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Chapter 7 Other NEPA-Required Analyses

7.1 Relationship Between Short-Term Uses of the Environmental and Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-Term Productivity

In accordance with NEPA, the recently removed/rescinded CEQ NEPA Implementing Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500 et seq.) which may serve as guidance to federal agencies in preparing their NEPA documents, and the July 3, 2025 USACE NEPA Implementing Regulation (33 CFR Part 333, with conforming changes made to Parts 320 and 325; see 90 *Federal Register* 29465), an EIS discusses issues related to environmental sustainability. More specifically, the discussion relates to environmental consequences, including consideration of “the relationship between local short-term uses of man’s environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity” (42 USC Section 4332[C][iv]).

Implementation of the Proposed Project or alternative would not result in any environmental impacts that would significantly narrow the range of beneficial uses of the environment or pose long-term risks to health, safety, or the general welfare of the public communities surrounding the receiver sites. Rather, the Proposed Project would provide for more efficient Port operations in the future, such as allowing larger ships to call at this terminal (in fact, fewer vessels – albeit larger ones - are expected to call at this terminal relative to the NEPA baseline).

7.2 Irreversible or Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

NEPA and USACE NEPA Implementing Regulations require analysis of significant irreversible and irretrievable commitments of federal resources. Irreversible commitments include permanent damage to the environment that cannot be reversed. Irretrievable commitments include those that are temporarily lost but can be replaced either on site or off site after the Proposed Project/alternative has been undertaken.

The Proposed Project would require the use of non-renewable resources, such as fuels, for construction. However, the Proposed Project does not represent an uncommon construction project that would use extraordinary amounts of raw materials in

1 comparison to other urban or industrial development projects of similar scope and
2 magnitude.

3 Fossil fuels and energy would be consumed in the form of diesel, oil, and gasoline used
4 for equipment and vehicles during construction and operation activities. During
5 operations, diesel, oil, and gasoline would be used by ships, terminal (e.g., cargo
6 handling) equipment, and vehicles. Electrical energy and natural gas would be consumed
7 during construction and operations. These energy resources would be irretrievable and
8 irreversible.

9 Non-recoverable materials and energy would be used during construction and operations,
10 but the amounts needed would be easily accommodated by existing supplies. Although
11 the increase in the amounts of materials and energy used would be insignificant, they
12 would nevertheless be unavailable for other uses.