

Public Review Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

Haynes Generating Station Sewer Force Main Project

Long Beach, California

June 2024

Prepared for:
City of Long Beach/
Long Beach Utilities
Department
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Acronyms

APN	Assessor Parcel Number
AQCR	Air Quality Control Region
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
AWWA	American Water Works Association
BRSA	Biological Resources Study Area
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
CalEEMod	California Emissions Estimator Model
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CAP	Climate Action Plan
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CO	carbon monoxide
dBA	A-weighted decibel
DPM	diesel particulate matter
EDR	Environmental Data Resources, Inc.
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GHG	greenhouse gas
HDD	horizontal directional drilling
HGS	Haynes Generating Station
IEPR	Integrated Energy Policy Report
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
I-405	Interstate 405
I-605	Interstate 605
IS	Initial Study
LACSD	Los Angeles County Sanitation District
LADWP	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
LAFCo	Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission
LBFD	Long Beach Fire Department
LBUD	Long Beach Utilities Department
LF	linear feet
Lmax	maximum A-weighted sound level
MGD	million gallons per day
MLD	Most Likely Descendant
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
MTCO2e	Metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent
MW	megawatt

MWDOC	Municipal Water District of Orange County
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NDN	nitrification and denitrification
NO2	nitrogen dioxide
NOI	Notice of Intent
NOX	nitrogen oxides
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
O3	ground-level ozone
OCFA	Orange County Fire Authority
OCFCD	Orange County Flood Control District
OCSD	Orange County Sanitation District
OSHA	Occupational Health and Safety Administration
OTC	once-through cooling
Pb	lead
PM10	particulate matter 10 micrometers or less
PM2.5	particulate matter 2.5 micrometers or less
PPV	Peak article velocity
PRS	pressure reducing station
QSD	Qualified Stormwater Developer
ROW	right-of-way
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCH	State Clearing House
SEASP	Southeast Area Specific Plan
SO2	sulfur dioxide
SOI	Sphere of Influence
SR-1	State Route 1
SR-22	State Route 22
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TACs	toxic air contaminants
TCP	Traffic Control Plan
UBC	Uniform Building
USA	underground services alert
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
UWMP	Urban Water Management Plan
VHFHSZ	very high fire hazard severity zone
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
WDR	waste discharge requirement
WRF	Water Reclamation Facility

Environmental Checklist Form

The City of Long Beach/Long Beach Utilities Department (LBUD) has prepared this environmental checklist for the proposed Haynes Generating Station (HGS) Sewer Force Main Project (Project) located within the Cities of Long Beach and Seal Beach, California. This checklist follows Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, as amended, to support an assessment of probable environmental impacts.

1. Project Title: Haynes Generating Station Sewer Force Main Project
2. Lead Agency name and address: City of Long Beach/Long Beach Utilities Department, 1800 East Wardlow Road, Long Beach, California, 90807
3. Contact person and phone number: Danna Monzon, PE, (562) 570-2325
4. Project location: 56 acres in the City of Long Beach, California
5. Project sponsor's name and address: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), 111 North Hope Street, Room 1044, Los Angeles, California, 90012; Ian.Guthrie@ladwp.com.
6. General Plan designation: City of Long Beach General Plan, City of Seal Beach General Plan, and City of Long Beach Southeast Area Specific Plan. Refer to Section 3.XI for addition information.
7. Zoning: Public Right-of-Way (ROW), Residential, Park, Commercial, Institutional, and Open Space. Refer to Section 3.XI for details.
8. Description of project: The Project consists of a new sewer force main that would be constructed by LBUD within its current service area and designed to convey up to 2.841 million gallons per day (MGD) of flow from LADWP's HGS to Los Angeles County Sanitation District's (LACSD) Long Beach Water Reclamation Facility (WRF). Refer to Section 2, Project Description, for additional details.
9. Surrounding land uses and setting: The Project Study Area is urban in nature and traverses existing commercial, public, and residential uses adjacent to the San Gabriel River.
10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.): California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), City of Long Beach/LBUD, City of Long Beach, City of Seal Beach, Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Sanitation District, and Orange County LAFCo. Refer to Section 2, Project Description, for details.
11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.? Yes, refer to Section 3.XVIII for additional detail.
12. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Summary: provided in Appendix E.

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” or “Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☒	Aesthetics	☐	Agriculture and Forestry Resources	☐	Air Quality
☒	Biological Resources	☒	Cultural Resources	☐	Energy
☒	Geology/Soils	☐	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☒	Hazards & Hazardous Materials
☒	Hydrology / Water Quality	☐	Land Use/Planning	☐	Mineral Resources
☒	Noise	☐	Population/Housing	☒	Public Services
☐	Recreation	☒	Transportation	☒	Tribal Cultural Resources
☐	Utilities/Service Systems	☐	Wildfire	☒	Mandatory Findings of Significance

Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

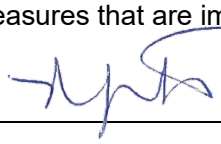
☐ I find that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project may have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Dennis Santos  6/11/24

Signature Date:

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1. Introduction

CEQA Overview

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that all state and local government agencies consider the environmental consequences of programs and projects over which they have discretionary authority before taking action on them. The City of Long Beach/Long Beach Utilities Department (LBUD) has determined that the Haynes Generating Station (HGS) Sewer Force Main Project (Project) constitutes a "project" as defined by CEQA. The CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387) Section 15367 states that the lead agency is "the public agency which has the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a project." Therefore, the City of Long Beach/LBUD is the lead agency and responsible for compliance with CEQA.

Section 15063 of the CEQA Guidelines identifies specific disclosure requirements for inclusion in an Initial Study (IS). Pursuant to those requirements, an IS shall include:

- A description of the project, including the location of the project;
- Identification of the environmental setting;
- Identification of environmental effects by use of a checklist, matrix, or other method, provided that entries on a checklist or other form are briefly explained to indicate that there is some evidence to support the entries;
- Discussion of ways to mitigate significant effects identified, if any;
- Examination of whether the project is compatible with existing zoning, plans, and other applicable land use controls; and
- The name(s) of the person(s) who prepared or participated in the preparation of the IS.

Authority

The City of Long Beach/LBUD is the CEQA lead agency responsible for the review and approval of the Project. Based on the findings of the IS, the City of Long Beach/LBUD has made the determination that a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is the appropriate environmental document to be prepared in compliance with CEQA (California Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.). As stated in CEQA Section 21064, an MND may be prepared for a project subject to CEQA when an IS has identified no potentially significant effects on the environment.

For the Project to obtain environmental clearance in the form of an MND, any potential significant adverse effects must be mitigated to a less than significant level. This document alone does not determine whether the Project will be approved. Rather, it is a disclosure document aimed at informing concerned parties and fostering informed discussion and decision-making regarding all aspects of the Project.

Documents Incorporated by Reference

The following document was utilized during preparation of this IS and is incorporated by reference. This document is available for review online at https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2021110083.

- Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Haynes Generating Station Unit 8, SCH number 2021110083. 2021. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. 111 North Hope Street, Room 1044, Los Angeles, California 90012.

The HGS Unit 8 Recycled Water Cooling System Retrofit Project IS/MND considers improvements at the HGS that enable LADWP to modify its existing generation units that currently rely on once-through cooling to supply water losses and makeup water and the discharge of industrial wastewater and storm to the San Gabriel River. Under this related project, LADWP will construct a new storage reservoir and pump station at the HGS site, as described in the HGS Unit 8 Recycled Water Cooling System Retrofit Project IS/MND (SCH #2021110083) with a total capacity of approximately 3 million gallons that would allow for the discharge of industrial wastewater and stormwater to the sanitary sewer system.

A new pump station will be constructed within a new, separate above-ground concrete structure (or an underground vault) located on the HGS site. The new pumps would be electrically driven and constructed within a new enclosed structure or underground utility vault. The new electrical equipment, including a new LADWP transformer, would be placed at the new pump station site**.** Indirect greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the HGS retrofit and potential impacts to biological, water, and cultural resources were addressed in the HGS Unit 8 Recycled Water-Cooling System Retrofit Project IS/MND and were found to be less than significant.

Scope of Initial Study Checklist

HDR, under the City of Long Beach/LBUD's guidance, prepared the project's IS checklist per CEQA Guidelines Sections 15063–15065. The CEQA Guidelines include a suggested checklist to indicate whether a project would have an adverse impact on the environment. The checklist is found in Section 3 of this document. Following the checklist, Sections 3.I through 3.XXI include an explanation and discussion of each significance determination made in the checklist. For this IS, the following four possible responses to each individual environmental issue area are included in the checklist:

- Potentially Significant Impact
- Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated
- Less than Significant Impact
- No Impact

The checklist and accompanying explanation of checklist responses provide the information and analysis necessary to assess relative environmental impacts of the project. In doing so, the City of Long Beach/LBUD will determine the extent of additional environmental review, if any, for the project.

2. Project Description

This section provides a description of the proposed HGS Sewer as proposed by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and City of Long Beach/LBUD. The Project would construct a new 12-inch-diameter high density polyethylene sewer force main to convey existing industrial and stormwater discharges from the LADWP HGS to the Los Angeles County Sanitation District's (LACSD) Long Beach Water Reclamation Facility (WRF).

The City of Long Beach/LBUD is the lead agency for the purposes of complying with CEQA and would be responsible for final engineering design and construction of the Project. The following provides a description of LBUD's goals and objectives for the Project, the proposed facility components, proposed construction methods, and anticipated regulatory approvals and permits.

Project Location and Study Area

The Project is linear and primarily located within the City of Long Beach in south Los Angeles County, California (see Figure 2-1 and Figure 2-2). A small portion of the Project is in the City of Seal Beach, California. The Project Study Area is roughly bounded by North Studebaker Road to the west, East Willow Street to the north, State Route 22 (SR-22) to the south, and Interstate 605 (I-605) to the east. The Project alignment follows the western bank of the San Gabriel River and is intersected by Interstate 405 (I-405). LADWP maintains an existing electrical transmission easement along the western portion of the San Gabriel River (Figure 2-2). The San Gabriel River Trail follows the eastern bank of the San Gabriel River and bisects the Project Study Area to the south.

Project Background

LBUD (formally the Long Beach Water Department) was established in 1911 to provide water and sanitary sewer service to the City of Long Beach and portions of the cities of Signal Hill and Lakewood. LBUD owns, operates, and maintains the potable water distribution infrastructure within its service area. LBUD also operates and maintains the sanitary sewer infrastructure owned by the City of Long Beach, which includes 710 miles of sanitary sewer lines across 14 main service trunk sewer areas. Figure 2-3 illustrates LBUD's existing service area.

Haynes Generating Station

LADWP operates the HGS, a 1,738-megawatt (MW) gas-fired power plant located at 6801 Second Street in Long Beach, California (see Figure 2-1). The HGS is positioned immediately south of SR-22 (the Garden Grove Freeway) and approximately one mile east of SR-1 (State Route 1; the Pacific Coast Highway). The HGS is a fully developed industrial property consisting of approximately 130 acres, the majority of which are in the City of Long Beach, within the County of Los Angeles. Approximately 7.5 acres in the northeast corner of Haynes are located in the City of Seal Beach, within the County of Orange. Most of the eastern HGS boundary is coterminous with the boundary between Los Angeles County and Orange County, as well as with the boundary between the cities of Long Beach and Seal Beach.

Figure 2-1. Regional Location

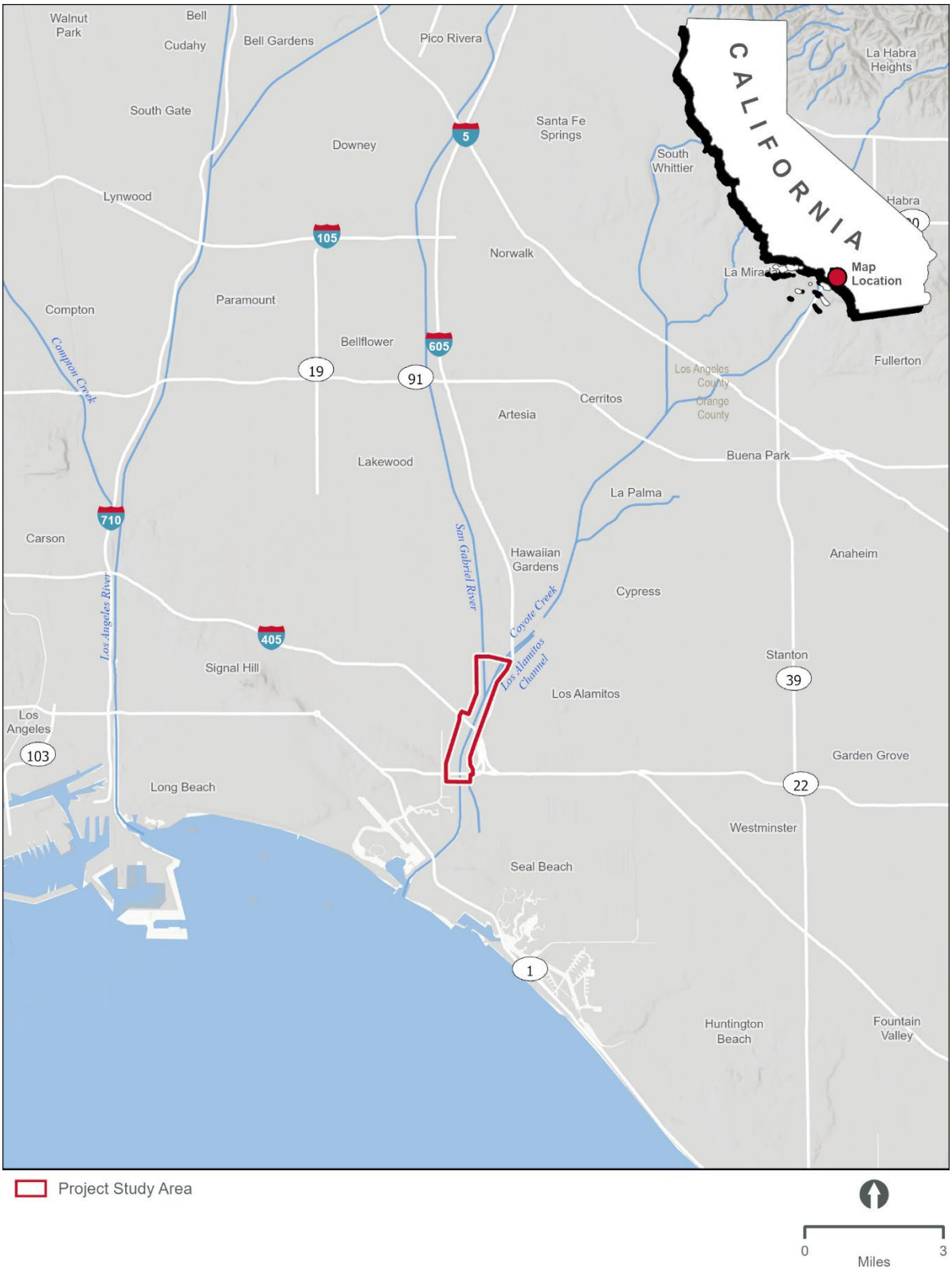
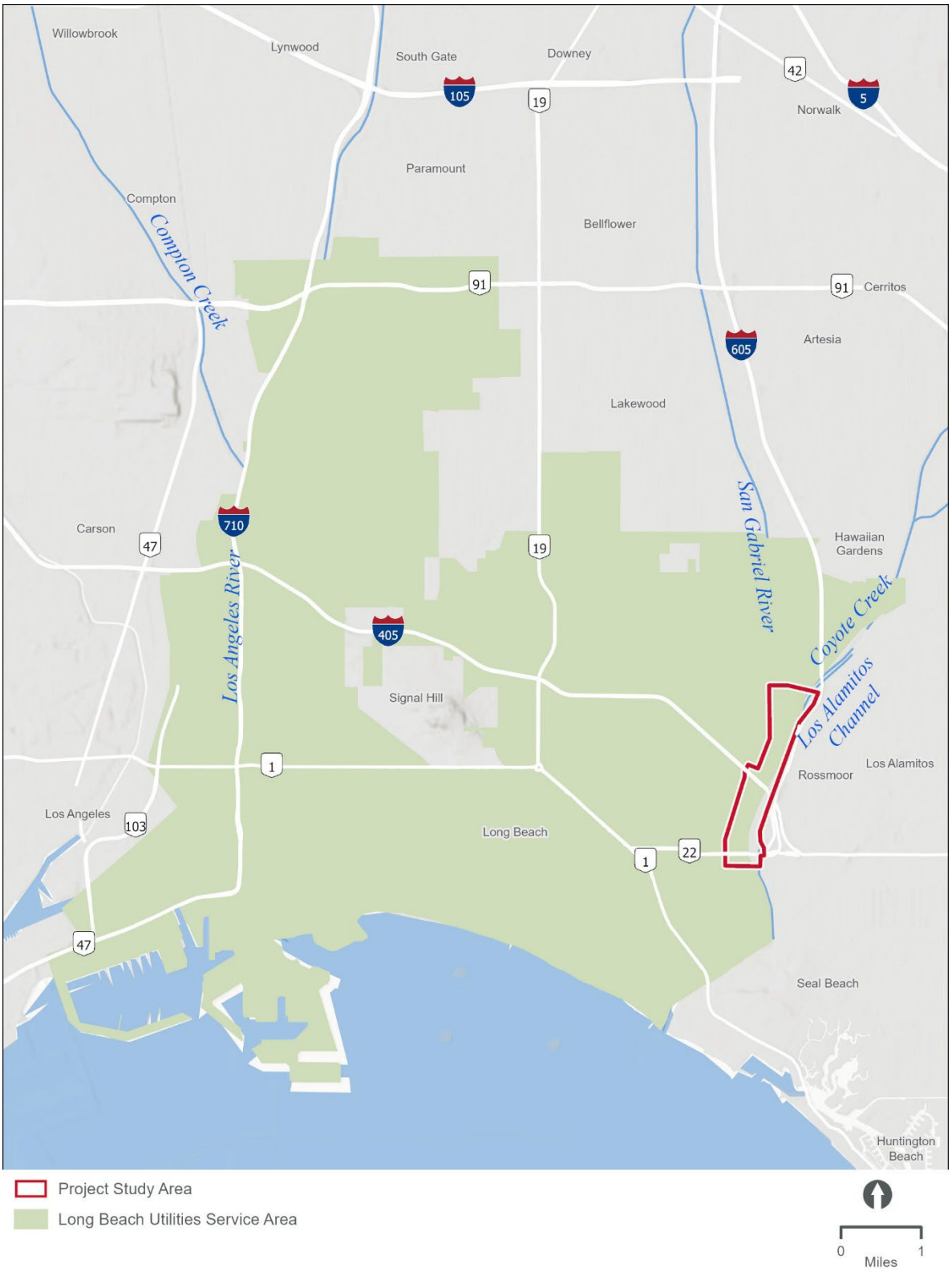


Figure 2-2. Project Study Area



Figure 2-3. LBUD Service Area



Under current conditions, industrial wastewater at Haynes is discharged through ocean-water once-through cooling (OTC) systems for generation unit cooling, drawing water from an intake structure located in Alamitos Bay Marina via a channel that passes beneath the San Gabriel River and extends about one mile northeast from the marina into the southern part of the HGS. The OTC water passes through the generation unit condensers and is discharged into the San Gabriel River channel. Stormwater at the HGS is currently collected in a series of catchments and basins within the station and either discharged through the OTC flows associated with Units 1, 2, and 8, or discharged to the Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD) flood control channel located along the eastern boundary of the HGS.

LADWP recently approved the HGS Unit 8 Recycled Water Cooling System Retrofit Project (State Clearing House Number 2021110083), which would modify the Haynes Generating Unit 8 cooling system by removing the existing OTC system from service and installing a wet cooling system consisting of a cooling tower. This project will allow for the continued operation of Unit 8 while complying with mandates related to the statewide Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (OTC Policy), implemented by the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to establish standards in compliance with federal Clean Water Act Section 316(b) to reduce potential effects on aquatic life associated with the operation of cooling water intake structures. This project, combined with the El Dorado Park Stormwater Project, would provide the source water that would be conveyed by the proposed sewer force main.

Long Beach Water Reclamation Facility

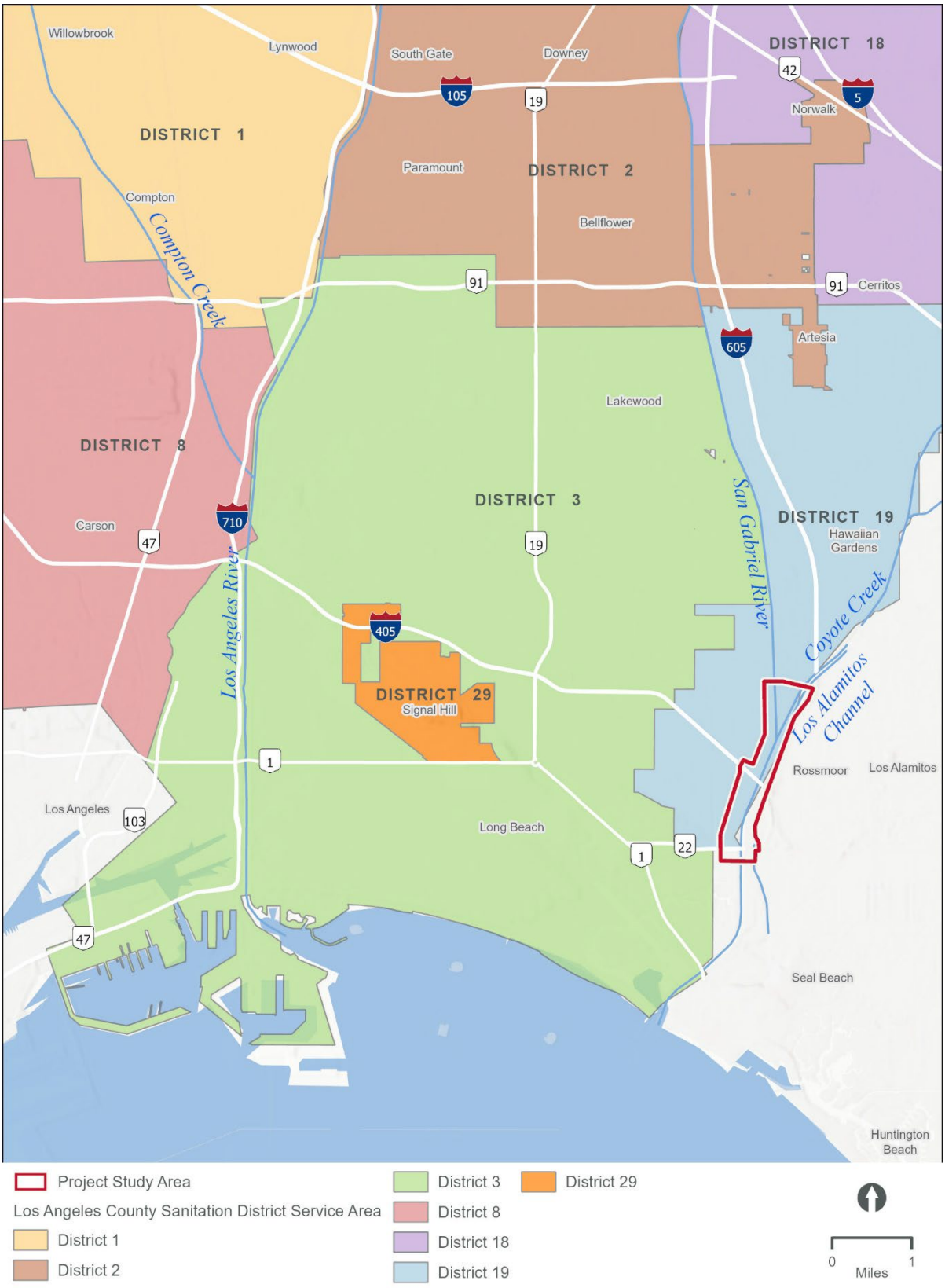
LACSD owns and operates the Long Beach WRF, a publicly owned treatment works located at 7400 East Willow Street in Long Beach, California. The Long Beach WRF has a design capacity of 25 million gallons per day (MGD) and treats domestic and industrial wastewater generated in Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, and Signal Hill. Treatment at the Long Beach WRF consists of primary sedimentation, activated sludge biological treatment with nitrification and denitrification (NDN), coagulation, secondary sedimentation, inert media filtration, chloramination (reactions between sodium hypochlorite and ammonia) for disinfection, and chlorination. Tertiary-treated effluent is discharged from the Long Beach WRF to Coyote Creek at the discharge point 001 (LA-RWQCB Order Number R4-2022-0032, NPDES Permit No. CA0000353). Approximately 6 MGD are reused at over 60 sites, serving a population of about 250,000 people. LACSD's service area and individual sanitation districts are illustrated on Figure 2-4.

