

# **United States Department of the Interior**

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

#### Memorandum

To: Marvin Mann, Project Manager, Business and Revenue Management, Yosemite

National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: Notice to Proceed, 2007-035 El Portal Grocery/Convienence Store Concession Contract

Issuance

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 A (6) - Incidental business permits (formerly called commercial use licenses) involving no construction or potential for new environmental impact.

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.

//R. Kevin Cann//	<u>06/29/07</u>
Michael J. Tollefson	Date
Enclosure (with attachments)	
cc: Statutory Compliance File	The signed original of this document is on file at the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in Yosemite National Park.

# **Categorical Exclusion**

(Version: OCT06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2007-035 PEPC Project Number: 17689

#### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Title: El Portal Grocery/Convienence Store Concession Contract Issuance

Location: El Portal, Mariposa County, California

**Project Manager:** Marvin Mann, Business and Revenue Management, Yosemite National Park

#### **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 A (6) - Incidental business permits (formerly called commercial use licenses) involving no construction or potential for new environmental impact.

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): 1.0

$\boxtimes I$	Environmental Screening Form
$\boxtimes I$	Preservation Assessment Form (YOSE-XXX)
	Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis
	Wild and Scenic River Section 7 Determination
$\Box$	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.

//R. Kevin Cann//	06/29/07	
Michael J. Tollefson, Superintendent	Date	

Statutory Compliance File Original: cc: **Project Proponent** 

Attachments (2) The signed original of this document is on file at the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in Yosemite National Park.

# **Environmental Screening Form**

(Version: NOV06)

Compliance Tracking Number: **2007-035**PEPC Project Number: **17689** 

#### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Title: El Portal Grocery/Convienence Store Concession Contract Issuance

Location: El Portal, Mariposa County, California

Project Manager: Marvin Mann, Business and Revenue Management, Yosemite National Park

#### **B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND**

The existing concession contract held by Hugh Carter and partners will expire on 12/31/2007. This project will include the development and issuance of a new concession contract for a grocery/convenience store. The new concession contract will replace the existing concession contract and authorize visitor services within the existing structures and footprint currently assigned to the existing contract. No changes in services offered are being planned. It is the current expectation of the park that this contract will remain in effect until planning for the administrative site can be finalized at a future date.

**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.		$\boxtimes$		
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.		$\boxtimes$		
2c.	Is the project consistent with that plan?				
2d.	Is the Plan's CE, FONSI, or ROD current?			$\overline{\boxtimes}$	
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?				
Ta	ble B2 – Environmental Screening Forn	n Atta	chm	ents (j	provide Attachment letter—A, B, etc.)
		Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1.	Maps		$\boxtimes$		
2.					
	Drawings (e.g., design, construction)		$\boxtimes$		
3.	Drawings (e.g., design, construction) Site Plans		$\boxtimes$		
3. 4.					
	Site Plans		$\boxtimes$		

# C. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL RESOURCE EFFECTS

Coologic resources: soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc	Are	e any impacts possible on the following	Yes	No	N/A	Data Nacded to Datamine/Nates
2. From geohazards 3. Air quality 4. Soundscapes 5. Water quality or quantity 6. Stream flow characteristics 7. Marine or estuarine resources 8. Floodplains or wetlands 9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use 10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine 11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat 12. Unique coosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites 13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat 14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat 15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal) 16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc. 17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources 18. Cultural resources including cultural landscapes, ethnographic resources 19. Socioeconomics, including enlpoyment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure 20. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc. 21. Energy resources 22. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies chemically and the supplies of the supplies	rese		res	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
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geothermal, paleontological resources)?	25.			$\boxtimes$		
Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:	26					
1. None		, 9				

# D. MANDATORY CRITERIA

If	implemented, would the proposed action:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
	Have material adverse effects on public health or safety?		$\boxtimes$		Data Hoodou to Dotollimo, Hotoc
	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, below.
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?				
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?		$\boxtimes$		
	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?		$\boxtimes$		
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)?		$\boxtimes$		
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)?		$\boxtimes$		
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?				
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?				
	Have the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values?				
<b>C</b> o	omments, Mitigations and Conditions: None				

