

## **D.17 Utilities and Public Services**

This section describes the affected environment for Utilities and Public Services in Section D.17.1 and presents the relevant regulations and standards in Section D.17.2. Sections D.17.3 through D.17.5 describe the impacts of the Proposed Project and the alternatives. Section D.17.6 presents the mitigation measures and mitigation monitoring requirements, and D.17.7 lists references cited.

This section analyzes whether the project would result in impacts due to the need for new or additional public services including police, fire services, schools, and hospitals. It also addresses whether there are sufficient utilities and utility providers to respond to any additional requirements caused by the project. If additional utilities would be required, any environmental impacts associated with these are discussed.

### **D.17.1 Environmental Setting / Affected Environment**

#### **D.17.1.1 Regional Setting and Approach to Data Collection**

As described in Section B.2, Description of Proposed Project Components, the study area for the project includes the cities and counties located along the ROW, including San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. Incorporated cities within the study area include Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Colton, Grand Terrace, Loma Linda, Palm Springs, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, San Bernardino, and Yucaipa. In addition to incorporated and unincorporated county and city land, the ROW also traverses Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land and Morongo reservation lands. Regional and local public services and utilities information is presented in Section D.17.1.2. Current public services and utility information was provided in the PEA (SCE, 2013) and collected from planning documents or other published information from the jurisdictions in the study area.

For Utilities and Public Services, the study area includes the area within 0.25-mile of the centerline of the Proposed Project. This was used to identify jurisdictions likely to serve the project. In some instances, utility and service providers beyond the 0.25-mile buffer are included where needed to identify the applicable jurisdiction serving the project.

The Proposed Project component in the City of Rancho Cucamonga is limited to improvements within the Mechanical Electrical Equipment Room (MEER) at Etiwanda Substation. The extent of this work within an existing facility would not have the potential to affect public services in the City of Rancho Cucamonga; therefore, the City of Rancho Cucamonga is not included for further discussion.

#### **D.17.1.2 Environmental Setting by Segment**

On any given day the Proposed Project would require up to 300 construction personnel for the transmission and subtransmission line, between 15 and 20 construction personnel at each substation, and approximately 20 construction personnel for the distribution lines. Construction would be performed by either SCE construction crews or contractors. If SCE construction crews are used, they typically would be based at SCE's local facilities, (e.g., service centers, substations, power plants, and transmission ROW) or at temporary material staging yards set up for the project. Contractor construction personnel would be based out of the contractor's existing yard or temporary material staging yards set up for the project. SCE anticipates that crews would work concurrently whenever possible. The estimated workforce, as well as materials and equipment required for construction of the Proposed Project, are detailed for each project component in Appendix 1C.

#### **D.17.1.2.1 Segment 1: San Bernardino**

The San Bernardino Junction to San Bernardino Substation segment extends approximately 3 miles across the cities of Loma Linda and Redlands and unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County. The City of San Bernardino is within the project study area and provides mutual aid for some services to the surrounding cities but is not physically crossed by Segment 1.

##### ***Police***

The San Bernardino Sheriff-Coroner's Department provides police and law enforcement services in unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County. Unincorporated areas in Segment 1 are served out of the Central Station located at 655 East Third Street in San Bernardino.

The City of Loma Linda contracts with the San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner's Department for police services. The Department provides 11 sworn deputies and a sheriff workstation at City Hall. The Department divides the City into 16 reporting districts and has an average emergency response time within the City of 3.25 minutes (SCE, 2013).

The City of Redlands Police Department operates administrative offices at 30 Cajon Street and its main police station and dispatch center at 212 Brookside Avenue.

The City of San Bernardino Police Department employs 312 sworn officers and 150 civilian support staff in its Patrol Division, Investigations Division, and Administrative Services Division. The City Police Department operates under a mutual aid agreement with police agencies in the surrounding cities. This allows use of up to 50 percent of adjacent agency resources upon request and for automatic response within zones of mutual aid. The unincorporated areas within the overall city boundary are provided police services from the San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner's Department. The California Highway Patrol in San Bernardino provides traffic patrol on State Highways and also on roads within the unincorporated areas of the County. The California Highway Patrol also provides emergency response backup to city police and the County Sheriff-Coroner upon request (SCE, 2013).

##### ***Fire Services***

There are no fire stations within the study area for Segment 1. San Bernardino County provides fire protection services to more than 60 communities and cities and all unincorporated areas of the County. The County Fire Department is divided into 5 divisions. The Proposed Project in San Bernardino County would be located in Division 1 (Valley). Additionally, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) Inyo-Mono-San Bernardino Unit serves San Bernardino County and the City of Yucaipa.

The City of Loma Linda Fire Department consists of 1 chief officer, 6 captains, 6 engineers, 6 firefighter/paramedics, and 6 firefighters. The fire station (Station 215) is located at 11325 Loma Linda Drive in the City of Loma Linda. Response time varies within the City due to the daily influx of traffic to and from the University and the related medical center. The City of Loma Linda maintains a joint response/automatic aid agreement with fire departments in neighboring cities, including Colton, Redlands, and San Bernardino. The Department also participates in the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement (SCE, 2013).

The City of Redlands operates 4 fire stations with 60 uniformed personnel, 19 on-duty personnel, 5 department chiefs, 47 emergency medical technicians (EMTs), 18 firefighter/paramedics, 1 fire marshal, and 3 non-uniformed (civilian) personnel.

The City of San Bernardino Fire Department serves a resident population of approximately 202,000 and covers a service area of 59.3 miles. The fire administration consists of a 10-member staff. The total number of emergency operations personnel is 161 divided among 3 platoons. The current “On-Duty” strength per shift (total number of personnel available to respond to emergencies including 2 battalion Chief Officers) is 53 divided among the fourteen companies.

### ***Schools***

The County of San Bernardino does not provide public elementary, middle school, or high school facilities; these are the responsibility of local school districts. However, the County Superintendent acts as an intermediate service agency between the California Department of Education and the 33 school districts in San Bernardino County to help meet the educational needs of all children countywide.

Public education in the City of Loma Linda is provided by Redlands Unified School District, except for the western portion of the City, which is served by Colton Joint Unified School District. Loma Linda Academy, a private Seventh-day Adventist school, also provides schooling for grades K through 12. There are no schools within the study area in Loma Linda (SCE, 2013).

Redlands Unified School District encompasses 147 square miles and serves the cities of Redlands and Loma Linda, the unincorporated communities of Mentone and Forest Falls, and portions of the cities of San Bernardino and Highland. There are two schools in the City of Redlands within the project study area: Montessori School of Redlands and Grove Charter High School. In addition to this school district, Barbara Phelps Community Day School, overseen by the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Office, is located in the City of Redlands and is within the project study area (SCE, 2013).

Educational services within the majority of the City of San Bernardino are provided by the San Bernardino City Unified School District. San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC) and California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) provide higher education for residents. None of the schools within the City of San Bernardino are within the project study area (SCE, 2013).

### ***Hospitals***

The County Department of Public Health does not operate hospitals, but does have seven public health offices, two of which are located in the cities of Redlands and San Bernardino.

Loma Linda University Medical Center annually provides whole-person care for more than 33,000 inpatients and 500,000 outpatients. It is the only Level 1 regional trauma center for Inyo, Mono, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. The main medical center is located at 11234 Anderson Street in the City of Loma Linda.

Redlands Community Hospital is a 229-bed acute care facility and provides inpatient and outpatient services. Approximately 25,000 patients are seen per year, with the primary diagnoses being, but not limited to, cardiac, respiratory, pediatric, psychiatric, and obstetrical emergencies.

Hospitals serving the City of San Bernardino include Community Hospital of San Bernardino, Loma Linda University Medical Center, Redlands Community Hospital, and St. Bernardine Medical Center. The Community Hospital of San Bernardino is a non-profit 343-bed full-service hospital offering acute inpatient and outpatient care, obstetrics and pediatrics, home health, behavioral health services, and emergency and neurological care for children and adults. St. Bernardine Medical Center is a 463-bed, not-for-profit healthcare facility. St. Bernardine Medical Center is among the largest hospitals in the Inland Empire, offering a full continuum of services, including, but not limited to, 24-hour emergency services, family care, wound center, and advanced heart surgery.

Table D.17-1 provides a list of public service and utility providers by jurisdiction.

**Table D.17-1. Public Service and Utility Providers by Jurisdiction – Segment 1**

<b>San Bernardino County</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas Water – San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water Department Wastewater – County of San Bernardino Environmental Health Services. Unincorporated areas require septic systems because no sewer services are provided.	Solid Waste (Landfills) – California Street Landfill in Redlands and San Timoteo Landfill in Redlands Fire protection – San Bernardino County Fire Department Police protection – San Bernardino County Sheriff's-Coroners Department Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – None
<b>City of Loma Linda (San Bernardino County)</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas Water – City of Loma Linda Department of Public Works, Water Division Wastewater – City of Loma Linda Department of Public Works, Utilities Division	Solid Waste (Landfills) – San Timoteo Landfill Fire protection – City of Loma Linda Fire Department Police protection – San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – None
<b>City of Redlands (San Bernardino County)</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas Water – Redlands Municipal Utilities & Engineering Department Wastewater – Redlands Municipal Utilities & Engineering Department	Solid Waste (Landfills) – California Street Landfill Fire protection – City of Redlands Fire Department Police protection – City of Redlands Police Department Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – Montessori School, Grove Charter High School, Barbara Phelps Community Day School
<b>City of San Bernardino (San Bernardino County)</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas Water – City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department Wastewater – City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department	Solid Waste (Landfills) – City of San Bernardino Department of Public Works Integrated Waste Management Division Fire protection – City of San Bernardino Fire Department Police protection – City of San Bernardino Police Department Schools within One Mile of Proposed Project – None

Source: SCE, 2013.

**Water**

Water supply in the project study area is provided by various sources including municipal water departments, local water districts and water agencies, and private water companies. The majority of the available water supply is from various groundwater basins as well as imported water from northern California and the Colorado River.

San Bernardino County's water sources are 85 percent local and 15 percent imported purchased water. Imported water comes primarily from the Metropolitan Water District and the State Water Project (SWP). The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is charged with the management of water resources within the State. The DWR cooperates with other agencies to benefit the State and to protect, restore, and enhance natural and human environments. Regionally, more than 300 public agencies and private companies provide water on a retail basis to approximately 17 million people living in a 5,200-square-mile, 6-county area.

The Metropolitan Water District (MWD) of Southern California is the primary wholesale provider of imported water for the region, serving 26 member agencies, which in turn serve customers in more than 145 cities and 94 unincorporated communities. The MWD is the primary water provider for the majority of the areas that would be developed within San Bernardino County.

The San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD) sources are divided among imported, surface, and reclaimed water supplies. Groundwater is the principal source of supply in the SBVMWD service area, accounting for 58 percent of the total water demand. Surface water is the second largest supply source to the SBVMWD, accounting for approximately 23 percent of the total demand (SCE, 2013)

The City of Loma Linda Department of Public Works, Water Division, provides the production and distribution of water within the City. The City's water service area consists of approximately 10.6 square miles, which includes the City and Sphere of Influence (SOI) areas. At this time, the City obtains all of its water from groundwater wells in the Bunker Hill Basin, an aquifer underlying the eastern San Bernardino Valley. Groundwater in the Bunker Hill Basin is replenished from rainfall and snowmelt from the San Bernardino Mountains. In addition to the groundwater wells, the City has two emergency connections with the City of San Bernardino.

The City of Redlands provides domestic water supplies to the city, the unincorporated community of Mentone, and surrounding areas through a combination of local groundwater, local surface water, and imported water from the State Water Project.

The San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD) provides domestic water for the City of San Bernardino and unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County as well as back-up to the City of Loma Linda. Groundwater from the Bunker Hill Basin is the primary source of water supply for the SBMWD. The SBMWD has the capacity to provide 70,000 acre-feet per year of water from groundwater and surface water sources. Other sources of water supply include the SWP, the Santa Ana River, Mill Creek, and Lytle Creek.

