmental Document Quality Control) form is signed, certifying that the document is adequate within his or her area of expertise

The technical edit reviewer signs the External Certifications (Environmental Document Quality Control) form certifying that they have performed the quality control review and the environmental document meets State and federal requirements in their area of expertise and is consistent with the applicable technical study.

**Environmental Consultant:**

The local agency (principal engineer/project manager) shall review the technical reports and NEPA document to ensure that:

- the reports and NEPA document meet the requirements set forth in the Scope of Work
- the reports/document prepared are consistent with the PES Form
- the content and format of the reports and document is consistent with guidance set forth in the SER/annotate outline
- adequacy of the project's purpose and need statement, logical termini independent utility and project description
- completeness of the alternative analysis, including information supporting the range of alternatives selected for study in the document
- all proposed mitigation commitments are properly identified, characterized and are reasonable and practicable to implement
- correspondence from resource and regulatory agencies is included and clearly indicates that the mandates of law have been met
- compliance with FHWA Environmental Impact and Related Procedures (23 CFR 771) and FHWA environmental policies and applicable guidance
- compliance with other federal laws and regulations, such as Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Executive Order 11990-Protection of Wetlands, Executive Order 11988-Floodplain Management, and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act
- the consultant's technical specialist and environmental project manager have signed the External Certifications form
- a copy of the complete Environmental Review Checklist with cross-referenced page numbers has been provided

The environmental consultant signs the External Certifications (Environmental Document Quality Control) form certifying that the document is internally consistent and was prepared consistent with Caltrans and FHWA requirements and guidance and the applicable SER annotated environmental document outline.

**Local Agency:**

The local agency (principal engineer/project manager) reviews the technical reports and environmental document to ensure that:

- the technical reports and environmental document prepared are consistent with the information required in the approved and signed PES Form and meet the requirements set forth in the scope of work
- the content and format of the technical reports and environmental document is consistent with guidance set forth in the SER/annotated outline:
  - all chapters and necessary resource topics are present, complete and the NEPA document is written in a clear and concise manner

- adequacy of the project's purpose and need statement, logical termini independent utility and project description
  - completeness of the alternative analysis
  - all proposed mitigation commitments are properly identified, characterized and are reasonable and practicable to implement
  - correspondence from resource and regulatory agencies is included and clearly indicates that the mandates of law have been met
  - compliance with FHWA Environmental Impact and Related Procedures (23 CFR 771) and FHWA environmental policies and applicable guidance
  - compliance with other federal laws and regulations, such as Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Executive Order 11990-Protection of Wetlands, Executive Order 11988-Floodplain Management, and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act if applicable
- the consultant's technical specialist and environmental project manager have signed the External Certification form
  - a copy of the complete Environmental Review Checklist, with cross-referenced page numbers has been provided
  - correspondence from resource and regulatory agencies is included and clearly indicates that the mandates of federal law have been met

The principle engineer/project manager signs the External Certifications (Environmental Document Quality Control) form certifying that the above statements are true and submits the following to the DLAE:

- Transmittal Memo, signed by the local agency (principle engineer/project manager) stating that the document and supporting technical studies have been prepared
- Five (5) hard copies of the administrative environmental document
- One (1) electronic copies of the administrative environmental document
- One (1) copy of each technical study
- One (1) electronic copy of each technical study
- One (1) copy of the completed Environmental Document Review Checklist
- Completed and signed External Certifications (Environmental Document Quality Control Review Certification) form

Following Caltrans' review, the local agency is responsible for revising the document consistent with Caltrans' comments.