

INITIAL NON-VIOLENT CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE QUESTIONNAIRE

This is a quick initial questionnaire for a Sierra Club applicant to answer before being invited to fill out a detailed formal application for any participation in an act of non-violent civil disobedience.

We are looking for brief answers (just a sentence or two) to assess if your request meets basic minimum criteria to be considered by the Board of Directors for potential approval. The goal is to avoid having an applicant spending a great deal of time filling out a detailed application if the proposed action does not meet these basic criteria.

Please briefly answer the following questions and email to civil.disobedience@sierraclub.org

1. Explain how you feel the proposed action would contribute to the Sierra Club's mission and priorities. Does it help accomplish a top organizational priority in a way that other activities would not?
2. Does the proposed action align with Sierra Club values and strengths? Is it an especially good fit for the Sierra Club to undertake rather than any other group, given our values and particular organizational strengths?
3. Does the action present a significant opportunity to meaningfully change the debate and/or impact change? Is it a real game changer?
4. Does the action build demand for protecting our planet and people? Will it lead to deeper relationships with other movements, bring in more people to the environmental community, and help broaden people's perspectives of why our issues and mission are so critical?
5. Applicant entity (note that we only accept applications from Chapters, the Sierra Student Coalition, National Campaign Committees, and the Executive Team).
6. Name, phone and email of lead staff or volunteer requesting approval who can answer any questions about the event.
7. Date of the proposed civil disobedience. (Note that in most cases we require at least 45 days advance notice to process a request.)
8. Location of the proposed civil disobedience. Public property? Private property? Combination of both? Please be as specific as possible. Who owns or controls the property where the civil disobedience will take place.
9. Desired outcome and goal of the civil disobedience and the targeted decision-maker(s) who can grant your desired outcome.
10. Is this action part of a broader higher priority campaign for your Club entity? If not, why do you feel it is vital to participate?
11. What is the specific form of civil disobedience planned or the nature of the offense? (For example, a sit in, blocking proposed construction site, trespass etc.)
12. Are all sponsoring participant organizations committed to a civil disobedience that is non-violent and does not involve property destruction? Are there any allied partners or other likely participants who have a history of or plan to engage in violence or property damage?

May 2017

13. Has your campaign already applied a variety of legal means (litigation, lobbying, public pressure, media) that have failed to sway the decision maker(s) so that civil disobedience is judged to be necessary despite its risks?
14. Are there leaders within the Club or your coalition that have prior experience and training in non-violent civil disobedience or will this be a first time experience?

If you have any questions about the process or the details required in this initial questionnaire, please contact civil.disobedience@sierraclub.org. If you need to contact an individual contact Bruce Hamilton, Deputy Executive Director, at bruce.hamilton@sierraclub.org 415-977-5678