The Proposed Project would parallel, cross, or would be adjacent to the following existing utilities and facilities in Segment 1 (SCE, 2014; Data Response PU-1):

- 66 kV lines relocated to accommodate the Proposed Project
- Dental and Intern 12 kV distribution circuits in the City of Loma Linda, both relocated to accommodate the Proposed Project
- City of Loma Linda sewer line
- City of Loma Linda water line
- Kinder Morgan natural gas pipeline
- Level 3 fiber optic cable
- MCI/Verizon fiber optic cable
- Southern California 12-inch gas pipeline
- Verizon fiber optic cable
- SCE brine line
- City of Loma Linda storm drain

#### **D.17.1.2.2 Segment 2: Colton and Loma Linda**

Segment 2 extends from Vista Substation (MP 0) to San Bernardino Junction (MP 5.2). It would leave Vista Substation and cross I-215 heading east for approximately 5 miles through the cities of Colton and Grand Terrace to San Bernardino Junction just outside of the City of Loma Linda. Jurisdictions within this segment include unincorporated San Bernardino County and the Cities of Colton, Grand Terrace, and Loma Linda. The public services and utilities in San Bernardino County and the City of Loma Linda are described in Section D.17.1.2.1, Segment 1: San Bernardino, and are not repeated here.

### ***Police***

The City of Colton Police Department currently has one police station and dispatch center located at 650 North La Cadena Drive. The Department operates with 46 sworn officers and 22 civilian personnel.

The City of Grand Terrace contracts with the San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner's Department. Currently, 8 sworn deputies provide police services for the City of Grand Terrace. A Citizen Patrol team of volunteers also operates through the Sheriff-Coroner's Department (18 volunteer members).

### ***Fire Services***

The Colton Fire Department is a full-service fire department with a total of 32 uniformed personnel. Nine firefighters and 1 battalion chief staff 3 of the City's 4 fire stations daily and respond to over 5,000 calls a year (SCE, 2013). The Colton Fire Department has also signed and participates in the "California Master Mutual Aid Agreement of 1950." This agreement provides assistance from other fire departments, without charge, during major emergencies, to cities temporarily overwhelmed by an incident. During major wildland fires, earthquakes, floods, or a variety of other incidents, cities would pool their resources and send them to a city in need. The City also has entered into various "Automatic Aid" agreements with neighboring cities. Automatic Aid agreements such as these guarantee the quickest and most efficient fire response regardless of city boundaries.

The City of Grand Terrace contracts with San Bernardino County Fire Department for fire and rescue services.

### ***Schools***

The City of Colton Joint Unified School District operates 19 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, and 5 high schools within the cities of Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, and the unincorporated community of Bloomington. The District serves 23,608 students in grades K through 12. Two schools in the City of Colton are within the project study area, the Reche Canyon Elementary School and the Christian Center Academy Elementary/High School.

The City of Grand Terrace is part of the Colton Joint Unified School District. Within the City of Grand Terrace, the CJUSD has 2 elementary schools and 1 middle school. The Terrace View Elementary School is within the project study area.

### ***Hospitals***

Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC) is a state-of-the-art hospital providing comprehensive health care services for children and adults of all ages. ARMC is host to a 24-hour Emergency Department, Level II Trauma Center, three Family Health Centers, and the only burn center serving San Bernardino, Riverside, Inyo, and Mono Counties. The 456-bed facility, which is owned and operated by the County of San Bernardino, is located off Interstate 10 in Colton. ARMC offers a full range of patient services and includes 6 medical/surgical units, advanced critical care, neonatal intensive care, and emergency and trauma care.

The City of Grand Terrace's nearest hospital and medical center is the ARMC.

Table D.17-2 provides a list of public service and utility providers by jurisdiction.

**Table D.17-2. Public Service and Utility Providers by Jurisdiction – Segment 2**

<b>City of Colton (San Bernardino County)</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas	Fire protection – City of Colton Fire Department
Water – City of Colton Public Utilities Department	Police protection – City of Colton Police Department
Wastewater – City of Colton Wastewater Treatment Plant	Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – Reche Canyon
Solid Waste (Landfills) – Republic Services	Elementary School and Christian Center Academy
	Elementary/High School
<b>City of Grand Terrace (San Bernardino County)</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas	Fire protection – San Bernardino County Fire Department
Water – Riverside Highland Water Company	Police protection – San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner's
Wastewater – City of Colton Wastewater Treatment Plant	Department
Solid Waste (Landfills) – Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc.	Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – Terrace View
	Elementary School

Source: SCE, 2013.

**Water**

The City of Colton Public Utilities Department provides water service to the city. The city is situated on a large potable aquifer in the State of California and all of the City’s water comes from deep water wells. Colton's existing potable water system facilities consist of 15 wells, 5 main booster pumping plants, 9 water storage reservoirs, 2 pressure reducing facilities, and over 120 miles of water transmission and distribution pipelines

Water service for the City of Grand Terrace is provided by the Riverside Highland Water Company. The company is a private water company owned by its shareholders. The company utilizes wells to provide water service to the City. The company maintains water main transmission lines, wells, reservoirs, and service laterals throughout the City and is directly responsible for their ongoing maintenance.

The Proposed Project would parallel, cross, or would be adjacent to the following existing utilities and facilities in Segment 2 (SCE, 2014; Data Response PU-1):

- City of Grand Terrace sewer line
- City of Riverside abandoned water pipeline
- DWR water line
- Level 3 Fiber Optic line
- Riverside Highland Water Company water line
- Southern California gas pipelines
- Irrigation line for unknown agency

**D.17.1.2.3 Segment 3: San Timoteo Canyon**

Segment 3 would be approximately 10 miles in length and extends east from the San Bernardino Junction (MP 5.2) to El Casco Substation (MP 15.2). Jurisdictions within this segment include unincorporated San Bernardino and Riverside Counties and the City of Redlands. The public services and utilities in unincorporated San Bernardino County and the City of Redlands are described in Section D.17.1.2.1, Segment 1: San Bernardino, and are not repeated here.

**Police**

Riverside County Sheriff’s Department provides much of the region’s law enforcement via 10 sheriff stations spread across the region. Stations include Jurupa Valley, Perris, Lake Elsinore, Moreno Valley,

Southwest, Hemet, Cabazon, Palm Desert, Indio, and Colorado River. Each of the 10 stations employs patrol duty officers to serve the unincorporated areas of Riverside County as well as provide contract law enforcement to tribes and cities.

**Fire Services**

The Riverside County Fire Department maintains a contractual relationship with CALFIRE to provide fire protection services and emergency response services to the unincorporated areas of the County. The Riverside County Fire Department Administrative Headquarters is located at 210 West San Jacinto Avenue in the City of Perris. The 96 fire stations have a mix of State, County, contract city, and volunteer-staffed equipment. All are dispatched by the CALFIRE Riverside Unit/Riverside County Fire Department Emergency Command Center and are part of the Integrated Fire Protection System under contract with the State. In accordance with Riverside County Ordinance 533.4, the Office of Emergency Services maintains 2 fully functional Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). The EOCs are the center of countywide coordination for the response and recovery for extraordinary emergencies and disasters affecting Riverside County.

**Schools**

There are 23 school districts in Riverside County. There are no schools within the project study area in Segment 3 (SCE, 2013).

**Hospitals**

The County of Riverside operates 1 hospital and 9 clinics that provide same-day care. The County operates a hospital facility in Moreno Valley, the Riverside County Regional Medical Center. The hospital is licensed for 364 beds within the 520,000-square foot facility. It is estimated that the facility can provide 200,000 annual patient visits in specialty outpatient clinics, an increase of 80,000 from the previously existing facility in Riverside.

In addition to the hospital in Moreno Valley, Riverside County operates nine separate clinics that are located throughout the County. A tenth clinic is located within the County hospital. The clinics are open to anyone.

Table D.17-3 provides a list of public service and utility providers by jurisdiction.

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**Table D.17-3. Public Service and Utility Providers by Jurisdiction – Segment 3**

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**San Bernardino County**

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Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas	Solid Waste (Landfills) – California Street Landfill in Redlands and San Timoteo Landfill in Redlands
Water – MWD of Southern California	Fire protection – Riverside County Fire Department
Wastewater – Coachella Valley Water District, Mission Springs Water District, Desert Valley Agency	Police protection – Riverside County Sheriff’s Department
	Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – None

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Source: SCE, 2013.

**Water**

Eastern Riverside County relies heavily on water imported from Northern California, the Colorado River, and local groundwater. Most of these sources are at capacity. The supply of water for Riverside County is limited by its arid climate, past and current agricultural practices, its projected population growth and the demand associated with such growth, and the dependence on imported water. Recent apportionments from Northern California have been reduced as part of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, and water deliveries from the Colorado River have been reduced.

Most groundwater basins within Riverside County store local and imported water for later use to meet seasonal and drought year demands. With these conjunctive-use groundwater programs, groundwater is artificially replenished in wet years with surplus imported water. Water is then extracted during drought years or during emergency situations. Conjunctive use, also known as aquifer storage and recovery, which may also involve the recharge of reclaimed water, enhances the region's ability to meet water demand during years of short supply and increases overall local supply reliability.

Segment 3 water provider in unincorporated Riverside County is MWD, described in Section D.17.1.2.1, Segment 1: San Bernardino.

The Proposed Project would parallel, cross, or would be adjacent to the following existing utilities and facilities in Segment 3 (SCE, 2014; Data Response PU-1):

- AT&T fiber optic cable
- Kinder Morgan gas pipeline
- Level 3 fiber optic cable
- SCE underground electric line

#### **D.17.1.2.4 Segment 4: Beaumont and Banning**

Segment 4 would be approximately 12 miles in length and extends east from the El Casco Substation (MP 15.2) to San Gorgonio Avenue in the City of Banning (MP 27.4). Jurisdictions within this segment include unincorporated Riverside County and the Cities of Calimesa, Beaumont, and Banning. The City of Yucaipa is included in this segment as the Tennessee Substation is located here. Unincorporated Riverside County is described in Section D.17.1.2.3, Segment 3: San Timoteo Canyon. Any new information for the County is provided below.

#### ***Police***

The City of Banning Police Department provides police services within the city limits and has a total of 36 sworn positions and 12 classified personnel. The Banning Police Department Patrol Division is organized into 2 shifts per day, based on a 12-hour plan. The patrol teams are the first responders for all calls within the City of Banning and its Sphere of Influence (SOI). The City participates in mutual aid agreements with other Riverside County law enforcement agencies.

The City of Beaumont Police Department provides comprehensive law enforcement services for the City. The department is staffed with approximately 51 sworn officers and 24 non-sworn personnel and has a response time target of 3 minutes.

The City of Calimesa's police services are provided through the County of Riverside Sheriff's Department through a contractual agreement. Sheriff's services are located at the Cabazon Station (50290 Main Street, Cabazon, 92230), east of the City of Banning. Deputies are on duty and patrol the City on a 24-hour basis.

The City of Yucaipa contracts with the San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner's Department for police protection services. Yucaipa Station operations include Patrol Operations, Traffic Operations, and Investigations. On the average, the patrol unit responds to over 40,000 calls for service each year.

#### ***Fire Services***

Fire protection services are provided to the City of Banning through a contractual agreement with the Riverside County Fire Department, which contracts with CALFIRE. Through a mutual aid agreement with

surrounding communities, including Beaumont, Calimesa, and Cabazon, each city has access to and benefits from the services provided by fire stations in other cities. The Riverside County Fire Department's Regional Fire Protection Program allows its fire stations to actively support one another regardless of geographic or jurisdictional boundaries. On receipt of an emergency call, the station physically closest to the emergency would respond, allowing neighboring communities to share the use of specialized equipment and staff. There is 1 fire station located in the City of Banning and a station in the city of Beaumont also responds to fire emergencies that occur in the City of Banning.

The City of Beaumont contracts with the Riverside County Fire Department for citywide services, including fire protection, public services, and emergency medical aid response. Five existing fire stations serve the city.

The City of Calimesa has been contracting with the Riverside County Fire Department for fire and emergency services since 1990. One fire station serves the city.

The City of Yucaipa contracts with CALFIRE under an annual contract for fire and paramedic services.

### ***Schools***

The City of Banning is served by 2 school districts, the Banning Unified School District and the Beaumont Unified School District. The Banning Unified School District boundaries encompass the majority of the City and it enrolls approximately 5,000 students. Approximately 200 students live within the Beaumont Unified School District boundaries. The Mountain View Middle School, San Gorgonio Middle School, Hoffer Elementary School, and Susan B. Coombs Middle School are within the project study area.

