Initial Study/
Mitigated Negative Declaration

CP20051 New Reservoir 5B-2

Cucamonga Valley Water District
Engineering Department
10440 Ashford Street
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-2799

December 2024

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SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was enacted in 1970 for the purpose of providing decision-makers and the public with information regarding environmental effects of Proposed Projects; identifying means of avoiding environmental damage; and disclosing to the public the reasons behind a project's approval even if it leads to environmental damage. The Proposed Project is subject to CEQA and no exemptions apply. Therefore, an Initial Study (IS) has been prepared.

An Initial Study is a preliminary analysis conducted by the lead agency, in consultation with other agencies (responsible or trustee agencies, as applicable), to determine whether there is substantial evidence that a project may have a significant effect on the environment. If the IS concludes that the project, with mitigation, may have a significant effect on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) should be prepared; otherwise the lead agency may adopt a Negative Declaration (ND) or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). It has been determined that an MND is appropriate for the Proposed Project.

The IS/MND contained herein have been prepared in accordance with CEQA (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15000 et seq.).

The following discussion of potential environmental effects was completed in accordance with Section 15063(d)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines to determine if the project may have significant effect on the environment.

CEQA INITIAL STUDY FORM

Project Title: CP20051 New Reservoir 5B-2

Lead Agency and Project Sponsor's Name and Address:
Cucamonga Valley Water District
Engineering Department
10440 Ashford Street
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91729

Contact Person and Phone Number:

Ms. Jiwon Seung, Assistant Engineer
Engineering Department
Cucamonga Valley Water District
(909) 987-2591

Description of Project

The CVWD proposes to construct a new 3 million gallon (MG) water storage tank reservoir approximately 136 feet in diameter and 32 feet high, identified as New Reservoir 5B-2, adjacent to its existing Reservoir 5B, which is a 1 MG steel tank constructed in 1975 in the northern area of Rancho Cucamonga. New Reservoir 5B-2 will be a welded steel tank (see Figure 1: *Site Plan*). Improvements also include associated underground piping.

Project Location:

The Project Site is generally located north of Hillside Road, east of Archibald Ave, west of Haven Ave, and south of the foothills. The Proposed Project would occur on two parcels located within the City of Rancho Cucamonga. Both parcels are currently owned by the CVWD: Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 1074-101-22 (currently developed with Reservoir 5B) and APN 1074-101-21 which is vacant and adjacent (on the west side) of the developed parcel (see Figure 2: *Regional Vicinity* and Figure 3: *Project Location*). The Project Site is bounded on the north partially by the terminus of Beaver Creek Court and partially by the property boundary of CVWD-owned APN 1074-101-22; on the south by the intersection of Carrari Street and Rocky Mountain Place and by CVWD-owned APN 1074-101-21; on the west by the backyards of residential uses that front Silver Mountain Way and Whispering Forest Drive; and on the east by Mayberry Ave.

Both Project parcels are zoned Very Low Residential (VL) according to the City of Rancho Cucamonga General Plan Zoning Map.

Table 1

General Plan Designation and Zoning:

PARCEL	ZONING	GENERAL PLAN LAND USE
1074-101-21	Very Low (UP TO 2 DU/AC)	Semi-Rural Neighborhood
1074-101-22	Very Low (UP TO 2 DU/AC)	General Open Space & Facilities

Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

The Proposed Project is located within an urbanized area in the City of Rancho Cucamonga approximately 350 feet west of the western terminus of Hidden Farm Road and north of the western terminus of Carrari Street. Land uses surrounding the Project Site consist of single-family residential land uses to the north, south, east, and west. Immediately adjacent to the east is existing Reservoir 5B.

Agencies that may have an interest in the Proposed Project:

Responsible/Trustee Agencies

California Department of Water Resources, Division of Drinking Water

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region

Reviewing Agencies

City of Rancho Cucamonga Public Works and Engineering Departments

City of Fontana

City of Upland

City of Ontario

County of San Bernardino Department of Health Services

Inland Empire Utilities Agency

Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (SARWQCB)

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Fontana Water Company

San Antonia Water Company

California Native American Consultation:

On May 2, 2022, the CVWD notified the following tribal entity representatives of the Project and that the 30-day timeframe in which to request consultation would end 30 days of receipt of the letter, in accordance with AB52. The following summarizes the results of the AB52 consultation.

- Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians. Response: via email, May 17, 2022, that the Project Site was not located within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area. Consultation concluded.
- Isaiah Vivanco, Chairperson, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians. No response, consultation concluded.
- Jessica Mauck, Director of Cultural Resources, Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (formerly known as the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians). Response via email May 16, 2022. The Project Site is within the Serrano ancestral territory. However, while the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation does not have concerns regarding the Project or Project location, mitigation measures were requested to be provided in the Initial Study to protect unknown resources. Consultation concluded.
- Lovina Redner, Tribal Chair, Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians. No response, consultation concluded.

- Charles Martin, Chairperson, Morongo Band of Mission Indians. No response, consultation concluded. No response, consultation concluded.
- Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson or Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson, Serrano Nation of Mission Indians. No response, consultation concluded.
- Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman, Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation. No response, consultation concluded.
- Sandonne Goad, Chairperson, Gabrielino/Tongva Nation. No response, consultation concluded.
- Anthony Morales, Chairperson, Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians. No response, consultation concluded.
- Charles Alvarez, Chairperson, Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe. No response, consultation concluded.
- Robert Dorame, Chairperson, Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council. No response, consultation concluded.
- Andrew Salas, Chairperson, Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. No response, consultation concluded.

Mitigation measures have been incorporated into the Initial Study, as appropriate, to ensure potential impacts to tribal cultural resources are minimized.

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

Based on the analysis in Section 4, the Proposed Project could potentially affect ("Potentially Significant") the environmental factor(s) checked below. The following pages present a more detailed checklist and discussion of each environmental factor and identifies where mitigation measures would be necessary to reduce all impacts to less than significant levels.

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

Determination

Based on this initial evaluation:

- ☐ I find that the proposed project COULD 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 potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR pursuant to applicable standards and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Tuan Truong
Signature

Dec 12, 2024
Date

SECTION 2
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Project Location

The Project Site is generally located in the northern portion of the City of Rancho Cucamonga, generally north of Hillside Road, east of Archibald Ave, west of Haven Ave, and south of the foothills. The Proposed Project would occur over two parcels located within the City of Rancho Cucamonga, both owned by the CVWD as follows: Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 1074-101-22, which is approximately 2.49 acres, is currently developed with Reservoir 5B and the vacant APN 1074-101-21, which is approximately 3 acres, adjacent on the west side of the developed parcel. The Project Site is bounded on the north partially by the terminus of Beaver Creek Court and partially by the property boundary of CVWD-owned APN 1074-101-22 (location of existing reservoir); on the south partially by the intersection of Carrari Street and Rocky Mountain Place and partially by CVWD-owned APN 1074-101-21; on the west by the backyards of residential uses that front Silver Mountain Way and Whispering Forest Drive; and on the east by Mayberry Ave. The Project Site is adjacent to an existing reservoir, which is located at the southwest corner of the western terminus of Hidden Farms Road and Mayberry Ave.

The Project Site is generally located in Section 23, Township 1 North, Range 7 West and is depicted on the *Cucamonga Peak* U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic map, and generally at latitude 34° 9'39.68"N and longitude 117°34'51.81"W.

The Project Site is a heavily vegetated vacant lot, adjacent to the existing tank. Land uses surrounding the Project Site consist of single-family residential land uses to the north, south, east, and west. The southern portion of the eastern boundary of the site has a chain link fence that separates the site from the adjacent residences who also have livestock pens.

2.2 Background

The Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD) is an independent special district that operates under the authority of Division 12 of the California Water Code. The District was incorporated on March 25, 1955, and is governed by a five-member, elected Board of Directors. The District provides water and wastewater services to a population of over 200,000 within its 47 square mile service area, which is located in the western area of San Bernardino County, California. The District encompasses the City of Rancho Cucamonga and portions of unincorporated San Bernardino County and the Cities of Fontana, Ontario, and Upland.

Existing Reservoir 5B and the Proposed Project, New Reservoir 5B-2, are located within the northern/central area of the City of Rancho Cucamonga and the District's service area. Both reservoirs are fed from the District's Pressure Zone 5, which can be supplied water by Day/East Etiwanda Canyon, imported water, Chino Basin and/or Cucamonga Basin. Water is pumped to the reservoirs from the Reservoir 4B Pump Station.

2.3 Project Objective

The goal of the Proposed Project is to provide an additional 3 million gallons of storage capacity in the District's water system to meet projected demands. The Project Site has been owned by the District and planned for future system improvements as warranted by population growth.

2.4 Project Description

The CVWD proposes to construct New Reservoir 5B-2 adjacent to its existing Reservoir 5B, which is a 1 MG welded steel tank constructed in 1975 in the northern area of Rancho Cucamonga. New Reservoir 5B-2 will be a 3 MG welded steel tank approximately 136 feet in diameter and 32 feet high (Figure 1: *Site Plan*). Improvements also include associated underground piping. This analysis assumes that the Proposed Project would be constructed during 2025 over a period of approximately 15 months. Less than 10 workers would be required during construction. Construction is planned to generally occur within daylight hours and the time period allowed by City Ordinance. The City of Rancho Cucamonga Noise Ordinance allows construction 7 am to 8 pm Monday through Saturday, and for the City of Upland it is 7 am to 6 pm Monday through Saturday. It is anticipated that no nighttime or weekend construction would occur.

2.5 Project Construction

The general process for construction consists of site earthwork (including grading and excavation), installation of proposed facilities, site restoration, and limited site demolition (removal of existing fencing). Native material will be screened on-site and used for fill. Rejected materials will be left on site. Imported fill material may be required. Earthwork includes the site grading , re-grading of the existing northeastern slope to a flatter slope, and the excavation for the tank, which will be approximately 14 feet deep.

Project construction is anticipated to begin in 2025 and last approximately 15 months. Construction would require staging area(s) to store supplies and materials temporarily. It is anticipated that the staging area(s) for construction equipment and materials would be in the southwest portion of the Project Site. Panels of the welded steel tank will be staged on the Project Site and welded in place.

Once constructed, no permanent staff would be at the Project Site; however, it is assumed that the new facilities would require monitoring, consisting of one or two vehicles visiting the site on a daily basis. Maintenance activities would be expected to require one to two visits per month. This level of activity would be similar to current conditions for the existing tank.

