5.11 MINERAL RESOURCES

5.11.1 Significance Criteria

The potential to create impacts to mineral resources is determined primarily by CEQA criteria. Based on the criteria in the Environmental Checklist Form in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a proposed project would have a potentially significant impact if it would:

- 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
- 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

5.11.2 Construction/Operation Impacts

No potentially significant impacts to mineral resources have been identified for the proposed project. The proposed Segment 2 500 kV and 220 kV T/L routes traverse an area (approximately MP 4.6 to MP 4.7 along the 500 kV T/L portion of Segment 2) designated as Mineral Resource Extraction (MRE) (quarry and reclamation) in the City of Palmdale's General Plan (Palmdale, 1993). Since the proposed 500 kV T/L along Segment 2 would be constructed adjacent to the existing T/L corridor in this area, the proposed project would not be expected to result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site.

The proposed 500 kV and 220 kV T/L components of Segment 3 (including Alternatives A, B, and C) stay well east and north of the Cal Cement facility associated limestone mining operations to the west of proposed Substation One. Similarly, the proposed and alternative 220 kV substation and T/L routes on the northern end of Segment 3 stay south of the limestone mining operations near Monolith on the north side of Highway 58.

No active or planned oil and gas related production activities have been identified in the vicinity of proposed or alternative Segment 2 or 3 project components, thus no impacts would be expected to occur.

5.11.3 Mitigation Measures

Since no adverse impacts to mineral resources have been identified, no mitigation measures are proposed.