



Summary of Report by *Green L.A. Port Working Group*

While both genetics and access to healthcare are important factors to our health, the places where we live, work, and play can affect our health as well. The following includes a summary of findings and recommendations from HIP on the scope of a health impact assessment for the SCIG.

Noise and Health

- Groups who are at higher risk for noise exposure are those less able to cope with the impacts, including people with decreased abilities; people with particular disease; those dealing with complex cognitive tasks; young children; and the elderly in general.
- The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed Southern California International Gateway (SCIG) acknowledges the links between increased noise and hearing impairment, sleep disturbance, cardiovascular effects, psychological effects, and fetal development, but does not consider methods of predicting health effects from potential changes in levels of noise resulting from the proposed SCIG project.
- A more comprehensive analysis of the public health literature on the relationship between noise and health should be considered in the EIR analysis, including:
 - Sleep
 - Annoyance
 - Speech and language
 - Learning and educational performance
 - Cardiovascular disease
 - Hypertension
 - Myocardial infraction
 - Stress

Air Quality and Health

The SCIG DEIR provides some background on the relationship between air quality and health as well as

chronic and acute hazards. However, the following evidence detailing specific effects from air pollution should be presented and considered in the EIR:

- Asthma and other respiratory diseases
- Cardiovascular disease
- Cancers
- Birth outcomes
- Preterm births
- Low birth weight of infants
- Birth defects
- Premature death and mortality
- Health effects of roadway proximity

Truck Traffic Predictions

The DEIR assumes that the SCIG would reduce truck trips on the I-710 by handling cargo containers coming from the ports at the SCIG, instead of those containers having to be transported all the way to the Hobart Yard in Commerce. However, this assumption is incorrect because even after the SCIG is built, there will be an increased number of cargo containers that need to be transported to the Hobart Yard, included transloaded containers. Any analysis in the EIR that is based on this faulty assumption is accordingly also incorrect, including the EIR's analysis of noise, air quality, and health impacts.

The study recommends that the EIR take into account the potential increase in the number of truck trips that could occur in the areas immediately north of the Port of Los Angeles and Long Beach, including along the I-710 Freeway Corridor, that would result from the development of the SCIG.

Study Recommendations

A complete analysis of health effects must be included in the SCIG EIR, including analysis of all potentially significant direct, indirect, and cumulative health impacts from the proposed project and the alternatives. This analysis should include an analysis of the baseline health status and determinants of health for the affected population. The study recommends that the EIR also include:

- Data to summarize existing conditions for the above mentioned health outcomes as well as an analysis of how the proposed SCIG project could impact these conditions by causing changes in levels of existing noise.
- Additional health analysis that provides existing rates for air quality-related health outcomes and the future predicted rates to give readers a better sense of the health burden of the project.