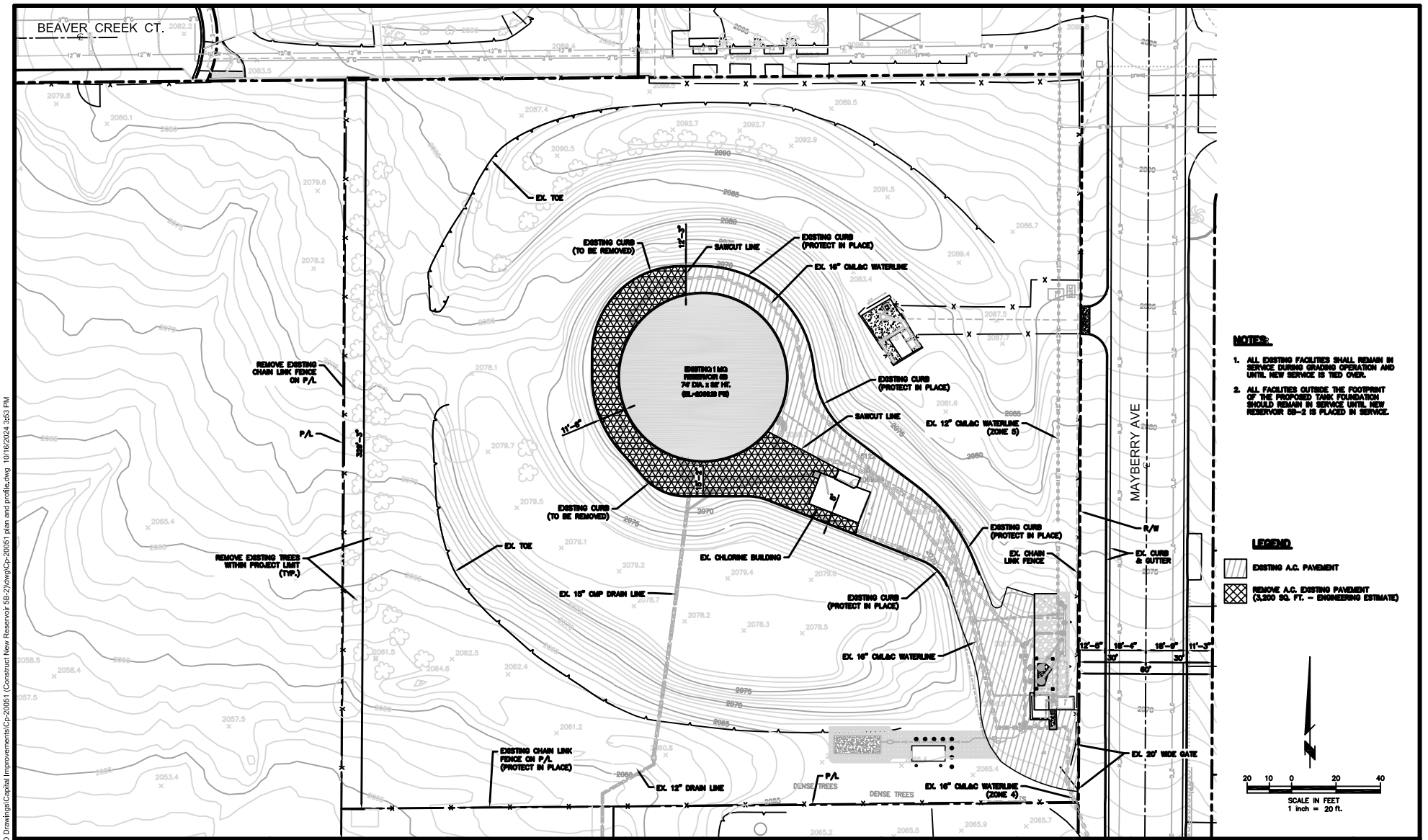
2.6 Environmental Setting

The Proposed Project is located within a low-density residential area below the foothills, in the northern area of the City of Rancho Cucamonga. Land uses surrounding the Project Site are single-family residential uses to the north, south, east, and west. Current CVWD operations occur on the adjacent parcel for Reservoir 5B.

2.7 Required Permits and Approvals

Permits and/or necessary approvals (as applicable) may be required from the following agencies for the activities described:

- State of California Department of Water Resources, Division of Drinking Water – Amended Water Supply Permit.
- Regional Water Quality Control Board – permit for general construction runoff and storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) under the State's General Construction Permit requirements.



PRELIMINARY NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

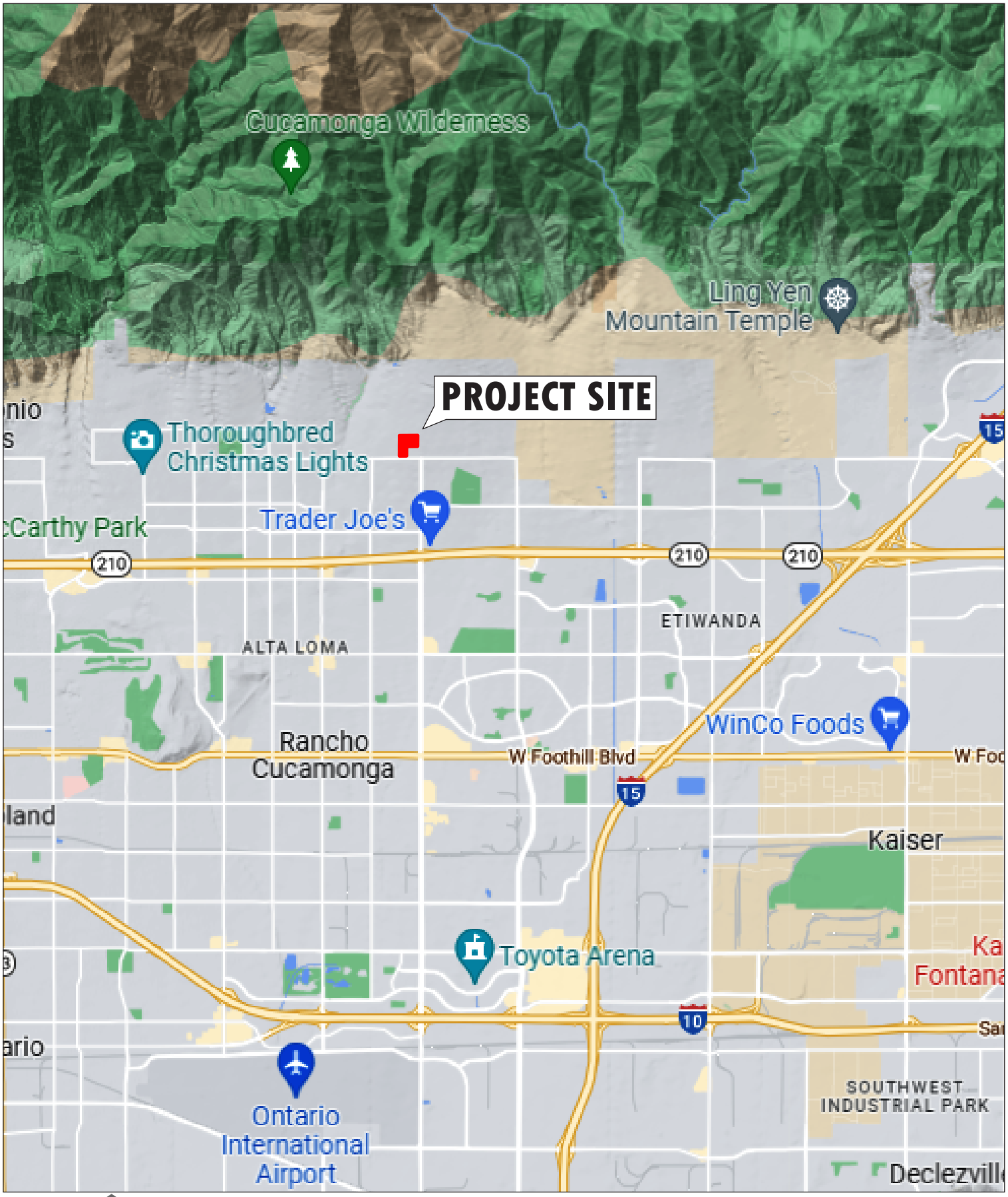
SITE PLAN

CP20051 New Reservoir 5B-2 Cucamonga Valley Water District

City of Rancho Cucamonga, California

LILBURN CORPORATION

FIGURE 1



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Source: Lilburn Corp., May, 2022.

LILBURN CORPORATION

REGIONAL LOCATION

CP20051 New Reservoir 5B-2 Cucamonga Valley Water District

City of Rancho Cucamonga, California

FIGURE 2

PROJECT VICINITY

CP20051 New Reservoir 5B-2 Cucamonga Valley Water District

City of Rancho Cucamonga, California

Source: Cucamonga Valley Water District

LILBURN CORPORATION

FIGURE 3

SECTION 3
DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

INTRODUCTION

The following discussion addresses impacts to various environmental resources, per the IS Checklist questions contained in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines.

I. AESTHETICS

Would the project:

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

Less Than Significant. The CEQA Guidelines do not provide a definition of what constitutes a "scenic vista" or "scenic resource" or a reference as to from what vantage point(s) the scenic vista and/or resource, if any, should be observed. Scenic resources are typically landscape patterns and features that are visually or aesthetically pleasing and that contribute affirmatively to the definition of a distinct community or region such as trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings.

A scenic vista is generally identified as a public vantage viewpoint that provides expansive views of a highly valued landscape for the benefit of the general public. Common examples may include a public vantage point that provides expansive views of undeveloped hillsides, ridgelines, and open space areas that provide a unifying visual backdrop to a developed area.

Although not identified as a view corridor, the north-south orientation of Rocky Mountain Place, at the terminus of Carrari Street on the south side of the Project Site, provides views of the foothills and San Bernardino Mountains to the north. The Project Site contains a number of tall trees that obscure views of the existing tank, and would also obscure the new tank from most views.

The Proposed Project would change the visual character of the Project Site, which is currently vacant and undeveloped, by adding a new water tank. However, the Proposed Project will be consistent and compatible with the existing, adjacent tank that is also 32 feet high and would not obstruct views of the foothills or San Bernardino mountains from various public streets in and around the Project Site. Therefore, potential impacts associated with scenic vistas would be less than significant, and no mitigation would be required.

The Project Site is not a scenic vista nor are there scenic vistas in the vicinity of the Project Site where the Proposed Project would disrupt

the view. Therefore, potential impacts associated with scenic vistas would be less than significant, and no mitigation would be required.

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

No Impact. The Project Site is not within views from a state scenic highway. Therefore, no impacts associated with scenic resources within a state scenic highway would occur, and no mitigation would be required.

c) In nonurbanized 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 point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

Less Than Significant. The visual character of the Project Site is vacant, native vegetation and boulders, with adjacent utilitarian use consisting of the existing water Reservoir 5B and fencing. The Project Site is approximately 3.19 acres and zoned by the City of Rancho Cucamonga as Very Low Residential, defined as up to two dwelling units per acre. Public facilities are allowed in residential zones.

Construction would temporarily detract from the visual quality of the Project Site; however, construction would occur within the boundaries of the Project Site. Setbacks, landscaping and building height would further reduce visibility of the facilities.

The Proposed Project is consistent with the applicable zoning regulations for the Project Site, therefore, impacts would be less than significant; no mitigation is required.

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

Less Than Significant. The Proposed Project is in an area developed with residential land uses. Existing light sources include street lights, and exterior security lighting in the surrounding developments.

Construction activities requiring additional lighting would be temporary short-term impacts. Lighting associated with operation of the new facilities would consist of security lighting that would be directed internally toward the Project Site. There would be no light or glare that would increase ambient lighting levels or adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. Therefore, Project construction and operation impacts related to substantial light or glare sources would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

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 nonagricultural use?

No Impact. The Proposed Project is not designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance in the Department of Conservation's California Important Farmland Finder. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service classifies the on-site soils as Sobboba stony loamy sand, 2 to 9 percent slopes (SpC), and identifies this soil type as "Not Prime Farmland." Therefore, the Proposed Project would not covert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use and no impact would occur as result of construction and operation of the Proposed Project.

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

No Impacts. According to the most recent San Bernardino County Williamson Act FY 2015/2016 Sheet 2 of 2, the Project Site falls within the category of Urban and Built-Up Land. As discussed above, no land on or near the Project Site is currently under agricultural production, nor are any parcels zoned for agricultural uses. Therefore, no impact would occur from the construction and operation of the Proposed Project.

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))?

No Impact. As discussed under II a) above, the Proposed Project would be located on a site that is partially developed with an existing water tank and located within an urban area. The Project Site is zoned by the City of Rancho Cucamonga as Very Low Residential. There is no forestland or timber in the vicinity, nor are there any parcels zoned for forestland or timberland. Therefore, construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not conflict with the existing zoning or cause rezoning of forest land or timberland resources, and no impact would occur.

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

No Impact. See item II c) above.

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

No Impact. The Project Site does not support agricultural or forest land uses that would be lost as a result of the Proposed Project implementation. There are no such land uses in the vicinity. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

III. AIR QUALITY

Would the project:

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

No Impact. The project site is within the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB) and under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The SCAQMD is responsible for updating the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). The AQMP was developed for the primary purpose of controlling emissions to maintain all federal and state ambient air standards for the SCAQMD. The Proposed Project is a 3 MG welded steel tank approximately 136 feet in diameter and 32 feet high adjacent to the existing 1 MG Reservoir 5B. Development of the proposed improvements would not conflict with the AQMP and therefore, no impact is anticipated.

