The National Environmental Policy Act process provides the opportunity for the public and concerned agencies to help determine the scope of the EIS. The public can help clearly identify and define environmental issues and alternatives to be examined. The NEPA process is intended to help public officials make decisions and take actions based on an understanding of environmental consequences.

**HOW IS THE PUBLIC INVOLVED?**

Reclamation is seeking public comments throughout the EIS process. Specific opportunities for public input exist now and when the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is released.

**SCOPING**

This is one of two open houses Reclamation is holding for the Folsom Dam Road EIS (Sacramento, May 26, 2004; Folsom, May 27, 2004). The purpose of the scoping phase is to define the issues that will be studied during the EIS process. You are invited to provide input on issues relevant to defining the range of alternatives and analyzing environmental impacts. Scoping comments can be provided in person, by mail, by fax, or by email, and are due by June 10, 2004.

**PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT ON DRAFT EIS**

The general public and state and federal agencies will have an opportunity to review and comment on the Draft EIS, which will be distributed at the beginning of a 60-day comment period. Public comments received during this phase will be addressed in the Final EIS.

**PUBLIC REVIEW OF FINAL EIS**

Once the Final EIS is prepared, it is released to the public for 30 days before Reclamation adopts a decision. The Record of Decision will address substantive comments that are relevant to the EIS.

**WHAT IS THE "ROD"?**

The Record of Decision ("ROD") will document the alternative selected through the EIS process. The ROD will identify all of the alternatives considered and the environmental, economic, and any essential considerations of national policy in reaching the decision. The ROD will include the consideration of measures made to avoid or minimize effects from the selected alternative. The ROD is the final step in the EIS process.