Goals and Objectives

The specific goal of the Project is to maximize the beneficial reuse of existing industrial discharges and stormwater runoff from LADWP's HGS by constructing a new sewer force main to convey these flows to LACSD's Long Beach WRF for treatment and reuse. In this context, the primary objectives of the Project include the following:

- Objective 1. Implement necessary sewer system improvements to the LBUD's existing collection system to maximize LADWP's HGS operating capacity and compliance with existing National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and waste discharge requirements (WDRs) (Order No. R4-2004-0089, Rev No. 2000-081 and NPDES Permit No. CA0000353).

Figure 2-4. LACSD Service Area



- Objective 2. Facilitate the integration of the LADWP's HGS with LACSD's Long Beach WRF through the construction of an interconnecting, 12-inch sewer force main to facilitate beneficial reuse of up to 2.841 MGD of combined industrial and on-site stormwater discharges in compliance with Order Number R4-2022-0032 (NPDES No. CA0054119).
- Objective 3. Maximize the use of LBUD's collection system and LADWP's existing power easements to facilitate the placement of the Project elements.
- Objective 4. Annex LADWP's HGS into LBUD's and LACSD's District Number 19 service areas, as required, and amend LBUD's and LACSD's Sphere of Influence (SOI), as required, to incorporate the HGS property.[1]

Project Description

Under the Project, a new sewer force main would be constructed that meets the LBUD's *Standard Drawings, Design Criteria for Potable Water Distribution System, and Design Criteria for Sanitary Sewer Facilities*. The Project includes the construction of a new 12-inch-diameter sewer force main that would extend from LADWP's HGS to an existing 42-inch LACSD sewer main located at the LACSD's Long Beach WRF. Figure 2-5 provides an overview of the Project components.

The Project would facilitate the beneficial reuse of up to 2.766 MGD of industrial wastewater discharge and 0.075 MGD of on-site stormwater runoff (totaling 2.841 MGD) from the HGS for treatment and distribution by LACSD's Long Beach WRF.

The Project would consist of three primary components:

1. Twelve-inch-diameter high density polyethylene pipeline – 16,855 linear feet (LF)
2. Pressure-reducing station (PRS) at the LACSD Long Beach WRF
3. LACSD SOI Amendment and Annexation

Figure 2-5 provides the location of the proposed sewer force alignment and the location of the WRF where the PRS would be located (components 1 and 2). Figure 2-6 and Figure 2-7 show the current service areas in relation to the HGS parcels and the proposed SOI amendment and annexation (component 3). Pumping facilities to create the required hydraulics pressure would be constructed in the limits of the existing HGS.

Conveyance – Force Main Pipeline

The proposed 12-inch sewer force main pipeline would be installed within a combination of unpaved utility rights-of-way (ROW) and paved roadways within the City of Long Beach and a small portion in the City of Seal Beach. At bridge crossings, the diameter of the sewer force main would be reduced to 8 inches with a 16-inch casing. LBUD would construct the pipeline and obtain a permanent 20-foot easement to facilitate future access and maintenance. LBUD and LADWP would be responsible for long-term maintenance of the pipeline. Figure 2-5 illustrates the proposed sewer force main route extending from HGS north to the Long Beach WRF.

[1] A Sphere of Influence means a plan for the probably physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the commission (Cal. Gov. Code § 56036).

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Figure 2-5. Proposed Sewer Force Main Pipeline Alignment



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Figure 2-6. Current Service Areas in Relation to the HGS Parcels

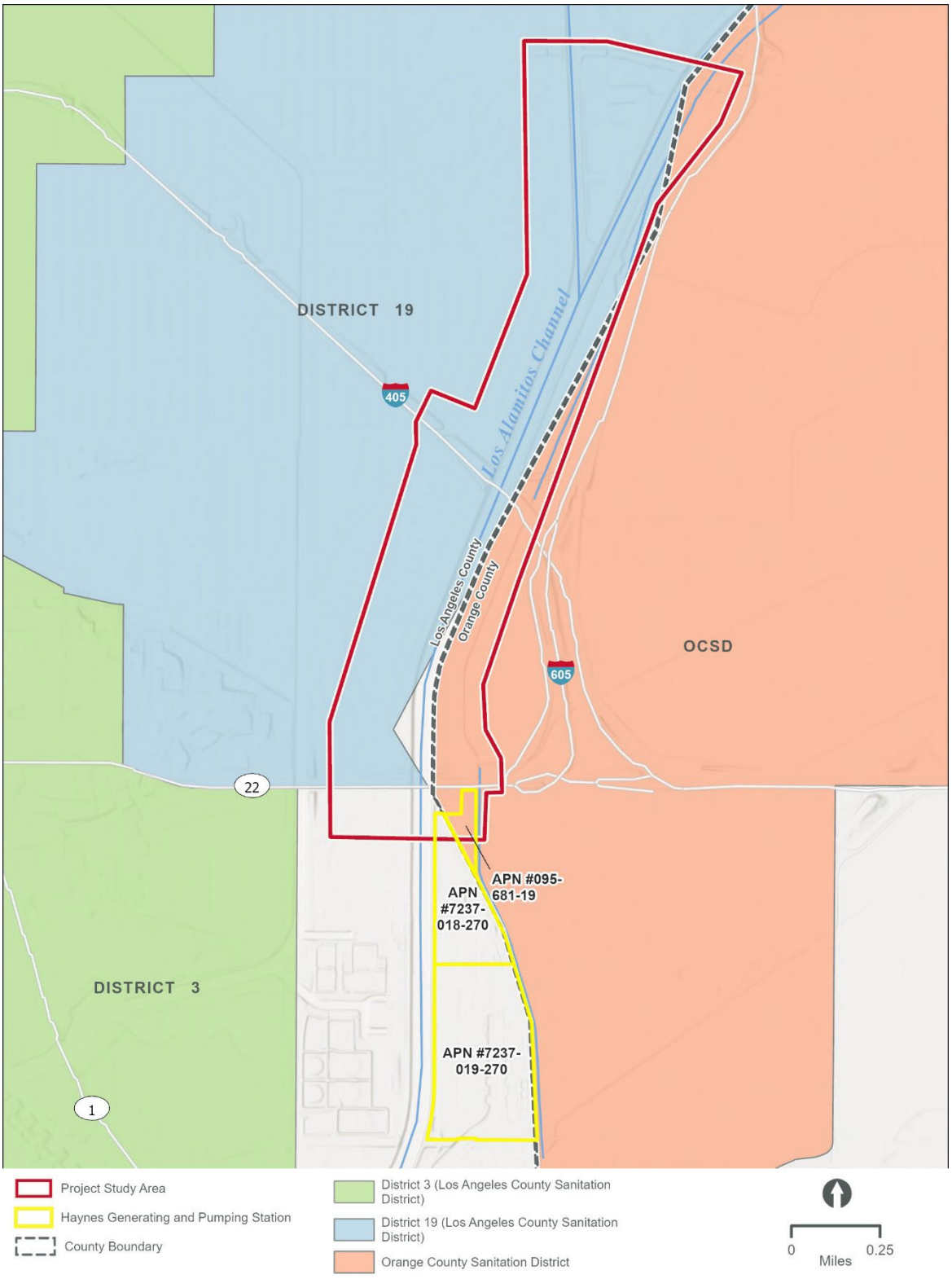
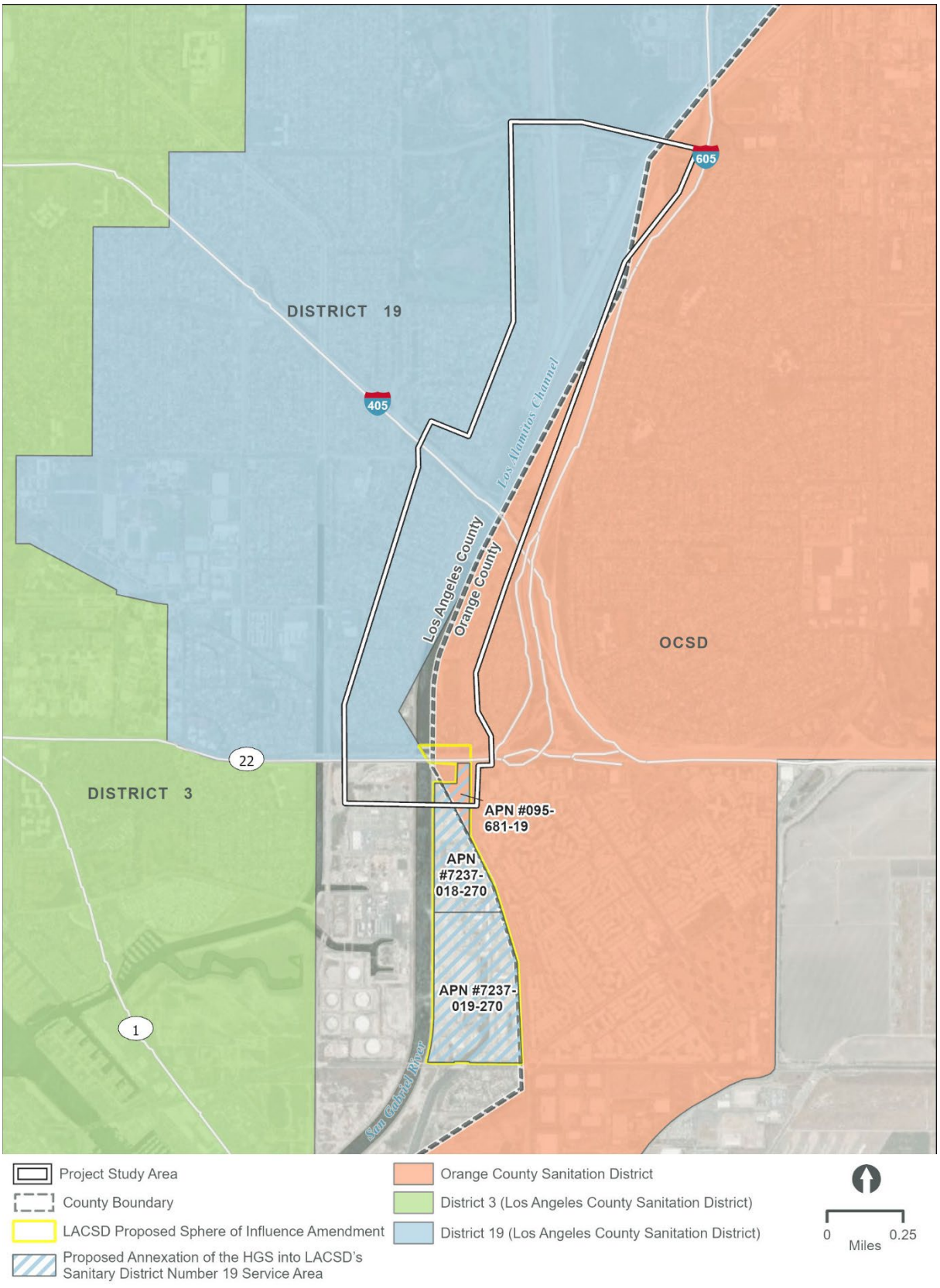


Figure 2-7. Proposed SOI Amendment and HGS Annexation



Route Description

Starting at the south end of the HGS, the Project alignment would utilize horizontal directional drilling (HDD) construction methods (see Construction Details below) to head north and cross underneath SR-22 and College Park Drive before surfacing north of College Park Drive on the east side of the San Gabriel River. New pipeline would be strung alongside or underneath the College Park Drive bridge, which passes over the San Gabriel River (see Figure 2-8). Optionally, the Project alignment could follow the SR-22 bridge with the approval of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

Once on the west side of the San Gabriel River, the Project would continue below grade (via trenching) along College Park Drive and then transition north along Salida Avenue, East Lees Way, Stevely Avenue, and East El Cedral Street. South of I-405, the Project would run northwest on the north side of Del Rio Street and then east at Atherton Street under I-405. The Project would run north, parallel to an existing Southern California Edison corridor on the west side of the San Gabriel River. At East Willow Street, the Project would head east, crossing the East Willow Street/San Gabriel River bridge (see Figure 2-9) to a connection point near the intersection of East Willow Street and Coyote Creek.

At the two bridge crossings (College Park Drive and East Willow Street, respectively, which both pass over the San Gabriel River), new pipeline would be strung alongside the existing pipeline conduit in a 16-inch encasement (the existing pipeline conduit is shown on Figure 2-8 and Figure 2-9). The total pipeline installed would measure 16,855 LF, including: 15,706 LF installed via trenching; 418 LF strung alongside or underneath the College Park Drive/San Gabrielle River bridge; 418 LF strung alongside or underneath the East Willow Street/San Gabriel River bridge; and 357 LF installed via trenchless construction methods from the HGS to College Park Drive.

Flow Control/Pressure Reducing Station

As part of the Project, a flow control and PRS would be installed, which would consist of an above-grade or partially buried structure north of Long Beach WRF. The concrete structure would have a footprint of up to 30 feet by 30 feet, and less than 20 feet in height. The PRS would connect to an existing sewer main. Figure 2-10 provides representative example of the above-ground portions for this type of facility.

LACSD Sphere of Influence Amendment and Annexation

The HGS is currently located outside the LACSD's adopted SOI and service area. SOIs designate future service areas for sanitation districts, and sanitation districts cannot provide services outside their SOI except in very limited circumstances. As part of the Project, the LACSD proposes to expand its SOI to include the HGS, which is located on Assessor Parcel Numbers 095-681-19, 7237-018-270, and 7237-019-270 (see Figure 2-6). The Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) is the local agency responsible for approving amendments to special district SOIs and, therefore, maintains the authority to approve the LACSD's SOI boundary change. Based on the small area involved and the availability of nearby existing infrastructure, the boundary change would be minor in scope.

In conjunction with the LACSD's SOI amendment, the LACSD is proposing the concurrent annexation of LADWP's HGS property into the LACSD's Sanitary District Number 19 service area. Currently, the HGS is not within a sanitation district boundary except for 6.8 acres located in the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD). The proposed annexation would require a petition filed

by LADWP indicating a desire to reduce its current on-site discharges to the San Gabriel River and conveyance to the Long Beach WRF for beneficial reuse. By virtue that the LACSD's service base is limited to wastewater treatment, the Project would not entail any changes to existing City zoning. The proposed boundary change would be coterminous with the proposed SOI amendment, except for the portion of the SOI amendment boundary on existing ROW along College Park Drive (see Figure 2-7).[2] The proposed annexation includes the three parcels previously identified covering 129 acres (Assessor Identification Numbers 095-681-19, 7237-018-270, and 7237-019-270). The SOI amendment and annexation of the HGS property into the LACSD's Sanitary District Number 19 service area would reduce the OCSD service area boundary by 6.8 acres (APN Number 095-681-19) and increase LACSD's Sanitary District Number 19 service area boundary by 129 acres.

[2] California Government Code § 56119 (2020) states: "Unless otherwise provided by the principal act, any territory annexed to a district shall be contiguous to the district and shall not be a part of another district formed under the same principal act without the consent of the other district." Because the HGS is not contiguous with an existing SOI and service area, the proposed SOI amendment extends beyond the HGS parcels to connect with LACSD's Sanitary District Number 19.

Figure 2-8. College Park Drive Crossing the San Gabriel River



Figure 2-9. East Willow Street Crossing the San Gabriel River



Figure 2-10. Representation of PRS



Utilities

Prior to construction, the Project contractor(s) will implement an underground services alert (USA) to identify existing underground utilities and service connections prior to commencing any excavation work. The exact utility locations would be determined by hand-excavated test pits dug at locations determined and approved by the construction manager (also referred to as “potholing”). Existing utilities would be avoided to the maximum extent practical and protected in place. Temporary disruption of service or relocation may be required to allow for construction pending final engineering design. Service on such lines would not be disrupted until prior approval is received from the service provider.

Construction Details

Construction of the Project is expected to begin in the summer or fall of 2024 and continue for approximately 12 months. Construction work would occur during normal City working hours, on weekdays between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. No nighttime or weekend construction hours are proposed. Concrete and steel would be the primary construction materials for the Project-related structures. The major construction phases for the Project would include the following:

- Site Clearing and Utility Relocation
- Trench Excavation and Sitework
- Pipeline Installation
- Structural Facilities
- Electrical, Process Mechanical, and Instrumentation
- Paving and Striping
- Startup and Testing

Site clearing and utility relocation would last approximately two months. Utility relocation is not anticipated; however, if required, this would consist of relocating, adjusting, protecting in place, or abandoning a utility as a result of the Project. Specific utility-relocation needs would be identified after potholing. Trench excavation, sitework, pipeline installation, and structural facilities would run for approximately six months. The remaining construction phases (electrical, process mechanical, and instrumentation; paving and striping; and startup and testing) would last approximately four months. Construction would be completed in one or two phases.

Construction Equipment and Staging: The Project footprint would cover up to 56 acres and include staging, surface preparation, trench excavation, tunneling, and surface restoration. Staging would likely be conducted from the Long Beach WRF and HGS and restricted to the staging areas identified on Figure 2-5. To characterize and analyze potential construction impacts, it is assumed the Project would be constructed by up to 3 construction crews composed of no more than 20 workers each (with inspectors), for a total of 60 daily workers and up to 10 total daily haul trips for motorized imports/exports.

Construction-Related Water Use: Prior to operation, all connecting pipes and pumping facilities would undergo hydrostatic testing using water from local regional water supplies. Water utilized during hydrostatic testing and, if required, construction dewatering would be discharged into the LBUD’s sanitary sewer system.

Surface Preparation: Surface preparation involves removing any structures (such as fences), pavement, and/or vegetation from the surface of the trench area. Equipment used for this activity includes jackhammers, pavement saws, graders, bulldozers, loaders, and trucks. At the SR-22 bridge crossing, construction preparations would include the installation of a containment structure to prevent the discharge of bridge debris into the San Gabriel River during pipeline construction.

Trench Excavation/Shoring: A majority of the Project would be constructed using standard open trenching and trenchless methods, which are described in greater detail below. Typical pipeline construction processes include surface preparation, trenching (either open or tunneling), and surface restoration, and are described below.

In general, trenches would have vertical side walls to minimize the amount of soil excavated and the area needed for the construction easement. Soils excavated from the trenches, if of suitable quality, would be stockpiled alongside the trench or in staging areas for later reuse in backfilling the trench. If not reusable, the soil would be hauled off-site for disposal. Disposal options include use as cover material at sanitary landfills and use as “clean fill” at other sites. In general, pipe trenches would measure two to five feet wide and four to ten feet deep.

Pipeline trenches, in any given location, would be open for two to three days on average. During construction, vertical wall trenches would be temporarily “closed” at the end of each workday by covering with steel plates or backfill material or installing fences to restrict access.

Trenches would be backfilled with either reused excavated soil or imported material. Dump trucks would be used to deliver imported, engineered backfill material to stockpiles near the trenching operation. Native soil would be reused for backfill to the greatest extent possible; however, the soil may not have the properties necessary for compatibility and stability. In addition, following the installation of the pipe, the contractor would balance construction fill onsite.

Trenchless Construction Methods: At SR-22 on the east side of the San Gabriel River, the sewer force main would need to be installed without disturbing the ground surface within Caltrans ROW. In these circumstances, a tunneling method(s) referred to as horizontal directional drilling (HDD) or jack and boring methods would be employed. These two methods are described in more detail below. The existing groundwater level and available construction area would be considered in the final selection of the preferred tunneling method.

Jack and Boring: Jack and boring employs a non-steerable system that drives an open-ended pipe laterally using a percussive hammer, thereby resulting in the displacement of soil limited to the wall thickness of the pipe. For this construction method, jacking pits would be dug on either side of the surface feature to be avoided (in this case, SR-22). The pits are typically 10 to 15 feet wide and 50 feet long. The depth would depend on the feature to be avoided. The boring equipment and pipe would be lowered into the pit and aligned at the appropriate depth and angle to achieve the desired exit location. A compressor would supply air to the pneumatic ramming tool to thrust the pipe forward. A cutting shoe may be welded to the front of the lead pipe to help reduce friction and cut through the soil.

Depending on the size of the installation, spoils from inside the pipe would be removed with compressed air, water, a pig system, or a combination of techniques. A seal cap would be installed on the starter pit side of the installation, and spoil would be discharged into the receiver pit. Using this technique, ground surface disturbance would not occur.

Horizonal Directional Drilling: HDD crossings are installed by using a drill rig laid on its side, with the top of the rig tilted up at to an angle of 10 degrees from horizontal. The bore entry holes are drilled

from the starting point to the destination point. In preparing the hole, a small-diameter (three-inch-wide) pilot hole is first drilled in a gentle arc from the drill rig to the completion hole on the other side of the area to be crossed. This pilot hole can be guided using magnetic readings transmitted from the drill bit back to the drill rig. After the initial hole is drilled, the final bore entry pit, measuring approximately 10 feet square by approximately 8 feet deep, is constructed and used as the collection point for Bentonite drilling mud and drill spoil. During the directional drill procedure, drilling mud is injected into the drill and recovered from the entry hole until the drill bit surfaces at the exit pit. Once the drill bit surfaces, the drilling mud is recovered at both the entry and exit hole, pumped into tanks, and transported back to the rig location for cleaning and eventual reuse.

Surface Repair: The final step in the installation process would be returning the ground surface to pre-project conditions. Generally, surfaces that were disturbed would return to pre-disturbance conditions. When the pipe is installed in a paved roadway, repaving would occur after construction. New asphalt or concrete pavement would be placed to match the surrounding road type. For asphalt repaving, a temporary asphalt material may be installed to allow traffic to use the roadway immediately after pipeline installation. A repaving crew would follow the pipe installation crew and prepare the road surface for repaving. Final repaving would be done after pipe installation was completed for a whole street width, lane width, or trench width.

Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation(s): Additional geotechnical exploratory investigations would be required as part of the Project along the proposed conveyance route to identify and confirm localized soil conditions and constraints, groundwater levels, and groundwater quality including potential contaminants.

Approvals and Permits

Table 2-1 summarizes the potential approvals and/or permits from other agencies that may be required prior to construction and operation of the Project.