The Beaumont Unified School District provides educational services within the City of Beaumont. The District currently serves students in the City of Beaumont, a portion of Banning, Calimesa, and the unincorporated community of Cherry Valley. The Beaumont Unified School District includes 13 schools that serve 8,306 students in grades K through 12. Schools within the project study area are the Three Rings Ranch Elementary School, Wellwood Elementary School, and Beaumont High School.

The City of Calimesa is within 2 school districts; the Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District serves the western portion of the City, while the southeastern end of the City is served by the Beaumont Unified School District. There is currently only one public school in Calimesa, the Mesa View Middle School which is not within the project study area. Calimesa's only currently operating elementary and high school is the Mesa Grande Academy, a private K through 12 school owned by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is not within the project study area.

The City of Yucaipa is part of the Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District. There are 6 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 1 high school, 1 charter academy, 4 alternative schools, and 1 adult school within the Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District. None of these schools is located within the study area.

### ***Hospitals***

San Gorgonio Memorial Hospital is located at 600 North Highland Springs Avenue in the City of Banning. The 85,000-square foot hospital, which opened in 1951, is licensed for 70 beds. The hospital opened as a State district hospital and is one of four nonprofit hospitals in Riverside County. It provides general medical-surgical care, intensive care, emergency care, obstetrics, inpatient and outpatient surgery, and a range of ambulatory services, including physical therapy and cardiac rehabilitation. Staffing includes board-certified emergency physicians available 24 hours a day.

The Highland Springs Medical Plaza is located in Beaumont. This 90,000-square foot facility is a collaboration between Loma Linda University Medical Center, Redlands Community Hospital, and Beaver Medical Group and enhances access to medical services for families in the Inland Empire and surrounding areas. The Highland Springs Medical Plaza does not provide emergency hospital services, but does include an urgent care center.

The City of Calimesa does not currently have any medical centers or hospitals. The nearest hospitals serving the citizens of Calimesa are San Gorgonio Memorial Hospital in Banning, Kaiser Foundation Hospital in Moreno Valley, and Riverside County Regional Medical Center in Moreno Valley.

Six medical clinics (1 with 24-hour emergency service) serve the City of Yucaipa. An emergency 24-hour facility and major medical services are provided for the area by Redlands Community Hospital, with 235 beds and 23 overflow beds, and by San Gorgonio Hospital in Banning with 64 beds. There are no hospitals located in Yucaipa.

Table D.17-4 provides a list of public service and utility providers by jurisdiction.

**Table D.17-4. Utility and Service Providers by Jurisdiction – Beaumont and Banning Segment**

<b>City of Banning (Riverside County)</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas	Fire protection – Riverside County Fire Department
Water – City of Banning Public Works Department	Police protection – City of Banning Police Department
Wastewater – City of Banning Public Works Department	Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – Mountain View Middle School, San Gorgonio Middle School, Hoffer Elementary School, Susan B. Coombs Middle School
Solid Waste (Landfills) – Waste Management	
<b>City of Beaumont (Riverside County)</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas	Fire protection – Riverside County Fire Department
Water – Beaumont–Cherry Valley Water District	Police protection – City of Beaumont Police Department
Wastewater – City of Beaumont Wastewater Treatment Plant	Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – Three Rings Ranch Elementary School, Wellwood Elementary School, and Beaumont High School
Solid Waste (Landfills) – Lamb Canyon Landfill	
<b>City of Calimesa (Riverside County)</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas	Fire protection – Riverside County Fire Department
Water – South Mesa Water Company	Police protection – County of Riverside Sheriff's Department
Wastewater – Yucaipa Valley Water District	Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – None
Solid Waste (Landfills) – CR&R Waste & Recycling Services	
<b>City of Yucaipa (San Bernardino County)</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas	Fire protection – CALFIRE
Water – Yucaipa Valley Water District, South Mesa Water Company, Western Heights Mutual Water Company	Police protection – San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner's Department
Wastewater – Yucaipa Valley Water District	Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – None
Solid Waste (Landfills) – Yucaipa Disposal	

Source: SCE, 2013.

**Water**

In the Segment 4 area of Riverside County, the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) provides water to approximately 228 square miles (mostly within Riverside County, with 2 small areas in San Bernardino County) and extends from Calimesa to Cabazon. The service area includes the cities of Calimesa, Beaumont, and Banning, and the communities of Cherry Valley, Cabazon, and the Banning Bench. In 2010, SGPWA provided water to approximately 92,000 residents. The SGPWA imports water from the SWP and sells this water to local water retailers.

The City of Banning Public Works and Utilities Department provides domestic water services to the City of Banning. The City also provides domestic water services to unincorporated Riverside County lands located southwesterly of the City limits. The City owns and operates wells, reservoirs, and a distribution line system to deliver domestic water within its service area.

Water service in the Beaumont area is provided by the Beaumont–Cherry Valley Water District. The service area includes the City of Beaumont and the majority of unincorporated Cherry Valley. Currently, all domestic water supplies come from local groundwater sources, and no water is currently being imported.

The City of Calimesa receives its water from the South Mesa Water Company (SMWC). SMWC is a mutual water company regulated by the State of California Corporation Commission and governed by a five-member elected Board of Directors. Records indicate the Company was first organized as an irrigation company. Presently no irrigation water service remains and all water served is domestic. SMWC serves parts of both the City of Calimesa and the City of Yucaipa.

There are 3 water purveyors for the City of Yucaipa. They include the Yucaipa Valley Water District (YVWD), South Mesa Water Company, and Western Heights Mutual Water Company. All three are affiliated with the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District and the East Branch Extension pipeline. YVWD provides the majority (92%) of the service area potable water demand from groundwater supplies. The Oak Glen Surface Water Filtration Facility provides the balance of the potable water to the District customers.

The Proposed Project would parallel, cross, or would be adjacent to the following existing utilities and facilities in Segment 4 (SCE, 2014; Data Response PU-1):

- AT&T fiber optic cable
- Beaumont–Cherry Valley Water line
- City of Beaumont sewer line
- Kinder Morgan pipeline
- Level 3 fiber optic cable
- Southern California Gas 10-inch gas pipeline
- Time Warner fiber optic cable
- Verizon fiber optic cable

#### **D.17.1.2.5 Segment 5: Morongo Tribal Lands and Surrounding Areas**

Segment 5 extends from the City of Banning (MP 27.4) across the Morongo Band of mission Indians reservation (MP 36.9) and would be approximately 9.5 miles in length. Jurisdictions in this segment include unincorporated Riverside County, the City of Banning, and the Morongo Band of Mission Indians. Unincorporated Riverside County is described in Section D.17.1.2.3, Segment 3: San Timoteo Canyon. Any new information for the County is provided below. The City of Banning is described in Section D.17.1.2.4, Segment 4: Beaumont and Banning.

#### ***Police***

The reservation Patrol provides patrol services on the reservation, which includes more than 35,000 acres of tribal property, urban roads, canyons, and other tribal assets. The reservation Patrol consists of the Traffic Division, Patrol Division, and Enterprise Security. Together, these divisions enforce tribal ordinances, monitor entryways onto the reservation and Morongo enterprises, patrol the reservation, and assist the Morongo Tribal Court.

**Fire Services**

The Morongo Fire Department responds to calls both on and off the reservation. The Morongo Fire Department includes a staff of 20 firefighters responsible for protecting 110 square miles of the reservation land as well as the residential community; tribal enterprises; and the 27-story, 44-acre casino. The Department has 20 full-time employees consisting of 18 firefighters (6 on each of 3 shifts) and 2 management staff.

**Schools**

The Morongo School is fully funded by the tribe and is tuition-free. The school currently serves more than 100 students in grades K through 8 on 3 campuses. It is not within the project study area.

**Hospitals**

There are no hospital or medical facilities on the reservation.

Table D.17-5 provides a list of public service and utility providers by jurisdiction.

**Table D.17-5. Utility and Service Providers by Jurisdiction – Morongo Tribal Lands and Surrounding Areas**

**Morongo Tribal Lands (Riverside County)**

Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas	Fire protection – Morongo Fire Department
Water – Morongo Band of Mission Indians Water Department	Police protection – Morongo Reservation Patrol
Wastewater – Morongo Water and Wastewater Department	Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – Hoffer Elementary School
Solid Waste – Morongo Public Works Department	

Source: SCE, 2013.

**Water**

The Morongo Water Department, under the direction of the reservation Services Administrator’s office, has the responsibility to provide a safe, reliable, and potable water supply to the reservation residents and commercial enterprises. The Water Department also maintains, operates, and provides non-potable water to customers where it is available, including the canyon irrigation systems. Water supply on the reservation consists of groundwater production wells using high-efficiency pumps and motors and exercising efficient pumping rates to offset high peak demand time periods. Morongo water infrastructure consists of over 30 miles of potable water mains, pressure-reducing stations, and storage reservoirs.

The Proposed Project would parallel, cross, or would be adjacent to the following existing utilities and facilities in Segment 5 (SCE, 2014; Data Response PU-1):

- Banning water lines (8-inch, 12-inch, and 30-inch)
- Morongo water line
- Questar natural gas pipeline
- SCE electric line
- Southern California Gas pipelines
- Unknown water line
- Unknown fiber optic line
- Verizon fiber optic line
- Weather Station

#### **D.17.1.2.6 Segment 6: Whitewater and Devers**

Segment 6 extends from the eastern boundary of the Morongo reservation (MP 36.9) to Devers Substation (MP 45) and is approximately 8 miles in length. Jurisdictions in this segment include unincorporated Riverside County, the BLM, and the City of Palm Springs. Unincorporated Riverside County is described in Section D.17.1.2.3, Segment 3: San Timoteo Canyon. Any new information for the County is provided below.

##### ***Police***

The City of Palm Springs Police Department provides response service, criminal investigation, traffic enforcement, and preventive patrol for the City. The desired response time for priority one calls (emergencies) is 5 minutes and for priority 2 calls (non-emergencies) is 30 minutes. The department has mutual-aid agreements with other local law enforcement agencies.

The Palm Springs-South Coast BLM Field Office is located in Palm Springs. This field office has approximately 10 Law Enforcement Rangers (uniformed officers) that enforce laws and regulations in the prevention, detection, and investigation of crimes affecting public lands resources. They are responsible for conducting high-visibility patrols; conducting public contacts; enforcing federal laws and regulations; assisting local county or city police departments, other federal and state land management agencies, and BLM Special Agents investigating illegal activity on public lands; and generally providing for the safety of BLM employees and public land users.

##### ***Fire Services***

The City of Palm Springs Fire Department provides fire, paramedic, and emergency services in the boundaries of Palm Springs and through mutual agreements in the City's Sphere of Influence, protecting 96 square miles of the Palm Springs area. There are five fire stations located throughout the city so that response time to any residence is under 5 minutes.

The Riverside County Fire Department, United States Forest Service (USFS), CALFIRE, and the BLM provide fire assistance for responses to urban and wildland fires, primarily in the Sphere of Influence of Palm Springs but outside of the City's boundaries. The Cathedral City Fire Department also provides additional assistance through an automatic aid agreement.

The BLM employs firefighters to participate in fuel reduction programs and to fight fires in its jurisdiction. The BLM Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office has 23 fire personnel (5 seasonal) and a Prescribed Fire Program to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires. Fire staff includes a Fire Management Officer and seven Fuels & Fire Mitigation Specialists. There are 2 fire stations serving the jurisdictions covered by this field office: the Pinyon Fire Station and the Morongo Valley Station.

##### ***Schools***

Palm Springs Unified School District has 16 elementary schools, 5 middle schools, 3 comprehensive high schools, 1 continuation high school, alternative education programs, Headstart/State preschools, full-day Headstart programs, and childcare programs. It enrolls almost 24,000 students as of 2014 (SCE, 2013). No schools are located within the study area in Segment 6.

The BLM does not provide student education facilities.

**Hospitals**

The City of Palm Springs is served by the Desert Regional Medical Center and the Eisenhower Medical Center. Desert Regional Medical Center is located in the City of Palm Springs and provides emergency services, general med-surgical, acute care, and trauma center services. Advanced life support (ALS) ambulances and crews are posted at the Pierson Boulevard fire station and also patrol the City and SOI. Ambulance services are provided by American Medical Response (AMR), which has a service area encompassing the entire Coachella Valley. AMR typically has 10 ALS ambulances in the field, each with a crew of 2 paramedics; AMR currently maintains between 14 and 16 units in its Desert Cities District.