#### E. SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST Within the area of potential effect, are there: N/A **Data Needed to Determine/Notes** Yes No 1. Listed or proposed threatened or $\boxtimes$ endangered species (Federal or State)? 2. Species of special concern (Federal or $\boxtimes$ State)? $\boxtimes$ 3. Park rare plants or vegetation? 4. Potential habitat for any special-status $\boxtimes$ species listed above? 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 Within the area of potential effect: No N/A **Data Needed to Determine/Notes** Yes 1. Will there be ground disturbance? $\boxtimes$ 2. Are there any archeological sites? $\boxtimes$ 3. Are there any Native American Indian $\boxtimes$ traditional cultural resources? 4. Is there a historic property (a building, structure, feature, or all or any part of an El Portal Market: archeological district or site, or a historic El Portal Archeological District; П $\boxtimes$ district or site, or any associated landscape the assessment of effect is "No Adverse element) that is listed or eligible for listing Effect;" see the attached XXX. on the National Register? 5. Is there a National Historic Landmark? X 6. Is there a structure(s) on the park's List of $\boxtimes$ Old El Portal Cultural Landscape Inventory Classified Structures? 7. Is there any cultural resource requiring an evaluation of eligibility as a historic $\bowtie$ П property under NHPA, Section 106, before an affect determination can be made? Would there be alteration of any historic $\boxtimes$ property or associated landscape element covered by 2-7, above? If "yes" to any of the above, then an Assessment of Effects form (YOSE-XXX) must be completed and attached. **Mitigations and Conditions:** 1. None

#### G. WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST

Is the proposed project:	Yes	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

Does 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)	$\boxtimes$			Merced River			
2. Fall within the bed and banks AND affect the free-flow of the river?		$\boxtimes$					
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.							
5a. Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		$\boxtimes$					
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 "yes" to questions 2, 5b, or 5c, then a WSRA Section 7 determination must be completed and attached.							
Mitigations 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 A (6) - Incidental business permits (formerly called commercial use licenses) involving no construction or potential for new environmental impact.

## **Project Mitigations and Conditions:**

#### 1. None

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//	06/27/07
Compliance Specialist	Date
//Ann Roberts//	06/28/07
Compliance Program Manager	Date
//Glen Rothell//	06/27/07
Chief, Project Management	Date

The signed original of this document is on file at the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in Yosemite National Park.

# **Preservation Assessment Form (YOSE XXX)**

(Version: AUG06)

Compliance Tracking Number: **2007-035**PEPC Project Number: **17689** 

#### A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

Title: El Portal Grocery/Convenience Store Concession Contract Issuance

#### **Project Location and Area of Potential Effect:**

El Portal, Mariposa County, California

El Portal Grocery/Convenience Store

**Project Manager:** Marvin Mann, Business and Revenue Management, Yosemite National Park **Project Description:** The existing concession contract held by Hugh Carter and partners will expire on 12/31/2007. This project will include the development and issuance of a new concession contract for a grocery/convenience store. The new concession contract will replace the existing concession contract and authorize visitor services within the existing structures and footprint currently assigned to the existing contract. No changes in services offered are being planned. It is the current expectation

of the park that this contract will remain in effect until planning for the administrative site can be

finalized at a future date.

1. Attached Sensitive Information**	Yes	No	Explanation/Source/Notes
a. Maps		$\boxtimes$	
b. Drawings		$\boxtimes$	
c. Site Plans		$\boxtimes$	
d. Photographs		$\boxtimes$	
e. Sample		$\boxtimes$	
f. List of Materials		$\boxtimes$	
g. Other (Explain)		$\boxtimes$	

<sup>\*\*</sup> 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 surveyed to identify historic properties?  If Yes, provide reference for the Survey (s).	$\boxtimes$			Old El Portal CLI, 2005 El Portal Archeological District
	a. Would the proposed action affect a known historic property?	$\boxtimes$			El Portal Market; built 1934
2.	List all Historic Properties in the Area of	Affec	ted?		Explanation/Notes
	Potential Effect:	Yes	No		Explanation/Notes
	a. El Portal Market	$\boxtimes$		Prote	ctive clause in contract.
	b.				
	c.				
3.	List resources in the Area of Potential	Affec	ted?		
	Effect to which American Indians attach	Yes	No		Explanation/Notes
	cultural and religious significance:	168	110		
	a. El Portal is a known traditional	П	$\boxtimes$		esources associated with American Indian use
	American Indian use area.			are in	the APE.
	b.	Ц	Щ		
	C.				
4	Til	<b>T</b> 7	NT-	NT/A	T1
4.	The proposed action will:	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Note
	• Destroy, remove, or alter features or elements from a historic structure		$\boxtimes$		
	Replace historic features/elements in kind		$\boxtimes$		
	Add nonhistoric features/elements to a				
	historic structure			Ш	
	<ul> <li>Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (including terrain)</li> </ul>				
	Add nonhistoric features/elements				
	(including visual, audible, or atmospheric)		$\boxtimes$		
	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  historia fabria torrain action landscare				
	historic fabric, terrain, setting, landscape		$\boxtimes$		
	elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources				
	• Involve a real property transaction				
	affecting historic cultural properties (i.e.,		_	_	
	the exchange, sale, or lease of land or	$\boxtimes$	Ш		Contract
	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:

Protection clauses are provided in the standard NPS contract

Checklist prepared by: Jeannette Simons Date: <u>06/18/07</u>

**Title:** Historic Preservation Officer

# 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: 06/19/07
Ground Disturbance Involved	Yes: No: X	
Assessment of Effect: <b><choose b="" ef<=""> Recommended Conditions:</choose></b>	fect> or write it here >> No Effect	
Signature of Archeologist: //La	aura Kirn//	
Cultural Anthropologist Comments:	Name: Sonny Montague	Date:
Assessment of Effect: <b><choose b="" ef<=""></choose></b>	fect> or write it here >>	
Recommended Conditions:		
Signature of Cultural Anthropologic	ist:	
Curator	Name: Jonathan Bayless	Date:
Comments:		
Assessment of Effect: < Choose Ef	fect> or write it here >>	
Recommended Conditions:		
Signature of Curator:		

Historian	Name: Charles Palmer	Date:	
Comments:			
Assessment of Effect: < Choose Eff	fect> or write it here >>		
Recommended Conditions:			
Signature of Historian:			
Historical Architect	Name: Sueann Brown	Date: 06-19-07	
Comments:	Name. Sucam Brown	Date: 00-17-07	
A	Contraction of the contraction o		
Assessment of Effect: <choose effect=""> or write it here &gt;&gt; No Adverse Effect</choose>			
Recommended Conditions:			
Signature of Historic Architect://	Sueann Brown//		
		_	
Historical Landscape Architect	Name: <b>Dave Humphrey</b>	Date: 06/19/07	
Comments:			
Assessment of Effect: < Choose Effect> or write it here >> No Effect			
Recommended Conditions:			
Signature of Historic Landscape Ar	chitect: //Dava Humphray//		
Signature of Historic Landscape Ar	Cinicci//Dave Humphrey//		

Preservation Specialist Comments:	Name: Rod Kennec	Date:	
Assessment of Effect: <b><choose effect=""> or write it here &gt;&gt;</choose></b> Recommended Conditions: Recommended Conditions			
Signature of Preservation Specialist	::		
Native American Liaison Comments:	Name: Jeannette Simons	Date:	
Assessment of Effect: <b><choose b="" eff<=""> Recommended Conditions:</choose></b>	ect> or write it here >>		
Signature of Native American Liais	son:		
<enter specialist="" title=""> Comments:</enter>	Name:	Date:	
Assessment of Effect: <b><choose b="" eff<=""> Recommended Conditions:</choose></b>	ect> or write it here >>		
Signature of <enter specialist's="" td="" title<=""><td>le&gt;:</td><td></td></enter>	le>:		

# 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.

Re	viewed a	nd Accepted by:		
Sig	nature:	//Niki Nicholas//		<b>Date:</b> <u>06/20/07</u>
		Chief of Resources I	Management & Science Division	
2.	Compli	ance Requirements:	The following is the park's assessmeeds and requirements for this uncompared to the control of t	
	$\Box$ S	tandard 36 CFR Par	t 800 Consultation	
			R is needed subsequent to the preparatice management advisors.	on of this form and its review by
	$\Box u$	ndertaking related to	o the 1995 NPS Programmatic Ag	reement
			Il conditions for a programmatic exclusing agreement, and is listed in Stipulation $\Gamma$	
	<	Choose Type of Underta	ıking>	
	□ P	lan-Related Undertal	king	
			of the proposed undertaking were comp th the 1995 NPS programmatic agreem	
	$\Box u$	ndertaking Related t	to Another Agreement	
			g is covered for Section 106 purposes un ten in accordance with 37 CFR Part 800	
	A	<b>greement</b> : <enter ag<="" td=""><td>greement Information&gt;</td><td></td></enter>	greement Information>	
	$\Box$ F	lood-Recovery Relate	ed Undertaking	
	l		ng is covered for Section 106 purposes unate Historic Preservation Office, and the drepair and recovery	
	$\boxtimes \mathfrak{t}$	ndertaking Related t	to the 1999 Yosemite Programmat	tic Agreement
	a		g is covered for Section 106 purposes un lesign, construction, operations and mai 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. No adverse effect is based on implementation of protective clauses in Section 6, Environmental and Cultural Protection of the May 4, 2000, DOI NPS Standard Concession Contract

Recommen	nded by Park Section 106 Coordinator:
Name:	Jeannette Simons
Title:	Historic Preservation Officer
Signature:	//Jeannette Simons// Date: <u>06/29/07</u>
	INTENDENT'S APPROVAL  ed work conforms to NPS Management Policies and NPS-28 and I approve the
recommend	lations, stipulations, and conditions noted in Section B of this form.
Signature	of Superintendent: //R. Kevin Cann// Date:06/29/07
	Michael I. Tollefson

The signed original of this document is on file at the Environmental Planning and Compliance Office in Yosemite National Park.