Table 2-1. Potential Regulatory Agency Approvals and Permits

Agency	Type of Approval
State	
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	Encroachment
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)	CEQA Trustee Agency
State Water Resources Control Board	Construction General Permit – Notice of Intent (NOI) and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP); New Waste Discharge Identification Number issued after NOI is submitted
Local	
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)	Project Proponent (NPDES Discharger), CEQA Responsible Agency, construction/maintenance agreement, encroachment permit
City of Long Beach/LBUD	CEQA Lead Agency
City of Long Beach	CEQA Responsible Agency; Tree removal, encroachment, building
City of Seal Beach	CEQA Responsible Agency; Tree removal, encroachment, building
Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo)	Approval of LBUD and LACSD, #19 Sphere of Influence Amendment and Annexation of HGS, as required
Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) - Los Angeles	Coverage under Order No. R4-2013-0095, if required
	Approval of Amended NPDES/WDRs
Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD)	CEQA Responsible Agency, Industrial Waste Discharge, Build

	Over Agreement (if applicable)
Orange County LAFCo	Dissolution of HGS from OCSD Service Area

3. Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors, as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. “Negative Declaration: Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from “Earlier Analyses,” as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
    a. Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
    b. Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
    c. Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The explanation of each issue should identify:
    a. The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
    b. The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

I. Aesthetics

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage points). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Environmental Setting

The City of Long Beach General Plan (City of Long Beach 2019a) Urban Design Element identifies important visual resources in the City.

The southern portion of the project, including portions of SR-22 and College Park Drive, are located within the Long Beach Southeast Area Specific Plan (City of Long Beach 2021). The SEASP establishes view corridors along East 2nd Street, SR-1, and Studebaker Road, which are defined as “roadway areas that provide special distinguishing features for the SEASP area.” The view corridor closest to the project site include Studebaker Road, located less than 0.1 mile west of the College Park Drive. Additionally, a gateway (an arrival point into an area demarcated by natural features, views, or manmade markers) is identified at the intersection of East 2nd Street and Studebaker Road.

The City of Seal Beach General Plan does not designate any locations within the city as a scenic vista. The General Plan does identify “view parks” as smaller passive parks designed to take advantage of a significant view, such as those located on coastal bluffs that focus upon ocean or bay views (City of Seal Beach 2003b). The General Plan does not specifically identify the “view parks” (e.g., park name, location). The nearest parks to the Project Study Area within the City of Seal Beach are Edison Park and Gardens (adjacent to the Project, north of College Park Drive, Rush Park (approximately 0.7 mile east), and Rossmoor Park (approximately 0.7 mile east). These parks are located inland and do not have ocean or bay views.

Street lights occur throughout the Project Study Area, including the residential streets, I-405, and SR-22.

Impact Analysis

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

Short-term visual impacts would occur in the adjacent parks, golf course, residential streets, and river channel described above during construction phases. Visual alterations would be visible mainly to people in the immediate vicinity (short-range views), including motorists, residents, and visitors to the adjacent parks and golf courses. With respect to pipeline installation, because construction would progress daily along proposed pipeline routes, the affected viewshed area would shift on a regular basis. Visual impacts to the view corridor (Studebaker Road) and gateway (East 2nd Street and Studebaker Road) identified in the SEASP would be potentially significant. With the implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-1, temporarily disturbed areas would be returned to preconstruction conditions, and short term impacts from construction would be reduced to a level less than significant.

The Project is situated within existing urban areas, is situated in a relatively flat area, and does not contain views of coastal bluffs or the bay. Because the pipeline would be installed below grade and underneath bridge crossings, no views would be obstructed once constructed. The aboveground PRS would be the only aboveground structure once constructed. Although the PRS would be located away from the view corridors and gateways identified in the SEASP, the precise placement could impact views along the San Gabriel River Bike Trail. With implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-2, the PRS would be visually integrated with its surroundings through painting, use of fencing, or berms/landscaping, and impacts to scenic vistas would be reduced to a level less than significant.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

No State-scenic highways are designated within the Study Area. The nearest Designated State Scenic Highway is a segment of SR-91, located approximately 15 miles northeast of the Project Study Area. The nearest Eligible State Scenic Highway is a segment of the SR-1 (Pacific Coast Highway), located approximately one mile southwest of the Project Study Area. Construction-related activities would not be visible from either highway. Therefore, the project improvements would not involve the activities that could substantially damage scenic resources within a state scenic highway. No impact would result.

c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage points). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

Construction activities would occur primarily within the disturbed, urban setting, along existing ROW and at the existing Long Beach WRF and HGS. Activities would consist of surface preparation (that is, removal of vegetation as needed and grading), excavation, installation of structures, and surface restoration. Construction activities would be concentrated along the proposed alignment and of limited duration along each segment of the proposed route. Once constructed, the project facilities would be contained underground or on-site at the Long Beach WRF or HGS.

Construction activities are considered temporary in nature. The Project would require no changes to existing land use zoning, including at the Long Beach WRF and HGS. Implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-1 as stated above, will further minimize short-term visual impacts from construction activities.

Viewer sensitivity to the PRS structure would be low due to the existing marginal, visual quality of the surrounding area and of short duration from users of the adjacent bike path. However, given that the precise placement and composition of the PRS remains subject to additional engineering design, this Project feature has the potential to substantially degrade the character of the immediate area. This is considered a significant impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-2 would visually integrate the PRS with the surroundings and impacts would be reduced to a level less than significant.

The SEASP (2021) serves as the zoning for the area and establishes view corridors that provide views of special distinguishing features in the SEASP area, such as wetlands resources and entry views from elevated bridges into the area. As previously discussed in Section 3.I(a), the project would not result in adverse impacts to established view corridors or visual resources in the city. The Project would be consistent with the existing SEASP. Therefore, the project would not conflict with applicable zoning or other regulations governing scenic quality.

The Project would result in a less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated.

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

Nighttime construction is not proposed and is not anticipated to be required for project implementation. Therefore, no new sources of substantial light or glare would be added associated with construction that

would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. The pipeline portions of the Project do not include any new lighting sources or above-ground sources of glare. However, the PRS structure would include some exterior lighting for maintenance and security purposes.

Nighttime lighting would also be required along the perimeter of the above-ground structures to provide security and safety for maintenance workers. The aboveground facilities would generate new sources of night lighting and glare within an area where these sources already exist. However, the introduction of a new lighting source could disrupt nearby residences and/or bike traffic along the adjacent bike path. Implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-3 would reduce the potential long-term light impact to a level less than significant through shielding, orienting all exterior lighting downward, or installing lights activated only by sensors.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure AES-1: Screen Staging Areas and Restore Affected Construction Areas.

Staging areas shall be sited and screened to minimize visual disturbance to surrounding residential and commercial parcels through the use of non-reflecting materials.

To the extent feasible, all disturbed areas (e.g., roadway trenches and staging areas) shall be restored to their preconstruction condition. All existing landscaping that is removed or damaged during construction shall be replaced in-kind, along with irrigation hardware.

Mitigation Measure AES-2: Incorporate Design Elements to Integrate Proposed Above-Ground Surfaces into Their Surroundings.

Design elements shall be used to enhance visual integration of the above-ground PRS with its surroundings. These elements may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Painting (with earth-colored tones) of structural façades to blend with surrounding land uses,
- Use of fencing or structural materials similar to those used by nearby land uses, and
- Installation of berms and/or landscaping around the facility.

Mitigation Measure AES-3: Implement Lighting and Material to Reduce Light and Glare.

The construction contractor shall be required to reduce light and glare on surrounding land uses by shielding permanent exterior lighting, orienting all exterior lighting downward, or installing lights activated only by sensors. To minimize incidental light, new lighting fixtures shall be cutoff-type fixtures that cast low-angle illumination and provide natural color rendering and light qualities. In addition, the use of highly reflective building materials and/or finishes in the design of its proposed above-ground structures shall be limited.

II. Agriculture and Forestry Resources

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.				
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Project is in an existing, urbanized area and is not located on or adjacent to lands designated as prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide importance (California Department of Conservation 2023a, 2023b).

Impact Analysis

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?

The Project would not result in the conversion of Important Farmland, as mapped by the State (California Department of Conservation 2023), to non-agricultural use and no impact would occur.

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

No zoning for agricultural use applies to the Project. The Project alignment does not intersect properties currently under agricultural production or the provisions of an active Williamson Act contract (California Department of Conservation 2023b). No impact would result.

c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

The Project Study Area does not meet the definition of forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g)). No impact would result.

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

Refer to Response (c). No impact would result.

e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

The Project would not involve changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No impact would result.

III. Air Quality

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

Criteria Air Pollutants

The six common air pollutants (also known as "criteria air pollutants") regulated by EPA include ground-level ozone (O_3); carbon monoxide (CO); nitrogen dioxide (NO_2); particulate matter, including particulate matter 10 micrometers or less (PM_{10}) and particulate matter 2.5 micrometers or less ($PM_{2.5}$); sulfur dioxide (SO_2); and lead (Pb) (United States Environmental Protection Agency [USEPA] 2023). The health effects from air pollutants such as ozone and PM can increase the amount and seriousness of lung and heart disease and other health problems (USEPA 2023). Typical sources of NOx, CO, and PM are from vehicles on the road and construction equipment.

Attainment Status

In accordance with federal Clean Air Act (CAA) requirements, the USEPA developed numerical concentration-based standards, or National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), for pollutants that have been determined to affect human health and the environment. The NAAQS are the maximum allowable concentrations for the following criteria air pollutants: O_3, CO, NO_2, PM_{10}, $PM_{2.5}$, SO_2, and Pb.

The CAA also gives the authority to states to establish air quality rules and regulations. The State of California has adopted the NAAQS and promulgated additional California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) for criteria air pollutants. The CAAQS are generally more stringent than the NAAQS and incorporate additional standards for sulfates, hydrogen sulfide, vinyl chloride, and visibility reducing particles.

The USEPA classifies the air quality in an Air Quality Control Region (AQCR), or in subareas of an AQCR, according to whether the concentrations of air pollutants in ambient air exceed the NAAQS. Areas within each AQCR are therefore designated as attainment, nonattainment, maintenance, or unclassified for each of the six criteria air pollutants. Attainment means that criteria air pollutant levels in an AQCR are lower than the NAAQS. Nonattainment means that criteria air pollutant levels exceed the NAAQS. Maintenance means that an AQCR was previously designated nonattainment but is now in attainment. Unclassified means that there is insufficient data information to classify an AQCR, so the area is considered attainment.

USEPA has delegated the authority for ensuring compliance with the NAAQS to the California Air Resources Board (CARB). The CARB has delegated responsibility for implementing the federal CAA and California CAA to local air pollution control agencies. Table 3-1 summarizes the State and national area designations for criteria air pollutants in SCAB.

Table 3-1. South Coast Air Basin Attainment Status

Pollutant	Attainment Status	
	State Area Designations	***National Area Designations***
O_3	Nonattainment	Nonattainment (Extreme)
CO	Attainment	Attainment (Maintenance)
NO_2	Attainment	Unclassified/Attainment
PM_{10}	Nonattainment	Attainment (Maintenance)
$PM_{2.5}$	Nonattainment	Nonattainment (Serious)
SO_2	Attainment	Unclassified/Attainment
Pb	Attainment	Nonattainment (Partial)
Sulfates	Attainment	-
Hydrogen Sulfide	Unclassified/Attainment	-
Vinyl Chloride	Attainment	-

Source: SCAQMD 2018

Notes: O_3 = ground-level ozone; $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter 2.5 micrometers or less; PM_{10} = particulate matter 10 micrometers or less; CO = carbon monoxide; NO_2 = nitrogen dioxide; SO_2 = sulfur dioxide; Pb = lead

As shown in Table 3-1, with respect to state standards, the SCAB is in nonattainment for O_3, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$. The SCAB is in nonattainment with the federal standards for O_3 and $PM_{2.5}$ and partial nonattainment for lead.

Thresholds of Significance

SCAQMD has developed thresholds of significance for criteria air pollutants. The SCAQMD is currently developing a revised *Air Quality Analysis Guidance Handbook* to replace the last Handbook published in 1993. In the meantime, SCAQMD has published thresholds of significance for criteria air pollutants meant for CEQA analysis, for which a project's individual emissions would be cumulatively considerable (SCAQMD 2023). These thresholds were recently updated in March 2023 to reflect the U.S. EPA's redesignation of the Coachella Valley from Severe-15 to Extreme non-attainment for the 2008 ozone national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). Projects that do not exceed the SCAQMD's adopted threshold are not anticipated to result in a cumulatively considerable air quality impact.

SCAQMD's construction and operational thresholds presented are summarized in Table 3-2.

Table 3-2. SCAQMD Thresholds of Significance for Criteria Air Pollutants

Pollutant	Construction Thresholds (lbs/day)	Operational Thresholds (lbs/day)
ROG	75	55
NO_X	100	55
CO	550	550
SO_2	150	150
PM_{10}	150	150
$PM_{2.5}$	55	55

Source: SCAQMD 2023

Notes: lbs/day = pounds per day; NO_X = nitrogen oxides; CO = carbon monoxide; SO_2 = sulfur dioxide; PM_{10} = particulate matter 10 micrometers or less in diameter; $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter 2.5 micrometers or less in diameter

Sensitive Receptors

An air quality sensitive receptor is generally defined as any residence including private homes, condominiums, apartments, and living quarters; education resources such as preschools and kindergarten through grade twelve (k-12) schools; daycare centers; and health care facilities such as hospitals or retirement and nursing homes (CARB 2023). The nearest air quality sensitive receptors are homes within the 56-acre Project footprint along the residential streets: Salida Avenue, East Lees Way, Stevely Avenue, East El Cedral Street, East Via Del Rio Street, and East Atherton Street. The next nearest sensitive receptor would be Sato Academy of Math and Science, which is located approximately 700 feet west of the Project Study Area. Other air quality sensitive receptors within a quarter mile include Charles F Kettering Elementary, Jack L. Weaver Elementary School, Lee Elementary School, Oak Middle School, and Tincher Child Development Center (see Figure 3-1, Air Quality Sensitive Receptors).

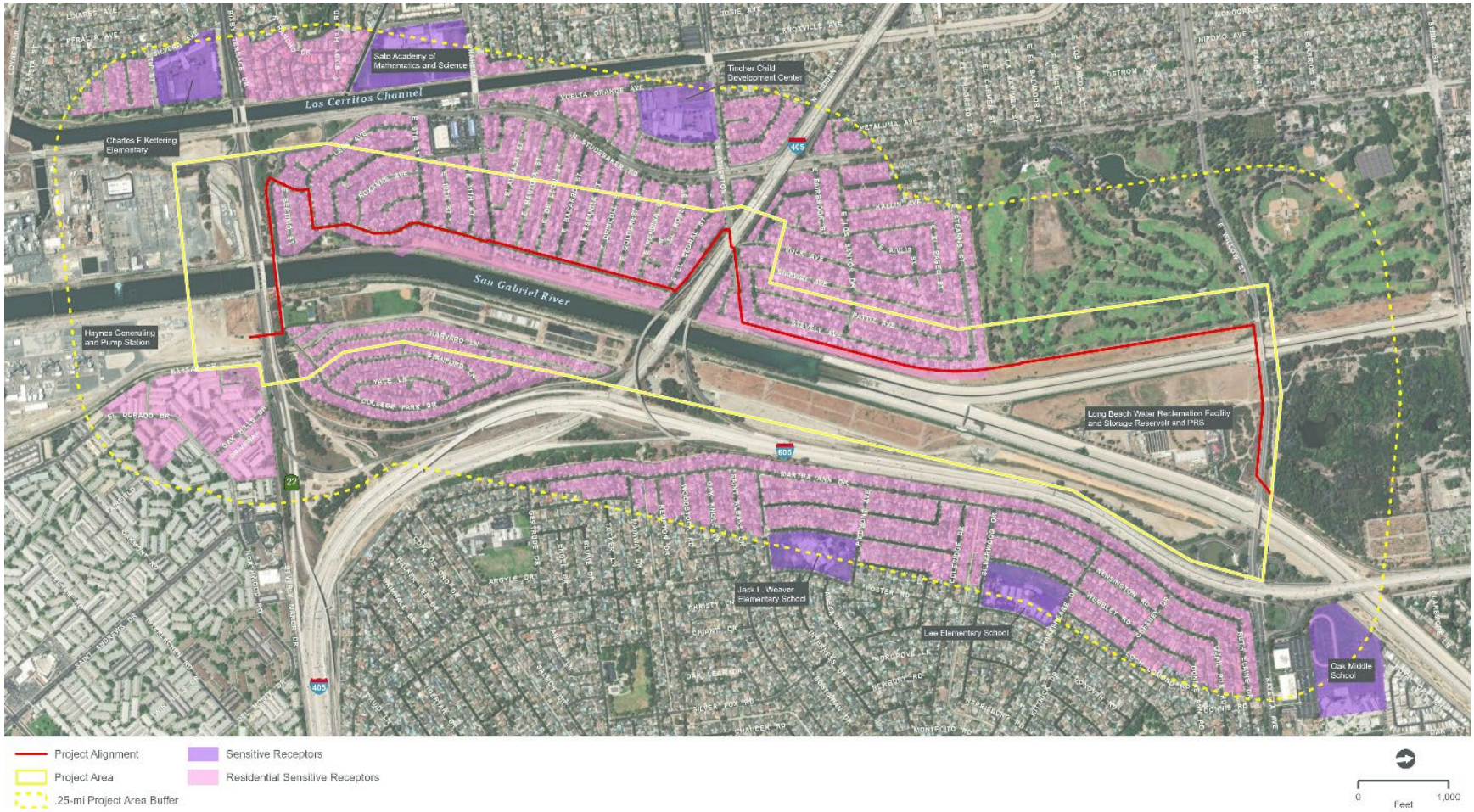
Impact Analysis

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

The 2022 AQMP adopted by the District in 2022 is the applicable AQMP for the Project. The 2022 AQMP's main goals are to improve air quality and meet the federal standards for air pollutants. In particular, the 2022 AQMP provides actions, strategies, and steps to reduce air pollution to meet the federal ozone standards by 2037.

As shown in Table 3-3, the Project would not exceed the SCAQMD construction thresholds for criteria air pollutant emissions and would implement SCAQMD's dust-related best practices to reduce PM_{10} emissions during construction as Project design features. Operational emissions would be minimal from occasional maintenance trips. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the 2022 AQMP, resulting in a less than significant impact.

Figure 3-1. Air Quality Sensitive Receptors



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b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

The Project would generate criteria air pollutant emissions during construction from the operation of heavy-duty construction equipment, truck trips associated with hauling of steel, concrete, and other construction materials, and vehicle trips associated with commute of construction workers. Construction criteria air pollutant emissions from the Project have been estimated based on the construction schedule, phasing, labor, and equipment projections presented in the project description (Section 2). The Project-specific data was populated into the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) version 2020.4.0. The CalEEMod inputs, assumptions, and outputs are presented in Appendix A. Table 3-3 presents a summary of the maximum unmitigated daily criteria air pollutant emissions that will be generated by the project during construction.

Table 3-3. Construction Criteria Air Pollutant Regional Emissions (Unmitigated)

Emissions/ Threshold	Criteria Air Pollutants (lbs/day)					
	ROG	***NO_X***	***CO***	***SO_2***	***PM_{10}***	***$PM_{2.5}$***
Maximum Daily Emissions	19.24	45.74	48.75	0.15	5.74	2.75
SCAQMD Thresholds	75	100	550	150	150	55
Exceeds SCAQMD Thresholds?	No	No	No	No	No	No

Source: CalEEMod version 2020.4.0 and Appendix A

Notes: lbs/day = pounds per day; NO_X = nitrogen oxides; CO = carbon monoxide; SO_2 = sulfur dioxide; PM_{10} = particulate matter 10 micrometers or less in diameter; $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter 2.5 micrometers or less in diameter; SCAQMD = South Coast Air Quality Management District

As shown in Table 3-3, construction of the Project would not exceed the SCAQMD thresholds for criteria air pollutant emissions. Further, the Project would be required to implement SCAQMD's dust-related best available control measures including twice a day watering, detailed in SCAQMD Rule 403 (Table 1), which would further reduce $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} emissions. As such, the Project's impact on air quality would be less than significant.

Operation and maintenance of the pipeline and Flow Control/Pressure Reducing Station would require minimal new vehicle trips and the proposed pumps would be powered by the electrical grid. It is assumed that no heavy-duty diesel trucks would be used and that worker trips would be limited to ten or less one-way trips per day. Therefore, operation of the Project would not generate substantial criteria air pollutant emissions (see Appendix A for details). Impacts during operations would be less than significant.

c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

The Project has the potential to generate toxic air contaminants (TACs) from the use of diesel equipment during construction. TACs are pollutants that may be expected to result in an increase in mortality or serious illness or may pose a present or potential hazard to human health. The primary TAC of concern is diesel particulate matter (DPM). DPM is a carcinogen emitted by diesel engines that could affect existing sensitive receptors.

Multiple sensitive receptors are located along the residential streets: Salida Avenue, East Lees Way, Stevely Avenue, East El Cedral Street, East Via Del Rio Street, and East Atherton Street.

Only limited portions of the Project would be disturbed at a time throughout the construction period, with operation of construction equipment occurring intermittently throughout the course of a day rather than continuously at any one location on the Project Study Area. Periodic operation of construction equipment would allow for the dispersal of DPM by avoiding continuous construction activity in the portions of the Project Study Area closest to existing sensitive receptors. According to *Air Toxics Hot Spots Program Guidance Manual for Preparation of Health Risk Assessments* (Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment 2015), DPM poses a carcinogenic health risk that is generally measured using an exposure

period of 30 years for sensitive residential receptors. However, as presented in Table 3-4, $PM_{2.5}$ emissions of DPM (which strongly correlated with $PM_{2.5}$ emissions) are minimal and would not exceed SCAQMD localized significance thresholds as presented in the localized analysis in Table 3-4. Although the localized analysis does not directly measure health risk impacts, it provides data that can be used to evaluate the potential to cause health risk impacts. The very low level of $PM_{2.5}$ emissions coupled with the short-term duration of construction activity next to any one receptor would result in an overall low level of DPM concentrations within the Project Study Area. Compliance with the ARB airborne toxic control measures anti-idling measure, which limits idling to no more than 5 minutes at any location for diesel-fueled commercial vehicles, would further minimize DPM emissions in the Project Study Area. Therefore, construction of the Project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations, resulting in a less than significant impact.

Table 3-4. Construction Criteria Air Pollutant Localized Emissions

Emissions / Threshold	Criteria Air Pollutants (lbs/day)			
	NO_X	***CO***	***PM_{10}***	***$PM_{2.5}$***
Maximum Daily Localized Emissions	42.26	44.07	4.21	2.34
SCAQMD Localized Thresholds	123	1,530	14	8
Exceeds SCAQMD Localized Thresholds?	No	No	No	No

Source: CalEEMod version 2020.4.0 and Appendix A

Notes: Localized thresholds are applicable to SRA 4 South Los Angeles County Coastal for a 5-acre site at a 25-meter receptor distance.

Operation and maintenance of the pipeline and PRS would be minimal and no heavy-duty diesel trucks would be used. Worker trips would be limited to ten or less one-way trips per day. Therefore, operation of the Project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations, resulting in no impact.

d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

Construction activities associated with the Project may generate objectionable odors from the use of heavy-duty equipment (i.e., diesel exhaust) and vehicle trips. Any odors generated during construction would be temporary in nature and cease upon completion of construction activities. The Project includes construction of a new sewer force main, and by its enclosed nature, would not result in other odors in the Project Study Area. Existing odors would continue to be regulated under SCAQMD Rule 402, which treats odors as a public nuisance. Therefore, the Project would not generate emissions of odors affecting a substantial number of people, and impacts would be less than significant.