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?

Less Than Significant. The proposed improvement project would require demolition (removal of existing fencing), earthmoving, material removal, and other activities such as grading and asphalt paving. The project's construction activities were screened for emission generation using South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) "Air Quality Handbook" guidelines, Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks (2025) and SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors (2025); results are included as four spreadsheets in Appendix A. These tables are used to generate emissions estimates for development projects. The criteria pollutants screened for included: reactive organic gases (ROG), nitrous oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), and particulates (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$). Two of these, ROG and NO_x, are ozone precursors.

Construction earthwork emissions are considered short-term, temporary emissions and are estimated in Tables 2, 3 and 4. The following construction parameters/phases were assumed:

Material Removal: The removal of construction debris (asphalt, concrete, earth, etc.; Approximately 5,700 cubic yards to be removed.). Typical daily equipment:

- 50 street legal haul trucks: Approximately 26-mile haul distance (round trip, Mid-Valley Landfill)
- 1 Loader
- 1 Dozer
- 2 Misc. Construction Equipment

Reservoir Installation*, Typical daily equipment:*

- 1 Loader
- 1 Crane
- 1 Grader/Excavator
- 1 Misc. Construction Equipment

Paving Equipment Emissions, Typical daily equipment:

- 1 Paver
- 2 Misc. Paving Equipment
- 1 Loader/Backhoe

Table 2
Construction Emissions
"Material Removal"
(Pounds per Day)

Source	ROG	NO_X	CO	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
Haul Trucks	1.0	12.1	5.6	1.1	1.1
Loader	0.4	2.3	3.4	0.1	0.1
Dozer	1.3	8.7	5.3	0.3	0.3
Misc. Construction Eq.	1.1	4.9	8.3	0.2	0.2
Totals (lbs/day)	**3.8**	**28.0**	**22.6**	**1.7**	**1.7**
SCAQMD Threshold	75	100	550	150	55
Significant	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**

[1] SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors (2025)

[2] Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks (2025)

Table 3
Construction Emissions
"Reservoir Installation"
(Pounds per Day)

Source	ROG	NO_X	CO	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
Loader	0.4	2.3	3.4	0.1	0.1
Crane	0.5	3.4	3.0	0.1	0.1
Grader/Excavator	0.4	1.8	4.1	0.1	0.1
Misc Construction Eq.	1.1	4.9	8.3	0.2	0.2
Totals (lbs/day)	**2.4**	**12.4**	**18.8**	**0.5**	**0.5**
SCAQMD Threshold	75	100	550	150	55
Significant	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**

Source: SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors (2025)

Table 4
Construction Emissions
"Paving/Resurface"
(Pounds per Day)

Source	ROG	NO_x	CO	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
Paver	0.6	3.1	3.8	0.2	0.2
Misc. Paving Eq.	0.9	5.2	6.4	0.3	0.3
Loader/Backhoe	0.4	2.3	3.4	0.1	0.1
Totals (lbs/day)	**1.9**	**10.6**	**13.6**	**0.6**	**0.6**
SCAQMD Threshold	75	100	550	150	55
Significant	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**

Source: SCAQMD Off-road Mobile Source Emission Factors (2025)

As shown in Tables 2, 3, and 4, construction emissions would not exceed SCAQMD thresholds. Construction Phases don't overlap. As the proposed project is a water storage reservoir, negligible operational emissions would occur and be limited to maintenance vehicle trips. Therefore, less than significant impact is anticipated.

Compliance with SCAQMD Rules 402 and 403

Although the proposed project does not exceed SCAQMD thresholds for construction emissions, the applicant is required to comply with all applicable SCAQMD rules and regulations as the South Coast Air Basin is in non-attainment status for ozone and suspended particulates (PM_{10}). The project shall comply with Rules 402 nuisance and 403 fugitive dust, which require the implementation of Best Available Control Measures (BACM) for each fugitive dust source, and the Air Quality Management Plan (AMCP), which identifies Best Available Control Technologies (BACT) for area sources and point sources, respectively. This would include, but not be limited to the following BACMs and BACTs:

1. The project proponent shall ensure that any portion of the site to be graded shall be pre-watered prior to the onset of grading activities.
   (a) The project proponent shall ensure that watering of the site or other soil stabilization method shall be employed on an on-going basis after the initiation of any grading activity on the site. Portions of the site that are actively being graded shall be watered regularly to ensure that a crust is formed on the ground surface and shall be watered at the end of each workday.
   (b) The project proponent shall ensure that all disturbed areas are treated to prevent erosion.
   (c) The project proponent shall ensure that all grading activities are suspended during first and second stage ozone episodes or when winds exceed 25 miles per hour.

Exhaust emissions from construction vehicles and equipment and fugitive dust generated by equipment traveling over exposed surfaces, would increase NO_X and PM_{10} levels in the area. Although the proposed project does not exceed SCAQMD thresholds during construction, the applicant will be required to implement the following conditions as required by SCAQMD:

2. To reduce emissions, all equipment used in earthwork must be tuned and maintained to the manufacturer's specification to maximize efficient burning of vehicle fuel.
3. The project proponent shall ensure that construction personnel are informed of ride sharing and transit opportunities.
4. The operator shall maintain and effectively utilize and schedule on-site equipment in order to minimize exhaust emissions from truck idling.
5. The operator shall comply with all existing and future CARB and SCAQMD regulations related to diesel-fueled trucks, which may include among others: (1) meeting more stringent emission standards; (2) retrofitting existing engines with particulate traps; (3) use of low sulfur fuel; and (4) use of alternative fuels or equipment.

c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Less Than Significant. The Proposed Project is to construct a new 3 MG welded steel water tank approximately 136 feet in diameter and also 32 feet high adjacent to the existing Reservoir 5B. The purpose of the Proposed Project is to provide additional storage capacity in the District's water system to meet projected demands. As shown in Tables 2, 3 and 4, construction impacts are not anticipated to exceed SCAQMD thresholds. Negligible operational emissions would occur and be limited to maintenance vehicle trips. The wells and pump station providing the supply of water to the reservoir are located off-site and would continue to operate as they do currently. Therefore, as Project emissions are not anticipated to exceed SCAQMD thresholds impacts to sensitive receptors are less than significant. Less than significant impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

Less Than Significant. Although offensive odors seldom cause physical harm, they can cause agitation, annoyance, and concern to the general public. The Proposed Project would not establish any land uses associated with odors. Potential odors associated with the Proposed Project would include diesel exhaust during construction. These odors, if perceptible, are common in the environment, would dissipate rapidly as they mix with the surrounding air and would be of very limited duration. Operation of the reservoir would not result in odors that would be perceptible by sensitive receptors in the vicinity (i.e., residential and recreational uses). Therefore, construction and operation of New Reservoir 5B-2 would not result in odors that would affect a substantial number of people. Impacts are less than significant impacts and no mitigation is required.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

A biological resources report was prepared for the Proposed Project to determine potential impacts to biological and water resources. *The Biological Resources Assessment and Jurisdictional Delineation for the Proposed CP 20051 New Reservoir 5B-2 in Alta Loma, California*, was prepared by Jennings Environmental in April 2022 and Jennings again reviewed the site in October 2024 and updated the 2022 report (see Appendix B). The 2024 assessment and site survey findings are summarized below,

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?

Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated. The Project Site is in an urbanized area of the City of Rancho Cucamonga surrounded by residential uses. The Project Site contains thick ground vegetation, with trees along the fence line between the property and the residential properties along the southeastern portion of the property line.

The biological resources report (Appendix B) identified that the site does not contain habitat or species that are 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.

However, the Project Site does contain vegetation that is suitable for nesting birds, which are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The MBTA prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would reduce impacts on nesting migratory birds to less than significant:

Mitigation Measure:

BIO-1: *Regardless of the time of year, a nesting bird survey shall be performed by a qualified biologist no more than 3 days prior to vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities. The pre-construction survey shall focus on both direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations and nesting behavior. The qualified biologist will make every effort to avoid potential nest predation as a result of survey and monitoring efforts. If active nests are found during the pre-construction nesting bird survey, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate nest buffer to be marked on the*

ground. Nest buffers are species-specific and shall be at least 300 feet for passerines and 500 feet for raptors. A smaller or larger buffer may be determined by a qualified biologist familiar with the nesting phenology of the nesting species and based on nest and buffer monitoring results. Established buffers shall remain on site until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged or the nest is no longer active. Active nests and adequacy of the established buffer distance shall be monitored daily by the qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged or the Project has been completed. The qualified biologist has the authority to stop work if nesting pairs exhibit signs of disturbance. If no active nests are found during the pre-construction nesting bird survey, all vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities may commence.

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

Less Than Significant. The biological resources report identified that approximately 1.63 acres of the Project Site contains Riversidean Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub (RAFSS), which is considered a sensitive plant community, and is listed by CDFW as rare. RAFSS is also identified as a sensitive plant community by the City of Rancho Cucamonga's General Plan. RAFSS is a vegetation type in which scale broom (*Lepidospartum squamatum*) is dominant, co-dominant, or conspicuous in the shrub canopy. Scale broom, a member of the aster family, is a long-lived, deep-rooted shrub found in riverine or alluvial soils, often in dry washes. RAFSS is a community restricted to intermittently or rarely-flooded, low-gradient alluvial deposits along streams, washes, and fans within large canyons on the coastal slopes of the San Gabriel Mountains and San Bernardino Mountains in San Bernardino County.

The biological resources report identified that the RAFSS on site is considered "late stage," is in the process of converting to Coastal Sage Scrub, is an isolated patch, and is surrounded by residential uses that have cut off the fluvial regime needed to sustain the species. The proposed Project would impact an approximately 0.10 acre position of this habitat. The closest contiguous area of RAFSS occurs in Deer Canyon, approximately 1 mile to the northeast of the Project Site. Therefore, because the RAFSS lacks the hydrological regime to sustain RAFSS, the RAFSS on site is converting to Coastal Sage Scrub, which is not identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service. Impacts would be less than significant impact, and no mitigation is required.

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?

Less Than Significant. The Project Site does contain a remnant drainage channel along the western boundary of the Project Site, but it does not contain marsh, vernal pool, or other coastal attributes. The drainage appears to be cut off by development, both at its upstream and downstream limits. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has the authority to permit the discharge of dredged or fill material in Waters of the United States (WoUS) defined under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. However, the on-site ephemeral drainage would not qualify as WoUS under the regulatory authority of the Corps. Although this drainage is jurisdictional under the definition of Waters of the State (WoS) and the California Fish and Game Code, the project has been designed to avoid this area. The Proposed Project would occur more than 50 feet from the edge of the drainage, therefore, the Project would not directly impact this drainage. There may be indirect impacts, such as dust during construction. However, there are no state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) in the drainage, and the Proposed Project would avoid any direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. The impact is less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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 native wildlife nursery sites?

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. The Project Site is completely surrounded by residential uses. However, as described under item IV a) above, vegetation at or near the Project Site could support nesting birds. With implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1, requiring a survey by a qualified biologist for construction activities, impacts to nesting birds would be less than significant.

The construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not interfere with the movement of native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors as there are no identified corridors in the vicinity. Impacts would be less than significant with incorporation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1.

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

Less Than Significant. The City of Rancho Cucamonga has a Tree Preservation Ordinance (Title 19, Environmental Protection - Chapter 19.08) that requires a permit for removal for the removal, relocation, or destruction of a "Heritage Tree." Heritage trees include eucalyptus windrows, plants in excess of 30 feet, and single trunks in circumference of 20 inches, or multi-trunk tree(s) having a total circumference of 30 inches or more, any strand of trees dependent upon the others for survival; and any other tree as may be deemed historically or culturally significant because of size, condition, location, or aesthetic qualities.

