

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Yosemite National Park P.O. Box 577 Yosemite, California 95389

IN REPLY REFER TO: L7617 (YOSE-PM)

Memorandum

- To: Chris Stein, Project Manager, Interpretation and Education, Yosemite National Park Michael Bilodeau, Project Manager, Yosemite Institute
- From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park
- Subject: Notice to Proceed, 2007-077 El Portal Yosemite Institute Residence 5564 Foresta Road Remodel

Your proposed project is an action that has been determined to result in no measurable environmental effects. It is therefore categorically excluded from further National Environmental Policy Act analysis under Categorical Exclusion: DO12 3.4 *C*(*3*) - *Routine maintenance and repairs to non-historic structures, facilities, utilities, grounds, and trails.*

Necessary compliance coordination has been completed regarding the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act, as applicable. This project clearance is valid providing that you adhere to any conditions that may be stipulated in the enclosed *Categorical Exclusion Form* and associated documents when implementing this project.

// Michael Tollefson // Michael J. Tollefson

<u>9/12/07</u> Date

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

Categorical Exclusion

(Version: OCT06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2007-077 PEPC Project Number: 18987

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Title: El Portal Yosemite Institute Residence 5564 Foresta Road Remodel
Location: El Portal, Mariposa County, California
Project Manager: Chris Stein, Interpretation and Education, Yosemite National Park
Project Manager: Michael Bilodeau, Yosemite Institute

B. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

This project is an action that has been determined to result in no measurable environmental effects. It is therefore categorically excluded from further National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis under Categorical Exclusion: DO12 3.4 *C* (*3*) - *Routine maintenance and repairs to non-historic structures, facilities, utilities, grounds, and trails.*

Necessary compliance coordination has been completed regarding the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act, as applicable. Environmental impacts will be negligible or less when the project is implemented with the conditions stipulated under **Project Mitigations and Conditions** in **Section I** at the end of the attached *Environmental Screening Form*.

Additional supporting information for this determination and the stipulated conditions can be found in the following attachments (when checked):

Environmental Screening Form

Preservation Assessment Form (YOSE-XXX)

Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis

Wild and Scenic River Section 7 Determination

Other:

C. DECISION

On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances or conditions in DO12 3.5 or 3.6 apply and the action is fully described in DO12, Section 3.4.

// Michael Tollefson //

Michael J. Tollefson, Superintendent

Original: Statutory Compliance File cc: Project Proponent

Attachments (2)

<u>9/12/07</u> Date

Environmental Screening Form

(Version: NOV06)

Compliance Tracking Number:**2007-077**PEPC Project Number:**18987**

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Title: El Portal Yosemite Institute Residence 5564 Foresta Road Remodel
Location: El Portal, Mariposa County, California
Project Manager: Randy Fong, Project Management, Yosemite National Park
Project Manager: Michael Bilodeau, Yosemite Institute

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

This project will convert an existing carport at a Yosemite Institute staff residence into living space. The net result will increase the house from four bedrooms to five bedrooms. This project will also allow for the addition of a laundry facility, which the current house lacks. This renovation will not affect overall parking, as residents will be able to park in front of the current carport instead of inside of it. There is adequate parking at the house for at least six resident vehicles. By using the existing carport structure, including foundation, walls, and roof, there will not be an increase in the footprint associated with this renovation.

From the exterior, this project entails enclosing the carport opening with T-111 siding, to match the rest of the house. A short concrete stem wall will be poured to match the current foundation level in the carport opening. Four new windows will be installed, all chosen to match the size, height, and spacing of existing windows. One of the windows will be installed to replace an existing exterior door on the west side of the house.

This project will be completed by a licensed and insured contractor, meet all building codes, and will be permitted by Mariposa County. An accident prevention plan will be submitted to the park Safety Office for approval prior to the start of construction.

All new alterations to the house will be designed to be compliant with accessibility requirements.