IV. Biological Resources

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☒	☐	☐
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Biological Resources Study Area (BRSA) for the Project is conterminous with the Project Study Area. The BRSA generally follows the San Gabriel River and totals approximately 593 acres of urban and developed habitat. Vegetation communities and other land cover types in the BRSA are shown on Figure 3-2A and Figure 3-2B (Appendix B).

Approximately 1.804 acres of aquatic resources subject to U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdiction occurs within the BRSA, all of which is considered non-wetland waters of the U. S. (WOUS). A total of 3.104 acres of California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) regulated streambed was observed within the BRSA, including 2.975 acres of unvegetated streambed and 0.130 acre of riparian habitat. Appendix B provides additional details, including the extent of these jurisdictional features in the BRSA.

The BRSA does contain a portion of the San Gabriel River that can provide wildlife connectivity to the Pacific Ocean, however, only a portion of the river near the outlet of the ocean is soft bottomed. The rest of the river within the BRSA is concrete-lined and surrounded by highly developed and urban areas. Additional details regarding the environmental setting for biological resources are included in Appendix B.

Impact Analysis

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

The Project is located in an urbanized and/or developed portion area of the City. The Project Study Area does not contain habitat that supports special-status species or candidate species. Biological surveys documented further in Appendix B did not identify any individuals or populations of special-status species in or adjacent to Project work areas. Based on the results of the literature review and field survey, no federally and/or state-listed plant species were found within the BRSA, and none are expected to occur. Based on the results of the literature review and field survey, 42 special status wildlife species were evaluated for potential to occur within the BRSA. Of these, 3 federally and/or state listed wildlife species or candidates under consideration for listing are known to occur within the vicinity of the BRSA (Appendix B). These species and their listing status, provided by taxonomic grouping, are:

- Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) – candidate endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). Ground disturbance as a part of project construction may result in the loss of habitat or removing potential foraging habitat for the species and would be considered a significant impact (Appendix B). Measure BR-1 would be implemented to reduce impacts to Crotch's bumblebee by requiring focused surveys during appropriate flying season and appropriate compensatory mitigation should the species be detected. With implementation of Measure BR-1, impacts to Crotch's bumble would be less than significant after mitigation.

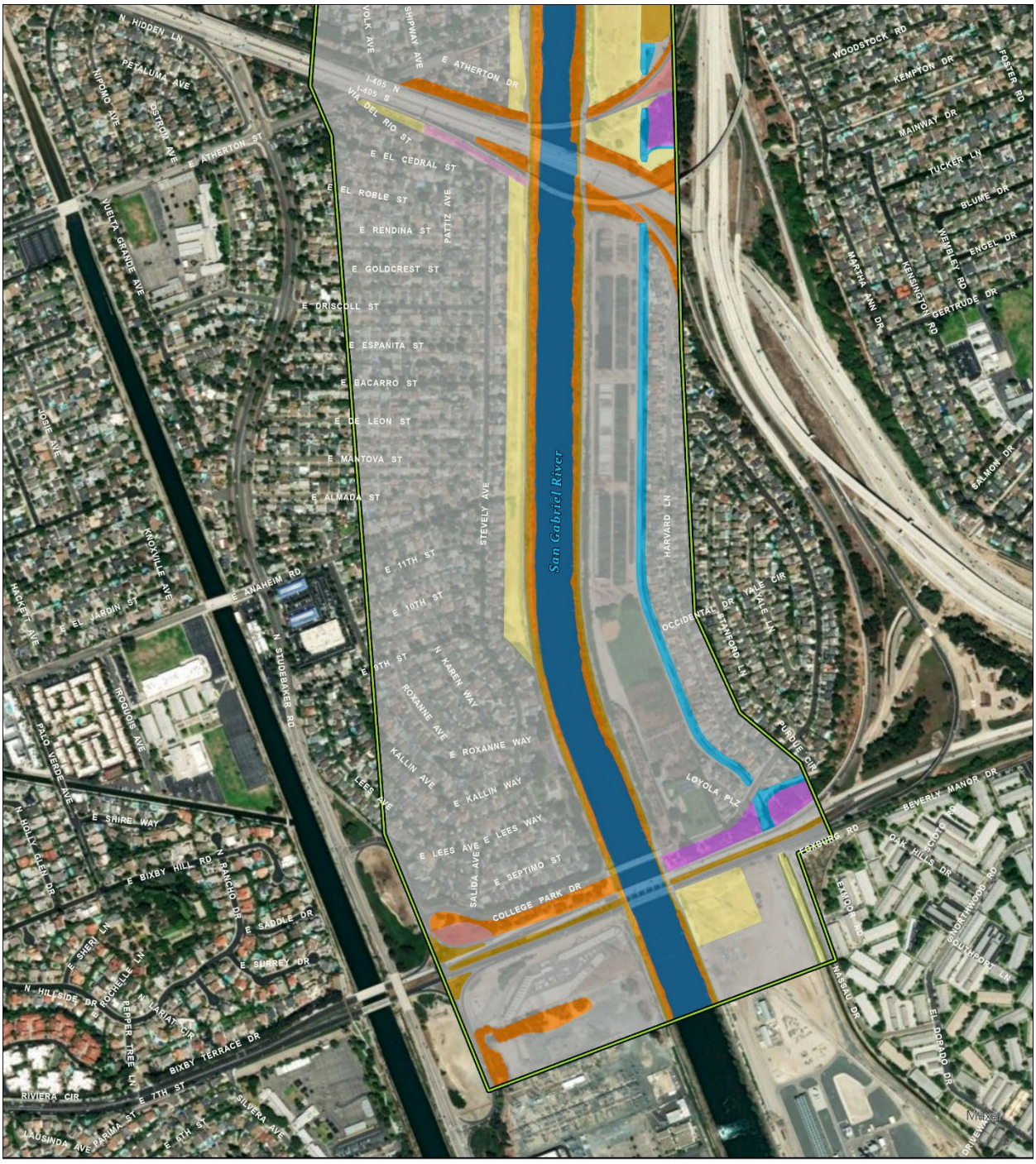
- Monarch butterfly (*Danaus Plexippus*) – candidate under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA). The BRSA supports approximately 3.91 acres of suitable habitat within the eucalyptus woodlands adjacent to SR-22 and I-405. As monarch butterflies may cluster in large groups in forested groves along the California coast, the eucalyptus woodlands may provide suitable overwintering habitat. Impacting existing eucalyptus trees may result in injury or mortality of any overwintering individuals, reducing their health and vigor, or even reducing their chances of success during spring and summer migration to breeding sites. Although a trenchless construction method would be utilized within the eucalyptus woodland habitat, disturbance to the woodlands may occur. Noise, fugitive dust, or even minor vegetation removal within the suitable habitat may result in significant impacts to monarch butterflies. Implementation of Measure BR-2 would require focused surveys to determine if the Project BRSA supports overwintering groves or monarch population. Should surveys determine that an overwintering grove or monarch population is present within the BRSA, a Monarch Butterfly Overwintering Habitat Management Plan would be prepared to protect, manage, enhance, and restore overwintering habitat. With the implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-2, impacts to Monarch Butterfly would be less than significant after mitigation.

Figure 3-2A. Vegetation Communities and Other Land Cover Types in the North BRSA



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Figure 3-2B. Vegetation Communities and Other Land Cover Types in the South BRSA



- Steelhead, Southern California Distinct Population Segment (DPS) (*Onocorhynchus mykiss irideus*) – federally endangered. Suitable habitat for steelhead is associated with the open water of the San Gabriel River. However, the river would not be directly impacted by project implementation. Construction access would occur on unpaved, utility ROWs, and paved roads located adjacent to the river. Installation of the pipeline would need to cross the river; however, the pipeline would be installed within the existing bridge structure and the construction area would be contained to avoid indirect impacts from falling construction debris. Construction within the waters of the river would not be necessary. For these reasons, no direct temporary or permanent impacts on Steelhead habitat would result.
- Green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) – federally threatened. Suitable habitat for green sea turtle is associated with the open water of the San Gabriel River. During the vegetation mapping and habitat assessment, approximately 10 green sea turtles were observed within the estuarine habitat of the San Gabriel River, upstream from SR-22. However, the river would not be directly impacted by project implementation. Construction access would occur on unpaved, utility ROWs, and paved roads located adjacent to the river. Installation of the pipeline would need to cross the river; however, the pipeline would be installed within the existing bridge structure and the construction area would be contained to avoid indirect impacts from falling construction debris. Construction within the waters of the river would not be necessary. For these reasons, no direct temporary or permanent impacts on Green sea turtle habitat would result.

Based on the above discussion, Project implementation would not result in a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, to any listed or sensitive plant or wildlife status species. With the implementation of the Mitigations Measures BR-1 and BR-2, impacts would be less than significant after mitigation.

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

The Project is in an urbanized environment and impacts are limited to areas that are previously disturbed. The Project would result in a total of 18.900 acres of temporary direct impacts and 7.741 acres of permanent impacts on vegetation communities and other land cover types within the Project footprint. The majority of permanent and temporary impacts would occur within existing, disturbed and developed land cover types.

The San Gabriel River occurs in the BRSA but will not be impacted by the Project. This is because the sewer force main pipeline would be strung alongside existing pipeline conduit above the channel. No in-channel construction activities would occur. Additionally, construction would include the installation of a containment structure to prevent the discharge of bridge debris into the San Gabriel River. Patches of native vegetation were identified in areas beyond the limits of the Project footprint and will not be impacted by the implementation of the Project. A less than significant impact would occur.

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

No State or federally protected wetlands, Waters of the US, or aquatic resources under the jurisdiction of the State of California are present in the Project footprint (see Appendix B for details). Best management practices implemented during construction would avoid and minimize any indirect impacts to the San Gabriel River. Therefore, implementation of the Project will not adversely impact protected wetlands and a less than significant impact would occur.

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of wildlife nursery sites?

The Project Study Area is located adjacent to the San Gabriel River, which functions as a movement corridor for a variety of avian, mammal, and aquatic species. Although Project elements would not be constructed in the river channel, construction activities related to the Project have the potential to impact avian species during the migratory and nesting period.

A significant impact would occur if the Project interrupted or interfered with a migratory wildlife corridor and/or impacted breeding or nursery sites. Although the Project does not occur in any known migratory routes, the survey area for the Project does contain a portion of the San Gabriel River that can provide

wildlife connectivity to the Pacific Ocean. However, only a portion of the San Gabriel River is soft bottomed and may provide habitat for local and migratory species. The rest of the river is concrete-lined and devoid of vegetation. Areas adjacent to the river are surrounded by highly developed and urban areas.

Suitable habitat to support nesting birds protected under the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code Section 3500 et seq., occurs within the Project survey area and includes mature trees and shrubs. Based on the results of the literature review, 4 wildlife species that are not listed under FESA or CESA but that are considered California SSCs or are fully protected have potential to occur within the BRSA. These species include western pond turtle, burrowing owl, yellow warbler, and western mastiff bat.

Bridge- and crevice-nesting birds could nest under the bridges or nearby buildings within the Project Study Area. There is low potential for ground-nesting birds, such as killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), to nest within portions of the Project due to the urban and highly disturbed areas in the western part of the Project Study Area. However, there is potential for ground-nesting birds to utilize the undeveloped areas adjacent to the river. In addition, there are direct impacts proposed to non-native grasslands and woodlands within the SCE ROW or adjacent to the roadway and highways. Burrowing owls, specifically, may utilize the disturbed non-native grasslands within Southern California Edison ROW or within the eucalyptus woodlands adjacent to SR-22 and I-405. Direct impacts to western pond turtle and yellow warbler would not be anticipated as potential habitat is associated with the San Gabriel River and installation of the pipeline would simply be hung along the bridge crossings.

Implementation of Mitigation Measures BR-3, BR-4, BR-5 and BR-7 will reduce the potential for significant impacts to migratory species to a level less than significant through preconstruction nesting bird surveys for work during the nesting bird season (January 1 through September 31), preconstruction bat roosting surveys, Worker Environmental Awareness Program training, and preconstruction bat roosting surveys. Measure BR-5 would also require focused surveys for burrowing owls per CDFW protocols and should burrowing owls be detected, appropriate buffers and monitoring would be implemented. Based on these considerations, impacts to native resident or migratory wildlife species would be less than significant following mitigation.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

The *City of Long Beach General Plan* includes goals and policies relevant to biological resources within the Conservation Element and Local Coastal Program Element (City of Long Beach 2073, 1980). An evaluation of plan elements related to biological resources did not identify any conflicts with the implementation of the Project. The City of Long Beach requires submittal of an application to trim or remove any trees within City managed areas. No tree removal is anticipated during implementation of the Project; however, if unanticipated trimming or removal are required as part of project construction, there would be an impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BR-6 would reduce the impact to a level less than significant by requiring a tree trimming permit.

f) **Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?**

The Project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. The Project is located outside of the boundaries of the Orange County Central and Coastal Subregions Natural Community Conservation Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan; therefore, the Project will not conflict with provisions of this plan as they relate to biological resources. No impact would occur.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure BR-1: Avoid Effects on Crotch's Bumble Bee, if present.

Focused surveys for Crotch's bumble bee will be conducted prior to construction by a qualified entomologist. A minimum of three surveys will be needed throughout the entire Project site prior to construction and shall occur at least two to four weeks apart. If Crotch's bumble bee are detected, no work shall occur in that area until LBUD has coordinated with the CDFW to determine appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, and/or obtain necessary approvals. A qualified entomologist will be employed to complete a pre-construction survey for Crotch's bumble bee during the appropriate flying season (April – August). Pre-construction surveys will be conducted within 48 hours prior to initial ground disturbance and vegetation removal.

Mitigation Measure BR-2: Avoid Effects on Monarch Butterfly, if present.

Roosting monarch surveys will be conducted prior to construction by a qualified biologist. Surveys will be needed throughout the entire Project site. An overwintering grove habitat and impact assessment

will be completed after the season appropriate surveys. If overwintering grove habitat is detected, no work shall occur in that area until LBUD has coordinated with the CDFW to determine appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, and/or obtain necessary approvals. If vegetation removal activities occur between September 16 and March 14, roosting monarch surveys will be conducted prior to vegetation removal activities, and no vegetation removal will occur if monarch roosting sites are present. Vegetation removal can occur once a qualified biologist has confirmed that the overwintering monarchs have vacated the roosting site in the spring.

Mitigation Measure BR-3: Avoid Effects on Migratory and Nesting Birds.

Vegetation removal, ground disturbance activities, and construction demolition shall occur outside of the nesting bird season (January 1 through September 31). If construction activities occur during this time period, a preconstruction nesting bird survey will be conducted (within 7 days prior to construction activities) by a qualified biologist to determine if active nests are present within the area proposed for disturbance. If active nests are found, standardized buffers will be implemented based on the species to avoid nesting activities of breeding birds/raptors. All construction personnel shall be notified regarding buffer distances directed to avoid entering buffer zones until the nest is determined to be inactive by a qualified biologist. Encroachment into buffer zones shall only occur at the discretion of the qualified biologist. This mitigation measure applies to all Project-related activities in the Study Area.

Mitigation Measure BR-4: Worker Environmental Awareness Training.

Prior to the start of construction, all Project personnel and contractors who will be on site during construction shall complete mandatory training conducted by the Project Biologist or a designated qualified biologist. Any new Project personnel or contractors that come on board after the initiation of construction shall also be required to complete the mandatory Worker Environmental Awareness Program training before they commence with work. The training shall advise workers of potential impacts on jurisdictional resources. At a minimum, the training shall include the following topics: (1) occurrences of special-status species and special-status vegetation communities in the Project Study Area (including vegetation communities subject to USACE, CDFW, and RWQCB jurisdiction), (2) the purpose for resource protection; (3) protective measures to be implemented in the field, including strictly limiting activities, vehicles, equipment, and construction materials to the fenced to avoid jurisdictional resource areas in the field (i.e., avoid areas delineated on maps or on the Project site by fencing); (5) environmentally responsible construction practices; and (6) the protocol to resolve conflicts that may arise at any time during the construction process.

Mitigation Measure BR-5: Avoid Effects on Burrowing Owls.

A qualified biologist shall conduct focused burrowing owls, per CDFW protocol. A minimum of four survey visits within suitable habitat for burrowing owl would be required with the following requirements: 1) at least one site visit between February 15 and April 15, and 2) a minimum of three survey visits, at least three weeks apart, between April 15 and July 15, with at least one visit after June 15. Surveys would occur within non-native grasslands within the SCE ROW and the eucalyptus woodland area adjacent to SR-22 and I-405.

Should active burrows (occupied by burrowing owls) be detected, no Project activities would take place within 200 feet of an active burrow. A Burrowing Owl Mitigation Plan may be required to report on any potential impacts and the management/mitigation procedures appropriate for the impacts. This may include the prohibition of construction activities within an active burrow until the offspring have fledged and left the burrow or an environmental awareness presentation to instruct contractors and workers on site on the presences of burrowing owls, restricted areas, and adherence to any buffer zones.

Mitigation Measure BR-6: Impacts to trees protected under the City of Long Beach Tree Ordinance.

Trees located on City of Long Beach property require a tree trimming permit. If tree trimming or removal is required as part of the Project, the Project proponent shall acquire a tree trimming permit from the City. All conditions in the permit must be followed to be compliant with City regulations. In some cases, the City arborist shall be engaged to access the significance of the tree being impacted as well as guide trimming crews to the extent of vegetation that can be removed to avoid tree mortality. In addition, if a tree is determined to be historically or culturally significant, avoidance is recommended.

Mitigation Measure BR-7: Impacts to bat species and/or maternity sites.

Although bat roosting, foraging, and maternity sites were not identified during field surveys, unanticipated impacts may occur during construction. Prior to Project construction activities, a qualified biologist shall conduct a survey of potential roosting sites (primarily inspections on bridge

crossings over San Gabriel River). The survey shall be performed to clear work areas no more than 14 days prior to the start of construction, if colonies or individuals are identified, work shall proceed under the guidance of a qualified biologist.

V. Cultural Resources

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Environmental Setting

A record search was conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center in Fullerton on December 15, 2022. Sixteen previous cultural resource surveys have covered roughly one-third of the Project Study Area between 1975 and 2011. The remaining two-thirds have not been surveyed. The record search identified a total of 81 previously recorded resources, including 77 historic built environment resources, three historic archaeological isolates, and one ethnohistoric Native American village site within the buffered search area. Of these, the Native American village site is a contributor to the Puvunga Indian Village Sites National Register District and is listed in the CRHR; three historic buildings appear to contribute to a CRHR-eligible district based on survey evaluation; and the remainder have been found ineligible for the NRHP, CRHR, or local listing through survey evaluation.

Of the 81 previously recorded cultural resources, nine are recorded within the Project Study Area, each a historic built environment resource including a transmission tower, the Los Alamitos Channel, and 7 single-family residences. All nine resources have been recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP or CRHR in previous studies but lack official determinations from SHPO.

The environmental setting for cultural resources is described in detail in Appendix C.

Impact Analysis

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?

No historical resources were identified in the Project footprint. All resources identified within the Project Study Area during archival research have been evaluated as not eligible. Two identified historic bridges were determined not eligible and the other three are non-historic due to having been reconstructed in recent years. The San Gabriel River Channel is a built environment resource of historic age that may potentially qualify as a historical resource under CEQA. However, the channel is outside of the Project footprint as identified Figure 2-5 and there would be no physical impacts. The sewer force main alignment would cross the channel attached to one of the existing bridges, so there would be no visual impacts. The LADWP transmission line is a built environment resource of historic age that may potentially qualify as a historical resource under CEQA. There would be no physical impacts to the towers or transmission line from the Project. The sewer force main alignment would be buried and would cause no visual impacts. Therefore, the project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15064.5.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

No archaeological resources were identified in the Project footprint. Due to the extent and depth of previous ground disturbance throughout the Project footprint, the potential for archaeological resources is

limited. Based on available historical information, the LADWP transmission corridor is disturbed and consists either of imported fill or sediments removed from the San Gabriel River Channel. Field observations during the survey confirmed this assessment. The rest of the sewer force main alignment would be installed within the existing road ROW, in areas that have been historically disturbed by road construction, utilities, and other urban development. Based on observations of the current conditions, the potential for encountering buried archaeological resources is considered to be low. Nevertheless, the potential for an unanticipated discovery does exist, and represents a potentially significant impact. Mitigation Measures CUL-1 and CUL-3 are proposed that address the potential for inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources during construction through worker training, monitoring, and stop-work requirements. Implementation of these mitigation measures would reduce impacts to archaeological resources to a less than significant level.

c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

No evidence of human remains, or cemeteries was identified in the Project footprint. As noted above, due to the extent and depth of previous ground disturbance throughout the Project footprint, the potential for buried cultural resources, including burials, is limited. Therefore, the project would not disturb any human known remains and impacts related to potential disturbance of human remains would be less than significant. Mitigation Measure CUL-2 is proposed to formalize compliance with California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 in the event that human remains are inadvertently discovered during project construction activities. CUL-2 includes requirements for halting work and notifying authorities in the event of a discovery. Implementation of Mitigation Measure CUL-2 would reduce impacts to inadvertently discovered human remains to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure CUL-1: Retention of Qualified Archaeologist and Worker Training

Prior to the issuance of a grading permit by the City of Long Beach, evidence shall be provided to the City and responsible agencies that a qualified archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for professional archaeology (U.S. Secretary of the Interior 2008) has been retained by the Applicant to conduct any required training, evaluation, or treatment of archaeological resources that might be encountered during implementation of the project. As part of this, prior to the start of grading, the qualified archaeologist shall conduct cultural resources sensitivity training for all construction personnel. Construction personnel must be informed of the types of archaeological resources that may be encountered (both prehistoric and historical), and of the proper procedures to be enacted in the event of an inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources or human remains. The LBUD (or contractor) must ensure that construction personnel are made available for and attend the training and retain documentation demonstrating attendance. This documentation shall be made available to the City upon request.

Mitigation Measure CUL-2: Treatment of Human Remains

In accordance with California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, if human remains are found, the Los Angeles County Coroner shall be immediately notified of the discovery. No further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains (100 feet or as determined by the project archaeologist) shall occur until the procedures set forth in this measure have been implemented. If the County Coroner determines that the remains are, or are believed to be, Native American, the Coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 24 hours. In accordance with California PRC Section 5097.98, the NAHC must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) from the deceased Native American. The MLD shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The designated Native American representative would then determine, in consultation with the property owner, the disposition of the human remains.

Mitigation Measure CUL-3: Archaeological Resource and/or Tribal Cultural Resource Discovery and Treatment

In the event of the unanticipated discovery of archaeological or other cultural resources, whether discovered through Native American monitoring or not, all work activities in the area (within approximately 100 feet of the discovery) shall be halted or redirected until the discovery can be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. Construction shall not resume until a qualified archaeologist has conferred with the City and responsible agencies and, in the case of prehistoric archaeological resources and tribal cultural resources, the Native American monitor, on the significance of the resource. If it is determined that the discovered archaeological resource and/or tribal cultural resource is significant under CEQA, avoidance and preservation in place shall be the preferred manner of mitigation, pursuant to Public Resource Code Section 21083.2(b) and Section 21084.3. Preservation in place may be accomplished by, but is not limited to, avoidance, incorporating the resource into open space, capping, or deeding the site into a permanent conservation easement. In the event that

preservation in place is demonstrated to be infeasible and data recovery through excavation is the only feasible mitigation available, a Treatment Plan shall be prepared and implemented by a qualified archaeologist, in consultation with the City, that provides for the adequate recovery of the scientifically consequential information contained in the archaeological resource or cultural information in the event of a tribal cultural resource. The City shall also consult with appropriate Native American representatives in determining treatment for prehistoric or Native American resources to ensure cultural values ascribed to the resources, beyond those that are scientifically important, are considered. Any evaluation and treatment shall be supervised by an individual or individuals that meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards.

