

8. *Impacts Found Not to Be Significant*

California Public Resources Code Section 21003 (f) states "...it is the policy of the state that...all persons and public agencies involved in the environmental review process be responsible for carrying out the process in the most efficient, expeditious manner in order to conserve the available financial, governmental, physical, and social resources with the objective that those resources may be better applied toward the mitigation of actual significant effects on the environment." This policy is reflected in the State of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15162.2(a), which states that "a[n] EIR [Environmental Impact Report] shall focus on the significant environmental impacts of the proposed project" and Section 15143, which states that "the EIR shall focus on the significant effects on the environment." The Guidelines allow use of an Initial Study to document project effects that are less than significant (Guidelines Section 15063[a]). Guidelines Section 15128 requires that an EIR contain a statement briefly indicating the reasons that various possible significant effects of a project were determined not to be significant, and were therefore not discussed in detail in this Draft EIR (DEIR).

ASSESSMENT IN THE INITIAL STUDY

The Initial Study prepared for the proposed project in December 2006 determined that impacts listed below would be less than significant. Consequently, they have not been further analyzed in this DEIR. Please refer to Appendix A for an explanation of the basis of these conclusions. Impact categories and questions below are summarized directly from the CEQA Environmental Checklist, as contained in the Initial Study.



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<i>Environmental Issues</i>	<i>Initial Study Determination</i>
I. AESTHETICS. Would the project:	
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	Less Than Significant Impact
II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:	
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	No Impact
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	No Impact
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?	No Impact
III. AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:	
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	Less Than Significant Impact
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	Less Than Significant Impact

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IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	Less Than Significant Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	Less Than Significant Impact
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:	
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	No Impact
VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:	
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	Less Than Significant Impact
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	No Impact
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	No Impact
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	No Impact
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	No Impact
VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:	
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	Less Than Significant Impact
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	No Impact
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	No Impact
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	Less Than Significant Impact
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	Less Than Significant Impact
IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:	
a) Physically divide an established community?	No Impact
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	Less Than Significant Impact

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X. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be a value to the region and the residents of the state?	No Impact
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	No Impact
XI. NOISE. Would the project result in:	
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	No Impact
XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:	
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	Less Than Significant Impact
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	No Impact
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	No Impact
XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:	
c) Schools?	No Impact
d) Parks?	No Impact
e) Other public facilities?	No Impact
XIV. RECREATION.	
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	Less Than Significant Impact
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	Less Than Significant Impact
XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:	
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	No Impact
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	Less Than Significant Impact
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	No Impact
XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:	
a) Exceed waste water treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	No Impact
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or waste water treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	Less Than Significant Impact
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	Less Than Significant Impact
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	Less Than Significant Impact



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e) Result in a determination by the waste water treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	Less Than Significant Impact
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	Less Than Significant Impact
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	Less Than Significant Impact