

# Section 3.13

**3.13 PUBLIC SERVICES**

This section describes existing conditions and the potential public service impacts associated with the construction and operation of the Proposed Project and alternatives.

**3.13.1 Existing Conditions****3.13.1.1 Police Protection**

**3.13.1.1.1 City of Banning.** The City of Banning Police Department is currently utilizing an interim facility located at 5261 West Wilson Street. The Police Department is in the process of designing a new 26,000-square-foot station to be constructed at the original location of the police station at 125 East Ramsey Street. The new station, which is anticipated to be completed in 2008, would accommodate demand generated by build-out of the City (projected in 20 years).

The Banning Police Department has a total of 36 sworn positions, including the Chief of Police, two Commanders, six Sergeants, six Corporals, and 21 Officers. The Police Department is organized into three main departments: Administration, Operations, and Special Operations departments. The Banning Police Department Patrol Division is organized into two shifts per day, based on a 12-hour plan. The patrol teams are the first responders for all calls for service within the City of Banning and its sphere of influence, and are deployed with one Sergeant, one Corporal, and two patrol officers, in addition to one traffic officer assigned to each day of the week. The Police Department's fleet consists of marked patrol cars, unmarked units, motorcycles, and bicycles. The City participates in mutual aid agreements with other Riverside County law enforcement agencies.

**3.13.1.1.2 City of Beaumont.** The Beaumont Police Department is located at 660 Orange Avenue and provides comprehensive law enforcement services for the city. Currently, the department is staffed with twenty-five sworn officers and seven non-sworn personnel. The Department is administered by a Chief of Police and one lieutenant. Four sergeants and thirteen police officers are assigned to the patrol division, which operates 24 hours a day. One sergeant and three detectives form the Department's investigation division. One officer is assigned to ARCNET (Allied Riverside Cities Narcotics Enforcement Team), a regional narcotics investigation team; and an additional officer is assigned to the INCA task force (Inland Crackdown Allied Task Force), focusing primarily on multi-national narcotics investigations. In addition to professional staff, the Police Department has utilized a citizen volunteer program for the past nine years. Consisting of 15 to 20 adults who have completed special training, the "Citizens Patrol" program provides services such as special event security, neighborhood watch program coordination, vacation house checks, abandoned vehicle abatement, high visibility patrol, and computer or clerical assistance.

**3.13.1.1.3 City of Calimesa.** The City of Calimesa does not operate an independent City-run police department. Instead, police services for the City are provided by the Riverside County Sheriff's Department through a contractual agreement. Sheriff's services are provided to the City through the Cabazon Station, located to the east of the City of Banning. Through the City's contract with the Sheriff's Department, deputies are on duty and patrol the City on a 24-hour basis.

**3.13.1.1.4 City of Yucaipa.** Basic law enforcement protection is provided to the City of Yucaipa by contractual agreement with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, who commit nineteen (19) uniformed deputy sheriffs to answer approximately 28,000 calls for service annually. Their activities are supported by supervisory, clerical, crime prevention and investigative personnel at the station level; and various support units from Aviation, K-9, Crime Lab, and Specialized Investigations details such as Homicide, Narcotics, Arson/Bomb, and Crimes Against Children. They receive additional support from approximately 260-citizen volunteers representing eleven different groups. The Sheriff's Department operates a Station in the City at 34282 Yucaipa Boulevard.

**3.13.1.1.5 City of Redlands.** The Redlands Police Department operates its administrative offices at 30 Cajon Street, and its main police station and dispatch center at 212 Brookside Avenue. The Redlands Police Department also operates four satellite police stations throughout the city, including Community Policing Station – East located at 1381 East Citrus Avenue, Community Policing Station – North located at 1568 North Orange Avenue, Community Policing Station – West located at 1150 Brookside Avenue, and Community Policing Station – Downtown located at 406 North Orange Street.

The Redlands Police Department employs 98 sworn officers and more than 100 civilian personnel and operates under the policy of Risk Focused Policing. Risk Focused Policing is a data and results-driven, community-oriented policing and problem solving strategy that focuses on those factors in a community that place its youth and their families most at risk for criminal and other problem behaviors.