VI. Energy

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

State and local plans and policies provide guidance and recommendations for renewable energy and energy efficiency. At the State level, the California Energy Commission is required to prepare a biennial report assessing energy issues facing the state. The report is developed in collaboration with interested parties and the results are delivered as the Integrated Energy Policy Report. The Final 2022 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update (Bailey 2023) is the most current IEPR, and recommendations on energy planning are found in Chapter 5.

At the local level, the City of Long Beach General Plan Land Use Element includes strategies and policies for conserving and utilizing renewable energy sources. Specifically:

- Strategy Number 2: Promote efficient management of energy resources to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the impacts of climate change by employing a full range of feasible means to meet climate goals.
- LU Policy 2-1: Promote the establishment of local green energy generation projects along with the infrastructure to support such projects.
- LU Policy 11-2: Provide for a wide variety of creative, affordable, sustainable land use solutions to help resolve air, soil and water pollution, energy consumption and resource depletion issues.

In addition, the City of Long Beach Climate Action Plan (City of Long Beach 2022) outlines goals, objectives, and actions for energy efficiency and consumptions. These include:

- Goal: Long Beach buildings are energy-efficient and our communities run on affordable, renewable electricity
- Objective: Increase the energy efficiency of existing buildings/facilities
- Objective: Buildings and facilities actively reduce air pollution as a component of a broader energy reduction strategy

Impact Analysis

a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

During construction of the Project, energy would be consumed in the form of electricity associated with the conveyance of water used for dust control, powering electronic equipment, or other construction activities that require electrical power. Construction activities typically do not involve the consumption of natural gas. Construction activities would consume energy in the form of petroleum-based fuels associated with the use of off-road construction vehicles and equipment, round-trip construction worker travel to the Project site, and delivery and haul truck trips. Details regarding equipment type, usage hours, and hauling trips can be found in Appendix A. Construction activities would comply with CARB's "In-Use Off-Road Diesel Fueled Fleets Regulation", which limits engine idling times to reduce harmful emissions and reduce

wasteful consumption of petroleum-based fuel. Additionally, the Project would comply with the California Renewable Portfolio Standard, the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 (Senate Bill 350). Compliance with local, state, and federal regulations would reduce short-term energy demand during construction to the extent feasible, and Project construction would not result in a wasteful or inefficient use of energy resources.

Energy consumption is anticipated to increase during Project operation. Maintenance activities during operation would include systematic repairs to the sanitary sewer system and belowground infrastructure. Energy use associated with these maintenance activities would involve the use of electric or gas-powered equipment. The Project does require the use of equipment that would be more energy intensive than is used for comparable activities or involve the use of equipment that would not conform to current emissions standards and related fuel efficiencies. Therefore, a less than significant impact would occur.

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

The Project would be built and operated in accordance with existing, applicable regulations, which include, but are not limited to, the LBUD's Standard Drawings - Design Criteria for Potable Water Distribution System, and Design Criteria for Sanitary Sewer Facilities, the California Green Building Standards Code and CARB regulations. Construction equipment and operation equipment would be maintained to allow for continuous energy-efficient operations. The Project would therefore not conflict with any state or local plan for energy efficiency. Thus, impacts would be less than significant.

VII. Geology and Soils

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?	☐	☐	☐	☒
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☒	☐	☐
iv. Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risk to life or property?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Environmental Setting

Alquist-Priolo earthquake fault zones are regulatory zones surrounding the surface traces of active faults in California. Wherever an active fault exists, it has the potential for surface rupture. The nearest Alquist-Priolo earthquake fault zone to the Project is the Reservoir Hill Fault, located approximately 1 mile southwest and part of the larger Newport-Inglewood Fault Zone (California Geological Survey 2023).

Liquefaction typically occurs when a saturated or partially saturated soil becomes malleable and loses strength and stiffness in response to an applied stress caused by earthquake shaking or other sudden change in stress conditions. Soil liquefaction occurs when loose, saturated, granular soils lose their inherent shear strength due to excess water pressure that builds up during repeated movement from seismic activity. Liquefaction usually results in horizontal and vertical movements from the lateral spreading of liquefied materials and post-earthquake settlement of liquefied materials. The Project site is in a California Geologic Survey Liquefaction Zone (California Geological Survey 2023).

Expansive soils have relatively high clay mineral content and are usually found in areas where underlying formations contain an abundance of clay minerals. Due to its high clay content, expansive soils expand with the addition of water and shrink when dried. The City's General Plan Seismic Safety Element (City of Long Beach 1988) identifies four predominant soil profiles within the City, referred to as Profiles A through D. The Project traverses Profile A (predominantly comprised of man-made fill areas consisting of hydraulic fills, assorted man-made fills, and soils of questionable origin), and Profile B (sandy and clayey alluvial materials composed of interlayered lenses of cohesionless and cohesive material overlying the shallow Gaspur or Recent aquifers, includes some local filled area soils). Similarly, soils in the City of Seal Beach are silty clay loam (USDA NRCS 2023). Based on this information, soils in the Project Study Area have the potential to be expansive.

Impact Analysis

a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving:

i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?

The Project does not involve any activities that would increase the potential to expose people or structures to the rupture of a known earthquake fault. The Project is typical of urban environments and would not involve deep excavation or otherwise creating unstable seismic conditions. Therefore, no impact would occur.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

The Project does not include activities that would increase the potential to expose people or structures to the adverse effects involving strong seismic ground shaking. The Project would be constructed following current State and Federal building requirements including anchoring of the sewer force main to the existing bridge. The Project would result in a less than significant impact.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Because the Project is in a California Geologic Survey Liquefaction Zone, potentially significant impacts including ground failure could occur in the Project Study Area. With the implementation of Mitigation Measure GS-1, a geotechnical report with site-specific design recommendations would be prepared and potentially significant impacts related to liquefaction would be reduced to a less than significant level.

iv) Landslides?

The Project Study Area is relatively flat and is not adjacent to slopes or hillsides that could be potentially susceptible to landslides. The Project would not encroach on structural levees associated with the San Gabriel River. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Because the Project would result in over an acre of ground disturbance, the Project would be subject to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater program, which requires obtaining coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board's General Permit for Discharges of Stormwater Associated with Construction Activity (Construction General Permit; Order 2009-0009-DWQ). Construction activities that could expose soils to erosive forces include clearing, grading, and disturbances to the ground such as stockpiling and excavating. The Construction General Permit requires development and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Implementation and compliance with the Construction General Permit, including preparation of a SWPPP and

implementation of best management practices, would reduce soil erosion impacts; therefore, short-term construction impacts associated with soil erosion would be less than significant.

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

The Project does not involve activities that would affect seismic conditions or alter underlying soil or groundwater characteristics that govern liquefaction potential. As required by the Seismic Hazard Mapping Act, a site-specific geotechnical investigation must be conducted for sites within a designated seismic hazard zone prior to development. Implementation of Mitigation Measure GS-1 would satisfy this requirement; therefore, potentially significant impacts related to geologic stability would be reduced to a less than significant level.

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risk to life or property?

Expansive soils could exert additional pressure on buried pipeline producing shrinkage cracks that would allow water infiltration and compromise the integrity of backfill material. Soil expansion or contraction could lead to undue lateral pipeline stress and stress of structural joints. Over time, lateral stresses could lead to pipeline rupture or leaks in the coupling joints. However, standard engineering practices dictate that expansive soil materials would be identified and replaced by non-expansive engineered fill material. These practices would be conducted under the supervision of a licensed geotechnical or civil engineer. In addition, implementation of Mitigation Measure GS-1 requires preparation of a geotechnical report identifying localized soil conditions and constraints and confirming if expansive soils are indeed present, and implementation of appropriate recommendations in the geotechnical report to address expansive soils. Mitigation Measure GS-2 requires isolation valves or similar devices in the pipeline to prevent wastewater discharge in the event of a pipeline rupture. With implementation of Mitigation Measures GS-1 and GS-2, potentially significant impacts related to direct or indirect risk to life or property due to expansive soils would be reduced to a less than significant level.

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

The Project would not require septic tanks or any other alternative wastewater disposal system. All flow from HGS would be conveyed to LBWRD for treatment and disposal in compliance with LACSD's NPDES permit. Therefore, no impacts associated with the adequacy of soils and septic systems would result.

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

As discussed under Response to Question VII (d), the Project Study Area is primarily characterized by various fills and soils of questionable origin. No unique geologic features exist on the project site. The Project does not involve deep levels of excavation during trenching and HDD. In general, pipe trenches would be 4- to 10-feet deep. While unlikely, there is potential to encounter a unique paleontological resource, a potentially significant impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measure GS-3 would reduce the impacts to less than significant by including requirements to stop work and conduct further investigations in the event of a paleontological discovery.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure GS-1: Prepare Geotechnical Report Along Proposed Conveyance Route

LBUD shall require preparation of a geotechnical report for the Project route during design to identify and confirm localized soil conditions and constraints, groundwater levels, and groundwater quality. The geotechnical report shall be subject to review by the City Engineer, or designee. The construction contractor shall comply with site-specific design recommendations as provided in the final geotechnical report by a licensed geotechnical or civil engineer.

Mitigation Measure GS-2: Incorporate Pipeline Failure Contingency Measures

Isolation valves or similar devices shall be incorporated into the Project to prevent significant losses of industrial wastewater discharge in the event of pipeline rupture. The specifications of the isolation valves will conform to the Uniform Building Code (UBC), American Water Works Association (AWWA), and LBUD standards.

Mitigation Measure GS-3: Inadvertent Discovery Clause

In the event that a paleontological resource is exposed during construction activities, all construction work occurring within 100 feet of the find shall immediately stop until a qualified paleontologist meeting the professional standards of the Society of Paleontology can evaluate the significance of the find and determine whether or not additional study is warranted. If the discovery is clearly not

significant, the paleontologist may document the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves potentially significant under CEQA, additional work such as preparation of a paleontological treatment plan (including preservation and removal of the resource) and monitoring in the area of the find may be warranted.

VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

Human-produced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are created primarily by the burning of fossil fuels for energy. These anthropogenic GHG emissions are widely accepted in the scientific community as contributing to climate change (IPCC 2023). Because GHGs (primarily carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide) persist and mix in the atmosphere, emissions anywhere in the world affect the climate everywhere in the world. Consequently, GHG emissions that contribute to climate change at a global scale rather than at a local or regional project-specific scale associated with criteria pollutants.

The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32) established a comprehensive program of regulatory and market mechanisms to achieve reductions in GHGs that are quantifiable and cost-effective. The act directs responsibility for monitoring and reducing GHG emissions to the CARB. Among the most significant components of the act is the requirement to reduce carbon emissions in California to 1990 levels by 2020. The state achieved this goal by 2016. Senate Bill 32 and *California's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan* (CARB 2017) set a new GHG reduction target for 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. The *2022 Scoping for Achieving Carbon Neutrality* (2022 Scoping Plan) (CARB 2022) was adopted by CARB in November 2022 and outlines a pathway to reaching carbon neutrality by 2045.

As stated in Section 3.III, Air Quality, SCAQMD has adopted CEQA air quality guidance that includes quantitative thresholds of significance and has recommended mitigation measures for criteria air pollutants. However, SCAQMD has not established thresholds of significance for GHGs with regard to land use projects or construction. The last action by the SCAQMD Governing Board was from December 2008 when the SCAQMD Governing Board adopted an interim GHG significance threshold for industrial (stationary source) projects where SCAQMD is the lead agency. For the purposes of this analysis, GHG emissions are disclosed for informational purposes and compared to the 10,000 $MTCO_2e$[3]/year threshold, which is SCAQMD's threshold for industrial facilities, for reference only. The City of Long Beach has developed a Climate Action Plan (LB CAP) in August 2022. The LB CAP sets a goal for net zero emissions by 2045 (City of Long Beach 2022). The Project was evaluated for consistency with SB 32, CARB's 2022 Scoping Plan, and City of Long Beach's CAP.

Impact Analysis

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

[3] $MTCO_2e$ = Metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.

The Project would generate GHG emissions during construction from the following: use of construction equipment, truck trips associated with hauling of pipe, concrete, and other construction materials, and vehicle trips associated with commute of construction workers. Construction GHG emissions from the Project have been estimated based on the construction schedule, phasing, labor, and equipment projections presented in Section 2. Project Description. The Project-specific data was populated into the CalEEMod version 2020.4.0. The CalEEMod inputs, assumptions, and outputs are presented in Appendix A. Total construction GHG emissions from the Project are estimated to be approximately 1,221 MT CO_2e. Amortized over the 20-year lifetime of the Project, construction GHG emissions would be approximately 61 $MTCO_2e$/year. (Construction emissions are typically amortized over 30 years, but the projected lifetime of this Project is 20 years.[4]) The Project's GHG emissions during construction would be well below the 10,000 $MTCO_2e$/year reference threshold considered for this analysis, see Appendix A for details. Therefore, impacts during construction would be less than significant and no mitigation would be required.

Once construction is complete, operation and maintenance of the pipeline and Flow Control/Pressure Reducing Station would include systematic repairs to the sanitary sewer system and belowground infrastructure. It is assumed that no heavy-duty diesel trucks would be used and that worker trips would be limited to ten or less one-way trips per day. As energy consumption is not anticipated to increase during Project operation, associated GHG emissions would be comparable to existing conditions and would not be substantial. Indirect GHG emissions from HGS were addressed in the *Haynes Generating Station Unit 8 Recycled Water Cooling System Retrofit Project* IS/MND dated November 2021 and were found to be less than significant. Therefore, there would be a less than significant impact to GHG emissions during operations and no mitigation would be required.

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

As discussed under a) above, the Project's construction GHG emissions would not exceed the reference threshold. As previously described, the Project would not generate additional GHG emissions compared to existing conditions during operation. As a result, the Project would not conflict with the State's goals of reducing GHG emissions to 40 percent reduction below 1990 levels by 2030 as noted in SB 32 and achieving carbon neutrality by 2045 as noted in the 2022 Scoping Plan. Further, the Project does not include components that would conflict with implementation of the LB CAP to achieve net zero emissions by 2045 and is consistent with the LB CAP consistency review checklist. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with any state or regional GHG emission reduction goals, resulting in no impact. No mitigation would be required.

[4] The 20-year time horizon was provided by the client in response to the data needs request.

IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the likely release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☒	☐	☐
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

A regulatory records search was conducted by Environmental Data Resources, Inc. (EDR) for the Project footprint and a ¼-mile buffer on April 20, 2023, to identify any potential sites included on a list of hazardous materials databases compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (Appendix D). The results of the records search indicated four addresses with 65 federal and state database listing records located within the Project footprint as shown below in Table 3-5. 307 listing records were identified within a ¼-mile buffer of the Project footprint. See Appendix D for details.

Table 3-5. Sites in the Project Footprint, and Associated Databases

Site Name	Address	Databases Listed
Long Beach Water Reclamation Plant	7400 E. Willow Street, Long Beach, CA	ICIS, FINDS, ECHO, HWTS, HAZNET, RCRA NONGEN/NLR, WDS, PFAS, SWEEPS UST, HIST UST, CA FID UST, NPDES, CIWQS, CERS, LA COUNTY HMS, ERNS, CHMIRS, AST, CERS HAZ WASTE, CERS TANKS, EMI, ENF, WDR, RMP
Leo J. Vander Lans Advanced Water Treatment Facility/Alamitos Barrier Recycled Water Project	7380 E. Willow Street, Long Beach, CA	RCRA NONGEN/NLR, CERS, CIWQS, FINDS, ECHO, HWTS, CERS HAZ WASTE, NPDES, WDR
Rossmoor Pump Station	7500 E. Willow Street, Long Beach, CA	FINDS, ECHO, HWTS, HAZNET, CIWQS, RCRA NONGEN/NLR
LA County DPW Flood Control District Outfall LCCH-027F	E. Atherton Street/Stevely Avenue, Long Beach, CA	HWTS, HAZNET

Source: Environmental Data Resources, Inc. (EDR), 2023. EDR Area/Corridor Report for the HGS FM IS/MND (Inquiry No. 7313726.3s). Prepared April 20, 2023.

There are six schools located within the vicinity of the Project Study Area. These schools are listed below:

- Charles F Kettering Elementary School, 550 Silvera Ave, Long Beach
- Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science, 1100 Iroquois Avenue, Long Beach
- Tincher Child Development Center, 1701 Petaluma Avenue, Long Beach
- Lee Elementary School, 11481 Foster Road, Los Alamitos
- Jack L. Weaver Elementary School, 88172 Wembley Road, Los Alamitos
- Oak Middle School, 10821 Oak St, Los Alamitos

The Project Study Area is located within the Joint Forces Training Base Los Alamitos Airport Influence Area (Orange County Airport Commission 2017). The Project Study Area is approximately 2.5-miles to 3.1-miles southeast of the Long Beach Airport and falls outside the planning boundary for the Airport Influence Area (Los Angeles County Airport Land Use Commission 2003).

The Project is located within Area F of the Long Beach and Signal Hill Evacuation Map, of which Interstate – 405 and 605, SR-22, and East Willow Street are designated as disaster routes (Los Angeles County Department of Public Works 2023). The applicable emergency operation plans for the Project Study Area are the City of Seal Beach Emergency Operations Plan (City of Seal Beach 2023) and the City of Long Beach Emergency Operations Plan (City of Long Beach 2015).

Impact Analysis

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

Project construction would involve the incidental transport and use of small quantities of common hazardous materials to operate construction equipment, such as oils, lubricants, and fuels, as well as

construction materials, such as asphalt and concrete. Hazardous materials would be handled in limited quantities and stored at the designated staging areas located at the Long Beach WRF and LADWP's HGS (Figure 2-5), which are restricted to public access and located away from environmentally sensitive areas. If used, transported, and stored or disposed of properly, these materials do not pose a substantial risk or hazard to the public or the environment.

Project operations and maintenance would require infrequent use of very limited amounts of hazardous materials in accordance with the LACSD Sewer System Management Plan, the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) Sewer System Management Plan, and the Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (OCSD 2022, LACSD 2019, Los Angeles County 2017). State hazardous waste regulations are contained primarily in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. The California Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) has developed rules and regulations regarding worker safety around hazardous and toxic substances. Potential impacts associated with the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials, would be limited to construction activities. Impacts would be less than significant.

b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the likely release of hazardous materials into the environment?

Accidental spills or releases of hazardous materials during Project construction in areas could potentially result in the exposure of workers, the public, and the environment to hazardous materials. However, as discussed in Threshold IX(a) above, Project activities would only require use of minor amounts of hazardous substances during construction, and construction would be subject to the preparation of a Health and Safety Plan or Hazardous Materials Management Plan. Trenchless construction may require the use of drilling fluids; however, typical drilling fluid components are not hazardous materials and the used bentonite would be disposed of consistent with State and Local regulations. The most common additive to drilling fluids is bentonite, a naturally occurring type of clay. Drilling mud is recovered at both the entry and exit hole, pumped into tanks, and transported back to the rig location for cleaning and eventual reuse.

Long-term operation and maintenance of the sewer force main does not pose a significant hazard to the public. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

As discussed in Section 3.II, Air Quality, the Project would generate criteria air pollutant emissions and toxic air contaminants (TACs) during construction from the operation of heavy-duty construction equipment, diesel engines, truck trips associated with hauling of steel, concrete, and other construction materials, and vehicle trips associated with commute of construction workers. However, all schools in the vicinity of the Project are greater than one-quarter mile away. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

Table 3-5 lists sites in the Project footprint listed on federal and state databases for managing hazardous materials. While these sites are used to transport, store, or generate hazardous materials, none of these sites are considered hazardous materials sites pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, nor would the Project create significant hazards to the public. There are no indications of sites subject to corrective action or designated as hazardous waste property. However, because the Project is located in an area where hazardous materials are stored and transported, there is a potential for accidental discovery of undocumented soil or groundwater contamination. If hazardous soil or groundwater is discovered during construction, there is the potential for exposure to construction workers or the public. The magnitude of impact would depend on the nature and extent of any contaminated areas encountered during construction, and the subsequent handling and management of contaminated substances. This would be considered a significant impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measure HAZ-1 would reduce the impact to a level less than significant. Mitigation Measure HAZ-1 requires halting work and developing and implementing a plan to remediate the contamination and properly dispose of the contaminated material if hazardous substances are encountered.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

While the Project is located in the Joint Forces Training Base Los Alamitos Airport Influence Area, the Project does not involve new noise-sensitive land uses or safety hazards and no impact would result.

f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Operation of the Project would not impede or limit access to any designated disaster route. However, construction activities could interfere with evacuation of the community by reducing residential access as described under Section 3.XVII, Transportation.

As discussed in Threshold XVII(a), implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1 would be required. Mitigation Measure TR-1 requires the preparation and approval of a standard traffic control plan and coordination with emergency service providers prior to construction. These measures would allow emergency service providers to anticipate any closures or access restrictions in the event of an emergency. Additionally, impacts would be limited in duration to the construction phase of the project. Therefore, implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1 would reduce the impacts to a less than significant level.

g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?

The Project is located in an urban setting. No large, undeveloped areas, forests, or brushland are located on or near the Project Study Area. Therefore, there would be no impact to people or structures involving wildland fires. See Section 3.XX, Wildfire, for additional information.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure HAZ-1: Accidental Discovery of Undocumented Soil and/or Groundwater Contamination

If unidentified contaminated soil and/or groundwater are encountered, or if suspected contamination is encountered during any construction activities, work shall be halted in the area of potential exposure immediately, the lead agency will be notified, and the type and extent of contamination shall be identified. A qualified professional, in consultation with appropriate regulatory agencies, will then develop and implement a plan to remediate the contamination and properly dispose of the contaminated material.

See **TR-1** under *Section* 3.XVII, Transportation.

X. Hydrology and Water Quality

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i. result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	☐	☒	☐	☐
ii. substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	☐	☐	☒	☐
iii. create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	☐	☐	☒	☐
iv. impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Project site is located within the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and is subject to the Los Angeles Region Basin Plan. The small portion of the Project that is located in Orange County (i.e., City of Seal Beach) is in the jurisdiction of the Santa Ana RWQCB and is subject to the Santa Ana Basin Plan.

As discussed under Section 3.XI, Land Use, under current conditions, industrial wastewater, and stormwater at the HGS is discharged through the OTC flows into the San Gabriel River. A portion of stormwater is discharged to the OCFCD flood control channel located along the eastern boundary of the HGS, which flows into the 40-acre Los Alamitos Retarding Basin.

The Project is not located within a seiche zone, nor is the project located within a Special Flood Hazard Area as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) (FEMA 2023). The Project is primarily located within Zone X—area with reduced flood risk due to levee. At the College Park Drive/San Gabriel River and East Willow Street/San Gabriel River bridge crossings, the Project crosses over Zone A (Without Base Flood Elevation [FEMA 2023]). The Project is in a tsunami hazard area as identified by the California Geological Survey and Governor's Office of Emergency Services (California Geological Survey, CGS Information Warehouse: Tsunami Hazard Area Map, 2023).