Eisenhower Medical Center, located in the City of Rancho Mirage, is also available to provide services to residents of Palm Springs and surrounding areas. This hospital is licensed for 261 patient beds, with 24-hour emergency services.

The BLM does not provide healthcare services or facilities.

Table D.17-6 provides a list of public service and utility providers by jurisdiction.

<b>Table D.17-6. Utility and Service Providers by Jurisdiction – Whitewater and Devers</b>	
<b>City of Palm Springs (Riverside County)</b>	
Natural gas & electricity – SCE, Southern California Gas	Fire protection – Palm Springs Fire Department and BLM firefighters
Water – Coachella Valley Water District, Desert Water Agency, and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	Police protection – Palm Springs Police Department
Wastewater – Veolia Water North America and Desert Water Agency	Schools within 0.25 miles of Proposed Project – None
Solid Waste (Landfills) – Waste Management	

Source: SCE, 2013.

**Water**

The Coachella Valley Water District, encompassing 995 square miles, extends from San Geronio Pass to the Salton Sea. The district provides water to approximately 284,700 residents, 72,900 acres of irrigated farmland, and a variety of commercial, resort, and industrial users. In addition to groundwater supplies, it obtains water from the SWP and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is described in Section D.17.1.2.1, Segment 1: San Bernardino.

The Desert Water Agency (DWA) is the water utility for the Palm Springs area and provides service to out-lying Riverside County areas. DWA encompasses approximately 325 square miles and provides services to approximately 60,600 residents. The majority of water provided by DWA comes from underground aquifers and is extracted from existing wells within its service area. Other sources include water from Chino Creek, Snow Creek, and Falls Creek. DWA replenishes the underground aquifers, in cooperation with CVWD, with imported Colorado River water through the SWP.

The Proposed Project would parallel, cross, or would be adjacent to the following existing utilities and facilities in Segment 6 (SCE, 2014; Data Response PU-1):

- Mission Springs Water District water line
- Questar natural gas pipeline
- SCE fiber optic line
- Southern California Gas pipelines
- Unknown pipeline
- Verizon fiber optic line
- Wind farms

### D.17.1.3 Environmental Setting for Connected Actions

In general, utilities and services are supplied by regional providers for both unincorporated and incorporated areas of the County. Information about utilities and public services for Riverside County already provided in Section D.17.1.2 is not repeated below. References to the specific sections have been provided, and additional setting information has been provided for areas not already covered under the setting discussion in D.17.1.2.

SCE provides electric power service to the areas and SoCalGas provides natural gas. Water is provided by local water departments where they exist, or is obtained from private wells. Solid waste is managed by the Riverside County Waste Management Department (RCWMD). The RCWMD operates six landfills (Badlands, Blythe, Desert Center, Lamb Canyon, Mecca II, and Oasis) and has an agreement for waste disposal with an additional private landfill (El Sobrante). RCWMD also administers several transfer station leases.

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department provides police services in unincorporated Riverside County and provides contract services to individual municipalities in Riverside County. The City of Blythe is served by the local police department, while the unincorporated area outside the city and Desert Center are served from the Sheriff Department's Colorado River Station in Blythe. This station provides service to the unincorporated area from Red Cloud Road (Desert Center) on the west, to the Arizona state line on the east, and the Imperial County line on the south to the San Bernardino County line on the north. The Palm Springs-South Coast BLM Field Office is located in Palm Springs. This field office has approximately 10 Law Enforcement Rangers (uniformed officers) that enforce laws and regulations in the prevention, detection, and investigation of crimes affecting public lands resources.

Fire stations are located in or near each of the solar project areas. A station is located in Desert Center. The Blythe area station is at the airport west of the city. All fire stations in Riverside County are dispatched by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Riverside Unit/Riverside County Fire Department Emergency Command Center and are part of the Integrated Fire Protection System under contract with the State.

Hospitals include John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital in Indio, Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs, Angel View Children's Hospital in Desert Hot Springs, High Desert Medical Center in Joshua Tree (San Bernardino County), and Palo Verde Hospital in Blythe.

**Desert Center Area.** The Desert Center area includes BLM administered lands in Riverside County and unincorporated county land. The nearest populated areas include the unincorporated town of Desert Center, the Lake Tamarisk Park development, and Eagle Mountain Village. The nearest incorporated population centers include Blythe, Coachella, and Indio in Riverside County, and Twentynine Palms in San Bernardino County. Utilities and public services in the unincorporated portions of Riverside County are described in detail in Section D.17.1.2.3, Segment 3: San Timoteo Canyon.

The CAL FIRE station in Desert Center is the closest response resource to the area. Under the California Fire Master Agreement, the closest resource would be requested to respond until the responsible agency arrives to assume command.

Eagle Mountain Elementary School, part of the Desert Center Unified School District, is in the Desert Center area. The area also is served by the Palo Verde Unified School District (PVUSD), serving the City of Blythe and other remote areas of Riverside County, and the Desert Center Unified School District in Desert Center. Palo Verde Valley High School is about 40 miles east along I-10. Indio High School, La Quinta High School, and Page Middle School are about 45 miles west of the area along I-10.

**Blythe Area.** The Blythe area includes privately owned, undeveloped, and agricultural lands in eastern Riverside County including the City of Blythe. In addition, the area includes BLM administered lands.

The City of Blythe and the Riverside County Sheriff's Department provide law enforcement and public safety for the area. The City of Blythe Police Department (BPD) service area covers all land in the City limits (27 square miles). The City of Blythe Volunteer Fire Department and the Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD)/California Department of Forestry provide fire protection for the area. RCFD's East Desert Division encompasses the lower Coachella Valley, east to the Arizona state line. Hazardous materials emergency response for the area is provided by RCFD, which would handle the response to emergency releases of hazardous material or waste.

Palo Verde Unified School District serves Blythe and other remote areas of Riverside County and consists of three elementary schools, two middle schools, one high school, and a continuation high school.

## **D.17.2 Applicable Regulations, Plans, and Standards**

The Proposed Project would cross federal, State, and local jurisdictions that have implemented regulations, plans, and standards regarding public services and utilities. To determine the Proposed Project's consistency with these government plans and policies, a thorough review of applicable policies was conducted.

### **D.17.2.1 Federal**

#### **43 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) §9212.2**

This regulation requires the BLM to establish fire prevention orders to assist with wildland fire prevention. These efforts will also complement and support State and local wildfire prevention efforts throughout the geographical area. This geographical area consists of public lands within the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) and public lands outside the CDCA in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego Counties.

#### **Federal Solid Waste Disposal Act and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act**

The Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1965 (as amended and revised by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act [RCRA] of 1976) establishes requirements for the management of solid waste. The RCRA gives the EPA the authority to control hazardous waste, including the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste. The RCRA also sets forth a framework for the management of nonhazardous solid wastes. The 1986 amendments to the RCRA enabled the EPA to address environmental problems that could result from underground tanks storing petroleum and other hazardous substances. The RCRA's key provisions include:

- Identification and listing of hazardous waste and standards applicable to hazardous waste
- Requires reporting of hazardous waste; permitting for storage, transport, and disposal; and includes provisions for oil recycling and Federal hazardous waste facilities inventories
- Management for solid waste, including landfills
- Applicability of Federal, State, and local laws to Federal agencies
- Procurement (recycling) provisions
- Citizen suits, judicial review, and enforcement authority
- Management, replacement, and monitoring of underground storage tanks

## **D.17.2.2 State**

### **California Fire Code, § 902.2.2.1**

Requires fire apparatus access roads to have a minimum unobstructed width of 20 feet. Other State regulations are related to health, fire, and building safety. These regulations include the California Health Code, the California Fire Code, and the Uniform Building Code (UBC), which are implemented at the local level by ordinances.

### **Title 12 California Code of Regulations § 1250-1258**

This code, (“Fire prevention standards for Electric Utilities”) provide clearance standards for electric structures, structure firebreaks, and electric conductors.

### **California Government Code §4216-4216.9**

Article 2 of this law requires that an excavator must contact a regional notification center (Underground Service Alert) at least two working days prior to excavation of any subsurface installation. Underground Service Alert will notify the utilities that may have buried installations in the area. Representatives of the operator of the buried installations are required to mark the specific location of their facilities within the work area prior to the start of project activities in the area.

### **California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989**

(Public Resources Code 40050 *et seq.* or Assembly Bill (AB) 939, codified in PRC 40000), administered by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), requires all local and county governments to adopt a Source Reduction and Recycling Element to identify means of reducing the amount of solid waste sent to landfills. This law set reduction targets at 25 percent by the year 1995 and 50 percent by the year 2000. To assist local jurisdictions in achieving these targets, the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991 requires all new developments to include adequate, accessible, and convenient areas for collecting and loading recyclable and green waste materials.

### **California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991**

Signed into law in 1991, AB 1327 added Chapter 18 to Part 3 of Division 30 of the Public Resources Code. Chapter 18 required the CIWMB to develop a model ordinance for adoption of recyclable materials in development projects. Local agencies were then required to adopt the model, or an ordinance of their own, to govern adequate areas for collection and loading of recyclable materials in development projects by September 1, 1993. If a local agency had not adopted a model ordinance by that date, the CIWMB model would be adopted and enforced by the local agency.

On January 1, 2010, California’s recycling and waste reduction efforts were streamlined into the State’s Natural Resources Agency. In the agency, CalRecycle merges the duties of the former California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) with the Department of Conservation’s Division of Recycling to manage the State’s waste disposal and recycling efforts. The Construction and Demolition Waste Materials Diversion Requirements established in 2002 (SB 1374) require jurisdictions in their annual AB 939 report to include a summary of the progress made in diverting construction and demolition waste.

## **D.17.2.3 Local**

The CPUC has jurisdiction over the siting and design of the Proposed Project because it authorizes the construction of investor-owned public utility (IOU) facilities. General Order (GO) No. 131-D Section III.C

requires “the utility to communicate with, and obtain the input of, local authorities regarding land-use matters and obtain any nondiscretionary local permits.” Table D.17-7 summarizes key elements of local applicable land use documents.

**Table D.17-7. Local Land Use Documents Related to Public Services and Utilities**

Document	Plans, Policies, Programs
City of Banning General Plan, Land Use Element: Public Facilities	<p><b>Goal:</b> Sufficient and appropriately located public facilities to serve the needs of the City’s residents, businesses and visitors.</p> <p><b>Policy 1:</b> The City shall take a leadership role with all providers of public services in the community to assure they provide adequate and quality levels of service based on future demands.</p>
City of Banning General Plan, Police and Fire Protection Element	<p><b>Goal:</b> The highest possible quality and level of service for fire and police protection to preserve and protect the health, welfare and property of residents, business owners, visitors and property owners.</p> <p><b>Policy 9:</b> The Fire Department shall maintain a 5-minute response time.</p> <p><b>Policy 11:</b> The Fire Department Ambulance Services shall maintain a 5-minute response time.</p>
City of Banning General Plan, Schools and Libraries Element	<p><b>Policy 3:</b> Schools and libraries shall be protected from excessive noise and traffic conditions, incompatible land uses, and the threat of on-site disturbance to the greatest extent practicable.</p> <p><b>Program 3.A:</b> The City shall routinely evaluate and update the Land Use Element to assure that school and library sites are compatible with surrounding land uses, arterial roadways and other significant noise generators.</p>
City of Banning General Plan, Public Services and Facilities, Water, Wastewater, and Utilities Element	<p><b>Policy 1:</b> The City shall coordinate between the City Utility Department-Water Division, Banning Heights Mutual Water Company, Beaumont/Cherry Valley Water Agency, San Geronio Pass Water Agency, California Regional Water Quality Control Board and Riverside County Environmental Health to protect and preserve local and regional water resources against overexploitation and contamination.</p> <p><b>Policy 7:</b> The City shall continue to confer and coordinate with its solid waste service franchisee to maintain and, if possible, exceed the provision of AB 939 by expanding recycling programs that divert valuable resources from the waste stream and returning these materials to productive use.</p>
City of Beaumont General Plan, Community Development Element	<p><b>Policy 20:</b> The City of Beaumont will continue to oversee the development of adequate and dependable public services and facilities to support both existing and future development.</p>
City of Beaumont General Plan, Community Development	<p><b>Policy 18:</b> The City of Beaumont will strive to ensure that there will be adequate water and wastewater system capacity to meet projected demand.</p> <p><b>Policy 28:</b> The City of Beaumont will continue to protect water quality through effective wastewater system management.</p>
City of Calimesa General Plan, Land Use Element – Infrastructure	<p><b>Policy 11.1:</b> Coordinate the provision of all public utilities and services to ensure a consistent, complete and efficient system of services to all residents.</p>
City of Calimesa General Plan, Land Use Element – Public Services	<p><b>Policy 12.3:</b> Provide and maintain existing infrastructure and enhance public services levels to meet the needs of Calimesa residents.</p>
City of Calimesa General Plan, Land Use Element – School Services	<p><b>Goal 13:</b> Coordinate planning and development proposals with the affected school district to ensure that adequate school facilities and services can be provided in a timely manner.</p>