The Proposed Project would require the removal of a number of trees, however none of the trees that would be removed are subject to the City of Rancho Cucamonga's "Heritage Tree" ordinance because they are not of the species or size identified in the ordinance. Therefore, the Proposed Project is not anticipated to conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources; the impact is less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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?

No Impact. The Proposed Project is in a developed area outside of any regionally adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Communities Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan. Therefore, no impact would occur.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

A cultural resources assessment for the Proposed Project was prepared to evaluate potential impacts of the Proposed Project on cultural and archaeological resources. The report, *A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Reservoir 5B-2 Site Improvement Project*, Brian F. Smith and Associates, March 31, 2022 is included as Appendix C and is summarized below.

Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in 15064.5?

Less Than Significant. The cultural resources report identified a manmade earthen drainage channel on the west side of the Project Site, which was first visible on the 1938 historical aerial photographs reviewed. According to the cultural resources report, the channel has not been recently maintained and vegetation has overtaken much of

the depression, and the alignment has deviated some from the straight channel first visible on the 1938 aerial. Further, the alignment of the channel outside of the Project Site has been removed by the development of the surrounding properties. In addition, just south of the Project Site, the drainage alignment has been altered to drain into a storm drain located at the intersection of Rocky Mountain Place and Carrari Street. Given the removal of all historic elements of the earthen channel outside of the project, the resource generally lacks integrity and would likely not qualify for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). Further, based upon the current Project plans (Figure 1), the drainage channel will not be directly impacted or removed by the Proposed Project.

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

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. The cultural resources assessment literature review revealed that 15 cultural resources have been recorded within a one-mile radius of the project. The previously recorded resources include one prehistoric habitation site, a historic transmission line, a historic orchard with associated water control features, a rock pile, two historic ranch properties, four historic single-family residences, a historic carriage house, a historic barn, a historic ancillary structure, a historic rock wall, and a historic wall and associated water control features. The Project Site is heavily vegetated, which limited the visibility of the cultural resources field survey. Excavation for the tank and associated piping is estimated to be approximately 14 feet deep. Therefore, based upon the presence of a historic resource within the property, the records search results, and the limited visibility of the natural ground surface during the survey, the cultural resources report identified that there would be a potential for buried or masked archaeological deposits to be present within the project boundaries. Therefore, to accommodate for the potential for unanticipated resources, implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-1 will be incorporated to reduce impacts to less than significant.

The CVWD consulted with tribal entities in accordance with AB52. The Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (YSMN, formerly known as the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians) identified that the Proposed Project area exists within Serrano ancestral territory and, therefore, is of interest to the Tribe. However, due to the nature and location of the Proposed Project and given the YSMN Cultural Resources Department's present state of knowledge, the YSMN indicated they had no concerns with the Project's implementation. However, the YSMN requested that the mitigation measures be included in the Project approvals to protect potential tribal archaeological resources. Mitigation Measure CR-1 incorporates the YSMN request.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-1 would reduce potential impacts to unanticipated discoveries of archaeological resources to less than significant.

Mitigation Measure:

CR-1: *Should unanticipated or inadvertent surface and/or subsurface prehistoric or historic archaeological resources, built environment, and/or tribal cultural resources appear to be encountered during construction or maintenance activity associated with this project, then all work must halt within a 100-foot radius of the discovery until a qualified professional can evaluate the discovery. If the finds are archaeological or historic in nature, then an archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for prehistoric and/or historic archaeology, shall evaluate the significance of the find. This archaeologist shall have the authority to modify the no-work radius as appropriate, using professional judgment. The following shall apply, depending on the nature of the find:*

A. If the professional archaeologist determines that the find does not represent a cultural resource, then work may resume immediately, and no agency notifications are required.

B. If the professional archaeologist determines that the find does represent a cultural resource from any time or cultural affiliation then, depending on the nature of the discovery, appropriate treatment measures shall be developed.

C. If the find represents a Native American or potentially Native American resource that does not include human remains, which may or may not include a Tribal Cultural Resource, then the archaeologist shall consult with appropriate Tribe[s] on whether or not the resource represents either a Tribal Cultural Resource or a Historical Resource, or both, and, if so, consult on appropriate treatment measures. Preservation in place is the preferred treatment, if feasible. Work cannot resume within the no-work radius until the District, through consultation as appropriate, determines that: 1) the site is not a Tribal Cultural Resource or Historical Resource; or 2) the treatment measures for the Tribal Cultural Resource or Historical Resource have been completed.

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

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. The Project Site is completely surrounded by an urban, residential area, and no known burial sites have been located within or near the Project Site. Should human remains be encountered during construction, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that disturbance of the site must be halted until a coroner has conducted an investigation into the circumstances, manner, and cause of any death, and recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains have been made. If the remains are determined to be of Native American descent, the coroner would have 24 hours to notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The NAHC would identify the person(s) thought to be the Most Likely Descendent, who would then help determine the appropriate course of action. The Proposed Project would comply with existing law, and potential impacts to human remains would be less than significant and no mitigation is required.

During AB52 consultation, the YSMN requested that Mitigation Measure CR-2 be included in the Project approvals to protect potential tribal archaeological resources, specifically human remains and Native American burial sites. Mitigation Measure CR-2 is included per the YSMN request. Implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-2 would reduce potential impacts to unanticipated discoveries of archaeological resources.

Mitigation Measure:

CR-2: *If, at any time, evidence of human remains (or suspected human remains) are uncovered, the County Coroner must be contacted immediately and permitted to examine the find in situ. A buffer must be established around the find (minimum of 50 feet) and the consulting archaeologist must also be notified.*

If the remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the Coroner will contact the Native American Heritage Commission and the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) will be named. In consultation with the MLD, the County, project proponent, and consulting archaeologist, the disposition of the remains will be determined. Any costs incurred will be the responsibility of the project proponent/property owner.

If the remains are determined to be archaeological, but non-Native American, the consulting archaeologist will oversee the removal, analysis, and disposition of the remains. Any costs incurred will be the responsibility of the project proponent/property owner.

If the remains are determined to be of forensic value, the County Coroner will arrange for their removal, analysis, and disposition. The Coroner's activities will not involve any costs to the project proponent/property owner.

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

VI. ENERGY

Would the project:

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

Less than Significant Impact.

Electricity

The Project Site is located within the service area of Southern California Edison for electrical service. The project's demand for electricity would be limited to security lighting. Service would be provided from the existing metered site for Reservoir 5B. No significant increase in electrical service is anticipated. Electrical demand of the Proposed Project is expected to be sufficiently served by SCE's current system as no increase in use at the site it anticipated. The electricity demand from the Proposed Project would represent an insignificant percentage of the overall demand in SCE's service area. Less than significant impacts would result.

Natural Gas:

The Proposed Project is a water storage tank that would not require natural gas; therefore, no significant impacts due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation are anticipated and no mitigation measures are recommended.

Fuel Consumption:

Fuel consumption during operations would be limited to employee vehicles traveling to the Project Site for monthly maintenance reviews/activities. During construction of the Proposed Project, the use of fuel would be required during construction for operation of heavy equipment, and by contractor employee vehicles traveling to and from the Project Site. The Proposed Project is not expected to result in a substantial demand for fuel that would require expanded supplies or require the construction of other infrastructure or expansion of existing facilities as construction-related fuel use would be limited to the construction period. Fuel use during construction would not be considered inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary. The Proposed Project would not result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. Impacts are less than significant, and no mitigation is recommended.

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

No Impact. The Proposed Project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted to reduce GHG emissions, including Title 24, AB 32, and SB 32; therefore, the Project is consistent with AB 32, which aims to decrease emissions statewide to 1990 levels by 2020 as discussed in Sections III and VIII of this Initial Study. The Proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

A geotechnical investigation was conducted to determine the Proposed Project's impacts on geologic and soils. The report is included in Appendix D (*Geotechnical Investigation, CP20051 New Reservoir 5B-2*, MTGL, Inc, November 10, 2022), and findings are summarized below.

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.

Less Than Significant. The Project Site is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zone according to the

California Dept of Conservation (CADC), Alquist-Priolo mapping viewer (https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/, accessed May 8, 2022). Although no active faults are known to cross the Project Site, the Project Site is in a seismically active area, as is the majority of Southern California. The active Cucamonga fault is located approximately 0.25 mile north of the Project Site. Lurching or cracking of the ground surface because of nearby seismic events is possible. The Proposed Project would be designed in compliance with all relevant local and state seismic safety standards, including the California Building Code and those identified in the Geotechnical Investigation. Therefore, the probability of damage from surface fault rupture is considered to be low. Impacts associated with construction and operation of the Proposed Project would be less than significant and no mitigation is required.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

Less Than Significant. Seismic activity at area faults described under item VII a.i) above and other faults in the region may result in ground shaking at the Project Site. Seismic hazard from ground shaking is typical for many areas of Southern California. The reservoir would be constructed in compliance with the latest seismic standards required by the California Building Code. Further, no habitable structures are part of the Proposed Project and CVWD staff would not be permanently located at the Project Site. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not increase the risk of exposure of people or structures to strong seismic ground shaking. The impact is less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Less Than Significant. Liquefaction is known generally to occur in saturated or near-saturated cohesionless soils at depths shallower than 50 feet below ground surface. Factors known to influence liquefaction potential include composition and thickness of soil layers, grain size, relative density, groundwater level, degree of saturation, and both intensity and duration of ground shaking.

The Project Site is not located in an area mapped as potentially susceptible to liquefaction (according to the City of Rancho Cucamonga General Plan Update) due to the lack of shallow groundwater and given the dense nature of the materials beneath the site.

The Proposed Project would be constructed to meet applicable seismic safety standards. Graded areas would be backfilled with engineered fill, which meets compaction and shear

strength requirements. The Proposed Project would be constructed and operated in compliance with the standards required by the California Building Code.

No habitable structures would be constructed as part of the Proposed Project. Therefore, the construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not expose people or structures to risk of substantially adverse effects from liquefaction and the impact is less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

iv) Landslides?

No Impact. The Project slopes gently to the south. The Project Site and surroundings are not prone to landslides. Based on a review of geologic literature and aerial photographs, the Geotechnical Investigation concludes that there is no indication to the possibility of landslides within the Project Site. Therefore, landslides or mudflows are not anticipated to occur in the general area of the Proposed Project due to the terrain and no impact is anticipated.

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

Less Than Significant. Project construction includes an estimated cut of 5,700 cubic yards (cy) and a fill of 400 cy. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service classifies the on-site soils as Sobboba stony loamy sand, 2 to 9 percent slopes (SpC). This classification is identified as stony loamy sand to 10 inches, very stony loamy stand between 10 inches and 2 feet deep, with very stony sand from 2 to 5 feet deep. The USDA classifies this soil type as having a potential for runoff as “low.” Tank excavation is anticipated to be between 1 and 14 feet deep, depending on the topography.

During Project construction when soils are exposed, temporary soil erosion may occur which could be exacerbated by rainfall. To control the potential for soil erosion, wind, dust, and water quality impacts, the contractor is required to comply with SCAQMD rules relating to dust control (such as SCAQMD Rule 403) and rules to protect water quality. Preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) in compliance with Federal, State, and Local regulations is required and would ensure there would be no soil erosion or topsoil loss off-site. A less than significant impact from soil erosion or loss of topsoil would occur and no mitigation is required.