**3.13.1.1.6 Riverside County.** Riverside County provides community policing and the operation and maintenance of correctional facilities. The Riverside County Sheriff's Department has 2,720 employees, including 1,330 sworn personnel to provide for community policing services. Nine sheriff sub-stations are located throughout Riverside County to provide area-level community service. In addition, the Sheriff's Department operates the Moreno Valley Police Department station in the City of Moreno Valley. The Sheriff's Department is a "demand response" agency that maintains limited patrol services. The Sheriff's Department also operates five adult correction or detention centers located throughout the County, as well as juvenile detention facilities.

**3.13.1.1.7 San Bernardino County.** Information regarding the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department is discussed above in Section 3.13.1.1.4.

**3.13.1.2 Fire Protection**

**3.13.1.2.1 City of Banning.** Fire protection services are provided to the City of Banning through a contractual agreement with the Riverside County Fire Department, which in turn contracts with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). Fire protection services provided include emergency medical services, fire prevention, disaster preparedness, fire safety inspections, hazardous materials business plan programs, and plan reviews.

The service contract for fire protection includes a Regional Fire Protection Program with other incorporated cities, which allows fire stations to actively support one another regardless of geographic or jurisdictional boundaries. As a result, the community has access to the most effective and efficient method of emergency response and allows for the shared use of specialized equipment and personnel between neighboring communities.

There are two stations that serve the City of Banning. Station No. 89 is located within the City of Banning and is intended to serve urban fire needs. Station No. 20 is a wildland station operated by the CDF to the west of the City of Banning in the City of Beaumont. RCFD engines are equipped with an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to provide medical aid. Paramedic services are provided by American Medical Response (AMR) through the Perris Command Center in coordination with RCFD.

**3.13.1.2.2 City of Beaumont.** The City of Beaumont contracts with the Riverside County Fire Department for Citywide services, including fire protection, public service, and emergency medical aid response. All Riverside County stations are dispatched by the same County Fire 9-1-1 Center and are part of the “Integrated Fire Protection System,” under contract with the State of California.

Station No. 66, the Beaumont City Station, is located in the downtown area at 628 Maple Avenue. This station is staffed year-round by a crew of two and one full service fire engine for the fire service needs within the City. An additional fire engine, as well as a breathing support unit, water tender, and a squad/utility vehicle, are housed at this station and operated by trained volunteer or reserve staff if needed.

Station No. 20, located near the City’s eastern boundary at 1550 East Sixth Street, is also staffed year-round by the California Department of Forestry. Equipment and crews include a Type-1 “City” engine with a crew of two, a Type-3 engine geared to fighting wildfires with a crew of four, and one bulldozer. During fire season, typically May through December, an additional Type-3 engine is based at this station.

Three additional stations are located in nearby areas. Station No. 22 is located less than one mile north of the City’s boundaries, at 10055 Avenida Miravilla in Cherry Valley. Station No. 21 is located at 906 Park Avenue in Calimesa, approximately four miles northwesterly of

the City limits, and Station 86, the “East Banning” station, is located at 172 North Murray in Banning, approximately four miles east of the City limits.

**3.13.1.2.3 City of Calimesa.** Fire protection services are provided to the City of Calimesa through a contractual agreement with the Riverside County Fire Department. The closest facility is the Riverside County Fire Department Station No. 21, located approximately two miles east of the proposed project area (Southern California Edison, 2005). Further information regarding the Riverside County Fire Department is discussed below.

**3.13.1.2.4 City of Yucaipa.** Fire protection and paramedic services are provided to the City of Yucaipa through a contractual agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). The City and the County Fire Department developed an agreement to provide similar services to Oak Glen and the unincorporated regions along the eastern boundaries of the City. CDF operates a station in Yucaipa at 41100 Pine Bench Road. Additional stations are located throughout Riverside County.

**3.13.1.2.5 City of Redlands.** Fire protection services are provided to the City of Redlands by the Redlands Fire Department. Fire protection services provided include emergency medical services, fire prevention, disaster preparedness, fire safety inspections, and a host of other public services including providing a household hazardous waste disposal site, CPR classes, sharps container exchange program, blood pressure checks, and public education programs.

There are a total of four stations that serve the City of Redlands, including Station No. 261 located at 525 East Citrus Avenue, Station No. 262 located at 1690 Garden, Station No. 263 located at 10 West Pennsylvania, and Station No. 264 located at 1270 West Park Avenue. A total of 67 employees work for the Redlands Fire Department.