**Table D.17-7. Local Land Use Documents Related to Public Services and Utilities**

Document	Plans, Policies, Programs
City of Colton General Plan, Land Use Element	<p><b>Goal LU-14:</b> Ensure adequate land area is available to support desired levels of City-provided public facility services.</p> <p><b>Policy LU-14.1:</b> Review City public facilities physical plants and sites on a regular basis to determine whether adjustments are needed consistent with the Land Use Plan adopted City policies and ordinances.</p> <p><b>Policy LU-21.8:</b> Ensure that safety services and sewer, water, and utility infrastructure are adequate to accommodate new development.</p>
City of Colton General Plan, Open Space and Conservation Element	<p><b>Principle 3:</b> Conserve and protect open space needed for the preservation of air quality, water quality, water supply, waste disposal, noise abatement or public safety through zoning and other regulatory tools.</p> <p><b>Standard 4:</b> Strict enforcement of water and air quality standards shall be applied to all industrial users through business license approvals, fire inspections and code enforcement of performance standards.</p>
City of Grand Terrace General Plan, Public Services and Facilities Element	<p><b>Goal 7.1:</b> Coordinate and balance the provision of public services with existing and planned development to eliminate service gaps, maximize the use of existing public facilities and services, provide a high level of quality public services at a reasonable cost, and maintain adequate services to meet the needs of current and future City residents and businesses.</p> <p><b>Policy 7.1.4:</b> The City shall coordinate with public and private utility companies and agencies to assure the long-term provision of necessary public services including water, sewer, electrical, natural gas, telephone, cable TV and waste collection/recycling.</p> <p><b>Policy 7.2.1:</b> Continue to work with Riverside Highland Water Company to provide efficient and economic distribution of an adequate water supply.</p> <p><b>Policy 7.3.1:</b> Work with the City of Colton to ensure a quality wastewater treatment system that meets or exceeds all State and Federal health standards.</p> <p><b>Policy 7.4.1:</b> Work with the City’s franchise waste collection company to ensure an effective and efficient waste collection program for all City residents and businesses.</p> <p><b>Goal 7.5:</b> Provide for adequate law enforcement and police protection services and facilities.</p> <p><b>Policy 7.5.1:</b> Work with the County Sheriff’s Department to ensure that adequate police personnel, response times, and equipment are available to meet current and future demands of the City’s residents and businesses.</p> <p><b>Goal 7.6:</b> Provide for adequate fire protection services and facilities.</p> <p><b>Goal 7.7:</b> In cooperation with the Colton Joint Unified School District, provide adequate public education facilities and programs.</p> <p><b>Policy 7.7.1:</b> Work with the Colton Joint Unified School District to provide expanded public education facilities that meet the current and future needs of the City’s residents.</p>
City of Loma Linda General Plan, Public Services and Facilities Element, Fire Protection Services	<p><b>8.2.2 Guiding Policy:</b> Provide for the protection of Loma Linda citizens and businesses from crime through maintenance of an adequate force of police officers, appropriate physical planning of new development, and a high level of public involvement in crime prevention.</p> <p><b>Implementing Policy 8.2.2.1 Implementing Policy:</b> a. Strive to provide an adequate police force to respond to emergency calls within an average of 3.25 minutes from time of dispatch.</p>
City of Loma Linda General Plan, Public Services and Facilities Element, Educational Facilities	<p><b>8.3.2.1 Implementing Policies:</b> ... b. Assist the various school districts in developing school sites and facilities to serve all neighborhoods in the City. e. Maintain land use regulations permitting the development of public and private educational facilities at appropriate locations within the Planning Area. Within lands planned for residential or mixed-use development, permit public and private schools along arterial and collector roads at the periphery of neighborhoods where traffic impacts created by the school on the local neighborhood can be minimized.</p>
City of Loma Linda General Plan, Public Services and Facilities Element, Library Services	<p><b>8.4.2 Guiding Policy:</b> Provide library facilities and services necessary to meet the needs of the community.</p>

**Table D.17-7. Local Land Use Documents Related to Public Services and Utilities**

Document	Plans, Policies, Programs
City of Loma Linda General Plan, Public Services and Facilities Element, Police Protection Services	<p><b>8.2.2 Guiding Policy:</b> Provide for the protection of Loma Linda citizens and businesses from crime through maintenance of an adequate force of police officers, appropriate physical planning of new development, and a high level of public involvement in crime prevention.</p> <p><b>8.2.2.1 Implementing Policies:</b> a. Strive to provide an adequate police force to respond to emergency calls within an average of 3.25 minutes from time of dispatch. b. Provide sufficient facilities and staff to ensure that the dispatch staff can collect emergency information and immediately forward requests for service to patrol units.</p>
City of Loma Linda General Plan, Public Services and Facilities Element, Water Utilities	<p><b>Guiding Policy 8.7.2:</b> Provide a water system that supplies high quality water to serve existing and future needs of the City during peak use conditions, with sufficient water in storage reservoirs for emergency and fire protection.</p>
City of Loma Linda General Plan, Public Services and Facilities Element, Wastewater Management	<p><b>Guiding Policy 8.8.2:</b> Ensure a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system is available to serve existing and future residences, businesses, institutions, and other uses within the City of Loma Linda.</p>
City of Loma Linda General Plan, Public Services and Facilities Element, Solid Waste Management	<p><b>Guiding Policy 8.9.2:</b> Reduce the amount of solid waste requiring disposal at landfills, enhancing the potential for recycling of the City's solid wastes.</p>
City of Palm Springs General Plan, Safety Element	<p><b>Policy SA4.11:</b> Ensure adequate firefighting resources are available to meet the demands of new development, including the construction of midrise structures, by ensuring that: Response times do not exceed desired levels of service; ...</p> <p><b>Policy SA4.12:</b> As areas of the City and its sphere of influence are developed, construction of new fire stations should be considered so that the Fire Department can continue to respond to any emergency call within six minutes of receiving the call at dispatch.</p> <p><b>Goal SA7:</b> Provide quality police and fire protection to residents, businesses, and visitors of the City.</p> <p><b>Policy SA7.1:</b> Maintain adequate resources to enable the Police Department to meet response-time standards, keep pace with growth, and provide high levels of service.</p> <p><b>Policy SA7.4:</b> Periodically evaluate population growth, development characteristics, level of service, and incidence of crime within the City to ensure that an adequate level of police service is maintained.</p> <p><b>Policy SA7.5:</b> Maintain adequate resources to enable the Fire Department to meet response-time standards, keep pace with growth, and provide high levels of service.</p> <p><b>Policy SA7.6:</b> Provide safe firefighting facilities of adequate size and at the best locations to meet NFPA 1710 standards for response time.</p> <p><b>Goal SA8:</b> Reduce the risk to life, property, and essential facilities through emergency preparedness and public awareness.</p>
City of Palm Springs Recreation and Open Space Element, Water Resources	<p><b>Policy RC9.1:</b> Work with the Desert Water Agency, Coachella Valley Water District, and Mission Springs Water District to ensure that a sufficient quantity and quality of potable water is available for current and future residential, business, and visitor uses.</p>
City of Redlands General Plan, Health and Safety Element, Electromagnetic Fields	<p><b>Guiding Policy 8.70b:</b> Insist on adequate setbacks from schools, housing, and care facilities for any additional high voltage power lines or substations to be constructed in the Planning Area.</p> <p>The California State Department of Education, School Facilities Planning Division maintains standards for distance from schools according to voltage.</p>
City of Redlands General Plan, Health and Safety Element, Water Quality	<p><b>Guiding Policy 8.20h:</b> State Water Project water shall be considered, to the extent possible, as supplemental water, and shall be utilized only as necessary to meet demand.</p>

**Table D.17-7. Local Land Use Documents Related to Public Services and Utilities**

Document	Plans, Policies, Programs
City of Redlands General Plan, Open Space and Conservation Element, Water Supply and Conservation	<p><b>Guiding Policy 7.22a:</b> Minimize dependence on imported water by increasing entitlement in local surface sources, using wise groundwater management practices, conservation measures, and the use of reclaimed wastewater and nonpotable water for irrigation of landscaping and agriculture, where feasible.</p> <p><b>Guiding Policy 7.22b:</b> The City of Redlands overlies a portion of the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin. This Basin contains in excess of 3 million acre feet of water. This local supply source must be cleaned up, used to its full potential, and protected from outside interests. This requires the cooperation of all agencies within the Basin.</p> <p><b>Implementing Policy 7.22f:</b> If the City's updated Water Master Plan shows water supply to be inadequate, increase supply and reduce demand or curtail development until adequate supplies are secured.</p>
City of Redlands General Plan, Open Space and Conservation Element, Waste Management & Recycling	<p><b>Implementing Policy 7.24c:</b> Meet the mandatory waste diversion goals set by the State of 25 percent by 1995 and 50 percent by 2,000; reduce landfill disposal of household hazardous waste as much as feasibly possible.</p>
City of San Bernardino General Plan, Public Services and Facilities Element	<p><b>Goal 7.1:</b> Protect the residents of San Bernardino from criminal activity and reduce the incidence of crime.</p> <p><b>Goal 7.2:</b> Protect the residents and structures of San Bernardino from the hazards of fire.</p>
City of San Bernardino, Utilities Element	<p><b>Goal 9.1:</b> Provide a system of wastewater collection and treatment facilities that will adequately convey and treat wastewater generated by existing and future development in the City's service area.</p> <p><b>Goal 9.2:</b> Ensure that all wastewater collection and treatment facilities are operated to maximize public safety.</p> <p><b>Goal 9.3:</b> Provide water supply, transmission, distribution, storage, and treatment facilities to meet present and future water demands in a timely and cost effective manner.</p>
City of Yucaipa General Plan-Safety, Hazardous Waste Element	<p><b>Policy B:</b> The City shall support the development of fire protection facilities to the appropriate levels of service defined by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.</p> <p><b>Action 1:</b> Continue to work with public utilities, school districts, and other agencies supplying critical public services to ensure that they have incorporated structural safety and other measures to be adequately protected from seismic hazards for both existing and proposed facilities.</p>
City of Yucaipa General Plan, Infrastructure and Public Facilities Element	<p><b>Policy A:</b> Because water suppliers within the City of Yucaipa are primarily local, the City shall implement measures to reduce per capita water consumption and increase supplies.</p>
County of Riverside General Plan, Safety Element	<p><b>Policy S 5.1:</b> Develop and enforce construction and design standards that ensure that proposed development incorporates fire prevention features.</p> <p><b>Policy S.5.10:</b> Continue to utilize the Riverside County Fire Protection Master Plan as the base document to implement the goals and objectives of the Safety Element.</p>
County of Riverside General Plan, Land Use Element	<p><b>Policy LU 5.1:</b> Ensure that development does not exceed the ability to adequately provide supporting infrastructure and services, such as libraries, recreational facilities, transportation systems, and fire/police/medical services.</p> <p><b>Policy LU 5.2:</b> Monitor the capacities of infrastructure and services in coordination with service providers, utilities, and outside agencies and jurisdictions to ensure that growth does not exceed acceptable levels of service.</p> <p><b>Policy LU 5.4:</b> Ensure that development and conservation land uses do not infringe upon existing public utility corridors, including fee owned rights-of-way and permanent easements, whose true land use is that of "public facilities." This policy will ensure that the "public facilities" designation governs over what otherwise may be inferred by the large scale general plan maps.</p>

**Table D.17-7. Local Land Use Documents Related to Public Services and Utilities**

Document	Plans, Policies, Programs
County of Riverside General Plan, Circulation Element, Major Utilities Corridor	<b>Policy C 25.1:</b> Promote and encourage efficient provisions of utilities such as water, wastewater, and electricity that support the County’s Land Use Element at build out.
County of San Bernardino General Plan, Circulation and Infrastructure, Fire Protection	<b>Goal CI 16:</b> The County will protect its residents and visitors from injury and loss of life and protect property from fires through the continued improvement of existing Fire Department facilities and the creation of new facilities, but also through the improvement of related infrastructure that is necessary for the provision of fire service delivery such as water systems and transportation networks. <b>Policy CI 16.1:</b> Continue the consolidation efforts of the Fire Department to maintain the continued operation, services, facilities, and current infrastructure but also to ensure the provision of operations, services, facilities, and internal infrastructures into the future.
County of San Bernardino General Plan, Circulation and Infrastructure, Law Enforcement	<b>Goal CI 17:</b> The County will provide adequate law enforcement facilities to deliver services to deter crime and to meet the growing demand for services associated with increasing populations and commercial/industrial developments. <b>Policy CI 17.1:</b> Appropriately prioritize calls for service and seek sufficient staffing levels to ensure response times are reasonable and efforts to deter crime are optimized. <b>Policy CI 17.8:</b> Develop and coordinate contingency responses to disasters, mutual aid needs, search and rescue operations, and other emergencies in concert with allied agencies.
County of San Bernardino General Plan, Land Use Element, Countywide Goals and Policies	<b>Goal LU 8:</b> Beneficial facilities, such as schools, parks, medical facilities, sheriff and fire stations, libraries, and other public uses, as well as potentially hazardous sites, will be equitably distributed throughout the County. <b>Policy LU 8.3:</b> Locate fire department facilities in such a fashion as to maximize service delivery in an equitable fashion to all portions of the County.