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- site or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

Less Than Significant. The Geotechnical Investigation found that the Project Site is not located on a geologic unit that is subject to landslide,

lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service classifies the on-site soils as Sobboba stony loamy sand, 2 to 9 percent slopes (SpC). This classification is identified as stony loamy sand to 10 inches, very stony loamy stand between 10 inches and 2 feet deep, with very stony sand from 2 to 5 feet deep. Tank excavation is anticipated to range from 1 to 14 feet deep, depending on the topography. The USDA classifies this soil type as having highly unstable shallow excavation walls. However, the CVWD would use construction methods suitable for this type, which could include shoring, placement of engineered fill, and implementing measures identified in the geotechnical report. Therefore, construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not cause the local geologic unit or soil to become unstable, or result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. Expansive soils are those that are typically high in clay, moisture and have a high plasticity index. As identified in VII a. through VII c, the Project Site is not located on in soils that are considered expansive soils by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Project Site soils are classified as Sobboba stony loamy sand, 2 to 9 percent slopes (SpC). This classification is identified as stony loamy sand to 10 inches, very stony loamy sand between 10 inches and 2 feet deep, with very stony sand from 2 to 5 feet deep. Therefore, construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1 B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property; as such, no impacts would, and no mitigation is required.

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?

No Impact. The Project is the construction of a new water reservoir, and no habitable structures needing wastewater will be constructed. Operation of the water reservoir would not involve the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Therefore, no impacts related to soil compatibility with septic systems would occur.

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

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. As part of the Geotechnical Investigation, four (4) exploratory soil borings within the project site. The borings were drilled to depths between approximately

22- to 31-feet below existing ground surface (BGS). The borings were logged and samples of the encountered materials were collected for geotechnical laboratory testing. Alluvium was encountered in each of the borings and extended to the total depths explored. As encountered, the alluvium generally consisted of various shades of gray to brown, dense to very dense silty to gravelly sand. Abundant amounts of gravel, cobbles, and boulders were encountered within the alluvium. The subsurface exploration borings met refusal at various depths and locations due to the subsurface consisting of very dense alluvium and boulders, which were also observed on the ground surface. The report states that CVWD should expect "very difficult" excavation within the alluvium.

Although shallow excavations within the younger Quaternary alluvium that underlie the fill at the Project Site are unlikely to expose significant vertebrate fossils, deeper excavations that may extend into older Quaternary deposits could encounter significant fossils and/or previously undiscovered paleontological resources. The Western Science Center submitted a letter dated January 19, 2023 in response to a request for a paleontological records search. Their letter states that the geologic units underlying the project area are mapped as alluvial sand and gravel deposits dating from the Quaternary (Dibble and Minch 2003, Geologic Map of the Cucamonga Peak Quadrangle San Bernardino County, California). Quaternary alluvial units are considered to be fossiliferous and highly paleontologically sensitive. They determined there had been no reported localities of findings within a one-mile radius of the project site, but localities are recorded for similarly mapped geologic units. Therefore, to reduce potential impacts to less than significant, the following Mitigation Measure is required.

Mitigation Measure:

GEO-1: *Should any paleontological resources be encountered during construction of the project facilities, earthmoving or grading activities in the immediate area of the finds shall be halted and an onsite inspection shall be performed immediately by a qualified paleontologist. Responsibility for making this determination shall be with the CVWD's onsite inspector. The paleontological professional shall assess the find, determine its significance, and determine appropriate mitigation within the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality that shall be implemented to minimize any impacts to a paleontological resource*.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:

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

Less Than Significant. According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.4, when making a determination of the significance of greenhouse gas emissions, the "lead agency shall have discretion to determine, in the context of a particular project, whether to (1) use a model or methodology to quantify greenhouse gas emissions resulting from a project, and which model or methodology to use." In addition, CEQA Guidelines section 15064.7(c) provides that "a lead agency may consider thresholds of significance previously adopted or recommended by other public agencies or recommended by experts" on the condition that "the decision of the lead agency to adopt such thresholds is supported by substantial evidence."

The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 requires that by the year 2020, the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions generated in California be reduced to the levels of 1990. The local Agencies have not adopted its own thresholds of significance for greenhouse gas emissions. However, they find persuasive and reasonable the approach to determining significance of greenhouse gas emissions established by SCAQMD.

Per CEQA guidelines, new project emissions are treated as standard emissions, and air quality impacts are evaluated for significance on an air basin or even at a neighborhood level. GHG emissions are treated differently, in that the perspective is global, not local. Therefore, emissions for certain types of projects might not necessarily be considered as new emissions if the project is primarily population driven. Many gases make up the group of pollutants that are believed to contribute to global climate change. However, three gases are currently evaluated and represent the highest concertation of GHG: Carbon dioxide (CO2), Methane (CH4), and Nitrous oxide (N2O). SCAQMD provides guidance methods and/or Emission Factors that are used for evaluating a project's emissions in relation to the thresholds. A threshold of 10,000 MTCO2E per year has been adopted by SCAQMD for industrial type projects as potentially significant or global warming (Draft Guidance Document – Interim CEQA Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Significance Threshold, SCAQMD, October 2008).

The proposed project would require earthmoving, building and other activities such as paving. The project's construction activities were screened using Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks (2025) and SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source

Emissions Factors (2025); see Appendix A. These tables are used to generate emissions estimates for development projects. Emissions anticipated from the Proposed Project compared to the SCAQMD threshold are shown below in Table 5, Table 6, and Table 7.

As shown in Table 5, Table 6, and Table 7, GHG emissions related to the Proposed Project are not anticipated to exceed the SCAQMD GHG emissions threshold. Therefore, impacts are anticipated to be less than significant.

Table 5
Greenhouse Gas Construction Emissions
"Material Removal"
Metric Tons per Year

Source/Phase	CO_2	CH_4	N_20
Haul Trucks[1]	17.5	0.0	0.0
Loader	6.9	0.0	0.0
Dozer	15.3	0.0	0.0
Misc. Construction Eq.	23.6	0.0	0.0
Total MTCO2e	**63.3**		
SCAQMD Threshold	10,000		
Significant	**No**		

Source: SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors (2025)
[1]Emission Factors for On-Road Heavy-Heavy Duty Diesel Trucks (2025)
Duration: 15-month Construction Period: 16-day Haul Period.

Table 6
Greenhouse Gas Construction Emissions
"Reservoir Installation"
Metric Tons per Year

Source/Phase	CO_2	CH_4	N_20
Loader/Backhoe	143.9	0.0	0.0
Crane	170.3	0.3	0.0
Grader/Excavator	158.4	0.0	0.0
Misc Construction Eq.	487.1	0.4	0.0
Total MTCO2e	**960.1**		
SCAQMD Threshold	10,000		
Significant	**No**		

Source: SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors (2025)
Duration: 15-month Construction Period

Table 7
Greenhouse Gas Construction Emissions
"Paving/Resurface"
Metric Tons per Year

Source/Phase	CO_2	CH_4	N_20
Paver	102.8	0.3	0.0
Miscellaneous Paving Eq.	181.9	0.3	0.0
Loader/Backhoe	143.9	0.0	0.0
Total MTCO2e	**428.6**		
SCAQMD Threshold	10,000		
Significant	**No**		

Source: SCAQMD Off-Road Mobile Source Emissions Factors (2025)
Duration: 15-month Construction Period

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

Less Than Significant. A significant impact may occur if the Proposed Project would conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHG.

Several initiatives, plans, policies, and regulations have been adopted at the state and local level related to reducing GHG emissions. In general, California's goals and strategies for the systematic statewide reduction of GHG emissions are embodied in the combination of Executive Order S-3-05, Assembly Bill (AB) 32, Senate Bill (SB) 375, AB 1493, Executive Order S-01-07, SB 1078, Executive Order B-30-15, and SB 32 which call for the state to meet the following milestones for reductions of GHG emissions:

- By 2010, reduce GHG emissions to 2000 levels
- By 2020, reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels
- By 2030, reduce GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels
- By 2050, reduce GHG emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels

At a local level, the City of Rancho Cucamonga 2020 General Plan Update sets goals to directly or indirectly to contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Among actions being implemented or considered by the City are energy efficiency standards for new development, the phase in of alternative fuel City vehicles, and other incentives and regulations related to alternative fuel usage and commercial and residential energy efficiency.

State and regional plans, policies, and regulations are generally intended to set statewide and regional policy and are not directly applicable to individual projects. Additionally, as discussed in VII a)

above, GHG emissions associated with construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not be substantial and would be below SCAQMD's GHG threshold for construction or operations for industrial projects (used as a benchmark for comparison purposes in the absence of more a more relevant established threshold). Further, the Proposed Project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purposes of reducing GHG emissions.

The Proposed Project would not emit substantial amounts of GHG emissions, or otherwise hinder implementation of plans, policies, and regulations to reduce GHG emissions. Therefore, impacts of construction and operation of the Proposed Project would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

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

Less Than Significant. Construction activities associated with the Proposed Project would involve use of limited quantities of hazardous materials such as petroleum, hydrocarbons, and their derivatives (e.g., gasoline, diesel, oils, and lubricants) to operate the construction equipment. Construction activities would be short-term and would involve the limited transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials. These materials would be used with construction equipment and stored in vessels engineered for safe storage.

Similar to construction, operation of the Proposed Project could involve limited quantities of hazardous materials such as petroleum, hydrocarbons, and their derivatives (e.g., gasoline, diesel, oils, and lubricants) during periodic maintenance activities. The use or disposal of these hazardous substances would occur according to instructions provided by the product manufacturer and be subject to federal, state, and local health and safety regulations involving storage, transport, use, and disposal. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Impacts would be less than significant impacts and no mitigation is required.

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

Less Than Significant. As described under item IX a) above, construction and operational activities associated with the Proposed

Project would involve relatively small quantities of hazardous substances associated with the operation of equipment and vehicles. Construction vehicles on-site may require refueling or maintenance that could result in minor releases of oil, diesel fuel, transmission fluid, or other materials. Inadvertent releases of hazardous materials on construction sites are typically localized and would be cleaned up in a timely manner in compliance with state and local laws that govern proper containment, spill control, and disposal of hazardous waste generated during construction.

Mandatory compliance with all federal, state, and local regulations on the transport, use, and disposal of hazardous materials would further reduce the likelihood of an accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment. Construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not 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. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. There is one school located approximately 0.75-mile south of the Project Site – Hermosa Elementary School, at 10133 Wilson Avenue, Alta Loma. Since there are no schools within one-quarter mile of the Project Site, no impacts would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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?

No Impact. Government Code Section 65962.5(a)(1) requires that Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) "shall compile and update as appropriate, but at least annually, and shall submit to the Secretary for Environmental Protection, a list of all the following: (1) all hazardous waste facilities subject to corrective action pursuant to Section 25187.5 of the Health and Safety Code ("HSC")." The hazardous waste facilities identified in HSC § 25187.5 are those where DTSC has taken or contracted for corrective action because a facility owner/operator has failed to comply with a date for taking corrective action in an order issued under HSC § 25187, or because DTSC determined that immediate corrective action was necessary to abate an imminent or substantial endangerment. This is known as the "Cortese List." Based on the result of the database review the Project Site is not located on any site that has been identified in accordance

with Section 65962.5 of the Government Code, and none exist within 1,000 feet of the Project Site. Therefore, there are no impacts and no mitigation is required.

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 for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact. The Proposed Project is located approximately seven miles north of Ontario International Airport and approximately seven miles northeast of Cable Airport. Therefore, neither construction nor operation of the Proposed Project would result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project vicinity and no impact would occur.

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact. The Proposed Project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, neither construction nor operation of the Proposed Project would result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project vicinity and no impact would occur.