**3.13.1.2.6 Riverside County.** The Riverside County Fire Department operates 85 fire stations within the County. A total of 51 of these stations, as well as three stations operated by the CDF, are located in the unincorporated portion of Riverside County. In addition to providing fire protection services to unincorporated areas, the Riverside County Fire Department provides fire protection services to 16 cities on a contractual basis.

The County Fire Department is staffed by approximately 865 career and 900 volunteer individuals operating over 7,004 square miles and serving 1,545,000 residents. It is comprised of eight divisions. A portion of the Proposed Project is located within the Oak Glen Division. The Oak Glen division has a Conservation Camp, two battalions with nine permanently staffed fire stations, and one all-volunteer fire station. The closest Riverside County Fire Department facilities to the Proposed Project are located in the Cities of Banning and Beaumont, as described above. The City of Beaumont has six firefighters assigned to one fire station, while the City of Banning has eleven firefighters assigned to two fire stations.

**3.13.1.2.7 San Bernardino County.** The San Bernardino County Fire Department (SBCFD) provides services to 70 cities/communities and all unincorporated areas of the County. Its jurisdiction encompasses more than 16,000 square miles that stretch from the Los Angeles County line on the west to the Colorado River on the east. There are four divisions within the SBCFD. A portion of the Proposed Project is located within the Mountain Division (MD), near the unincorporated areas of Mentone and Crafton Hills and also including the City of Yucaipa and a facility within the San Bernardino National Forest.

The MD covers approximately 681 square miles of forested mountains and serves 18,900 persons. The Division provides a full range of first responder emergency medical services from basic first aid through paramedic. The Mountain Division has the following staff: Division Chief, one Staff Analyst, one Accountant Clerk I, one Public Service Employee, two Battalion Chiefs, 11 Captains, 11 Engineers/Paramedics, 9 Firefighters/Paramedics, 6 Limited Term Firefighters, 86 Paid Call Firefighters.

### **3.13.1.3 Public Schools**

**3.13.1.3.1 City of Banning.** The Banning Unified School District serves the City of Banning and operates four elementary schools, two middle schools, and one comprehensive high school and one continuation high school with a total enrollment of 5,200 students. In addition, there are two private schools within the city limits (Greatschools.net, 2005).

**3.13.1.3.2 City of Beaumont.** The residents of the City of Beaumont are served by the Beaumont Unified School District educational facilities and services. The District also serves residents of Cherry Valley and portions of Banning. Currently, the District operates five elementary schools, two middle schools, one high school, two alternative high schools and an extensive preschool and adult education program.

**3.13.1.3.3 City of Calimesa.** The Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District serves the City of Calimesa and operates seven elementary schools, three middle schools, and four high schools with a total enrollment of 9,242 students (Greatschools.net, 2005).

**3.13.1.3.4 City of Yucaipa.** The Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District serves the City of Yucaipa and operates seven elementary schools, three middle schools, and four high schools with a total enrollment of 9,242 students (Greatschools.net, 2005).

**3.13.1.3.5 City of Redlands.** The Redlands Unified School District serves the Cities of Redlands and Loma Linda and operates 15 elementary schools, four middle schools, two comprehensive high schools, and an alternative high school. Plans are underway for a third comprehensive high school, and an additional elementary school and middle school are also planned for the near future. The Redlands Unified School District serves approximately 21,170 students.

**3.13.1.3.6 Riverside County.** There are no schools located in the unincorporated area of Riverside County near the proposed project.

**3.13.1.3.7 San Bernardino County.** The San Bernardino County Office of Education operates five public schools at various locations within the County, with a total enrollment of 2,984 students (Greatschools.net, 2006).

#### **3.13.1.4 Hospitals**

Hospital Services in the area surrounding the Proposed Project are provided by a variety of medical care facilities. The San Geronio Memorial Hospital is a 70-bed facility that is located within the City of Banning. The San Bernardino County Medical Center is a 286-bed facility that is located within the City of San Bernardino. The Redlands Community Hospital is a 175-bed facility within the City of Redlands. Palm Springs and Loma Linda contain trauma centers to support the needs of local residents. These facilities serve the medical needs of residents of the Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, and Yucaipa, as well as residents of unincorporated areas of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

### **3.13.2 Significance Criteria**

Impacts to public services are considered potentially significant if the project would:

- 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 following public services: fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, and other public facilities

Potential impacts related to parks and recreation, including the Norton Younglove Reserve, are discussed in Section 3.14, Recreation, of this PEA.