Impact Analysis

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

Construction of the Project would require site clearing, utility relocation, trench excavation and sitework, paving and striping, and landscaping. During construction, surface water quality could potentially be affected by loose soils, debris, construction wastes, and fuels that could be carried off site by surface runoff, to local storm drains or the San Gabriel River.

Trenching and trenchless construction activities at the SR-22 crossing could encounter the shallow water table. If the water table is encountered, dewatering would be necessary to remove water from tunnel, launching, and receiving pits. The quantity of water is unknown and would be influenced by the local shallow aquifer character, the depth of excavation, and the duration that subsurface work is conducted. If required, any groundwater withdrawn from the construction areas would be subsequently discharged to local waterways or drainage ditches, or via land application. These discharges may contain sediments, dissolved solids, salts, and other water quality contaminants found in the shallow groundwater, which could degrade the quality of receiving waters.

Trenchless construction activities may require the use of bentonite (an inert clay) and water as a lubricant for the drilling mechanism. Standard practices dictate that drilling mud is recovered at both the entry and exit hole, pumped into tanks and transported back to the rig location for cleaning and eventual reuse. Drilling near the ground surface introduces the potential for an unplanned "frac-out[5]," in which the pressure of the bentonite generates a surface rupture, causing a release of bentonite to the ground surface or water column. Although bentonite is not toxic, it can smother aquatic habitat and increase turbidity and suspended sediments in the water column. However, because less than 400 feet of the entire pipeline installation would involve the use trenchless construction methods, and site-specific design recommendations would be provided by a licensed geotechnical or civil engineer (Mitigation Measure GS-1), these potentially significant impacts would be reduced to less than significant.

At the bridge crossing, construction would include the installation of a containment structure to prevent the discharge of bridge debris into the San Gabriel River during construction.

The Project would comply with the requirements of the SWPPP (HYD-1) which would minimize surface disturbance, stabilize and protect disturbed areas, and reduce runoff velocities. The Project would also comply with Mitigation Measure GS-1, which would require preparation of a geotechnical report identifying localized soil conditions and constraints. With implementation of Mitigation Measures GS-1 and HYD-1, potentially significant impacts would be reduced to less than significant.

b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

The Project would be served by available water supply and would not deplete groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge. No groundwater wells would be installed and the Project would not

[5] A "frac-out" or inadvertent return occurs when drilling lubricant seeps through fractures in the overlying substrate into the water column above. If a "frac-out" occurs in waterways, aquatic species such as benthic invertebrates, aquatic plants, and fish and their eggs can be smothered by the fine particles in the bentonite.

directly or indirectly withdraw groundwater during construction or operations. Limited dewatering may be required at the SR-22 crossing as discussed under Section X.a; however, this would not decrease groundwater supplies or groundwater recharge. There would be a minor reduction in stormwater and industrial wastewater discharge into the San Gabriel River outflow, and a reduction in stormwater discharge into the Los Alamitos Retarding Basin as a result of the Project. However, this reduction in outflow would not substantially impact groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge.

The Alamitos Seawater Barrier (a series of injection wells and monitoring wells that prevent seawater from contaminating the West Coast Groundwater Basin) is located south of SR-22 on the west and east sides of the San Gabriel River adjacent to the HGS. Water injected into the Alamitos Seawater Barrier is either potable water from the Metropolitan Water District, or highly purified recycled water from the Leo J. Vander Lans Advanced Water Treatment Facility. Outflows from the HGS is not used for injection at the Alamitos Seawater Barrier (Long Beach Water 2020); therefore, the Project would not impact the Alamitos Seawater Barrier or interfere with aquifer protection. Impacts would be less than significant.

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:

i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;

The Project Study Area is urban and covered with impervious surfaces (such as pavement and roofs). The Project would require minor increases in impervious areas on site where the PRS is installed; however, this area would be 300 square feet or less. Most existing stormwater flows at the HGS site are captured and transmitted to the Long Beach WRP. The sewer force main would be underground except at the bridge crossings and would not alter drainage patterns or increase erosion. Therefore, the long-term impacts would be less than significant. Short term construction impacts are potentially significant; however, with implementation of HYD-1, stormwater pollution prevention measures as detailed in the SWPPP would reduce pollutants. The Project would not substantially alter existing drainage patterns or result in offsite siltation and impacts would be reduced to less than significant.

ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;

Installation of new pipeline would primarily be located below ground, using trenching or trenchless construction methods. The PRS would increase impervious areas as discussed under Section X.c(i) above; however, this increase would not substantially increase runoff or increase flooding risk. The Project would avoid the San Gabriel River, and not impede or redirect flood flows. Therefore, impacts are less than significant.

iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or

The Project would comply with federal, state, and local regulations related to stormwater drainage and runoff. A SWPPP would be prepared for the project construction to minimize the discharge of pollutants during construction. No substantial increase of runoff would occur. Compliance with the SWPPP would minimize runoff effects. Impacts would be less than significant.

iv) impede or redirect flood flows?

See response to cii; the project would not impede or restrict flood flows and no impacts would be less than significant.

d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

The Project is in a Tsunami Hazard Area but the risk of pollutants due to project inundation is low. While sewer and water systems can be affected by flooding associated with tsunami events, the proposed sewer force main would not connect to drinking water supplies and existing and proposed isolation valves in the LBUD sewer system would minimize the risk of pollutant release. Potential inundation hazards from a tsunami are less than significant.

e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

The Project would not substantially degrade water quality, significantly deplete groundwater supplies, or interfere with groundwater recharge, or otherwise conflict with the Los Angeles Region Basin Plan or Santa Ana Basin Plan. Therefore, no impact related to the Basin Plans would result.

Mitigation Measure HYD-1: Prepare Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

A SWPPP will be prepared for the project construction in accordance with the NPDES Construction General Permit (Order 2022-0057-DWQ) requirements. A Qualified Stormwater Developer (QSD)

shall develop the SWPPP, and a Qualified Stormwater Practitioner (QSP) shall implement the measures as delineated in the SWPPP. The objectives of the SWPPP are to identify sources of pollution associated with construction activity and project operations that may affect the quality of stormwater runoff that could discharge from the site and to design and implement stormwater pollution prevention measures to reduce pollutants. The SWPPP shall include best management practices that require containment of the construction area for portions of the project alignment that extend along bridges and over open water.

XI. Land Use and Planning

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

The Project is located within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City of Long Beach General Plan, City of Seal Beach General Plan, and City of Long Beach Southeast Area Specific Plan. Zoning in the Project Study Area is Public ROW, Residential, Park, Commercial, Institutional, and Open Space.

Impact Analysis

a) Physically divide an established community?

The Project would not physically divide an established community, as the alignment would be below grade or along existing bridges and primarily contained within a combination of unpaved, utility rights-of-way and paved roadways. In addition, the PRS would be located on the existing WRF. However, construction would temporarily disrupt existing land uses and limit access to certain areas, in particular the College Estates Neighborhood. During certain phases of construction such as trench excavation and sitework, temporary road closures may be required which may limit circulation and connectivity as described under Section 3.XVII, Transportation.

However, construction of the Project would be temporary, and these impacts would result over a duration of 12-months. Once the new infrastructure has been constructed, surfaces that were disturbed would be restored to previous conditions and no physical structures would block, restrict, or otherwise divide an established community. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

Consistency With Land Use Plans

Each plan or plan element was reviewed in determining consistency with the Project. See Table 3-6, Land Use Plans and Consistency with the Project.

Table 3-6. Land Use Plans and Consistency with the Project

Planning Document	Policy	Consistency With the Project
City of Long Beach		
Air Quality Element, Part 1, and Part 2	The City of Long Beach General Plan's Air Quality Element was last adopted in 1996. Its main objectives include: establish policy that will guide future land use and transportation decisions in the city; implement regional air quality plans; heighten awareness of air quality efforts and impacts in the community; and promote greater collaboration among all levels of government to solve air quality problems.	The Project would not conflict with the implementation of the City of Long Beach General Plan's Air Quality Element as it would not substantially increase vehicle trips and any resulting emissions in the long term. As discussed under Section 3.III. Air Quality, the Project would not exceed the SCAQMD construction thresholds for criteria air pollutant emissions. Construction emissions would be controlled by rules and regulations from CARB and SCAQMD to limit fugitive dust and exhaust from idling.
Conservation Element	The City of Long Beach Conservation Element is directed towards recognizing natural resources and areas of special interest. It includes goals related to soils, water, marine biota, mineral resources, wildlife and vegetation, habitats, and planning.	The Project does not impact open space or coastal areas identified in the Conservation Element, nor does it conflict with the goals related to conservation practices. The Project supports water conservation goals in the identified in the Conservation Element through beneficial reuse of industrial wastewater and stormwater.
Historic Preservation Element	The City of Long Beach Historic Preservation Element outlines a vison for future historic preservation efforts and action needed to achieve the vision.	The Project would not alter historic properties or historic districts, or otherwise impede the City's ability to fulfill State Office of Historic Preservation requirements. The Project is consistent with the City of Long Beach Historic Preservation Element.
Land Use Element	The City of Long Beach General Plan, Land Use Element states "New infrastructure or capital projects shall be examined for consistency on the bases of their ability to implement the goals, objectives and policies of the Land Use Plan" and "Environmental documentation (including environmental impact reports and statements, mitigated and negative declarations and addendums) are considered consistent when the project approvals and findings conform with the goals and policies of this Land Use Element." The 2019 Land Use Element establishes 14 primary "PlaceTypes" that would divide the City into distinct neighborhoods, thus allowing for greater flexibility and a mix of compatible land uses within these areas. Each PlaceType is defined by unique land use, form, and character defining goals, polices, and implementation strategies tailored specifically to the application of that PlaceType within the City.	No land use changes are proposed under the Project and urban development patterns would remain unchanged. The Project would facilitate the beneficial use of industrial wastewater and stormwater discharge for use at the Long Beach WRF, which serves approximately 250,000 people at over 60 sites. Thereby, supporting Goal No. 7: "Provide reliable public facilities and infrastructure to encourage investment." The Project is primarily located in the Founding and Contemporary Neighborhood PlaceType and the northern portion of the Project is in the Open Space PlaceType. The Project would not conflict with the allowed uses, development patterns, transitions between land uses, accessibility, or general parking principles of these PlaceTypes. The Project is consistent with the City of Long Beach Land Use Element.

Table 3-6. Land Use Plans and Consistency with the Project

Planning Document	Policy	Consistency With the Project
Mobility Element	The City of Long Beach Mobility Element provides goals and strategies for improving the mobility of critical resources such as water and energy. Strategy No. 19 states: "Promote well-maintained water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure systems that serve the demands of existing and future residents and businesses while mitigating environmental impacts."	The Project would not change the existing transportation system, nor would it change the mobility of people or goods once constructed. During construction, short term impacts regarding the mobility of people would result as described under Section 3.XVII, Transportation. However, these impacts are not in conflict with the goals, strategies, or policies of the Mobility Element. The Project would support mobility of resources Strategy No. 19. The Project is consistent with the City of Long Beach Mobility Element.
Noise Element	The City of Long Beach Noise Element categorizes the major sources of noise and provides recommended criteria for maximum acceptable noise levels.	The Project is located in industrial and commercial land use types. Once constructed, the project would not increase ambient noise levels in these land use types. During construction, the contractor would adhere to construction activity noise regulations (City of Long Beach Municipal Code 8.90.202), and mitigation measure NOI-2 would ensure noise-reducing construction practices are utilized as recommended in the Noise Element (see Section 3.XIII, Noise). The Project is consistent with the City of Long Beach Noise Element.
Public Safety Element	The City of Long Beach Public Safety Element provides goals for public safety, including management, development, protection, and remedial action goals.	The Project does not pose a new safety hazard, nor does it exacerbate existing hazards. The Project does not conflict with any goals for public safety. The Project is consistent with the City of Long Beach Public Safety Element.
Seismic Safety Element	The City of Long Beach Seismic Safety Element provides an analysis of seismic factors and recommendations for improved seismic safety. These primarily relate to the construction of buildings.	Except for the flow control/pressure reducing station, the Project does not involve the construction of buildings or above grade structures. The flow control/pressure reducing structure would adhere to uniform building codes. The Project is consistent with the City of Long Seismic Safety Element.
City of Long Beach Southeast Area Specific Plan (SEASP)	The SEASP regulates land use through the application of 11 land use designations, each of which identifies specific development standards.	College Park Drive is in the Right of Way/Caltrans Open Space designation, and the HGS is in the Industrial land use designation. The Project is consistent with the development standards for these land use designations. As discussed under *Section* 3.I, Aesthetics, view corridors and gateways identified in the SEASP would not be impacted. The Project is consistent with the City of Long Beach SEASP.

Table 3-6. Land Use Plans and Consistency with the Project

Planning Document	Policy	Consistency With the Project
City of Seal Beach		
Circulation Element	The City of Seal Beach Circulation Element provides goals, objectives, and policies for providing a circulation system that adequately serves the development intensity anticipated in the Land Use Element.	While short-term traffic impacts may occur as described under *XVII, Transportation*, the Project would not change the overarching circulation system nor would it impact development intensity. The Project is consistent with the City of Seal Beach Circulation Element.
Cultural Resources Element	The City of Seal Beach Cultural Resource Element provides local policies to guide implementation of cultural resource preservation. Policy 5 states: "Assess development proposals for potential impacts to significant archaeological resources…"	The Project would not alter historic properties or historic districts, or known archaeological resources. The Project would not conflict with goals, objectives, and policies in the Cultural Resource Element. A cultural resource survey was prepared in accordance with Policy 5. See Section 3.V, Cultural Resources, for details.
Land Use Element	The Project is in Planning Area 4 – College Park, which is predominately developed with single-family residential, commercial, and open space/recreational uses.	According to the Land Use Element, there are no goals or policies which specifically address public infrastructure improvements within Planning Area 4. The Project would be consistent with applicable land use plans, policies, and regulations, as installation of sewer and stormwater facilities would not change existing land use within the Project Study Area or adjoining properties. The Project is consistent with the City of Seal Beach Land Use Element.
Noise Element	The City of Seal Beach Noise Element requires construction activities to comply with limits established in the City Noise Ordinance. Specifically, limiting noise associated with construction and grading between 7:00 am and 8:00 pm on weekdays; and between 8:00 and 8:00 PM on Saturdays. In addition, the Noise Ordinance require the construction of barriers to mitigate sound emissions where necessary and feasible to protect outdoor noise sensitive land uses.	Project-related construction activities would occur during normal City working hours, weekdays between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. As described under Mitigation Measure NOI-2, sound barriers would be utilized to mitigate noise impacts (see Section 3.XIII, Noise*)*. The Project is consistent with the City of Seal Beach Noise Element.
Safety Element	The Safety Element provides policies related to emergency planning and response.	The Project does not pose a new safety hazard, nor does it exacerbate existing hazards. The Project is consistent with the City of Seal Beach Safety Element.

The following general plan elements are not applicable to this project: City of Long Beach Housing Element, City of Long Beach Local Coastal Program Element, City of Long Beach Open Space and Recreation Element, City of Long Beach Urban Design Element, City of Seal Beach Growth Management Element, City of Seal Beach Housing Element, City of Seal Beach Open Space Element.

Consistency with Zoning

Construction of the sewer force main would occur along existing ROWs and the flow control/pressure reducing station would be constructed at the Long Beach WRF which is zoned as light industrial use. No conflicts with zoning would result and no rezoning would be required.

Urban Water Management Plans

Urban water suppliers are required by California state law to submit an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) roughly every five years. LBUD is an urban water supplier, and therefore was required to submit a 2020 UWMP. The 2020 UWMP describes demand for water in the service area; the degree to which LBUD will be able to meet demands under drought conditions; actions that would be taken in the event of a reduction in water supplies; and uses of water and conservation activities in the service area. In addition, the City of Seal Beach is a retail water supplier and has its own UWMP that overlaps with the Project. Consistency with the LBUD and City of Seal Beach UWMPs was evaluated by assessing if the Project could impact the supply, demand, and conservation targets of water as written in the LBUD and City of Seal Beach UWMPs.

As described under the project description, currently industrial wastewater and stormwater at the HGS is discharged through the OTC flows into the San Gabriel River. A portion of stormwater is discharged to the OCFCD flood control channel located along the eastern boundary of the HGS, which flows into the 40-acre Los Alamitos Retarding Basin owned by the Orange County Flood Control District. Stormwaters flow into the Retarding Basin and then are pumped into the San Gabriel River. Water from the San Gabriel River flows into the Pacific Ocean.

Under the Project and in conjunction with the HGS Unit 8 Recycled Water Cooling System Retrofit Project, industrial wastewater (2.766 MGD) and stormwater (0.075 MGD) would be routed to the Long Beach WRF for reuse. As such, there would be a reduction in stormwater and industrial wastewater discharge into the San Gabriel River outflow, and a reduction in stormwater discharge into the Los Alamitos Retarding Basin. However, neither area supply water to LBUD or the City of Seal Beach, nor do these areas replenish groundwater basins. The City of Long Beach relies on groundwater extracted locally from the Central Basin to meet customer water demand, and purchases imported water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to make up the different between demand and groundwater supplies. The City of Seal Beach relies on imported potable water supply from the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) and groundwater from the Orange County Groundwater Basin managed by the Orange County Water District.

The additional 2.766 MGD of industrial wastewater and 0.075 MGD of stormwater that would become available at the WRF after the Project is implemented would contribute to recycled uses including landscape irrigation, golf course irrigation, energy production, and seawater barrier intrusion (after secondary treatment at the Leo J. Vanders Lans Advanced Water Treatment Facility). Any recycled water that is not conveyed into the recycled water distribution system or used at Vanders Lans Advanced Water Treatment Facility, is discharged into Coyote Creek outfall.

The Project would not impact demand, water supplies, or conservation targets. As such, it would not conflict with either UWMP.

LACSD Sphere of Influence Amendment and Annexation

The HGS is currently located outside of the LACSD's adopted SOI. As part of the Project, the LACSD proposes to expand its SOI to include the HGS as described under Section 2, LACSD Sphere of Influence Amendment and Annexation (Figure 2-7). No changes or reasonably foreseeable changes in the types, intensity, and manner of service in the SOI amendment area and annexation area are anticipated as a result of approval, nor would any changes to existing City zoning be required.

Summary

Upon approval of the requested discretionary actions by the cities of Long Beach and Seal Beach, the Project would not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation for the City of Seal Beach. No amendments to lands use plans are required. Therefore, less than significant impacts would result, and no mitigation measures are required.

XII. Mineral Resources

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

No known mineral resources are mapped within the Project Study Area. Additionally, no mineral resource areas delineated in the City of Long General Plan or City of Seal Beach General Plan occur in the Project Study Area (City of Long Beach 2019, City of Seal Beach 2003). No active mineral claims are located within the Project Study Area. No active mineral claims are located within the vicinity of the Project.

Impact Analysis

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

Implementation of the project would not result in the loss of availability of known mineral resources. Therefore, no impact would result.

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?

The Project would not result in the loss of availability of locally important mineral resource recovery sites or known mineral resources are delineated on a local, general, specific, or other land use plan. No impact would result.

XIII. Noise

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project result in:				
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

City Noise Standards

Noise is regulated under the noise ordinances of the City of Long Beach and the City of Seal Beach. Section 8.80.202 Construction Activity of the Long Beach Municipal Code establishes exterior noise level standards for different land uses in the City, within which the Project is located. The Seal Beach Noise Ordinance is found in Chapter 7.15 of the City of Seal Beach's municipal code. It sets exterior noise level standards for different land uses in Seal Beach which a portion of the Project is within.

The Project is located predominately in Long Beach Noise District 1 (Section 8.80.160, Noise District Map). Noise District 12 is subject to a 50 A-weighted decibel (dBA) noise limit during the day.

Section 8.80.150B of the Long Beach Noise Ordinance states that:

> *No person shall operate or cause to be operated any source of sound at any location within the incorporated limits of the City or allow the creation of any noise on property owned, leased, occupied, or otherwise controlled by such person, which causes the noise level when measured from any other property, either incorporated or unincorporated, to exceed:*
>
> 1. *The noise standard for that land use district for a cumulative period of more than 30 minutes in any hour; or*
> 2. *The noise standard plus 5 decibels for a cumulative period of more than 15 minutes in any hour; or*
> 3. *The noise standard plus 10 decibels for a cumulative period of more than 5 minutes in any hour; or*
> 4. *The noise standard plus 15 decibels for a cumulative period of more than 1 minute in any hour; or*
> 5. *The noise standard plus 20 decibels or the maximum measured ambient, for any period of time.*

Construction noise is separately regulated under Section 8.80.202 of the Long Beach Noise Ordinance, which restricts the hours that a person may "operate or permit the operation of any tools or equipment used for construction, alteration, repair, remodeling, drilling, demolition or any other related building activity which produce loud or unusual noise which annoys or disturbs a reasonable person of normal sensitivity." Based on this limitation, such noise associated with construction is permitted as long as the noise-generating activity occurs within specified hours. These hours include weekdays (including federal holidays) between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.[6]

The City of Seal Beach noise standards apply to all property within a designated noise zone as follows:

- Noise Zone 1: 55 dBA from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and 50 dBA from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Noise Zone 2: 65 dBA anytime
- Noise Zone 3: 70 dBA anytime

Section 7.15.015 of the Seal Beach municipal codes states:

No person shall create any noise, or allow the creation of any noise, on property owned or occupied by such person when such noise causes the noise level to exceed the following when measured from a residential property:

1. *The exterior noise standard for a cumulative period of more than 30 minutes in any hour*
2. *The exterior noise standard plus 5 db(A) for a cumulative period of more than 15 minutes in any hour.*
3. *The exterior noise standard plus 10 db(A) for a cumulative period of more than 5 minutes in any hour.*
4. *The exterior noise standard plus 15 db(A) for a cumulative period of more than one minute in any hour.*
5. *The exterior noise standard plus 20 db(A) for any period of time.*

Local Vibration Standards

Vibration is regulated under the City of Long Beach and the City of Seal Beach Municipal Code. Section 8.80.200 of the Long Beach Municipal Code establishes vibration level standards for different land uses in the City of Long Beach, within which the Project is located. The Seal Beach Vibration Ordinance is found in Chapter 11.4.10 of the City of Seal Beach's Municipal Code.

8.800.200 G

Vibration. Operating or permitting the operation of any device that creates vibration which is above the vibration perception threshold of an individual at or beyond the property boundary of the source if on private property or at one hundred fifty feet (150') (forty-six (46) meters) from the source if on a public space or public right-of-way. For the purposes of this subsection, "vibration perception threshold" means the minimum ground or structure-borne vibrational motion necessary to cause a normal person to be aware of the vibration by such directed means as, but not limited to, sensation by touch or visual observation of moving objects. The perception threshold shall be presumed to be .001 g's in the frequency range 0—30 hertz and .003 g's in the frequency range between thirty and one hundred hertz;

Chapter 11.4.10

No use, activity or process shall produce vibrations that are perceptible without instruments by a reasonable person at or beyond the property line of the site on which they are situated.

[6] Project-related construction activities would occur during normal City working hours, weekdays between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Impact Analysis

a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

Noise Impacts During Construction.

Project construction activities generally are temporary and have a short duration, resulting in periodic increases in the ambient noise environment. Construction activities would occur over approximately 12 months. Noise-generated from construction of the project would include the use of construction equipment and vehicle trips used to build the project. Typical noise levels generated by construction equipment are shown in Table 3-7, Maximum Noise Levels Generated by Construction Equipment. Operating cycles for these types of construction equipment may involve one or two minutes of full power operation followed by three to four minutes at lower power settings.