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

No Impact. The Proposed Project would not impair or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or a local, state or federal agency's emergency evacuation plan. The Proposed Project is located on CVWD-owned property with an existing reservoir tank and associated infrastructure. All construction and staging would occur within the confines of the CVWD property and not result in any disruption to public streets. The Proposed Project would not impair or interfere with implementation of an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan and no impact would occur.

h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. The Project Site is located in the upper foothills of Rancho Cucamonga and designated by the City of Rancho Cucamonga as being within a Very High Fire Severity Zone, according to the Cal Fire *Hazard Severity Zones* (City of Rancho Cucamonga, GIS Division Map). The Project Site and its vicinity is also subject to Santa Ana winds, which can spread fires rapidly. Construction may include the use of gas-powered hand tools such as chain saws and/or welding equipment that may

produce sparks. The Project Site has a high concentration of vegetation. Therefore, there is a high potential to indirectly cause a wildfire during construction. As such, implementation of Mitigation Measure HAZ-1 that requires the contractor to implement fire protection protocols during construction, such as equipment maintenance and the suspension of welding during certain Santa Ana wind conditions, to reduce potential impacts to less than significant:

Mitigation Measure:

HAZ-1: *During construction, all staging areas, welding areas, or areas slated for construction using spark-producing equipment will be cleared of dried vegetation or other material that could ignite. Spark arresting equipment shall be in good working order. The CVWD and its contractor shall require all vehicles and crews working at the Project site to have access to functional fire extinguishers at all times. In addition, construction crews are required to have a spotter during welding activities to look out for potentially dangerous situations, including accidental sparks. The contractor also shall prepare a safety plan for the implementation of additional protocols when the National Weather Service issues a Red Flag Warning. The safety plan should remain on file with the CVWD during construction. Such protocols should address smoking and fire rules, storage and parking areas, use of gasoline-powered tools, use of spark arresters on construction equipment, road closures, use of a fire guard, fire suppression tools, fire suppression equipment, and training requirements.*

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

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

Less Than Significant. A natural drainage traverses the western boundary of the Project Site. The drainage is approximately 35 feet wide and 8 feet deep and receives surface flows from the residential neighborhood. Construction activities would occur approximately 66 feet east of the drainage, but no construction components involve stream modification.

Construction-related runoff pollutants are typically generated from waste and hazardous materials handling or storage areas, outdoor work areas, material storage areas, and general maintenance areas (e.g., vehicle or equipment fueling and maintenance, including washing). Construction projects that disturb 1 acre or more of soil are

regulated under the construction general permit (CGP, Order No. 2009-009-DWQ) and its subsequent revisions (Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ) issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Projects obtain coverage under the CGP by developing and implementing a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), estimating sediment risk from construction activities to receiving waters, and specifying Best Management Practices (BMPs) that would be implemented as a part of the Project's construction phase to minimize pollution of stormwater prior to and during grading and construction.

Implementation of BMPs such as sandbag barriers, geotextiles, storm drain inlet protection, sediment traps, rip rap soil stabilizers, sweep roadway from track-out, and rumble strips would prevent substantial construction site runoff and soil erosion that could violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

The CVWD holds a permit with the State Water Resources Control Board issued under the Clean Water Act. The Statewide Drinking Water Systems Discharge Permit provides Clean Water Act regulatory coverage for: (1) discharges resulting from essential operations and maintenance activities of drinking water systems undertaken to comply with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, California Health and Safety Code, and State Water Board's Division of Drinking Water permitting requirements; and (2) emergency discharges.

To comply with the Statewide Drinking Water Systems Discharge Permit, the District is required to:

a. Establish and implement appropriate best management practices.
b. Ensure that all planned discharges comply with the terms and requirements of the permit including applicable effluent limitations for chlorine residual and turbidity.
c. Take all necessary steps to review and update the effectiveness and adequacy of the control measures and best management practices.
d. Keep best management practices updated and available onsite for all system operators.
e. Conduct monitoring and reporting in compliance with the provisions and requirements in the Monitoring and Reporting Program, Attachment E of the Statewide Drinking Water Systems Discharge Permit.
f. Maintain self-monitoring reports including compliant and non-compliant discharge monitoring information at the system's main office and make them available upon request of State

Water Board and Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Santa Ana Water Board) staff.

g. Submit an annual report to the SWRCB and all reporting information required by the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

Operation of the Proposed Project would not violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements as it would occur in compliance with existing applicable standards/requirements. Therefore, with implementation of the BMPs in the required SWPPP and WQMP, water quality or waste-discharge impacts from Project-related grading and construction and operational activities would be less than significant and no mitigation is required.

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

Less Than Significant. The CVWD's water supply sources include: groundwater pumped from the Chino Basin and Cucamonga Basin; untreated, imported surface water from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California purchased through Inland Empire Utilities Agency and treated at the District's treatment plant; local surface water from Cucamonga Canyon, Day/East Etiwanda Canyon, and Deer Canyon; and recycled water purchased from IEUA.[1] The Cucamonga Basin was adjudicated in 1958 and CVWD was granted groundwater production rights. The District currently has the right to produce 15,471 acre-feet per year (AFY, approximately 75 percent of total rights) from the Cucamonga Basin with additional right to divert 3,620 AFY from the Cucamonga Creek.

The Proposed Project would provide for additional storage capacity, along with the District's other reservoirs for groundwater produced within the adjudicated production right of 15,471 acre-feet. The Proposed Project would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume/yield or a lowering of the local groundwater table level. Therefore, the impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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:

- **result in substantial erosion or siltation onsite or offsite;**

[1] Cucamonga Valley Water District 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, June 2021, prepared by Stetson Engineers.

- **substantially increase the rate or amount of surface water runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or offsite;**
- **create or contribute to runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or**
- **impede or redirect flood flows?**

Less Than Significant. Grading activities during construction of the Proposed Project may result in wind driven soil erosion and loss of topsoil. All construction and grading activities would comply with the Project's SWPPP that would be prepared prior to grading activities to reduce or eliminate erosion and siltation on-site and off-site. Grading is planned for only those areas that would be impacted by the installation of the new tank. The site drainage is designed in a manner that would mimic existing drainage patterns which would reduce potential flooding from storm events. There are no natural drainages that would be impacted by the Proposed Project, and the Project Site is not located in an area that would be subject to flood flows. Therefore, less than significant impact is anticipated as a result of construction and operation of the Proposed Project, and no mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. The project site is not mapped as being located within an area susceptible to tsunami inundation. Additionally, given the surface elevation and inland location of the site, the potential hazard posed by tsunami is considered negligible.

Seiches are periodic oscillations in large bodies of water such as lakes, harbors, bays, or open reservoirs. The site is not located adjacent to any bodies of water subject to seiches. Therefore, the potential for seiches to affect the site is considered low.

According to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), the site is mapped as being located within an area designated as Zone X (FEMA, 2016). Zone X is defined as an area of minimal flood hazard.

Therefore, the Project Site is not within a flood hazard, tsunami or seiche zone where there could be a risk of release of pollutants due to Project inundation. There are no impacts, and no mitigation is required.

e) Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

Less Than Significant. The Cucamonga Basin was adjudicated in 1958 and CVWD was granted groundwater production rights. The

District currently has the right to produce 15,471 acre-feet per year (AFY, approximately 75 percent of total rights) from the Cucamonga Basin with additional right to divert 3,620 AFY from the Cucamonga Creek. As an urban water supplier, the CVWD is required to is required to prepare and adopt an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), periodically review its UWMP, and incorporate updated and new information into an updated UWMP at least once every five years. In 2020, CVWD prepared an update to its 2015 UWMP which was submitted to and approved by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). The UWMP provides urban water suppliers (including the CVWD) with a planning document for long-term resource planning to ensure adequate water supplies are available to meet existing and future water supply needs. In addition, the 2020 UMWP incorporates water supply reliability determinations resulting from potential prolonged drought, regulatory revisions, and/or changing climatic conditions. Water supply storage is an integral part of being able to service its customers in times of drought or changing conditions. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not require an increase in CVWD's production rights and would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a the CVWD's water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. Therefore, the impacts are less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?

No Impact. The physical division of an established community is typically associated with construction of a linear feature, such as a major highway or railroad tracks, or removal of a means of access, such as a local road or bridge, which would impair mobility in an existing community or between a community and an outlying area. The Proposed Project is the construction and operation of a 3 MG water tank. The Proposed Project does not necessitate construction of any new public roadways, flood control channels, or other structures that would physically divide an established community. There would be no facilities constructed outside the current Project Site. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not divide an established community. No impacts from construction and operation of the Proposed Project would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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?

Less Than Significant. According to the Rancho Cucamonga Municipal Code Section 17.98.040, potable water storage facilities are

required to comply with development standards of the underlying zoning district. Additionally, such facilities shall be screened consistent with the provisions of section 17.48 (Fences, Walls, and Screening). The Project Site is zoned Very Low Residential (VL). Rancho Cucamonga Municipal Code Section 17.30.030 identifies "Utility Facility and Infrastructure – Fixed Based Structures" are not permitted in the VL zone.

The City of Rancho Cucamonga was incorporated on November 30, 1977. The existing Reservoir 5B which is adjacent to the proposed New Reservoir 5B-2, was constructed on the CVWD-owned parcels in approximately 1975, prior to the City's incorporation. Both CVWD-owned parcels are zoned by the City as Very Low Residential (VL).

California Government Code Section 53091 (a) states that each local agency shall comply with the applicable building ordinances of the county or city in which the territory of the local agency is situated. However, California Government Code Section 53091 (e) exempts water storage facilities from complying with zoning requirements, stating: *Zoning ordinances of a county or city shall not apply to the location or construction of facilities for the production, generation, storage, treatment, or transmission of water, or for the production or generation of electrical energy, facilities that are subject to Section 12808.5 of the Public Utilities Code, or electrical substations in an electrical transmission system that receives electricity at less than 100,000 volts. Zoning ordinances of a county or city shall apply to the location or construction of facilities for the storage or transmission of electrical energy by a local agency, if the zoning ordinances make provision for those facilities*.

Therefore, while a water storage reservoir qualifies as a "fixed utility structure" which is not permitted in the VL zone, the California Government Code exempts water storage facilities from having to comply with the local zoning ordinance. The CVWD has designed the facility to be consistent with the existing conditions, with screening for the neighborhood. Therefore, there is a less than significant impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

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?

Less Than Significant. In 1975, the California legislature enacted the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA). This act provides for the reclamation of mined lands and directs the State Geologist to classify (identify and map) the non-fuel mineral resources of the state

to show where economically significant mineral deposits occur and where they are likely to occur based upon the best available scientific data. The Project Site is assigned a "MRZ-2" mineral classification.[2] The MRZ-2 classification is defined as significant mineral deposits are present.

Within the City of Rancho Cucamonga, approximately 1,119 acres are classified as containing aggregate resources, and the sphere of influence of the City has 1,411 acres containing aggregate resources (Rancho Cucamonga 2021). As of 2021, there were no active mining operations in Rancho Cucamonga. A sand-and-gravel mining operation is in the northern portion of city but is closed with no intent to resume. The Holliday Rock Campus Plant operates along Cucamonga Creek, just west of the city limits, and primarily produces sand and gravel. The Kaiser Fontana Mine is south of the city limits and primarily produces sand and gravel.

The Project Site is situated on all sides by residential development and encompasses two parcels totaling 5.49 acres, of which approximately 2.49 acres are currently developed with an existing reservoir. Therefore, although the Project Site is identified as MRZ-2, or containing known resources, the Project Site is too small and not in a location conducive to mining. Therefore, the impacts are less than significant because implementation of the Proposed Project would not 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 because the Project would export its unused aggregate and mineral resources to a local site for processing. Therefore, the impacts are less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

No Impact. Construction of the water tank would not create a substantial demand of aggregate resources. The tank would be of steel construction, welded in place on a concrete foundation. Also refer to response to a) above. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not 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. There would be no impacts, and no mitigation is required.

[2] City of Rancho Cucamonga General Plan Update and Climate Action Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report, State Clearinghouse No. 2021050261, September 2021. See Figure 5.12-2, Mineral Land Classification.

XIII. NOISE

An assessment of the potential noise impacts was prepared for the Proposed Project to determine the potential impacts of construction and operations noise on the surrounding residences. The report *CP20051 New Reservoir 5B-2 Noise Study*, Ganddini Group, Inc, July 8, 2022 is included as Appendix E and findings are summarized below.

Noise is defined as any unwanted or objectionable sound. When noise levels increase, there may be adverse impacts to humans and the natural environment. Noise impacts can be short-term, such as temporary noise generated from construction activities, or long-term, such as the permanent operation of new facilities.