### **3.13.3 Proposed Project Impacts**

#### **3.13.3.1 Construction Impacts**

Construction activities associated with various elements of the Proposed Project would not unduly burden local police or fire services. At the completion of the work day, construction crews would lock up and secure each work site to prevent theft or vandalism associated of work equipment and supplies. Additionally, SCE would utilize private patrols to monitor all elements of the Proposed Project. Work crews would also minimize potential fire hazards through the implementation of standard SCE work plans. Therefore, construction of the Proposed Project would not require the provision of new or additional local police or fire services.

As discussed above, there are several hospitals in the area, as well as emergency clinics. Construction of the Proposed Project may require the limited use of existing medical facilities in the area in the unlikely event of an accident. However, as medical emergencies are expected to be minimal, potential medical emergencies among construction crews would not unduly burden the local hospitals or medical facilities. Therefore, construction of the Proposed Project would not require the provision of new or additional medical facilities.

As discussed in Section 3.12 of this PEA, the construction of the Proposed Project would not cause a direct or indirect increase in local population in the area because the construction work force would primarily consist of local workers. Further, construction activities would be temporary and short-term. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not affect the enrollment or capacity of the schools within the surrounding area. Therefore, construction of the Proposed Project would not require the provision of new or additional school facilities.

In summary, project construction impacts related to public services would be less than significant.

#### **3.13.3.2 Operational Impacts**

All elements of the Proposed Project would operate as unattended facilities within existing SCE right-of-ways. SCE would utilize private patrol services to monitor the facilities to verify that all elements of the Proposed Project are safe and secure. Although unlikely, in the event of an emergency, the private patrol services would contact local police or fire services. Therefore, the need for local police and fire services would be limited and the Proposed Project would not require the provision of new or additional services. In addition, operation of the Proposed Project would not cause an increase in the local population. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not require the provision of new or additional medical or school facilities.

In summary, impacts to public services due to operation of the Proposed Project would be less than significant.

#### **3.13.3.3 Applicant Proposed Mitigation Measures**

Because impacts to public services would be less than significant, no mitigation measures are required.

#### **3.13.4 Alternatives**

##### **3.13.4.1 Northerly 115 kV Subtransmission Line Route Alternative**

The northerly 115 kV subtransmission line route would have comparable public services impacts to those identified for the Proposed Project. The need for police or fire services during the construction of the 115 kV lines would be minimal as SCE work crews would



secure each work site on a daily basis and utilize private patrol services. SCE crews would also operate according to standard SCE work plans to limit the potential for fire hazards associated with construction activities. Medical emergencies are expected to be minimal among construction crews and would not unduly burden local medical facilities. In addition, because the construction work force would primarily consist of local workers, the construction of the northerly 115 kV subtransmission line route would not affect the enrollment or capacity of local schools in the area.

The northerly 115 kV subtransmission line route would operate as an unattended facility. In addition, SCE would utilize private patrol services to monitor the 115 kV lines to verify that the lines are safe and secure. Although unlikely, in the event of an emergency, the private patrol services would contact local police or fire services. The northerly 115 kV subtransmission line alternative would not require the provision of new or additional medical or school facilities. In summary, impacts to public services due to the construction and operation of the subtransmission line route alternative would be less than significant.

#### **3.13.4.2 Site 38 (Alternate Site)**

The construction of the substation at Site 38 would have comparable public services impacts to those identified for the Proposed Project. The need for police or fire services during the construction of the substation would be minimal as SCE work crews would secure each work site on a daily basis and SCE would utilize private patrol services. SCE crews would also operate according to standard SCE work plans to limit the potential for fire hazards associated with construction activities. Medical emergencies are expected to be minimal among construction crews and would not unduly burden local medical facilities. In addition, the construction work force would primarily consist of local workers, and the construction of the substation would not affect the enrollment or capacity of local schools in the area.

A new substation at Site 38 would operate as an unattended facility. In addition, SCE would utilize private patrol services to monitor the infrastructure at Site 38 to verify that the substation is safe and secure. Although unlikely, in the event of an emergency, the private patrol services would contact local police or fire services. The substation would not require the provision of new or additional medical or school facilities. In summary, impacts to public services due to the construction and operation of the substation at the Site 38 site alternative would be less than significant.