Source: SCE, 2013; Chapters 4.14 Public Services and 4.17 Utilities and Service Systems.

## D.17.3 Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Project

### D.17.3.1 Approach to Impact Assessment

This section considers the potential impact to and disruption of public services and utilities within the jurisdictions through which the Proposed Project would cross. Many public services and utilities would experience minor impacts. However, because of the use of water and the potential need to disrupt services for extended periods of time during construction, some of the impacts may be moderate. The metrics used to compare alternatives would be the length of time required for construction of the different alternatives and whether that would result in a longer disruption time. If an alternative required a substantially longer construction timeframe than others or required substantially more services than others, this would also be used to compare impacts to public services.

#### D.17.3.1.1 Applicant Proposed Measures

SCE proposed no Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) related to utilities and public services.

#### D.17.3.2 CEQA Significance Criteria

Based on to the CEQA Environmental Checklist significance criteria for assessing the impacts to public services, a project causes a potentially significant impact if it 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 con-

struction 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
- Police protection
- Schools
- Parks
- Other public facilities

Based on the CEQA Environmental Checklist significance criteria for assessing the impacts to utilities, the following factors are used to determine whether a project causes a potentially significant impact:

- Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects
- Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects
- Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed
- 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
- Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs
- Comply with federal state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste

In addition to the CEQA Environmental Checklist significance criteria, the following criterion was used to assess impacts to utilities because the construction would cross a large number of existing electrical or other utility systems:

- Disrupt the existing utility system or cause a collocation accident

### **D.17.3.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures**

#### ***Impact UPS-1: Project construction and operation would increase the need for public services and utilities***

Construction activities for the Proposed Project are planned to occur between May 2016 and May 2020. Construction would require: establishing temporary staging yards used as reporting locations for workers, vehicle and equipment parking, and material storage; modification of existing substations; rehabilitation and construction of new access and spur roads; preparation of laydown/work areas for the new structure pad locations; grading and clearing of vegetation for each structure pad location; foundation installation for each structure; and installation of the new structures and conductors.

Construction of the Proposed Project would require the use of temporary shoo-fly facilities. A shoo-fly is a temporary electrical line on a temporary structure that is used during construction to maintain electrical service to the area while allowing portions of a permanent line to be taken out of service. The shoo-fly facilities would be removed after construction is completed.

The Proposed Project would also require relocation of portions of existing 66 kV and 12 kV lines and upgrades to existing telecommunications. Some of the relocation of the 12 kV circuits and telecommunication facilities would include underground systems.

The following paragraphs describe the impacts of the Proposed Project during construction on utilities and public services. Because the Proposed Project is an upgrade of existing facilities, the impacts of the Proposed Project during operations and maintenance are anticipated to be the same as or substantially similar to the baseline. This is because operations and maintenance would require a similar workforce and a similar need for public services and utilities as currently occurs. Therefore, the analysis focuses on construction impacts rather than operations and maintenance impacts.

**Police Protection.** The need for law enforcement services during construction would be unlikely, except in the event of an emergency. Staging yards would be illuminated for security purposes. SCE may hire a local security company to provide 24-hour attendance at the staging and work areas during construction, to minimize the involvement of local law enforcement (SCE, 2013). Proposed Project construction activities would not require the expansion of existing police stations or services because of the temporary and short-term nature of construction at any one location. The need for emergency services may occur during the construction phase of the Proposed Project but the existing emergency services would be capable of addressing any emergency.

**Fire Protection.** Portions of the Proposed Project are located in a very high fire hazard safety zone, as described in Section D.20, Wildland Fire. Construction activities would include ignition sources as well as a general increase in humans and human activity in areas of fire hazard, and therefore would result in an increased potential risk of fire and an increased need for emergency services. This would be substantial because of the length of construction time and the already high risk and cost of fires throughout California.

Construction activities would be conducted according to standard fire prevention protocols and SCE would be required to prepare and implement a fire management plan during construction of the project as required by Mitigation Measure WF-1a (Prepare and Implement a fire management plan) that would be reviewed and approved by the federal, State, and local fire jurisdictions within the Proposed Project area. SCE would be required to fully implement this plan during construction and would identify responsibilities and duties and would include restrictions on certain activities during red-flag warning days.

Proposed Project construction activities would not require the expansion of existing fire stations or fire protection services with implementation of the Fire Management Plan.

**Emergency Services.** Construction of the project and equipment would impede emergency access due to road closures, project use of fire and access roads, and potentially blocked property entrances during construction. SCE would apply for and obtain all necessary State, county, and local permits (e.g., traffic control, lane closure, and encroachment) for construction activities in or affecting a public street ROW, private roadway, or driveway. Additionally, Mitigation Measure T-1b (Prepare traffic control plans) would require SCE to prepare Traffic Control Plans that would include measures to avoid disruptions or delays in access for emergency service vehicles and to keep emergency service agencies fully informed of road closures, detours, and delays. Police departments, fire departments, ambulance services, and paramedic services shall be notified at least one month in advance by SCE of the proposed locations, nature, timing, and duration of any construction activities affecting roads and advised of any access restrictions that could impact their effectiveness. This mitigation measure would reduce any impacts to response times and access for these services. The need for emergency services may occur during the construction phase of the Proposed Project. This would be for work-related injuries. The number of such injuries is typically

low and would not be anticipated to significantly affect the provision of existing emergency services or require the provision of service beyond existing capacities.

**Schools.** Construction of the Proposed Project would occur over approximately 36 to 48 months and could require a limited amount of accommodations for workers during construction. During peak construction periods, there would be up to approximately 340 construction-related workers per day. There may be a need for temporary accommodations (local hotels or motels) during the construction phase for non-local laborers while they work on particular components of the Proposed Project's construction. It is unlikely that these individuals would trigger any additional demand for public schools because of the temporary nature of their work. While it is possible that some of the workforce would relocate for the duration of the construction and could bring school-aged children into the respective school districts within the area of the Proposed Project, this number is likely to be small, as discussed in Section D.8 Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice. The potential temporary increase of school-aged children would not substantially affect school enrollment or impact the performance objectives of any local public schools and would not require the construction of school facilities.

**Parks.** There are a number of parks on, adjacent to, and near the Proposed Project, see Table D.15-1 in Section D.15, Recreation. As described for schools, while there may be some construction workers who chose to relocate for the duration of the construction and could bring school-aged children into the jurisdictions along the route, this number is likely to be small. The temporary increase of children or families is not anticipated to affect the existing parks or their management goals and objectives.

**Wastewater.** The Proposed Project would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board or require the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. Water would be used during construction to control dust and for other purposes but would be used on site and would not result in wastewater flows being generated. Small volumes of wastewater would be generated by the construction crews, such as in the use of portable toilets that would be provided for workers during the construction phase. The wastewater generated by the portable toilets is likely to be small and would not exceed existing capacity at receiving wastewater plants. SCE would be required to abide by existing regulations when disposing of wastewater from portable toilets.

**Stormwater Drainage Facilities.** Construction activity associated with the Proposed Project does not require the development of large-scale impermeable surfaces that would increase the amount of stormwater discharge from the site, or that would require construction of new off-site stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities. The Proposed Project foundations and substation improvements would be the only impermeable surfaces. Because no new large-scale impermeable surfaces are proposed, existing facilities would be able to accommodate the existing stormwater flows, as the volume and velocity of stormwater flow is expected to be similar to existing conditions.

**Water.** SCE estimates that it would use up to 250 acre-feet of water per year for construction (SCE, 2014a, Data Response PU-2). This would be used for fugitive dust control, vegetation restoration, and soil compaction/concrete placement. At this time, SCE has not identified specific water purveyors to provide for the construction water needs. Over the nearly 50-mile right-of-way, water could be obtained from any of 14 possible local water districts (see Table B-8 in Section B). These local water districts use a combination of surface water and groundwater for water supply. As shown in Table B-8 in Section B, the total water supply from the 14 identified water districts exceeded total water use within those districts by 22,597 acre-feet in 2010 (the most recent year with complete data). Water supply and water use data were not available for all 14 of the identified districts. However, based on the available data, water supply exceeds water use in the area by almost an order of magnitude more than SCE's proposed construction water demand.

While the use of water is short-term during construction, using potable water for construction would reduce the amount of available potable water for the local areas during a time when California is experiencing a drought and some locations are already experiencing or may experience water shortages. Mitigation Measure UPS-1a (Use non-potable water for construction) would require SCE to use non-potable water for dust control and soil compaction whenever feasible.

**Other Public Facilities.** Other public facilities, such as hospitals, are located throughout the project area. These public facilities may be used during construction by workers who are injured on the job or become ill, or as described for schools, by construction workers who choose to relocate for the duration of the construction of the Proposed Project and bring families into these public facilities' jurisdictions. However, the number of workers and workers' families that would use these public facilities is likely to be small. As discussed in Section D.8 Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice, relatively few new workers and their families would move to the area. Any temporary increase in use of the public facilities by the construction workforce or their families is not anticipated to affect the existing public facilities or their performance objectives.

**Solid Waste Disposal.** Construction activity associated with the Proposed Project would require the disposal of solid waste, including non-recyclable existing transmission structures and components that would be removed as well as packaging for new project components, spoiled materials, and excavated soil that is not re-used as backfill. Many of the existing transmission structures and components (including metallic structures and components) would be recycled. Depending on the nature of the materials, non-recyclable solid waste would be disposed of in a non-hazardous sanitary landfill or hazardous material disposal facility, as appropriate. Based on current available data, the two nearest regional landfills (Badlands Sanitary Landfill and Lamb Canyon Sanitary Landfill) have a combined remaining capacity of approximately 33.7 million cubic yards. This available capacity is more than sufficient to accommodate all of the solid waste that would be generated during construction of the Proposed Project (CalRecycle, 2015). To address impacts resulting from water use, potential demand for fire services, and potential adverse effects on the ability of emergency service vehicles to reach destinations, the following mitigation measures would be required.

***Mitigation Measures for Impact UPS-1: Project construction and operation would increase the need for public services and utilities***

**UPS-1a Use non-potable water for construction purposes.** Project water supply for dust control, soil compaction activities, and site restoration/revegetation shall be obtained from non-potable sources, if available, and ensured in a water contract through a local water agency or district. The Applicant shall provide a letter describing the availability of non-potable water and efforts made to obtain it for use during construction to the CPUC and BLM a minimum of 60 days prior to the start of construction.