The noise descriptors utilized in the noise analysis for this Project include but are not limited to the following:

- Ambient Noise Level: The composite of noise from all sources, near and far. In this context, the ambient noise level constitutes the normal or existing level of environmental noise at a given location.
- Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL): The average equivalent A-weighted sound level during a 24- hour day, obtained after addition of five (5) decibels to sound levels in the evening from 7:00 to 10:00 PM and after addition of ten (10) decibels to sound levels in the night before 7:00 AM and after 10:00 PM.
- Equivalent Sound Level (LEQ): The sound level corresponding to a steady noise level over a given sample period with the same amount of acoustic energy as the actual time-varying noise level. The energy average noise level during the sample period.

Would the project result in:

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

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated.

Construction:

Construction is considered a short-term impact and would be considered significant if construction activities are taken outside the allowable times as described in the City's Section 17.66.050(D) of the City's Municipal Code exempts noise associated with construction activities provided the following: *When adjacent to a residential land use, school, church or similar type of use, the noise generating activity does not take place between the hours of 8:00 PM and 7:00 AM on weekdays, including Saturday, or at any time on Sunday or a national*

holiday, and provided noise levels created do not exceed the noise standard of 65 dBA when measured at the adjacent property line.

The Project would be constructed in accordance with the City's Municipal Code and expected to last 15 months.

The earthwork portion of construction as shown on Figure 1, which is anticipated to last three to four months, is anticipated to be the source of most of the noise, although tank placement would also generate periodic noise. The Geotechnical Investigation prepared for the Proposed Project identified that subsurface exploration borings met refusal at various depths and locations due to the subsurface consisting of very dense alluvium and boulders, which were also observed on the ground surface. The investigation identified that the CVWD should expect "very difficult" excavation within the alluvium. Further, it stated that "contract documents should specify that the contractor mobilize equipment capable of excavating and compacting very dense materials containing gravel, cobbles, and boulders. Rock breakers, carbide tipped augers, or carbide/diamond tipped coring equipment may be required to excavate/drill very dense materials containing gravel, cobbles, and boulders."

The Project Site is surrounded by residences, between 30 and 100 feet from the area of planned excavation (Figure 3). The noise assessment in Appendix E identified that noise associated with Project construction could reach up to 75.5 dBA Leq at the nearest residential property line to the north, 75.3 dBA Leq at the nearest residential property line to the west, 66 dBA Leq at the nearest residential property line to the south, 75.5 dBA Leq at the nearest residential property line to the southeast, and up to 67.1 dBA Leq at the nearest residential property line to the east of the construction work area.

Therefore, Mitigation Measure NOI-1 which requires implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) is required to ensure that construction noise does not exceed 65 dBA Leq at surrounding existing residential property lines. With the implementation of NOI-1, the impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures:

NOI-1: *CVWD will ensure that the BMPs listed in Appendix E of the Initial Study will be implemented by the construction contractor.*

Operation:

Once constructed, operations of the reservoir tank would include one or two CVWD personnel conducting bi-monthly visual inspections of the tank and associated piping. Therefore, there would be no noise associated with the operations of the facility.

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

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. Typically, developed areas are continuously affected by vibration velocities of 50 VdB or lower. These continuous vibrations are not noticeable to humans whose threshold of perception is around 65 VdB. Outdoor sources that may produce perceptible vibrations are usually caused by construction equipment, steel-wheeled trains, and traffic on rough roads, while smooth roads rarely produce perceptible ground- borne noise or vibration.

Construction activity has the potential to result in cracking of floor slabs, foundations, columns, beams, or cosmetic architectural damage, such as cracked plaster, stucco, or tile. (California Department of Transportation, 2020). To counter the effects of ground-borne vibration, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has published guidance relative to vibration impacts. Construction activities such as blasting, pile driving, demolition, excavation or drilling have the potential to generate ground vibrations. With respect to ground-borne vibration impacts on structures, the FTA states that ground-borne vibration levels in excess of 92 VdB would damage buildings extremely susceptible to vibration damage. Under Caltrans Guidelines, the vibration damage potential threshold criteria are a peak particle velocity (PPV) level of 0.5 in/sec for older residential structures 1.0 in/sec for newer residential structures.

Table 8 - Vibration Source Levels for Construction Equipment identifies the typical vibration levels from typical equipment expected to be utilized on the Project Site during construction, and Table 9 - Human Reaction and Damage to Buildings for Continuous or Frequent Intermittent Vibration Levels identifies the potential human and built environment impacts of the construction activities.

Table 8
Vibration Source Levels for Construction Equipment

Equipment	Approximate VdB				
	25 Feet	50 Feet	60 Feet	75 Feet	100 Feet
Large Bulldozer	87	81	79	77	75
Loaded Trucks	86	80	78	76	74
Jackhammer	79	73	71	69	67
Small Bulldozer	58	52	50	48	46

Source: Federal Rail Administration (FRA) Guidelines (Report Number 293630-1), December 1998.

Table 9
Human Reaction and Damage to Buildings for Continuous or Frequent Intermittent Vibration Levels

Peak Particle Velocity (inches/ second)	Approximate Vibration Velocity Level (VdB)	Human Reaction	Effects on Buildings
0.006–0.019	64–74	Range of threshold of perception.	Vibrations unlikely to cause damage of any type.
0.08	87	Vibrations readily perceptible.	Recommended upper level to which ruins and ancient monuments should be subjected.
0.01	92	Level at which continuous vibrations may begin to annoy people, particularly those involved in vibration sensitive activities.	Virtually no risk of architectural damage to normal buildings.
in 0.2	94	Vibrations may begin to annoy people in buildings.	Threshold at which there is a risk of architectural damage to normal dwellings.
0.4–0.6	98-104	Vibrations considered unpleasant by people subjected to continuous vibrations and unacceptable to some people walking on bridges.	Architectural damage and possibly minor structural damage.

Source: California Department of Transportation, Transportation and Construction Vibration Guidance Manual, April 2020. https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/environmental-analysis/documents/env/tcvgm-apr2020-a11y.pdf

Per the Geotechnical study prepared for the proposed project[3] rock breakers, carbide tipped augers, or carbide/diamond tipped coring equipment may be required to excavate/drill very dense materials containing gravel, cobbles, and boulders. A rock breaker, also known as hydraulic breaker, is an attachment usually mounted on the end of an excavator or backhoe arm. They have a pointed tip which actually does the breaking by, in essence, pounding the tip on the rock. Hydraulic breakers can generate groundborne vibrations of up to 0.24 peak particle velocity (PPV) at a distance of 25 feet from a receptor. The groundborne vibration propagation worksheet is included as Attachment 1 of Appendix E.

[3] Geotechnical Investigation CP20051 New Reservoir 5B-2. MTGL, Inc. November 10, 2022.

The closest improvement to the proposed rock breaking is an RV driveway just north of the project site. Proposed rock breaking may occur anywhere with the area specified for the reservoir, which is as close as 36 feet from this driveway. At a distance of 36 feet, rock breaking activities could result in groundborne vibration levels up to 0.16 PPV in./sec. and would not meet or exceed the criteria for residential related structures. The impact would be less than significant. No mitigation is required.

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?

No Impact. The Proposed Project is located approximately seven miles north of Ontario International Airport and approximately seven miles northeast of Cable Airport. The Proposed Project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, the Project is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. There would be no impact as the Project would therefore not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels, and no mitigation is required.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:

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

No Impact. The Proposed Project does not include new construction of residential development or other uses that would directly or indirectly induce population growth in the area. The Proposed Project would provide water storage capacity to meet the currently planned needs of CVWD water customers as projected in the applicable community General Plans. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not indirectly induce population growth by increasing the available water supply. No growth-inducing impacts are anticipated to result from construction or operation of the Proposed Project. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not induce substantial population growth in the area, either directly or indirectly, and no impact would occur, nor would mitigation be required.

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

No Impact. The Project Site is currently vacant and does not contain any structures. Therefore, the Project would not displace any existing housing and would not necessitate construction of replacement housing elsewhere, and no impact would occur, nor would mitigation be required.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the project:

a) 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:

Fire Protection?

Less Than Significant. Fire protection services are provided to the City of Rancho Cucamonga through the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District. The closest fire station to the Project Site is the Hellman Station, No 177 located at 9270 Rancho Street, in Rancho Cucamonga, approximately 3 miles from the Project Site.

During construction, Fire Protection may be required to manage minor emergencies, such as equipment fires. However, all heavy equipment would be equipped with fire suppression devices, and construction personnel trained regarding fire suppression of equipment and emergency procedures. Fire Protection District emergency access would not be impacted during construction. The increase in fire service demand generated by the Proposed Project during construction is not anticipated to require the construction of a new fire station or improvements to either RCFD stations serving the City of Rancho Cucamonga. Operation of the Proposed Project is passive, and it would not require additional fire protection.

Therefore, construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not result in the need for construction of additional fire protection facilities nor would it adversely affect service ratios. Impacts are less than significant and no mitigation is required.

Police Protection?

Less Than Significant. Police projection services are provided to the City of Rancho Cucamonga by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. The closest station to the Project Site is located at 10510 Civic Center Drive in Rancho Cucamonga, approximately 8 miles to the south of the Project Site.

Typically, impacts on police services are analyzed based on increases in permanent residents from projects involving residential developments. Project operations would be passive and would not require additional police protection. The Proposed Project would not result in substantial changes to population, housing or traffic that would increase demand on police protection services. Construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not result in the need for construction of additional police protection facilities nor would it adversely affect service ratios.

Therefore, construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not 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. Impacts are less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

Schools?

No Impact. No population increase in the Project area would result from the construction and operation of the Proposed Project. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in the need for the provision of additional schools or the physical modification to existing school facilities. There are no impacts, and no mitigation is required.

Recreation/Parks?

No Impact. There are two trails in the Project vicinity, including two that are adjacent to the Project Site. Neither of these trails would be impacted by the Proposed Project. The construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not generate additional population that would increase demand for neighborhood, regional parks or other recreational facilities. Therefore, construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not affect use of the trails or any local or regional park. There are no impacts, and no mitigation is required.

Other Public Facilities?

No Impact. Construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of any new or physically altered governmental facilities, or any 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. Impacts are less than significant and no mitigation is required. There are no impacts, and no mitigation is required.

XVI. RECREATION

Would the project:

a) 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?

No Impact. Neither the construction nor operation of the Proposed Project would generate additional population that would increase the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities. Therefore, no impacts to existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational centers are anticipated from construction and operation of the Proposed Project and no mitigation is required.

b) 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?

No Impact. Neither the construction nor operation of the Proposed Project would generate additional population that would increase the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities. Therefore, no impacts to existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational centers are anticipated from construction and operation of the Proposed Project and no mitigation is required.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION

Would the project:

a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities? Several methods are utilized to determine the traffic a potential project would generate and the potential impacts of that new traffic.

Less Than Significant. The Level of Service (LOS) method is defined in the Highway Capacity Manual 6 and assigns a qualitative letter grade that represents the operations of the intersection, ranging from LOS A (minimal delay) to LOS F (excessive congestion). LOS E represents at-capacity operations. The LOS method is utilized by jurisdictions as a tool to determine conformity to the Countywide Congestion Management Plan (CMP) for the purpose of roadway planning and signalization.

The City of Rancho Cucamonga's Mobility and Access component in its General Plan was established to provide for a safe, convenient and efficient transportation system for the city. The City of Rancho Cucamonga's Mobility and Access (Policy MA-2.8) establishes a minimum level of service (LOS) D for all City-maintained roads and intersections, and LOS E or F at intersections or segments for modes

that are not prioritized. Based on the relatively low Project trip generation, the Proposed Project is not anticipated to appreciably contribute Level of Service degradation.