Table B1 – Background Information

		Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1.	Did NPS staff conduct a site visit? If yes, list attendees. If no, explain.	\boxtimes			Resources Management and Science staff.
2a.	Is the project providing compliance for an action associated with but not covered by an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation.); OR				
2b.	Is the project in an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation.		\square		
2c.	Is the project consistent with that plan?		\boxtimes		
2d.	Is the Plan's CE, FONSI, or ROD current?			\boxtimes	
3a.	Are there any interested or affected parties?		\boxtimes		
3b.	Has a diligent effort been made to communicate with them?				
4a.	Are there any affected agencies or tribes?		\boxtimes		
4b.	Has consultation been completed?				

		Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1.	Map	\boxtimes			Old El Portal map; see Attachment A.
2.	Drawings (e.g., design, construction)		\boxtimes		
3.	Site Plans		\boxtimes		
4.	Photographs	\boxtimes			Photos of existing structure and proposed project simulation; see Attachment B.
5.	Non-NEPA/NHPA Approvals (Explain)		\boxtimes		
6.	Other (Explain)		\boxtimes		

Table B2 – Environmental Screening Form Attachments (provide Attachment letter—A, B, etc.)

C. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL RESOURCE EFFECTS

	e any impacts possible on the following ources?	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1.	Geologic resources: soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc		\boxtimes		
2.	From geohazards		\boxtimes		
3.	Air quality	\boxtimes			Negligible: temporary air emissions during the remodel.
4.	Soundscapes	\boxtimes			Negligible: temporary noises during the remodel.
5.	Water quality or quantity		\boxtimes		
6.	Stream flow characteristics		\boxtimes		
7.	Marine or estuarine resources			\boxtimes	
8.	Floodplains or wetlands		\boxtimes		
9.	Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use		\boxtimes		
10.	Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine		\square		
11.	Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat		\boxtimes		
12.	Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites		\boxtimes		
13.	Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat		\boxtimes		
14.	Unique or important fish or fish habitat		\boxtimes		
15.	Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)		\bowtie		
16.	Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.		\bowtie		
17.	Visitor experience, aesthetic resources		\boxtimes		
18.	Cultural resources including cultural landscapes, ethnographic resources				Negligible; the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist and the attached XXX.
19.	Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure				
20.	Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.		\square		
21.	Energy resources		\boxtimes		
22.	Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies		\boxtimes		
23.	Resource, including energy, conservation potential		\boxtimes		
24.	Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.		\boxtimes		
25.	Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity		\boxtimes		
26	Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?		\boxtimes		
	nments, Mitigations and Conditions:				
1.	None				

D. MANDATORY CRITERIA

If	implemented, would the proposed action:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1.	Have material adverse effects on public health or safety?		\boxtimes		
2.	Have adverse effects on such unique characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands; floodplains; or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the National Register of Natural Landmarks?				Mitigated: the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see Section F, National Historic Preservation Act Checklist and the attached XXX.
3.	Have highly controversial environmental effects?		\boxtimes		
4.	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		\boxtimes		
5.	Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		\boxtimes		
6.	Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		\boxtimes		
7.	Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?		\boxtimes		
8.	Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species?				
9.	Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?		\boxtimes		
10	. Threaten to violate a federal, state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?				
11	. Involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA sec. 102(2)(E)?		\boxtimes		
12	. Have a disproportionate, significant adverse effect on low-income or minority populations (EO 12898)?				
13	. Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?				
14	. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of federally listed noxious weeds (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act)?				
15	. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of non-native invasive species or actions that may promote the introduction, growth or expansion of the range of non-native invasive species (EO 13112)?				
16	. Require a permit from a federal, state, or local agency to proceed, unless the agency from which the permit is required agrees that a CE is appropriate?		\boxtimes		
17	. Have the potential for significant impact as indicated by a federal, state, or local agency or Indian tribe?		\boxtimes		
18	. Have the potential to be controversial because of disagreement over possible environmental effects?		\boxtimes		
	. Have the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values?		\boxtimes		
C 1.	omments, Mitigations and Conditions: None				

E. SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST

Within the area of potential effect, are there:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes	
1. Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		\boxtimes			
2. Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		\boxtimes			
3. Park rare plants or vegetation?		\boxtimes			
4. Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		\boxtimes			
If "yes" to any of the above questions, a Special-Status Species Checklist must be completed and attached.					
Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:					

