
4.1 INTRODUCTION TO THE ANALYSIS

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INTRODUCTION

Chapter 4 analyzes the potential impacts of the proposed project within a range of environmental issue areas. Sections 4.2 through 4.12 describe the focus of the analysis, references and other data sources for the analysis, the environmental setting as it relates to the specific issue, project-specific impacts and mitigations measures, and cumulative impacts of the proposed project for each issue area. The format of each of these sections is described below.

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

Under CEQA, a significant effect is defined as a substantial or potentially substantial adverse change in the environment (Public Resources Code § 21068). The Guidelines implementing CEQA direct that this determination be based on scientific and factual data (§ 21082.2). The specific criteria used in this EIR for determining the significance of a particular impact are identified within the impact discussion in each section.

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THIS RECIRCULATED DRAFT EIR

The Initial Study identified numerous environmental issues as potentially significant, requiring further analysis. Consistent with the conclusions of the Initial Study, the following primary environmental issues are addressed in this chapter of the Focused EIR:

- Land Use;
- Aesthetics;
- Transportation and Circulation;
- Air Quality;
- Noise;
- Cultural and Paleontological Resources;
- Biological Resources;
- Geology;
- Hazards;
- Hydrology and Water Quality; and
- Public Services and Utilities.

As discussed previously in Chapter 1 of this Draft EIR, agricultural resources and affordable housing issue were not determined to need evaluation in this EIR. Mineral resources are discussed in the Geology chapter (Chapter 4.10) and growth-inducing impacts are discussed in the Statutorily Required Sections chapter (Chapter 5).

SECTION FORMAT

Each section in Chapter 4 addressing a specific environmental issue begins with an **Introduction** describing the purpose of the section. This is followed by a description of the project **Environmental Setting** as it pertains to that particular issue. The setting description is followed by the **Regulatory Context** and the **Impacts and Mitigation Measures** discussion. This discussion contains the **Standards of Significance, Method of Analysis, Project-Specific Impacts and Mitigation Measures**, and **Cumulative Impacts and Mitigation Measures**. The impact and mitigation portions of this discussion include impact statements prefaced by a number in bold-faced type. An explanation of each impact and an analysis of its significance follow each impact statement. All mitigation measures pertinent to each individual impact follow directly after the impact statement (see below). The degree of relief provided by identified mitigation measures is also evaluated. Each environmental issue will include a discussion of the proposed Clover Valley LSLTSM project. An example of the format is shown below:

4.xI-1 Statement of Impact

Discussion of impact for the proposed project in paragraph format.

Statement of *level of significance of impact* prior to mitigation is included at the end of each impact discussion.

Mitigation Measure(s)

Statement of *level of significance* after the mitigation is included immediately preceding mitigation measures.

4.xMM-1a *Recommended mitigation measure(s) presented in italics and numbered in consecutive order.*

4.xMM-1b *Mitigation Measure.*

Endnotes are provided in most chapters. Numeric notations are made in the text of the chapter, indicating a reference to a document used to prepare this EIR. The endnote page then appears on the last page of each section.