Table 3-7. Maximum Noise Levels Generated by Construction Equipment

Type of Equipment	Acoustical Use Factor[1]	Lmax at 50 Feet (dBA)	Lmax at 120 Feet (dBA)
Concrete Saw	20	90	82
Crane	16	81	73
Concrete Mixer Truck	40	79	71
Backhoe	40	78	70
Dozer	40	82	74
Excavator	40	81	73
Forklift	20	78	70
Paver	50	77	69
Roller	20	80	72
Tractor	40	84	76
Water Truck	40	80	72
Grader	40	85	77
General Industrial Equipment	50	85	77

Source: Federal Highway Administration, *Roadway Construction Noise Model (FHWA-HEP-05-054),* January 2006.
Notes:
[1] Acoustical Use Factor (percent): Estimates the fraction of time each piece of construction equipment is operating at full power (i.e., its loudest condition) during a construction operation.

Construction noise levels in the project vicinity would fluctuate depending on the particular type, number, and duration of equipment usage. The effects of construction noise largely depend on the type of construction activities occurring on any given day, noise levels generated by those activities, distances to sensitive receptors, and the existing ambient noise environment. Construction generally occurs in several phases, with each phase requiring different equipment with varying noise characteristics.

Construction activities would occur during normal City working hours, weekdays between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Personnel may arrive on site prior to 7 a.m. to conduct safety meetings and pre-construction activities but no noise generating activities would occur prior to 7 a.m. No construction activities would occur on Saturday or Sunday. These hours during which noise-generating construction

activity normally would occur fall within the limits defined in the Cities of Long Beach and Seal Beach noise ordinances.

Construction activities would not result in the generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels. Construction of the Project would not result in a violation of the construction noise regulations found in the Long Beach Municipal Code Section 8.80.202 or City of Seal Beach Municipal Code Chapter 7.15. However, to reduce construction noise levels at nearby residences the Project would implement Mitigation Measures NOI-1: Comply with Noise Abatement Ordinance and NOI-2: Employ Noise-Reducing Construction Practices. Implementation of Mitigation Measures NOI-1 and NOI-2 would reduce the potential ambient noise impacts to a less than significant level by restricting the time of day which construction would occur and employing noise reducing construction practices. No exceedance of noise standards is anticipated.

Operational Noise Impacts

Operational sources of noise would be restricted to the HGS and Long Beach WRF, and occasional maintenance trips. The Project would not exceed either daytime or nighttime noise level standards, as established in the local noise ordinances of Long Beach and Seal Beach. Operation of the Project would not result in the generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels a less than significant impact is expected to occur.

b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

Vibration Impacts during Construction

There are generally two forms of impacts that should be addressed: damage to buildings and annoyance to individuals or community. Human annoyance occurs when construction vibration rises significantly above the threshold of human perception for extended periods of time. The groundborne vibration levels set by the City of Long Beach is based on human perception in terms of acceleration level in g's. Groundborne vibration levels can be described in terms of acceleration of velocity. Since the published levels for typical construction equipment are expressed in terms of velocity the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) guidelines are used to evaluate potential impacts related to construction vibration for both potential building damage and human annoyance. Typical vibration produced by construction equipment is detailed in Table 3-8, Typical Vibration Levels for Construction Equipment.

Table 3-8. Typical Vibration Levels for Construction Equipment

Equipment	Approximate peak particle velocity at 5 feet (inches/second)	Approximate peak particle velocity at 15 feet (inches/second)	Approximate peak particle velocity at 25 feet (inches/second)
Loaded Trucks	0.850	0.160	0.076
Large Bulldozers	0.995	0.191	0.089
Small Bulldozer/Tractors	0.034	0.006	0.002

Source: Federal Transit Administration, *Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual*, September 2018.

Notes:

NA = Not Applicable Calculated using the following formula:

Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) *equip* = PPV*ref* x (25/D)1.5

where: PPV (equip) = the peak particle velocity in in/sec of the equipment adjusted for the distance

PPV (ref) = the reference vibration level in in/sec from Table 12-2 of the FTA *Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Guidelines*

D = the distance from the equipment to the receiver

Construction activities generate varying degrees of groundborne vibration, depending on the construction procedure and equipment used. Construction equipment generates vibrations that spread through the ground and diminish in amplitude with distance from the source. The effect of buildings located in the vicinity of the construction site often varies dependent on soil type, ground strata, and construction characteristics of the receptor. The results from vibration range from no perceivable effects to slight damage at the highest levels.

Construction activities from implementing the Project would result in groundborne vibration. The primary sources of groundborne vibration associated with project construction include using open-cut trenching and trenchless construction. Construction of the Project would require a backhoe and other trenching equipment, while trenchless construction activities would require a trencher and boring machine or jack and boring percussive hammer. Vibration from these typical construction activities is below the threshold of perception when the activity is more than 50 feet from the receiver. However, construction will occur within 50-feet of residences along Salida Avenue, East Lees Way, and Stevely Avenue. Construction-related vibration at residences could be noticeable. As indicated in Tale 3.8-2, based on the FTA data, vibration velocities from typical construction equipment would range from .34 to 0.995 inch/second PPV at 25 feet from the source of the activity. Construction groundborne vibration would exceed the human annoyance criterion and structural damage criterion. Therefore, Mitigation Measure NOI-3 would be required during construction to reduce vibration impacts to a less than significant level by requiring the contractor to utilize a vibration monitoring system and conducting sensitivity training with construction personnel.

c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

The Project ranges from approximately 2.5-miles to 3.1-miles from the Long Beach Airport and 1.5-miles to 2.1-miles from the Joint Forces Base, Los Alamitos, and falls within the Airport Planning Area. However, the Project is outside the 60 and 65 dBA noise contour impact zones of the Joint Forces Training (OCALUC 2017). No new noise sensitive land uses would occur. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure NOI-1: Comply with Noise Abatement Ordinance.

All construction contractors shall comply with the City of Long Beach and City of Seal Beach construction noise ordinances and noise levels allowable based on current land use designation. Construction shall not be allowed between 7 AM and 7 PM Monday through Friday and 9 AM to 6PM on Saturdays. Nighttime construction activities will be prohibited.

Mitigation Measure NOI-2: Employ Noise-Reducing Construction Practices.

Construction contractor shall identify and employ noise-reducing construction practices. This provision shall be reflected in contract documents. Measures that may be used to limit noise consistent with the Long Beach Noise Ordinance and Seal Beach noise standards include, but are not limited to:

a. locating equipment as far a practical from noise sensitive uses,

b. using mufflers on all standard equipment,

c. selecting haul routes that affect the fewest number of people,

d. using noise-reducing enclosures around noise-generating equipment,

e. constructing barriers between noise sources and noise-sensitive land uses or taking advantage of existing barrier features (terrain, structures) to block sound transmission, and

f. enclosing equipment.

Mitigation Measure NOI-3: Vibration Monitoring.

The following measures shall be incorporated on all grading and building plans and specifications subject to approval of LBUD prior to issuance of a demolition or grading permit:

- The contractor shall utilize a construction vibration monitoring system with the potential to measure low levels of vibration to minimize and avoid human annoyance and structural damage in accordance with local vibration standards. If the human annoyance criterion and the structural damage criterion are exceeded, construction must cease, and alternate strategies shall be employed in coordination with a qualified acoustical engineer.
- Conduct sensitivity training to inform construction personnel about the existing sensitive receptors surrounding the project alignment and about methods to reduce noise and vibration.

XIV. Population and Housing

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Project footprint occurs in an urban area and traverses existing commercial, public, and residential uses adjacent to the San Gabriel River. Existing housing consists of single-family residential homes.

Impact Analysis

a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

The Project involves the construction of a sewer force main to facilitate beneficial reuse of industrial wastewater and stormwater and would neither construct or expand any housing units, nor result in any increase in commercial retail areas. Additionally, operation of the Project is not expected to generate any vehicle trips above existing conditions; therefore, the project is not anticipated to result in the indirect growth of employees and retail customers in the Project Study Area. Construction workers would be hired from the local surrounding area, and the Project would not result in substantial numbers of additional people moving into the Project Study Area for employment. Therefore, impacts related to unplanned population growth would be less than significant.

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

The Project involves the construction of a sewer force main that would largely be contained underground once constructed. No housing would be constructed as part of the Project. Therefore, the Project would not result in an impact to the displacement of existing people or housing necessitating the construction of replacement housing. No impact would occur.

XV. Public Services

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) 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:				
i. Fire Protection?	☐	☒	☐	☐
ii. Police Protection?	☐	☒	☐	☐
iii. Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iv. Parks?	☐	☐	☒	☐
v. Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Fire prevention, fire suppression and life safety services in the Project Study Area are provided by the Long Beach Fire Department (LBFD) and the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) (City of Seal Beach). The nearest fire stations to the Project are LBFD Station 22 (6340 E Atherton Street, Long Beach; 0.7 miles west of the Project), OCFA Fire Station 2 (3642 Green Avenue, Los Alamitos; 1 miles east of the Project), and OCFA Station 48 (3131 North Gate Road, Seal Beach, 1 miles east of the Project). The Project is in the East Patrol Division of the Long Beach Police Department and the Seal Beach Police Department.

There are six schools within a quarter mile of the Project Study Area. Those are Charles F Kettering Elementary School, 550 Silvera Ave, Long Beach; Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science, 1100 Iroquois Avenue, Long Beach; Tincher Child Development Center, 1701 Petaluma Avenue, Long Beach; Lee Elementary School, 11481 Foster Road, Los Alamitos; Oak Middle School, 10821 Oak St, Los Alamitos; and Jack L. Weaver Elementary School, 88172 Wembley Road, Los Alamitos. No schools occur in the Project Study Area. Refer to Figure 3-1 for precise locations of schools in relation to the Project Study Area. Nearby parks include El Dorado Park West, College Estates Park, and Edison Park.

Other public facilities include libraries, community centers, and recreation facilities; none of which occur the Project Study Area.

Impact Analysis

a) 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:

i) Fire Protection?

The Project does not include the development of new occupiable buildings or other buildings that would increase demand on the Long Beach Fire Department or Orange County Fire Authority, nor would it require a need for increased fire protection services or new fire protection infrastructure. No construction activities or route closures would block the entrance or exit of a fire station. Construction activities may temporarily increase traffic which could slow fire response times to the residential areas in the College Estates neighborhood. This represents a potentially significant impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1 (prepare standard traffic control plan) would reduce the potential impact to a level less than significant by providing advanced notice of lane closures and detours with LBFD and OCFA.

ii) Police Protection?

The Project would not increase demand on the Long Beach Police Department or Seal Beach Police Department, nor would the project require police protection services. During construction, there is the potential for police response times to be impacted to residential areas College Estates neighborhood. This represents a potentially significant impact. However, as described above, routes closures and detours would be provided to emergency service providers (TR-1) and no construction activities or route closures would block the entrance or exit of a police station. Implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1 would reduce the potential impacts to a level less than significant.

iii) Schools?

No school facilities would be displaced during or after construction, nor would the project induce population growth that would necessitate the expansion of school services to serve new residents (see Section 3.III and Section 3.IX for additional information related to schools in the project vicinity). No impacts would result.

iv) Parks?

The Project would not displace any parks; however, access may be impacted as discussed under Section 3.XVI, Recreation. Impacts would be less than significant.

v) Other public facilities?

The Project would not result in substantial physical impacts to other public facilities. No impacts would result.

Mitigation Measures

See TR-1 under Section 3.XVII, Transportation

XVI. Recreation

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

The Project Study Area contains the following park and recreational resources:

Trails

San Gabriel River Bike Trail – a multi-use paved trail running north-south from Azusa to Seal Beach. This trail has access points from the Project at both ends where the project crosses the trail along College Park Drive and at East Willow Street.

Regional Park

El Dorado Park West – located in the City of Long Beach. This park is 272.5 acres (Area I of El Dorado Regional Park). The park offers senior and after school programming for youth recreation, adult classes, and a senior center. Amenities include baseball/softball field, basketball court, community center, picnic areas, playground, multi-use courts, roller hockey court, skate park, soccer fields, restrooms, and tennis courts.

Neighborhood Parks

College Estates Park – located in the City of Long Beach. The park is 2.3-acres in size. It includes basketball courts, community center, playground, tennis court, picnic area, restrooms, and a sports field.

Edison Park – located in the City of Seal Beach. The park is 10-acres that includes basketball courts, community garden, picnic areas, soccer fields, softball fields, tot lot and volleyball courts.

Impact Analysis

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?

The Project involves constructing an underground sewer force main to convey industrial wastewater and stormwater runoff. There are two neighborhood parks, one regional park, and the San Gabriel River Trail within a quarter mile of the Project. The Project is adjacent to a regional park, El Dorado Park West and two neighborhood parks, College Estates Park in the City of Long Beach and Edison Park in the City of Seal Beach.

The Project does not propose any residential uses that would directly or indirectly result in a substantial and unplanned increase in population growth. As such implementation of the project is not expected to result in the physical deterioration of either Edison Park or El Dorado Park West. The Project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood parks or regional parks, specifically El Dorado Park West and Edison Park in the City of Long Beach or Seal Beach and surrounding area. The Project does not propose

any new recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Access to parks would be maintained throughout construction, and no park closures would be required.

The Project crosses the San Gabriel River Bike Trail in two different locations. At both locations the Project would be constructed above the trail, under the East College Park Drive Bridge and East Willow Street Bridge which span the San Gabriel River. Construction of the Project would require a temporary construction easement across the San Gabriel River Bike Trail. Temporary construction impacts could occur and prevent the use of the trail during construction and temporarily detour the bike trail. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1 would reduce impacts to existing recreational facilities, neighborhood and regional parks to a level less than significant by identifying detours and providing advanced notice of construction activities to the community.

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?

The Project does not propose construction of expansion of recreational facilities that would an adverse physical effect on the environment. Therefore, impacts to recreational facilities would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

See TR-1 under Section 3.XVII, Transportation.

XVII. Transportation

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Environmental Setting

Impact Analysis

a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?

The Project does not involve new land uses that are inconsistent with the current land uses in the Project Study Area. The Project is consistent with the both the City of Long Beach and Seal Beach's zoning and General Plan land use designations for the Project Study Area (see Section 3.XI, Land Use). Operation of the Project would not impact vehicular or bicycle circulation routes, as the sewer force main would be located underground or strung along existing pipeline conduit at the bridge crossings. Operation of the Project would not conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing circulation.

Construction

Construction of the Project would require construction workers, the import and export of materials and equipment, and the localized movement of equipment to and from multiple locations within the Project Study Area. The additional traffic generated during construction would consist of construction equipment, construction employee vehicles, and construction material deliveries in trucks.

Construction Detours and Local Street Closures

Construction of the Project would occur in phases and stages. Traffic detours for required street and lane closures would be identified as part of a standard traffic control plan.

- College Park Drive – alignment construction would open a trench in College Park Drive on the east and west side of the College Park Drive Bridge. College Park Drive is the only access and exit available from the College Estate Community in Seal Beach. All businesses and residents utilize this route to leave their community. During construction, traffic along College Park Drive would be reduced due to lane closures, which would require a standard traffic control plan prepared by the contractor to identify site specific mitigation for temporary construction restrictions affecting College Park Drive.
- College Park Drive / Salida Avenue – alignment construction would involve street or lane closures at this intersection and along Salida Avenue to E Lees Way. This is route is the southern access point

to the West College Estate Community in Long Beach and provides access to SR-22. Salida Avenue is the only access for homes along the West College Estate Community and East Septimo Street. During construction, traffic from the intersection of College Park Drive / Salida Avenue to East Lees Way / Salida Avenue would be reduced from lane closures and local streets could be closed. Lane and street closures would require a standard traffic control plan prepared by the contractor to identify specific mitigation for temporary construction restrictions affecting Salida Drive.

- Stevely Avenue – for the Project, the construction of the alignment would potentially involve street and lane closures along Stevely Avenue in the West College Estate Community in Long Beach. Construction activities could temporarily prevent residents from access to residential driveways. During construction, traffic along Stevely Avenue would be disrupted from construction activities. Traffic disruption would require a traffic control plan prepared by the contractor to identify specific mitigation for temporary construction restrictions affecting Stevely Avenue.

Traffic detours for any street or lane closures or detours for bicycle paths would be identified in a standard traffic control plan. Temporary construction traffic delays and detours could result in a significant impact. The Project would be required to implement Mitigation Measure TR-1, which requires the preparation and approval of a standard traffic control plan. Implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1 would reduce the impacts to a level less than significant by clearly marking detours, providing advanced notice to the community, and coordinating with applicable parties.

b) Conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?

Section 15064.3 pertains to the assessment of the project's potential transportation impacts based on the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) generated by a project. The Project involves the construction of an underground sewer force main and is not considered a transportation project. Although the project would generate vehicle trips during construction, Section 15064.3 addresses long-term permanent VMT associated with land use development projects and is not specifically concerned with construction generated VMT.

The Project does not conflict with any of the Criteria for Analyzing Transportation Impacts under CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3 subdivision (b). Therefore, a less than significant impact is expected.

c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

The Project consists of above and below sewer force main pipeline. This feature will either be buried underground or located above ground under the College Park Drive and East Willow Street bridges. Once installed, this water main would not have any design features that could increase safety hazards for the public.

During construction, the travel width of roadways would be reduced, or lane closures and detours may be implemented. As such the geometric design features of intersections and roadways along the sewer force main alignment may be impacted. At the intersections, these changes in geometric design along with the presence of construction equipment, may impact the sight distance (the length of roadway visible to a driver) and sight triangle (specified areas along an intersection's approach legs and across the included corners visible to a driver). These are potentially significant short-term impacts. Mitigation Measure TR-1 would require a TCP to identify construction traffic routes, including haul truck routes, and preferred delivery/haul out locations and hours so as to avoid heavily congested areas during peak hours, where feasible. Implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1 would reduce potential impacts to a level less than significant.

d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

Based on the review of disaster route maps for the Los Angeles County Operational Area, the Project would be located within Area F of the Long Beach and Signal Hill Evacuation Map, of which Interstate – 405 and 605, SR-22, and East Willow Street are designated as disaster routes. Construction and operations of the Project would not impede or limit access to any disaster route.

College Park Drive is the only access and exit available from the College Estate Community in Seal Beach. All businesses and residents utilize this route to leave and enter their community. During construction, traffic along College Park Drive would be reduced due to lane closures. Construction activities on College Park Drive could potentially interfere with localized emergency response and evacuation of the community.

Salida Avenue is the only access and exit for residents along it and East Septimo Street. During construction, traffic along College Park Drive would be reduced due to lane closures. Construction activities on College Park Drive could potentially interfere with localized emergency response and evacuation of the community.

Temporary construction activities in residential areas could temporarily interfere with localized emergency response and access to evacuation routes. This could result in a significant impact. Temporary construction traffic delays and detours could result in a significant impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1, which requires the preparation and approval of standard traffic control plan would reduce to the potential impact to a level less than significant.

Based on the anticipated construction-related traffic delays, this is considered a potential significant impact. Implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1 would reduce the impacts to less than significant by identifying closure schedules, detour routes, and construction traffic routes, and communicating this information to emergency service providers.

Mitigation Measure

Mitigation Measure TR-1: Prepare Standard Traffic Control Plan (TCP): During the final engineering phase and at least 30 days prior to construction, a construction TCP shall be prepared by the contractor and reviewed and approved by the lead agency, City of Long Beach/LBUD.

The lane/street and bike trail closures in the construction TCP shall be coordinated between the construction contractor, private businesses, public transit and bus operators, emergency service providers, and residents to minimize construction-related vehicular traffic impacts. During planned closures, traffic shall be re-routed to adjacent streets via clearly marked detours and notice shall be provided in advance to applicable parties (nearby residences, emergency service providers, public transit and bus operators, the bicycle community, businesses, and organizers of special events). The TCP shall identify proposed closure schedules and detour routes, as well as construction traffic routes, including haul truck routes, and preferred delivery/haul-out locations and hours so as to avoid heavily congested areas during peak hours, where feasible. The following provisions shall be included in the TCP:

- Access to adjacent residences shall be maintained during business hours via existing or temporary driveways, and residences at all times, as feasible.
- Advance notice signs shall be posted prior to construction in areas where access to residences could be affected.
- Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Long Beach, Seal Beach, and Caltrans shall be provided an opportunity to review and comment on the TCP for each phase of Project construction and notified in advance of street closures, detours, or temporary lane reductions.
- Construction activities will occur outside of peak hours.
- Proposed detour routes for pedestrian and bicycle traffic along San Gabriel River Bike Trail if required.

XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Environmental Setting

The NAHC maintains the confidential Sacred Lands File which contains sites of traditional, cultural, or religious value to the Native American community. A Sacred Lands File search request was submitted on September 7, 2022, to the NAHC and the search results were received on October 20, 2022. The search of the Sacred Lands File was negative and failed to indicate the presence of Native American tribal cultural resources in the Project Study Area.

AB 52 requires a lead agency to begin consultation with a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic areas of the Project. In accordance with AB 52, the City provided notification of the Project to all Native American tribes on the contact list provided by the NAHC. Responses requesting to consult were received from three tribes. A summary of consultation is provided below:

- Native American Consultation letters were mailed and emailed on April 6, 2023.
- A consultation meeting was requested on April 6, 2023, by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation and held on July 12, 2023. The City was provided mitigation measures from the tribal representative on August 2, 2023, which are included in this IS/MND.
- A consultation meeting was requested on April 11, 2023, by the Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California (GTIOC) and held on April 13, 2023. The City was provided mitigation measures from the tribal representative on April 14, 2023, which are included in this IS/MND.
- Consultation and information was requested on April 28, 2023, by the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes. On July 18, 2023, the tribal representative concluded consultation and agreed to the mitigation measures included in the AB 52 consultation letter, which are included in this IS/MND.

The environmental setting for tribal cultural resources is described in detail in Appendix C.

Impact Analysis

a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?

A search of the NAHC's Sacred Lands File was negative for the presence of Native American tribal cultural resources (TCRs) in the Project Study Area. AB 52 consultation also did not result in the identification of any CRHR-listed or -eligible TCRs in the Project Study Area. Therefore, the Project is not anticipated to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a TCR that is listed or determined eligible for listing in the CRHR or local register. Notwithstanding these findings, coordination with local Native American Tribes determined the need to include additional protective measures to minimize any impacts that may occur from the unanticipated discovery of TCRs during Project construction. Mitigation Measures TCR-1, TCR-2, and TCR-3 were provided by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. Mitigation Measures TCR-4, TCR-5, and TCR-6 were provided by the Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California. Mitigation Measure TCR-7 was agreed to by the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes. With the incorporation of these mitigation measures, potential impacts to undiscovered TCRs would be less than significant after mitigation.

b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?

A search of the NAHC's Sacred Lands File was negative for the presence of Native American TCRs in the Project Study Area. AB 52 consultation also did not result in the identification of any TCRs in the Project Study Area. Therefore, the Project is not anticipated to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a TCR determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to PRC 5024.1(c). Notwithstanding these findings, coordination with local Native American Tribes determined the need to include additional protective measures to minimize any impacts that may occur from the unanticipated discovery of TCRs during Project construction. Mitigation Measures TCR-1, TCR-2, and TCR-3 were provided by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. Mitigation Measures TCR-4, TCR-5, and TCR-6 were provided by the Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California. Mitigation Measure TCR-7 was agreed to by the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes. With the incorporation of these mitigation measures, potential impacts to undiscovered TCRs would be less than significant after mitigation.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures TCR-1, TCR-2, and TCR-3 were provided by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation and apply to the monitoring and treatment by this tribe.