1. None

F. NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST

Wi	thin the area of potential effect:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1.	Will there be ground disturbance?		\boxtimes		
2.	Are there any archeological sites?		\boxtimes		
3.	Are there any Native American Indian traditional cultural resources?		\boxtimes		
4.	Is there a historic property (a building, structure, feature, or all or any part of an archeological district or site, or a historic district or site, or any associated landscape element) that is listed or eligible for listing on the <i>National Register</i> ?				El Portal Archeological District; Old El Portal Cultural Landscape; the assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see the attached XXX.
5.	Is there a National Historic Landmark?		\boxtimes		
6.	Is there a structure(s) on the park's <i>List of Classified Structures</i> ?		\square		
7.	Is there any cultural resource requiring an evaluation of eligibility as a historic property under NHPA, Section 106, before an affect determination can be made?		\boxtimes		
8	Would there be alteration of any historic property or associated landscape element covered by 2-7, above?		\boxtimes		
If '	'yes" to any of the above, then an Assessment of	of Effe	ects fo	rm (Y	OSE-XXX) must be completed and attached.
Mi	tigations and Conditions:				
1.	None				

G. WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST

Is the proposed project:		No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes		
1. Within designated Wilderness?		\boxtimes				
2. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		\boxtimes				
If "yes" to either of the above, then a Wilderness Minimum Requirements Analysis must be completed and attached.						
Mitigations and Conditions:						
1. None						

H. WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST

Do	es the proposed project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes			
1.	Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor? If 'yes", name the river(s)	\bowtie			Merced River; this project is user capacity neutral.			
2.	Fall within the bed and banks AND affect the free-flow of the river?		\bowtie					
3.	Potentially affect water quality of the area?		\boxtimes					
4.	Diminish or other wise change the values for which the river was designated as a Wild and Scenic River? If "yes", explain.		\boxtimes					
5a.	Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		\bowtie					
5b.	If 5a is "yes", will the project affect the Wild and Scenic River corridor?			\boxtimes				
5c.	If 5a is "yes", will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?			\boxtimes				
If '	If "yes" to questions 2, 5b, or 5c, then a WSRA Section 7 determination must be completed and attached.							
Mi	tigations and Conditions:							
1.	None							

I. NEPA Analysis and Approval Conditions

When implemented as detailed in the project description and following all Project Mitigations and Conditions listed below, this project meets the terms and conditions of a categorical exclusion to NEPA.

Applicable Categorical Exclusion:

DO12 3.4 *C*(3) - Routine maintenance and repairs to non-historic structures, facilities, utilities, grounds, and trails.

Project Mitigations and Conditions:

1. Ensure that formal parking guidelines are defined for guests of residents. (Planning and Resources Management and Science)

This project has been reviewed in accordance with the above criteria and it has been determined that the project will result in no or minimal environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review required under the National Environmental Policy Act. Additionally, the necessary compliance coordination has been completed with regard to the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

// Renea Kennec //	8/21/07
Compliance Specialist	Date
// Mark A. Butler //	8/21/07
Compliance Program Manager	Date
// Bill Delaney //	9/10/07
Chief, Project Management	Date

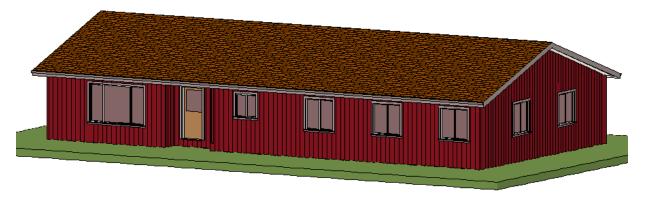
Attachment A



Old El Portal – 5564 Foresta Road, Lot #86

Attachment B





Preservation Assessment Form (YOSE XXX)

(Version: AUG06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2007-077 PEPC Project Number: 18987

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

Title: El Portal Yosemite Institute Residence 5564 Foresta Road Remodel **Project Location and Area of Potential Effect:**

El Portal, Mariposa County, California

Old El Portal

Project Manager: Chris Stein, Interpretation and Education, Yosemite National Park

Project Manager: Michael Bilodeau, Yosemite Institute,

Project Description: This project will convert an existing carport at a Yosemite Institute staff residence into living space. The net result will increase the house from four bedrooms to five bedrooms. This project will also allow for the addition of a laundry facility, which the current house lacks. This renovation will not affect overall parking, as residents will be able to park in front of the current carport instead of inside of it. There is adequate parking at the house for at least six resident vehicles. By using the existing carport structure, including foundation, walls, and roof, there will not be an increase in the footprint associated with this renovation.