**WF-1a Prepare and implement a Fire Management Plan.** (Full text included in Section D.20.)

**T-1b Prepare traffic control plans.** (Full text included in Section D.16)

***Impact UPS-2: Construction would disrupt existing pipelines and utility systems or cause a collocation accident***

Construction within the existing ROW would result in the collocation of new structures and power lines adjacent to and across existing utility lines. It would also require the use of shoo-fly structures in multiple locations adjacent to the existing lines. As described in Section D.17.1.2, the route would parallel and cross several transmission lines, distribution lines, sewer lines, natural gas pipelines, fiber optic cables,

brine lines, storm drains, water pipelines, and wind farms. There could be the potential for service interruptions of these utilities or preclusion of access to some of the utilities during construction of the Proposed Project.

SCE is required to contact a regional notification center at least two days prior to excavation of any sub-surface installation by Section 1, Chapter 3.1, "Protection of Underground Infrastructure," Article 2 of California Government Code §§4216-4216.9. This action would cause the notification center (Underground Service Alert) to notify the utilities that may have buried lines within 1,000 feet of the project. Representatives of the utilities are required to mark the specific location of their facilities within the work area prior to the start of project activities in the area. The location of all underground electric, water, gas, cable or telecommunications lines within the vicinity (at least 1,000 feet) of the Proposed Project would be marked.

Compliance with California Government Code §§4216-4216.9 would reduce the likelihood of accidental disruptions. However, accidental disruptions could still occur along the route especially due to the large number of underground utilities and the need to keep some of the existing transmission lines working during construction, making construction activities more challenging. Mitigation UPS-2a (Protect pipelines and overhead and underground utilities) would be required to reduce the risk of accidental disruptions and to ensure that existing facilities are identified and avoided and that proper coordination with other utilities occurs.

The Proposed Project crosses natural gas pipelines, some of which may require cathodic protection. Based on preliminary research SCE expects seven locations to have pipelines that potentially require the installation of new or modified cathodic protection. As described in Section B.3.3.18, SCE or a contractor would perform a detailed engineering study to evaluate the long-term operational impacts of the Proposed Project's electrical system on the pipelines as it relates to corrosion and maintenance safety issues. Based on this report, SCE would determine if cathodic protection were needed and if so, whether an existing system is sufficient for the new electrical configuration or if additional or upgraded facilities would be installed. After establishing the need for cathodic protection, SCE would install a range of options that include but are not limited to deep ground rods, zinc ribbon mitigation wire, and gradient control mats, to reduce the impacts of the Proposed Project on existing pipelines.

***Mitigation Measures for Impact UPS-2: Construction would disrupt existing pipelines and utility systems or cause a collocation accident***

**UPS-2a** **Protect pipelines and overhead and underground utilities.** Prior to commencing construction, SCE shall perform engineering studies to determine whether and what cathodic protection would be required on pipelines potentially affected. SCE shall submit to the CPUC and BLM written documentation of the following:

- Evidence of coordination with all pipeline and utility owners with facilities in the vicinity of planned construction, including their review of SCE's construction plans and a description of any protective measures or compensation to be implemented to protect affected facilities;
- Copy of the Applicant's database of emergency contacts for pipelines and utilities that may be in close proximity or require monitoring during construction of the project; and
- Evidence that the project meets all applicable local requirements.

### D.17.3.4 Impacts of Connected Actions

The construction workforce for solar energy facilities in Desert Center and Blythe areas would temporarily increase the local population, but would not require construction or alteration of physical facilities to provide adequate education, law enforcement, parks and recreation, hospital facilities and emergency response services, or electrical, natural gas, public water, sewer, or solid waste facilities. Following construction, operation of these solar projects would require a nominal workforce as most solar plants are unmanned, and it is not anticipated that these projects would increase the local population. Therefore, there would be no substantial demands on utilities or public services as a result of operation of the solar facilities.

The majority of the projected construction workforce at each solar facility would likely seek housing closer to the specific solar project sites (within a two-hour driving distance) or seek temporary housing during the week and commute home over the weekend. It would be unlikely that construction workers would relocate permanently to a project site with their families due to the temporary nature of the construction. Therefore, the temporary addition of construction workers to an area's population is not anticipated to increase school enrollment or warrant the need for new or expanded parks and recreational facilities.

The temporary increase of construction workers could increase demands on police services. However, during construction of solar facilities, on-site security would include trained personnel whose primary responsibility would be to control ingress and egress of personnel and vehicles, perform fire and security watch during off hours, and perform security badge administration, all of which would minimize the potential need for response from the law enforcement agencies. The construction workforce for all projects is expected to be hired generally from within the available regional workforce. Because project construction activities are not anticipated to increase the local population, no new or expanded law enforcement facilities or increased staff levels within the areas would be required. Construction of solar facilities and their associated gen-tie lines would generate truck and employee traffic along haul routes and at any given project area, which could temporarily increase the accident potential in these areas during the construction period. However, the additional volume of traffic associated with workers commuting to the sites during construction would be temporary and it is anticipated that personnel and equipment from the sheriff's department, nearby cities, and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) would be sufficient to respond to incidents. Project construction in each of the areas is not expected to adversely affect the CHP's ability to patrol the highways.

Development of the connected solar projects would not require construction or expansion of public water treatment and/or service systems or additional entitlements or resources. Solar PV facilities would have limited water needs during construction (i.e., for dust suppression and other construction needs) and operation (for maintenance needs). While water would be used during construction activities, the construction of new expanded public water facilities would not be required as there are adequate facilities in both connected action areas. Sanitary facilities during construction would be provided by portable units serviced by licensed providers. In addition, these projects likely would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements during construction, because they likely would not connect to the public sewer system given the sites are undeveloped lands.

***Impact UPS-1: Project construction and operation would increase the need for public services and utilities***

**Desert Center Area.** The solar projects in the Desert Center area would include development of about 700 MW of solar generation (250 MW of solar thermal and 450 MW of solar PV) on a total of approxi-

mately 5,560 acres of land, including the Palen Solar Power Project, EDF Desert Harvest, and 2 solar PV projects. As described above the projects in this Study Area would not greatly affect service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives relating to law enforcement, schools, or parks.

While the Palen Solar Power Project, EDF Desert Harvest Project, and 2 solar PV projects would increase the number of individuals within the area during construction, the increase would not be substantial and would not necessitate new or expanded utilities or public services or staff levels as explained above. The environmental analysis of the Palen Solar Power Project noted that during construction and operation there is the potential for both small fires and major structural fires. Electrical sparks, combustion of fuel oil, hydraulic fluid, mineral oil, insulating fluid at the power plant switchyard or flammable liquids, explosions, and over-heated equipment, may cause small fires. Major structural fires in areas with automatic fire detection and suppression systems are unlikely to develop at power plants. The Palen project would rely on both on-site fire protection systems and local fire protection services. In the event of a major fire, fire support services, including trained firefighters and equipment for a sustained response, would be provided by the RCFD. During construction, the permanent fire protection systems proposed for the project would be installed as soon as practical. In addition, portable fire extinguishers would be placed throughout the site at appropriate intervals and periodically maintained. Safety procedures and training would be implemented according to the guidelines of the Construction Fire Protection and Prevention Plan for the project. The Palen Solar Power Project has incorporated various types of mitigation including funding to help the RCFD with equipment and response times.

**Blythe Area.** The solar projects that would be developed in the Blythe area would be located predominately on undeveloped private and public lands in eastern Riverside County. These areas have a low population density typical of the southern California desert. Solar facilities would represent a land use change for the area of approximately 4,200 acres from agricultural fields and vacant lands to solar facilities and supporting gen-tie lines connecting to the Colorado River Substation. The construction workforce for solar energy facilities would temporarily increase the local population of the area, but would not require construction or alteration of physical facilities to provide adequate education, law enforcement, parks and recreation, hospital facilities and emergency response services, or electrical, natural gas, public water, sewer, or solid waste facilities. After construction, operation of the solar projects in the Blythe area would require a nominal workforce as most solar plants are unmanned, and it is not anticipated that these projects would increase the local population. Therefore, there would be no substantial demands on utilities or public services as a result of operation of the solar facilities.

During construction, there is the potential for fires. Electrical sparks, combustion of fuel oil, hydraulic fluid, mineral oil, or insulating fluid at substations, or flammable liquids, explosions, and over-heated equipment may cause small fires. The solar projects in the Blythe area would result in an increase in demand for fire protection services over existing levels during construction. The operational capabilities to handle technical rescues at electrical facilities, such as confined space/trench rescue/high angle rescue, may require increased staffing, training, and equipment. New or upgraded fire facilities may be required in order to accommodate additional staffing and fire rescue apparatus for solar facilities. Specialized rescue equipment may also be required in order to service the proposed gen-tie lines, which will require proper storage and maintenance to ensure optimal performance in the event of an emergency.

The solar projects in the Blythe area are within the service area of the RCFD and City of Blythe Volunteer Fire Department. Pursuant to Riverside County Ordinance 659, the project applicant would be required to pay a development impact fee (ranging from \$2,035 to \$3,039 per acre) for fire services “in order for the County to construct or acquire the needed facilities” (Riverside, 2006). Each of the solar projects

likely would fall within adequate service levels, but RCFD would need to determine service adequacy at the time each project undergoes environmental review. Typically, RCFD does require impact fees as part of solar energy projects. If facilities are constructed or acquired using funds provided by the solar project applicants, and if new or physically altered fire protection facilities are paid for with the funds from these projects, the construction of such new facilities would be an indirect environmental effect resulting from the implementation of these solar projects in the Blythe area. Typical mitigation to avoid adverse effects on the RCFD would be similar to that applicable to the Palen Solar Power Project discussed above for Desert Center area, where funding is provided to the RCFD. Compliance with Riverside County Ordinance 659 and the resultant impact fees (to be determined on a project-by-project basis by RCFD) for fire services would help ensure that adequate new or expanded services and facilities are in place for projects in the area.

In the event of an on-site accident during construction, the RCFD would provide first responder emergency medical care. The nearest RCFD fire stations are staffed full-time, 24 hours, 7 days a week, with a minimum three-person crew, including paramedics. Once a patient is transported, a number of local area hospitals are available to provide emergency medical care. While a high number of construction employees would be located on-site, local area emergency medical facilities are expected to adequately handle any worksite accidents requiring their attention. Minor injuries could be treated at Palo Verde Hospital in Blythe. Injuries resulting in significant trauma would be treated at the Desert Regional Medical Center. Construction would not require new or expanded hospital facilities or personnel or result in the increase in emergency responder staff levels within the Study Area of eastern Riverside County.

***Impact UPS-2: Construction would disrupt the existing utility systems or cause a collocation accident***

The solar projects that would be developed in the Desert Center and Blythe areas would be located predominately on undeveloped private and public lands. As such, these areas may not have extensive underground or overhead utilities. However, since approximately 7,400 acres lands would be converted to solar facilities and the associated gen-tie lines, there is a potential for disruptions to existing utilities, such as transmission lines, distribution lines, sewer lines, natural gas pipelines, fiber optic cables, irrigation lines, storm drains, and water pipelines. There could be the potential for service interruptions of these utilities or preclusion of access to some of the utilities during construction of solar facilities and their gen-tie lines.

Project applicants typically are required to contact a regional notification center (i.e., Underground Service Alert) at least two days prior to excavation of any subsurface installation by Section 1, Chapter 3.1, "Protection of Underground Infrastructure," Article 2 of California Government Code §§4216 4216.9. This action would cause the notification center to notify the utilities that may have buried lines within 1,000 feet of a project. Representatives of the utilities are required to mark the specific location of their facilities within the work area prior to the start of project activities in the area. Compliance with this California Code requirement would reduce the likelihood of accidental disruptions. However, in the event of an accidental disruption, mitigation measures would be required to reduce the risk of accidental disruptions and to ensure existing facilities are identified and avoided and proper coordination with other utilities occurs. For example, Proposed Project Mitigation Measure UPS-2a (Protect overhead and underground utilities) is a typical mitigation measure that would help offset the effects of disruptions to collocated utilities or the potential for collocation accidents.