Mitigation Measure TCR-1: Retain a Native American Monitor Prior to Commencement of Ground-Disturbing Activities.

A. The project applicant/lead agency shall retain a Native American Monitor from or approved by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. The monitor shall be retained prior to the commencement of any "ground-disturbing activity" for the subject project at all project locations (i.e., both on-site and any off-site locations that are included in the project description/definition and/or required in connection with the project, such as public improvement work). "Ground-disturbing activity" shall include, but is not limited to, demolition, pavement removal, potholing, auguring, grubbing, tree removal, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching.

B. A copy of the executed monitoring agreement shall be submitted to the lead agency prior to the earlier of the commencement of any ground-disturbing activity, or the issuance of any permit necessary to commence a ground-disturbing activity.

C. The monitor will complete daily monitoring logs that will provide descriptions of the relevant ground-disturbing activities, the type of construction activities performed, locations of ground-disturbing activities, soil types, cultural-related materials, and any other facts, conditions, materials, or discoveries of significance to the Tribe. Monitor logs will identify and describe any discovered TCRs, including but not limited to, Native American cultural and historical artifacts, remains, places of significance, etc., (collectively, tribal cultural resources, or "TCR"), as well as any discovered Native American (ancestral) human remains and burial goods. Copies of monitor logs will be provided to the project applicant/lead agency upon written request to the Tribe.

D. On-site tribal monitoring shall conclude upon the latter of the following (1) written confirmation to the Kizh from a designated point of contact for the project applicant/lead agency that all ground-disturbing activities and phases that may involve ground-disturbing activities on the project site or

in connection with the project are complete; or (2) a determination and written notification by the Kizh to the project applicant/lead agency that no future, planned construction activity and/or development/construction phase at the project site possesses the potential to impact Kizh TCRs.

Mitigation Measure TCR-2: Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural Resource Objects (Non-Funerary/Non-Ceremonial). Upon discovery of any TCRs, all construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery shall cease (i.e., not less than the surrounding 50 feet) and shall not resume until the discovered TCR has been fully assessed by the Kizh monitor and/or Kizh archaeologist. The Kizh will recover and retain all discovered TCRs in the form and/or manner the Tribe deems appropriate, in the Tribe's sole discretion, and for any purpose the Tribe deems appropriate, including for educational, cultural and/or historic purposes.

Mitigation Measure TCR-3: Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary or Ceremonial Objects.

A. Native American human remains are defined in PRC 5097.98 (d)(1) as an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Funerary objects, called associated grave goods in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, are also to be treated according to this statute.

B. If Native American human remains and/or grave goods are discovered or recognized on the project site, then Public Resource Code 5097.9 as well as Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 shall be followed.

C. Human remains and grave/burial goods shall be treated alike per California Public Resources Code section 5097.98(d)(1) and (2).

D. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment for discovered human remains and/or burial goods.

E. Any discovery of human remains/burial goods shall be kept confidential to prevent further disturbance.

Mitigation measures TCR-4, TCR-5, and TCR-6 were provided by the Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California (GTIOC) and apply to the monitoring and treatment by this tribe.

Mitigation Measure TCR-4: Retain a Native American Monitor.

A. A qualified and certified indigenous tribal member of Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California (GTIOC) and direct lineal descendant of the project site (NAGPRA section 10.14) to provide the professional Native American Monitoring required for only the *ground disturbing activity* on the site. Ground disturbances including but not limited to the removal of asphalt/cement/slurry, trenching, boring, excavation, auguring, grubbing, tree removal, grading and drilling will be monitored. The Tribal Monitor will only be required on site when these ground disturbing activities occur.

B. The GTIOC monitor will be responsible for observing all mechanical and hand labor excavations to include paddle scrappers, blade machines, front-end loaders, back hoe, boring and drill operations as well as hydraulic and electric chisels. Associated work using tools such as picks and other non-electric or gasoline tools that are not regarded as mechanical will be monitored for their soil disturbances.

C. Soils that are removed from the work site are considered culturally sensitive and are subject to inspection. These soils whether placed in a dump truck or spots piles are to be inspected. The monitor will temporarily hold excavations until a determination is made on the sensitivity of the of the soil. If the soils are sensitive, an archeological monitor will verify the find and notify site supervisor.

D. If any archaeological or paleontological, or cultural deposits, are discovered, including but not limited grave related artifacts, artifacts of traditional cultural, religious, or spiritual sites, or any other artifacts relating to the use or habitation sites, all construction shall cease within at least 50 feet of the discovery and held until the proper authorities are contacted.

E. The GTIOC monitor may make recommendations during the course of the project when a cultural area has been impacted. The GTIOC monitor will be authorized to halt or redirect excavation activities to another area as an assessment is made. Both archeological and GTIOC will work together to insure that the area is warranted as being culturally sensitive before a determination

is made. Avoidance and directing an alternative route from this culturally sensitive area is highly recommended.

F. Any artifacts associated within the site that are not associated with any burials are subject to collection by the designated archaeologist for purposes of data and information vital for their final report. The GTIOC monitor does not collect artifacts for any reason. Unauthorized removal of artifacts will jeopardize sites orientation and successful data recovery. Only a qualified archeologist will remove artifacts for their reports. The land owner will work with the GTIOC monitor to ensure that a proper repository is established. A final report will be issued to the cultural consultant by the archeological company.

G. It is the sole responsibility of the GTIOC monitor to provide the client with a written daily field report that includes photos of his/her accounting of the soil disturbances of the daily activities. This perspective of the daily activities by the GTIOC monitor will enhance the information gathered by the field archeologist. The daily report will include observations the GTIOC visually observed the project site at the beginning of each work day (i.e. weather conditions, overnight disturbances). Written daily monitoring reports will include daily observations on surface soil as well as disturbed soil. Photographic documentation is included in the daily reports. When project is completed, GTIOC will certify that work performed was done so within compliance of AB52 and SB18 within 5 days of completion of the Native American monitoring aspect of the project.

Mitigation Measure TCR-5: Procedures for the treatment and disposition of human remains and associated grave goods at Gabrielino Tongva ancestral sites.

A. **Treatment plan for human remain discovery.** The immediate cessation of work in the immediate vicinity will be implemented. The county coroner will be immediately contacted. California Health and Safety Code Sec. 7050.5 (a) Every person who knowingly mutilates or disinters, wantonly disturbs, or willfully removes any human remains in or from any location other than a dedicated cemetery without authority of law is guilty of a misdemeanor, except as provided in Section 5097.99 of the Public Resources Code.

B. The county corner and law enforcement, will evaluate and make a determination and a formal review of the find. The county coroner has the legal responsibility for determining whether or not the remains are native indigenous people.

C. If it is established that the remains are of native indigenous people, the coroner has 24 hours to contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).

D. A Most Likely Descendent (MLD) will be assigned by the NAHC to ensure the ancestor(s) will be treated with dignity and respect and shall complete their inspection and make recommendations or preferences for treatment within 48 hours (California Public Resources Code Sec. 5097.98).

The MLD may not be a Native American Monitor assigned to monitor the site where human remains were unearthed. GTIOC deems that to be a conflict of interest.

E. A certified osteologist will be retained to verify the human remains authenticity and work to help remove the ancestor(s) from the site area with the discretion and advise from the MLD. The GTIOC monitor(s) assigned to the project will assist the osteologist and archeological monitors in the recovery process. The MLD will determine where the ancestors will be housed pending a final decision for the reinterment of the ancestor(s).

F. Confidentiality. Any and all information provided about the location of an archeological or sacred site by our GTIOC cultural consultant will not be disclosed reproduced both digitally or on paper. Furthermore, the location must not be published for public viewing which includes any reports either preliminary or final and must be kept confidential to maintain the integrity and compliance of the archeological or sacred site.

Mitigation Measure TCR-6: Recovery and Reburial Procedures.

A. The Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California (GTIOC) has a goal to ensure your project falls under the compliancy guidelines that have been established by Assembly Bill 52. GTIOC is recognized by the Native American Heritage Commission and is fully qualified for the intricacies of Recovery and Reburial. In addition, we want to preserve our family's human remains and associated grave goods at ancestral sites while engaging in a meaningful and productive relationship with your team. We appreciate the opportunity to work with you in accomplishing the aforementioned.

B. Specific methods of recovery and reburial procedures have been developed and adopted by the Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California and are required to adhere to when recovering Gabrielino Tongva remains. Conditions may arise where altering some of these guidelines will be considered. Consultation with the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) and the GTIOC monitor(s) assigned to the site should then be scheduled to determine other procedures that may be acceptable to the Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Nation.

C. Excavation:

1. Consultation between the MLD and the archeological firm must take place before the recovery of the remains and during the process of extraction.
2. A 50 foot perimeter for each uncovered burial will be required to safeguard further destruction until the area is examined for additional remains and associated grave goods.
3. In the event blade machines are operating in an adjacent area, a maximum of 2” cuts or less will be permitted in all cultural areas.
4. If more than one area is being excavated for extraction of remains simultaneously, an additional GTIOC must be required. Each excavated burial will be monitored exclusively.
5. Wooden tools are preferred for process of recovery; electric chisels and other power tools should be avoided.
6. If remains are pedestaled, they will be placed on plywood for removal. If remains cannot be pedestaled due to soil conditions, remains just be carefully placed in cloth bags.
7. Soils adjacent to burials will be saved for reburial in plastic containers.
8. No photography (both film and digital) or video is allowed to be taken of the remains or the site. Drawings of remains are permitted to retain the orientation of the ancestors for reinterment purposes only. Coroner photographs of the remains may not be published for any purpose.

D. Testing:

1. DNA testing cannot be undertaken.
2. No invasive testing which would compromise the integrity of the remains is permitted.
3. Macroscopic analysis is permitted.
4. Any associated grave goods (such as shell) may be used for dating purposes of each burial.
5. When remains are unearthed, the 1’X 1’ test pits will be allowed to establish the extent of the burial area when necessary.
6. All windrows within a 50 foot area must be screened (either wet or dry).

E. Storage:

1. Natural cotton bags and sheeting or cotton drop cloths will be used to store remains until the time of reinterment. Deer or other native hides may be used to cover the bagged and wrapped remains until the reburial and may become the burial wrapping.
2. Bone fragments are also subject to be bagged in cotton.
3. Until the scope of the project is completed, storage of ancestors should be done in close proximity to location of excavation or protected area must be provided by landowner or archeologist.

F. Reburial:

1. Efforts should be made to keep the remains within the same location or in close proximity to the removal site as possible. It is preferable to repatriate the remains within a 1/2 mile radius of the original grave site. If it is not possible to identify a proper location within the 1/2 mile radius, a secure location will be valued over distance.
2. If the preponderance of remains is uncovered in or excavated from one area, the reinterment should be in that area.
3. The reburial site should offer the best long-term protection against any additional disturbances.

4. Each reburial requires approximately 4’ X 51/2’ when fully articulated and should be at a depth of 6-10 feet. The purpose of this depth is to ensure difficulty in disturbing the reburial and to allow adequate room for capping if necessary.
5. Any isolated bone fragments uncovered on site may be buried together in an individual burial pit with indigenous animal skins, sea weed, or the cotton cloth used for all bagged fragments.
6. All associated grave goods and artifacts along with soils will be buried together with the ancestors.
7. No drawings of any other images of ancestral remains may be used for publication without consultation and the approval of the GTIOC monitors and appointed MLD for the site.

G. Costs:

1. The landowner(s) will be responsible for all costs related to the proper storage and reburial of remains excavated on their property to include all burial materials as required in these procedure guidelines.
2. Landowner(s) will be financially responsible for providing reburial plots that are acceptable by the MLD.

Mitigation measure TCR-7 was agreed to by the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes and applies to the monitoring and treatment by this tribe.

Mitigation Measure TCR-7: Native American Monitoring.

A Native American monitor from the tribe or tribes identified as a consulting party for the project under AB 52 shall be present during all earth-moving construction activities. The Native American monitor shall be given the opportunity to participate in the cultural resources sensitivity training described in the CUL-1 mitigation measure. At least 30 days prior to issuance of grading permits by the City of Long Beach for each of the individual sites and any off-site improvements, a Native American Monitoring Agreement (Monitoring Agreement) shall be developed between the City and responsible agency, as applicable, and the consulting party. The Monitoring Agreement shall pertain to prehistoric archaeological resources and Tribal cultural resources, respectively, and shall identify any monitoring requirements and treatment of cultural resources to meet both the requirements of CEQA and those of the Tribal representative. The Monitoring Agreement shall also address communication protocols in the event of an unanticipated discovery of cultural materials, and the roles, responsibilities, and authorities of the Native American Monitor. The Monitoring Agreement shall also detail the protocols for treatment and final disposition of any Native American cultural resources, sacred sites, and human remains discovered on the site that the Native American Monitor shall implement in consultation and coordination with the Native American Most Likely Descendant, as identified by the NAHC. In accordance with the mitigation measure below, discovery and treatment of human remains shall comply with State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and PRC Section 5097.98.

XIX. Utilities and Service Systems

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Project occurs along utility rights-of-way and paved roadways within the City of Long Beach and a small portion in the City of Seal Beach.

Several class III landfills located within the County of Los Angeles could serve the Project, as listed in Table 3-9. The total permitted throughput for all landfills is 49,790 cubic yards per day, and approximately 174.48 million cubic yards (142.67 million tons) of total capacity remain.

Table 3-9. Available Landfill Capacity

Landfill	Location	Estimated Closing Year	Maximum Daily Capacity (cubic yards per day)	Current Remaining Capacity (million cubic yards)
Antelope Valley	Palmdale	2033	4,800	13.57
Burbank	Burbank	2130	436	4.31
Calabasas	Unincorporated Area	2034	7,292	9.09
Chiquita Canyon	Unincorporated Area	2047	12,208	55.36
Lancaster	Unincorporated Area	2101	4,000	13.16
Pebbly Beach	Unincorporated Area	2026	49	0.03
San Clemente	San Clemente Island	2040	77	0.16
Scholl Canyon	Glendale/ Unincorporated Area	2028	5,734	5.74
Sunshine Canyon City/County	Los Angeles/ Unincorporated Area	2037	14,756	65.95
Whittier (Savage Canyon)	Whittier	2055	438	7.10
Total:			**49,790**	**174.48**

Source: County of Los Angeles. 2021. Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, 2020 Annual Report, available at: https://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/swims/News/swims-more-links.aspx?id=4#.

Impact Analysis

a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

The Project would facilitate the beneficial reuse of up to 2.766 million gallons per day (MGD) of industrial wastewater discharge and 0.075 MGD of on-site stormwater runoff (total 2.841 MGD) from the HGS by conveying these flows to LACSD's Long Beach WRF for treatment and distribution.

During construction, existing utilities would be avoided to the maximum extent practical and protected in place. Temporary disruption of service or relocation may be required to allow for construction pending final engineering design. Service on such lines would not be disrupted until prior approval is received from the service provider. No relocation of existing utilities would result.

One or more storage facilities and pump stations may be needed to temporarily store the industrial wastewater discharge due to operational limitations at the LACSD's Long Beach WRF. These facilities would be proposed at LADWP's HGS site and are not considered under this Project. Individual environmental impacts at the new storage reservoir and pump station would be evaluated under separate projects that would be subject to CEQA review. A discussion of potential cumulative impacts that may result from the Project are included in Section 3.XXI, Mandatory Findings of Significance. As such, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years?

The Project consists of a new 12-inch force sewer main pipeline and flow control/pressure reducing station that would function as a mechanism for conveying recycled water from LADWP's HGS site to the Long Beach WRF. During construction, water needed for the Project would be minimal and would be limited for uses such as dust control and concrete mixing. Construction water would be sourced locally

from LBUD or the Orange County Water District. Once operational, the Project would not create new water demand; its sole function would be conveyance of industrial wastewater and stormwater.

Based on the minimal anticipated water uses during construction and operation, and because the project does not create new water demands or require water to operate, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

c) Result in a determination by the wastewater 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?

As discussed above in Threshold XIX(a), the Project would result in the beneficial reuse of industrial wastewater discharge and on-site stormwater runoff from the HGS by conveying these flows to LACSD's Long Beach WRF for treatment and distribution. The Project would not result in any changes related to the volume of wastewater to be treated; however, it would reconvey existing flows of wastewater from HGS to the Long Beach WRF, which would increase the current volume of water treated at the Long Beach WRF.

One or more storage facilities and pump stations may be needed to temporarily store the increased discharge amounts; however, future facilities are not considered under the Project, and would be evaluated under separate projects as required by CEQA.

Furthermore, the Long Beach WRP has a design capacity to provide primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment for 25 MGD of wastewater. The plant currently treats approximately 18 MGD of wastewater to a tertiary level to produce recycled water. An increase of 0.003 AFY of effluent to be treated at the Long Beach WRF would be nominal and would not result in an overcommitment to existing service capacity. As such, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?

Solid waste generated from the Project would primarily consist of excavated soil and asphalt and pavement debris, in addition to nominal amounts of general waste generated during construction. CalRecycle lists various waste generation factors for Transportation/Communications/Utilities projects. For the Project, waste generation is listed as 9.2 pounds per employee per day. [7] With 60 daily construction contractor employees working onsite at any given time, it is conservatively assumed that the Project would generate 552 pounds of solid waste per day during construction.

In accordance with Assembly Bill (AB) 939, the City of Long Beach/LBUD would ensure that source reduction techniques and recycling measures are incorporated into Project construction. Any non-recyclable solid waste produced as a result of the Project would be transported to a landfill and disposed of in compliance with state and local standards. The estimated waste material to be generated and disposed during project construction would represent a less than one percent (0.18%) of the remaining capacity of county class III landfills.

Due to the nature of the Project, solid waste generation is not anticipated during operation. Per AB 341 standards, a 75 percent diversion rate for operational waste would be achieved.

Therefore, the Project would not generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local landfills, or otherwise impact the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

As discussed in Threshold XIX(d) above, the Project would generate minimal amounts of solid waste in relation to the handling and disposal of this waste, the Project would comply with all federal, state, and local solid waste diversion, reduction, and recycling mandates including compliance with the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan.[8] No impact would result, and no mitigation measures are required.

[7] CalRecycle. 2023. Estimated Solid Waste Generation Rates. Available at: www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/wastecharacterization/general/rates

[8] Source: County of Los Angeles. 2021. Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, 2020 Annual Report. Available at: https://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/swims/News/swims-more-links.aspx?id=4#.

XX. Wildfire

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The Project is located in an urbanized area of the City of Long Beach and Seal Beach, and not within a state responsibility area. A review of Los Angeles County Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps indicates that the project site is not located in a very high fire hazard severity zone (VHFHSZ) (LAC 2023).

Impact Analysis

a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

The Project would not involve activities that would expose people or structures to the risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. The Project would not impede use of any disaster routes in the City. Implementation of the Project would not impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. No impact would result.

b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?

As discussed above, the Project is not located in or near a state responsibility area or in a VHJFHSZ. The site is located in an urbanized area of the City surrounded by industrial and residential uses. The Project would not involve activities that would exacerbate wildfire risks to property or people. No impact would result.

c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

The Project is in an urbanized area and adequately served by existing roads and utilities and would not require the installation or maintenance of new roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities that may exacerbate fire risk or result in environmental impacts. The sewer force main would be installed underground, and surface finishes would generally match pre-construction surface conditions. No impact would result.

d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

The site is located in an urbanized area of the City surrounded by industrial and residential uses. There are no slopes or hills located in the Project Study Area, accordingly no people or structures would be exposed to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides as a result of runoff, post-fire slop instability or drainage changes. No impact would result.

XXI. Mandatory Findings of Significance

Environmental Issue Area:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Analysis

a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

The Project is in an urban environment where special-status plant and animal species, and habitat to support such species are absent. As discussed under Section 3.IV, Biological Resources, potentially significant impacts to nesting birds and roosting bats could occur. However, with implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO 4, impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels, and the Project would not have the potential to substantially degrade habitat or cause a drop in population levels.

As discussed under Section 3.V, Cultural Resources, the potential for an unanticipated cultural resource discovery does exist and represents a potentially significant impact. Mitigation Measures CUL-1, CUL-2, and CUL-3 are proposed that address the potential for inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources during construction through working training, monitoring, and stop work requirements. Implementation of

these mitigation measures would reduce impacts to archaeological resources to a less than significant level. No elimination of important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

A significant environmental impact could result from the combined effects of two or more projects that are closely related geographically (within the same vicinity or greater region, depending on the nature and scope of the project and environmental factor under consideration) and in time (recently completed projects, projects currently under construction, and/or projects anticipated to be implemented in the near-term future).

When a project would create no impact related to a particular environmental factor, there would be no potential for the project to contribute to a significant effect created by the combined impacts of closely related projects. Based on the analysis in this IS/MND, the Project would create no impacts related to agriculture and forestry resources, mineral resources, and wildfire. Therefore, there is no potential for cumulatively considerable impacts associated with these resources.

For those resources with determined to be less than significant without the need for mitigation measures or potentially significant unless mitigation is incorporated, cumulatively considerable impacts were evaluated with consideration of ongoing and future projects at the HGS and Long Beach WRF, as well as existing and past uses in the area.

Air pollutant and GHG emissions, as assessed under CEQA, are inherently recognized as cumulative impacts. Project-level thresholds of significance for these emissions are used in the determination of whether a project's individual emissions would make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant impact. Based on the analysis contained in this IS/MND, both air quality and GHG emissions would remain substantially below the defined thresholds of significance. Therefore, the Project would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a wider adverse air quality or GHG impact.

Soils and hydrology impacts related to runoff and siltation could extend off site and result in a larger impact when combined with the existing runoff along roads and industrial uses in the area. However, the sewer force main would be located underground, and all construction activities would adhere to stormwater discharge permitting requirements. As such, these impacts would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a more widespread impact.

Construction noise would contribute to existing sources of noise in the area including Interstate 405 and traffic along roads adjacent to the alignment. However, the project would adhere to noise ordinances and impacts would be limited to the construction and not operation or maintenance (see NOI-1, NOI-2 in Section 3.XIII, Noise). As such, noise impacts would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a more widespread impact.

There are no known or proposed roadway improvement projects in the Project Study Area occurring at the same time or space as the Project. Project construction may overlap with construction of other utility projects; however, implementation of Mitigation Measure TR-1, which requires the preparation and approval of a standard traffic control plan and coordination with Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Caltrans, and local businesses and residents would be required. As such, traffic impacts would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a more widespread impact. For these reasons, impacts would be less than cumulatively considerable, and less than significant.

c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

The Project would have less than significant impacts (with and without incorporation of mitigation measures), or no impacts on the environment as discussed throughout this Initial Study. Mitigation measures have been prescribed, where applicable, to reduce all potential environmental impacts to less than significant levels. Upon implementation of mitigation measures and compliance with existing regulations, the Project would not have the potential to result in substantial adverse impacts on human beings either directly or indirectly during construction or operation. Therefore, a less than significant impact is anticipated.

Mitigation Measures

See CUL-1, CUL-2, and CUL-3, under Section 3.V, Cultural Resources and BR-1, BR-2, BR-3, and BR-4 under Section IV, Biological Resources, TR-1 under Section 3.XVII, Transportation, and NOI-1 and NOI-2 under Section 3.XIII, Noise.

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Appendix A. CalEEMod Inputs, Assumptions, and Outputs

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Appendix B. Biological Resources Report

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Appendix C. Cultural Resources Report

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Appendix D. EDR Area/Corridor Report

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Appendix E. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

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