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This project will be completed by a licensed and insured contractor, meet all building codes, and will be permitted by Mariposa County. An accident prevention plan will be submitted to the park Safety Office for approval prior to the start of construction.

All new alterations to the house will be designed to be compliant with accessibility requirements.

1.Atta	1. Attached Sensitive Information**			Explanation/Source/Notes
a.	Maps	\boxtimes		CR GIS Map
b.	Drawings		\boxtimes	
c.	Site Plans		\boxtimes	
d.	Photographs		\boxtimes	
e.	Sample		\boxtimes	
f.	List of Materials		\boxtimes	
g.	Other (Explain)		\boxtimes	

** Sensitive documents not for duplication or distribution beyond park management, subject matter experts, and the project statutory compliance file.

B. DESCRIPTION OF EFFECTS

		Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1.	Has the Area of Potential Effect been				El Portal Archeological District;
	surveyed to identify historic properties?	\bowtie			Old El Portal Cultural Landscape Level 1.
	If Yes, provide reference for the Survey (s).				-
	a. Would the proposed action affect a		\boxtimes		There are no historic properties in the ADE
	known historic property?				There are no historic properties in the APE.
2.	List all Historic Properties in the Area of	Affec	cted?		Employed on Nicker
	Potential Effect:	Yes	No		Explanation/Notes
	a. None				
	b.				
	c.				
3.	List resources in the Area of Potential	Affec	cted?		
	Effect to which American Indians attach	Yes	No		Explanation/Notes
	cultural and religious significance:	res	INO		
	a. Foresta American Indian Traditional Use		\boxtimes	Proie	ct will not impact traditional use resources.
	Area			Tioje	et will not impact traditional use resources.
	b.				
	с.				
4.	The proposed action will:	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Note
	• Destroy, remove, or alter features or		\boxtimes		
	elements from a historic structure				
	• Replace historic features/elements in kind		\square		
	• Add nonhistoric features/elements to a		\bowtie		
	historic structure		<u> </u>		
	• Alter or remove features/elements of a				
	historic setting or environment (including		\boxtimes		
	terrain)Add nonhistoric features/elements				
	(including visual, audible, or atmospheric)		\bowtie		
	to a historic setting or cultural landscape				
	• Disturb, destroy, or make archeological				
	resources inaccessible, or alter associated		\boxtimes		
	terrain		~~~		
	• Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic				
	resources inaccessible, or alter associated		\boxtimes		
	terrain				
	• Begin or contribute to the deterioration of				
	historic fabric, terrain, setting, landscape		\boxtimes		
	elements, or archeological or				
	ethnographic resources				
	• Involve a real property transaction				
	affecting historic cultural properties (i.e.,		\boxtimes		
	the exchange, sale, or lease of land or	<u> </u>	لاللغ		
	structures)				
	• Potentially affect presently unidentified		\square		
	historic resources				
	• Other		\boxtimes		

5. Describe any measures that are incorporated as part of this project that will be taken to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of prehistoric or historic fabric, setting, integrity, or data:

<Enter Information or Delete>

Checklist prepared by: Jeannette Simons Title: Historic Preservation Officer Date: 07 10 07

C. SPECIALIST SECTION

Specialists: Your comments here (or attached) show that you have reviewed this proposal for conformity with requirements of *National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106*; with the 1995 *Servicewide Programmatic Agreement* (if applicable); with applicable parts of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*; with the NPS *Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*; and have given your best professional advice about this project and the issues relevant to the Section 106 process, including identification and evaluation of historic properties and further consultation needs.