The Proposed Project would be accessed from the adjacent reservoir site. The CVWD would maintain its existing access driveway off of Mayberry Avenue, which currently is the access driveway for its existing reservoir. Mayberry Avenue is a local roadway and does not have dedicated transit, roadway, bikeway or pedestrian facilities.

Therefore, the Proposed Project is anticipated to have a negligible effect on Levels of Service. Less than significant impacts would occur and no mitigation is required.

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

Less Than Significant. Senate Bill 743, adopted in 2013, added section 21099 to the Public Resources Code, which states that automobile delay, as described by level of service (LOS) or similar measures of vehicular capacity or traffic congestion, shall not be considered a significant impact on the environment. jurisdictions must now use the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) methodology as the metric for evaluating the environmental impacts on transportation under CEQA instead of the traditional level of service (LOS) methodology. Essentially a project's environmental impacts can no longer focus on vehicle delay at street intersections or on roadway segments but must use the miles a vehicle must travel between a dwelling and commerce, recreation and/or work. The intent of this shift in methodology is to encourage different land use and transportation decisions to reduce greenhouse gas emission, support in-fill development and improve public health through active transportation.

Earthwork includes an estimated cut of 5,700 cubic yards, and a fill of 400 cubic yards, for a net cut of approximately 5,300 cubic yards. Native materials will be screened and used for fill. Rejected materials will be left on site. Imported material may be required. It is assumed that less than 10 workers would travel in personal vehicles to and from the Project Site from the local area during construction.

The San Bernardino County criteria for assessing the need to prepare a transportation impact study is specified in the County of San Bernardino Transportation Impact Study Guidelines (July 2019) ["TIS Guidelines"]. As specified in the County of San Bernardino TIS Guidelines, the requirement to prepare a transportation impact study (with Level of Service analysis) should be based upon one or more of the following criteria:

- If a project generates 100 or more trips without consideration of pass-by trips during any peak hour.

- If a project is located within 300 feet of:
  - The intersection of two streets designated as Collector or higher in the County's General Plan or the Department's Master Plan; or,
  - An impacted intersection as determined by the Traffic Division.
- If this project creates safety or operational concerns.
- The project has the potential to generate VMT that could result in a transportation impact as noted in the significance criteria presented later in this memorandum.
- If a project generates less than 100 trips without consideration of pass-by trips during any peak hour, a study maybe required if there are special concerns.

The construction activities associated with the Proposed Project would be temporary and would utilize existing public works equipment and staff. Construction of the Proposed Project is estimated to require approximately 15 months. Construction traffic would be limited to delivery of equipment and associated employee trips during the construction period, which is anticipated to be below the 100 AM and PM peak hour trips thresholds established by the County of San Bernardino criteria.

Similarly, post-construction activities would involve inspection and general monthly maintenance and generating fewer than 100 peak hour trips. The Proposed Project would not conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3 Subdivision (b)(1). Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

Less Than Significant. The Proposed Project would be accessible from the adjacent existing reservoir which is accessed from Beaver Creek Court. Beaver Creek Court is a local roadway that currently serves three homes. The existing driveway would be adequate for CVWD service trucks and equipment. Therefore, the impact is less than significant, and no mitigation is required because the new driveway would not 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?

Less Than Significant. All construction activities, including equipment staging, would occur within the Project Site, which would not impede emergency access along Beaver Creek Court. Construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not hinder emergency access to or from the Site. Therefore, less than significant emergency access impacts are expected from construction and operation of the Proposed Project, and no mitigation is required.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

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), or

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. According to PRC Chapter 2.5, Section 21074, tribal cultural resources are sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and items with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources or included in a local register of historical resources as defined in Section 5020.1.

There are no tribal resources that have been identified as eligible for listing to the California Register of Historic Places within or near the Project Site (Appendix C). Therefore, there would be no impact to known tribal cultural resources.

The CVWD consulted with 12 tribal entities in accordance with AB52. Of the 12 tribes, only the YSMN responded and identified that the Proposed Project area exists within Serrano ancestral territory and, therefore, is of interest to the Tribe. However, due to the nature and location of the Proposed Project and given the YSMN Cultural Resources Department's present state of knowledge, the YSMN indicated they had no concerns with the Project's implementation. However, the YSMN requested that the mitigation measures be included in the Project approvals to protect potential unknown tribal archaeological resources. Mitigation Measure TCR-1 and TCR-2 incorporates the YSMN request. Implementation of TCR-1 and TCR-2 would reduce potential impacts to tribal cultural resources to less than significant.

Mitigation Measures:

TCR-1: *The Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed in CR-1, of any pre-contact and/or historic-era cultural resources discovered during project implementation, and be provided information regarding the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regards to significance and treatment. Should the find be deemed significant, as defined by CEQA (as amended, 2015), a Cultural Resources Monitoring and Treatment Plan shall be created by the archaeologist, in coordination with YSMN and other tribes as appropriate, and all subsequent finds shall be subject to this Plan. This Plan shall allow for a monitor to be present that represents YSMN, or other tribe as appropriate, for the remainder of the project, should YSMN, or other tribe as appropriate, elect to place a monitor on-site.*

TCR-2: *Any and all archaeological/cultural documents created as a part of the project (isolate records, site records, survey reports, testing reports, etc.) shall be supplied to the CVWD for dissemination to YSMN, or other tribe as deemed appropriate. The CVWD shall, in good faith, consult with YSMN throughout the life of the project.*

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.

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. See item XVIII a) above. Although no known tribal cultural resources are located at the Project Site or vicinity, with implementation of mitigation measures TCR-1 and TCR-2, the Proposed Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, and impacts would be less than significant.

XIX. UTILITY AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:

a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the

construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Less Than Significant. The Proposed Project is the construction and operation of a new 3 MG water storage tank reservoir, identified as New Reservoir 5B-2, adjacent to its existing Reservoir 5B, which is a 1 MG steel tank constructed in 1975. The Proposed Project has been planned by CVWD to store water for its customers to ensure adequate supply.

The Proposed Project would not require the use of wastewater facilities or natural gas. Electric power and telecommunications facilities are readily available in the immediate vicinity. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects. Therefore, the impacts are 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?

Less Than Significant. The Project is the construction and operation of a 3 MG water tank and related improvements to provide additional storage to meet customer demands. The use of additional groundwater would not result. Additionally, the Proposed Project does not include any uses that would increase water demand. Construction of the water tank is proposed to serve the existing needs of CVWD's customers and would not directly or indirectly result in additional demands on the water system. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated 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?

Less Than Significant. The Proposed Project is the construction and operation of a water storage tank, with no office or facilities that require wastewater treatment. During construction, employees may utilize portable toilets that would be provided by a licensed vendor. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not 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. The impacts are less than significant, and no mitigation is 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?

Less Than Significant. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not generate additional solid waste beyond initial construction (i.e., clearing) activities. The CVWD contractor would be responsible for all waste removal and disposal. The nearest sanitary landfill to the site is the Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill operated by the County of San Bernardino, located at 2390 N. Alder Avenue, Rialto, CA. The Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill has a daily throughput of 7,500 tons with a remaining capacity as of 2019 of 61.2 million tons and a permitted capacity of 101.3 million tons. The temporary generation of construction debris would not 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. Therefore, impacts are less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

e) Would the project comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Less Than Significant. All collection, transportation, and disposal of solid waste generated by the Project would comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations. Construction waste generated by the project would enter the City's waste stream but would not adversely affect the City's ability to meet the requirements of AB 939, AB 341, or AB 1826, since the project's waste generation would represent a temporary and nominal percentage of the waste created within the City. The Project would comply with all regulatory requirements regarding solid waste, and impacts associated with solid waste disposal regulations would be less than significant.

XX. WILDFIRE

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?

Less Than Significant. The Proposed Project is identified by the City of Rancho Cucamonga as being within a Very High Fire Severity Zone. All Project construction, including equipment staging, would occur on-site and not block roadways used by emergency personnel. CVWD's Hazard Mitigation Plan guidelines would be followed. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. As such, the

impact would be less than significant, and no mitigation would be required.

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 wildfire?

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. The Proposed Project Site is relatively flat or has a gentle slope, according to the Geotechnical Investigation. The Project vicinity is within the foothills of Rancho Cucamonga, which has been identified by the City as being within a Very High Fire Severity Zone and is subject to high winds. The Project Site is bordered on all sides by established residential development. Given that the topography of the site is relatively flat or has a gentle slope, there is a less than significant impact that due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, implementation of the Proposed Project would exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of wildfire.

However, Project construction may include the use of gas-powered hand tools such as chain saws and/or welding equipment that may produce sparks. The Project Site and its vicinity is also subject to Santa Ana winds, which can spread fires rapidly. As such, implementation of Mitigation Measure HAZ-1 (refer to Section IX) that requires the contractor to implement fire protection protocols during construction, such as equipment maintenance and the suspension of welding during certain Santa Ana wind conditions, to reduce potential impacts to less than significant. Implementation of HAZ-1 would also serve to reduce impacts to this Section XX(b) concern.

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?

No Impact. The Proposed Project is the construction of a 3 MG water storage tank. Operations of the Project consists of personnel visits for inspection and testing. There is no part of the Project construction or operation that would 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. There are no impacts, and no mitigation is required.

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?

Less Than Significant. A natural drainage channel exists on the Project Site's western boundary. The site drainage is designed in a manner that would mimic existing drainage patterns which would reduce potential flooding from storm events, even in a post-fire condition. Therefore, because the existing Project Site has a gentle slope and site grading would not substantially change existing drainage conditions, there is a less than significant impact to exposing 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. No mitigation is required.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

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?

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. The Project Site is vacant, contains no drainages, and does not contain suitable habitat for any sensitive species. There are also no cultural or archaeological sites within the Project boundaries or surroundings.

The Project would be required to comply with Project-specific mitigation measures relative to biological including BIO-1 that requires a pre-construction nesting bird survey, and CR-1 that requires the preparation of a Cultural Resource Monitoring and Management Plan to accommodate unanticipated cultural resources, and CR-2 which identifies procedures upon discovery of unanticipated human remains. Implementation of these measures would ensure that Project-specific impacts would be less than significant.

Thus, the Proposed Project would not 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, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or an endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Therefore, impacts are less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

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)?

Less Than Significant. Cumulative impacts are defined as two or more individual affects that, when considered together, are considerable or that compound or increase other environmental impacts. The cumulative impact from several projects is the change in the environment that results from the incremental impact of the development when added to the impacts of other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable or probable future developments. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but collectively significant, developments taking place over a period. The CEQA Guidelines, Sections 15130 (a) and (b), states:

(a) Cumulative impacts shall be discussed when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable.

(b) The discussion of cumulative impacts shall reflect the severity of the impacts and their likelihood of occurrence, but the discussion need not provide as great detail as is provided of the effects attributable to the project. The discussion should be guided by the standards of practicality and reasonableness.

The Proposed Project is being developed according to the CVWD's plan to store water and ensure its customers have adequate water supplies. The immediate Project vicinity is built out with residential uses. Public works projects are a permitted use within the Open Space District and the Proposed Project would be consistent with the City of Rancho Cucamonga General Plan. Impacts identified in this Initial Study can be reduced to a less than significant impact. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

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

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated. This Initial Study was prepared consistent with the Environmental Checklist Form, as suggested in Section 15063(d)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, as amended, and includes a series of questions about the project for each of the listed environmental topics. The Form evaluates whether or not there would be significant environmental effects associated with the development of the project on the natural environment and the human environment, and provides mitigation measures, when required, to reduce impacts to a less than significant level. The form

requires an analysis in 20 subject categories as well as Mandatory Findings of Significance.

Mitigation measures (MM) were determined necessary to reduce environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly in the following categories:

- Hazards and Hazardous Materials (MM HAZ-1)
- Noise (MM NOI-1)
- Wildfire (MM HAZ-1)

Therefore, with mitigation incorporated, the Proposed Project would not directly or indirectly cause substantial adverse effects on human beings.

SECTION 4

LIST OF PREPARERS AND REFERENCES

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