

## **Design Engineering Evaluation Report Guidelines**

These guidelines replace the Permit Engineering Evaluation Report review process and requirements for the project delivery program specified in the Project Development Procedures Manual.

For a project that is sponsored, financed, and its preconstruction project development work is administered by external entities, a Design Engineering Evaluation Report (DEER) can be used in lieu of PSR-PDS, PSR-PR, and Project Report if the project meets all the following conditions:

- Project has approved environmental document (CE, ND, EIR, EIS, etc.) or project is CE by CEQA and/or NEPA and has completed studies or public outreach.
- Project only has a Single-Build Alternative
- Project does not require CTC action
- Project doesn't involve any ROW conveyances from the Department to the local agencies (e.g. dedications, relinquishments, modifications to State ROW limits, etc.)
- Project doesn't require FHWA approval for Relinquishments or NPRCs involving a modification to the access control
- Project doesn't involve construction of new structures or bridge widenings.

The DEER application checklist is included in the Appendix I and the DEER Template is added to the Caltrans Electronic Forms System (CEFS).

## Appendix I

### Design Engineering Evaluation Report Application Checklist

This checklist is used to determine whether a Design Engineering Evaluation Report (DEER) can be used for project approval of encroachment projects on the State Highway System.

No.	Scope Criteria	Yes	No
1	Project has approved environmental document (CE, ND, EIR, EIS, etc.) or project is CE by CEQA and/or NEPA and has completed studies or public outreach.		
2	Project only has a Single-Build Alternative.		
3	Project does not require CTC action.		
4	Project doesn't involve any ROW conveyances from the Department to the local agencies (e.g. dedications, relinquishments, modifications to State ROW limits, etc.).		
5	Project doesn't require FHWA approval for Relinquishments or NPRCs involving a modification to the access control.		
6	Project doesn't involve construction of new structures or bridge widenings.		

If the answer is "Yes" to all of six criteria, the project can use the DEER for project approval.

#### **Abbreviations:**

1. **CE:** Categorical Exemption/Categorical Exclusion
2. **CEQA:** California Environmental Quality Act
3. **EIR:** Environmental Impact Report
4. **EIS:** Environmental Impact Statement
5. **ND:** Negative Declaration
6. **NEPA:** National Environmental Policy Act
7. **CTC:** California Transportation Commission
8. **FHWA:** Federal Highway Administration
9. **NPRC:** New Public Road Connection
10. **ROW:** Right-of-way