Archeologist Comments:	Name: Laura Kirn	Date: 7/11/07					
Ground Disturbance Involved Assessment of Effect: ''No Adverse Recommended Conditions:	Yes: No: X						
Signature of Archeologist: // Scott.	Signature of Archeologist: // Scott Jackson // acting for						
Cultural Anthropologist Comments:	Name: Sonny Montague	Date:					
Assessment of Effect: <choose b="" eff<=""></choose>	ect> or write it here >>						
Recommended Conditions:							
Signature of Cultural Anthropologist:							
Curator	Name: Jonathan Bayless	Date: 7/11/07					
Comments:							
Assessment of Effect: "No Adverse Effect"							
Recommended Conditions:							

Signature of Curator: // Jonathan Bayless //

Historian	Name: Charles Palmer	Date:		
Comments:				
Assessment of Effect: < Choose Effect> or write it here >>				
Recommended Conditions:				
Signature of Historian:				
Historical Architect	Name: Sueann Brown	Date: 7/11/07		
Comments:	Name: Sueann Brown	Date: //11/07		
Assessment of Effect: "No Adverse	e Effect''			
Recommended Conditions:				
Signature of Historical Architect: /	// Sueann Brown //			
-				
Historical Landscape Architect	t Name: Dave Humphrey	Date: 7/11/07		
Comments:				
Assessment of Effect: "No Adverse	> Effect''			
Recommended Conditions:				

Signature of Historical Landscape Architect: // David T. Humphrey //

Preservation Specialist	Name: Rod Kennec	Date:			
Comments:					
Assessment of Effect: <choose effect=""> or write it here >></choose>					
Recommended Conditions: Recommended Conditions					
Signature of Preservation Special	list:				
Native American Liaison Comments:	Name: Jeannette Simons	Date:			
Assessment of Effect: <choose effect=""> or write it here >></choose>					
Recommended Conditions:					
Signature of Native American Liaison:					
<enter specialist="" title=""></enter>	Name:	Date:			
Comments:					
Assessment of Effect: < Choose Effect> or write it here >>					
Recommended Conditions:					

Signature of <Enter Specialist's Title>: _____

D. RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND SCIENCE DIVISION AND PARK 106 COORDINATOR REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Review by specialists: The appropriate subject-matter experts have reviewed the project and entered their comments and recommendations in Section C, above.

The foregoing assessment is adequate: the proposed action is consistent with all applicable NPS management policies, standards, guidelines, or US DOI standards and guidelines, Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings, or others, and incorporates measures to avoid Adverse Effects.

Reviewed and Accepted by:

Signature:	// Niki Stephanie Nicholas //	Date: 7-13-07
_	Chief of Resources Management & Science Division	

2. Compliance Requirements: The following is the park's assessment of Section 106 process needs and requirements for this undertaking.

Standard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation

Consultation under 36 CFR is needed subsequent to the preparation of this form and its review by appropriate historic resource management advisors.

Undertaking related to the 1995 NPS Programmatic Agreement

The above action meets all conditions for a programmatic exclusion under Stipulation IV. A of the 1995 NPS programmatic agreement, and is listed in Stipulation IV. B, as:

<Choose Type of Undertaking>

Plan-Related Undertaking

Consultation and review of the proposed undertaking were completed in the context of a plan review process, in accordance with the 1995 NPS programmatic agreement and 36 CFR Part 800.

Undertaking Related to Another Agreement

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under a document such as a statewide agreement written in accordance with 37 CFR Part 800.7 or counterpart regulations.

Agreement: <Enter Agreement Information>

☐ Flood-Recovery Related Undertaking

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under the letter-based agreement between the NPS, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the Council for Historic Preservation for "Highwater 97" flood repair and recovery

Undertaking Related to the 1999 Yosemite Programmatic Agreement

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under the park's 1999 programmatic agreement for planning, design, construction, operations and maintenance; the undertaking meets the stipulations identified in Article VII.C.2.

3. Assessment of Effects: No Adverse Effect

4. Project Stipulations and Conditions

Following are listed any stipulations or conditions necessary to ensure that the assessment of effects above is consistent with 36 CFR 800 criteria of effect or to mitigate potential adverse effects:

a. None

Recommended by Park Section 106 Coordinator:

Name: Jeannette Simons

Title: Historic Preservation Officer

Signature: // Jeannette Simons // Date: 7-17-07

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL

The proposed work conforms to NPS Management Policies and NPS-28 and I approve the recommendations, stipulations, and conditions noted in Section B of this form.

 Signature of Superintendent:
 // Michael Tollefson //
 Date:
 9/12/07

 Michael J. Tollefson
 Date:
 9/12/07