### D.17.3.5 CEQA Significance Determination for Proposed Project and Connected Actions

***Impact UPS-1: Project construction and operation would increase the need for public services and utilities (Class II for Proposed Project; Class II or III for Connected Actions)***

Construction of the proposed transmission line would increase temporarily the need for public services and utilities, including police protection, fire protection, schools, parks, water, and solid waste disposal. However, the increase is temporary and anticipated to be minor for most public services and utilities. Because few construction workers would relocate for the duration of the project, the increased need would be limited in nature. Although impacts to the regional water supply would not be significant and no mitigation measure is required, to further reduce adverse effects of the use of potable water, Mitigation Measure UPS-1a (Use non-potable water) would be recommended for implementation to reduce water usage for construction. Construction activities would increase the risk of fire hazards due to an increase in ignition sources. Mitigation Measure WF-1a (Prepare and implement a fire management plan) would reduce this impact to less than significant because it would require SCE to prepare and implement a Fire Management Plan that would be reviewed and approved by appropriate fire jurisdictions within the Proposed Project area. The increased need or disruption to emergency services due to road closures, use of fire and access roads, and potentially blocking property entrances could result in decreased response times or impact other performance objectives. With implementation of Mitigation Measure T-1b (Prepare traffic control plans) this impact would be addressed. Together, these three mitigation measures would reduce this impact to less than significant (Class II).

With regard to the connected actions, except for fire services, construction and operation of the solar projects would have less than significant impacts (Class III) on utilities and public services. For fire services, the operational capabilities to handle technical rescues at electrical facilities, such as confined space/trench rescue/high angle rescue, may require additional staffing, training, and equipment. New or upgraded fire facilities may be required to accommodate additional staffing and fire rescue apparatus for solar facilities. Specialized rescue equipment also may be required in order to service the proposed gen-tie lines, which will require proper storage and maintenance to ensure optimal performance in the event of an emergency. The need for additional staff, equipment, or construction of fire response facilities would be a significant indirect environmental impact resulting from the implementation of the solar projects, particularly in the Desert Center and Blythe areas. The Palen Solar Power Project has included funding to help the RCFD with equipment and response times. In addition, it was concluded that compliance with all federal, State, and local safety requirements and providing mitigation to the RCFD (in the form of funding) would be adequate to assure protection from all fire hazards, and that new and expanded facilities are not needed.

If fire/rescue facilities are constructed or acquired using funds provided by solar projects, the construction of such facilities would be a significant indirect environmental impact resulting from the implementation of these solar projects. Typically, solar energy facilities prepare and implement a Fire Management and Protection Plan to ensure that emergency fire precautions are employed during project construction. Compliance with Riverside County Ordinance 659 and the resultant impact fees for fire services would help ensure that adequate new or expanded facilities are in place for projects in the affected areas. Together, the compliance with Riverside County Ordinance 659 and payment of impact fees similar to mitigation from the Palen Solar Power Project would reduce this impact to less than significant (Class II).

***UPS-2: Construction would disrupt existing pipelines and utility systems or cause a collocation accident (Class II).***

Construction of the Proposed Project within the existing ROW would result in the collocation of new structures and power lines adjacent to and across existing pipelines and utility lines. Compliance with existing regulations would require SCE to contact a regional notification center that would notify existing utilities that have buried lines within 1,000 feet of the project and require them to mark the specific locations of their facilities reducing the likelihood of accidental disruptions. However, disruptions could still occur along the line due to the number of pipelines and utilities the line crosses, resulting in a significant impact absent mitigation. Mitigation Measure UPS-2a (Protect pipelines and overhead and underground utilities) would require SCE to coordinate with pipeline and utility owners in the project vicinity to ensure these facilities are protected, reducing the impact to less than significant. Impacts to natural gas pipelines due to corrosion would be less than significant because SCE would study the potential for such impacts and install cathodic protection where necessary (Class II).

Project applicants are typically required to contact a regional notification service prior to excavation of any subsurface installation. Compliance with this California Code requirement would reduce the likelihood of accidental disruptions of utilities. However, mitigation would be required to reduce the risk of accidental disruptions and to ensure that existing facilities are identified and avoided and proper coordination with other utilities occurs. For example, Proposed Project Mitigation Measure UPS-2a (Protect overhead and underground utilities) is a typical mitigation measure that would help offset the effects of disruptions to collocated utilities or the potential for collocation accidents by requiring project applicants and utilities to coordinate their efforts (Class II).

Similar impacts would occur for connected actions when located in the vicinity of pipelines and utilities, and similar mitigation would be required (Class II)

## **D.17.4 Environmental Impacts of Project Alternatives**

Three alternatives are considered in this section; all of these alternatives would be located within the existing WOD ROW. The No Project/No Action Alternative is evaluated in Section D.17.5. Alternatives are described in detail in Appendix 5 (Alternatives Screening Report) and are summarized in Section C.

Utilities and public services within the ROW are described by segment in Section D.17.1.2 above; the description of the environmental setting would apply equally to the alternatives.

### **D.17.4.1 Tower Relocation Alternative**

The Tower Relocation Alternative would locate certain transmission structures in Segments 4 and 6 farther from existing homes than would be the case under the Proposed Project.

Two impacts related to utilities and public services were identified for the Proposed Project. These impacts also would apply to the Tower Relocation Alternative, which overall would be the same as the Proposed Project, with the exception of the relocated transmission towers that are described above and in Appendix 5. The full text of all mitigation measures referenced in this section is presented in Section D.17.3.3, except where otherwise noted.

***Impact UPS-1: Project construction and operation would increase the need for public services and utilities***

The relocated towers would be moved approximately 50 feet farther from the southern edge of the ROW. The minor adjustment to the location of these towers would not change the effects on public services and utilities compared to those of the Proposed Project, although the length of the construction period would likely be extended under this alternative. The same mitigation measures recommended for the project as a whole would apply to these relocated towers: Mitigation Measures UPS-1a (Use non-potable water), WF-1a (Prepare and implement a fire management plan), and T-1b (Prepare traffic control plans). Together, these three mitigation measures would ensure that this adverse effect would be minor.

***Impact UPS-2: Construction would disrupt existing pipelines and utility systems or cause a collocation accident***

The relocation of towers approximately 50 feet farther from the southern edge of the ROW would not change the Proposed Project's potential to disrupt existing pipelines and utility systems or cause a collocation accident. Mitigation Measure UPS-2a (Protect pipelines and overhead and underground utilities) would require SCE to coordinate with pipeline and utility owners in the project vicinity to ensure these facilities are protected, reducing the severity of this adverse effect.

**CEQA Significance Determination for Tower Relocation Alternative**

The CEQA significance determination for each utilities and public services impact in this alternative is presented below.

***Impact UPS-1: Project construction and operation would increase the need for public services and utilities (Class II)***

Construction of this alternative would have the same effects as the Proposed Project, requiring a temporary increase in the need for public services and utilities, including police protection, fire protection, schools, parks, water, and solid waste disposal. With implementation of Mitigation Measures UPS-1a (Use non-potable water), WF-1a (Prepare and implement a fire management plan), and T-1b (Prepare traffic control plans), this impact would be less than significant (Class II).

***Impact UPS-2: Construction would disrupt existing pipelines and utility systems or cause a collocation accident (Class II)***

Like the Proposed Project, construction of this alternative would result in the collocation of new structures and power lines adjacent to and across existing pipelines and utility lines. With implementation of Mitigation Measure UPS-2a (Protect pipelines and overhead and underground utilities) and compliance with existing regulation, this impact would be less than significant (Class II).

**D.17.4.2 Iowa Street 66 kV Underground Alternative**

The Iowa Street 66 kV Underground Alternative would place a 1,600-foot segment of subtransmission line underground, rather than overhead.

Two impacts related to utilities and public services were identified for the Proposed Project. These impacts also would apply to the Iowa Street 66 kV Underground Alternative, which overall would be the same as the Proposed Project, with the exception of the underground portion of the subtransmission line that is described above and in Appendix 5. The full text of all mitigation measures referenced in this section is presented in Section D.17.3.3, except where otherwise noted.

***Impact UPS-1: Project construction and operation would increase the need for public services and utilities***

This alternative would place a 1,600-foot segment of 66 kV subtransmission line underground instead of on overhead poles. The underground subtransmission line would not increase the need for public services and utilities compared to the Proposed Project. The same mitigation measures recommended for the project as a whole would apply to the underground segment: Mitigation Measures UPS-1a (Use non-potable water), WF-1a (Prepare and implement a fire management plan), and T-1b (Prepare traffic control plans). Together, these three mitigation measures would ensure that this adverse effect would be minor.

***Impact UPS-2: Construction would disrupt existing pipelines and utility systems or cause a collocation accident***

This alternative would place a segment of 66 kV subtransmission line underground instead of on overhead poles. This alternative would increase the amount of subsurface disturbance compared to the Proposed Project, which would increase the risk of disruption to existing pipelines and other underground utility systems. The Proposed Project also includes some underground subtransmission segments, and like those segments, construction of this alternative would result in the collocation of new structures and power lines adjacent to and across existing pipelines and utility lines. Compliance with existing regulations would require SCE to contact a regional notification center that would notify existing utilities that have buried lines within 1,000 feet of the project and require them to mark the specific locations of their facilities reducing the likelihood of accidental disruptions. However, disruptions could still occur along the line due to the number of pipelines and utilities the line crosses, resulting in a substantial adverse effect absent mitigation. Mitigation Measure UPS-2a (Protect pipelines and overhead and underground utilities) would require SCE to coordinate with pipeline and utility owners in the project vicinity to ensure these facilities are protected, reducing the severity of this adverse effect. Adverse effects to natural gas pipelines due to corrosion would be minor because SCE would study the potential for such adverse effects and install cathodic protection where necessary.

**CEQA Significance Determination for Iowa Street 66 kV Underground Alternative**

The CEQA significance determination for each utilities and public services impact in this alternative is presented below.

***Impact UPS-1: Project construction and operation would increase the need for public services and utilities (Class II)***

Construction of this alternative would increase temporarily the need for public services and utilities, including police protection, fire protection, schools, parks, water, and solid waste disposal. With implementation of Mitigation Measures UPS-1a (Use non-potable water), WF-1a (Prepare and implement a fire management plan), and T-1b (Prepare traffic control plans), this impact would be less than significant (Class II).

***Impact UPS-2: Construction would disrupt existing pipelines and utility systems or cause a collocation accident (Class II)***

Construction of this alternative would result in the collocation of new structures and power lines adjacent to and across existing pipelines and utility lines. This collocation could result in disruption to existing pipelines and utility systems. With implementation of Mitigation Measure UPS-2a (Protect pipelines and overhead and underground utilities) and compliance with existing regulation, this impact would be less than significant (Class II).

### **D.17.4.3 Phased Build Alternative**

The Phased Build Alternative would retain existing double-circuit 220 kV transmission structures to the extent feasible, remove single-circuit structures, add new double-circuit 220 kV structures, and string all structures with higher-capacity conductors.

Two impacts related to utilities and public services were identified for the Proposed Project. These impacts also would apply to the Phased Build Alternative, which would be located in the same corridor as the Proposed Project and would involve similar although less intense construction activities. The full text of all mitigation measures referenced in this section is presented in Section D.17.3.3, except where otherwise noted.

#### ***Impact UPS-1: Project construction and operation would increase the need for public services and utilities***

This alternative would reduce the amount of construction activity compared to the Proposed Project, and consequently would reduce the need for public services and utilities compared to the Proposed Project. The biggest difference in demand for public services and utilities between this alternative and the Proposed Project would be the reduction in water demand during construction.

The same as for the Proposed Project, construction of this alternative would increase temporarily the need for public services and utilities, including police protection, fire protection, schools, parks, water, and solid waste disposal. However, the increase would be temporary and is anticipated to be minor for most public services and utilities. Although adverse effects to the regional water supply would not be substantial and no mitigation is required, to further reduce adverse effects of the use of potable water, implementation of Mitigation Measure UPS-1a (Use non-potable water) is recommended to reduce water usage for construction. Construction activities would increase the risk of fire hazards due to an increase in ignition sources.

Mitigation Measure WF-1a (Prepare and implement a fire management plan) would reduce the severity of this adverse effect because it would require SCE to prepare and implement a Fire Management Plan that would be reviewed and approved by appropriate fire jurisdictions within the Proposed Project area. The full text of this mitigation measure is presented in the analysis for Wildland Fire in Section D.20.3.3. The increased need or disruption to emergency services due to road closures, use of fire and access roads, and potentially blocking property entrances could result in decreased response times or adversely affect other performance objectives. With implementation of Mitigation Measure T-1b (Prepare traffic control plans) this adverse effect would be minor. The full text of this mitigation measure is presented in the analysis for Transportation and Traffic in Section D.16.3.3. Together, these three mitigation measures would ensure that this adverse effect would be minor.

#### ***Impact UPS-2: Construction would disrupt the existing utility systems or cause a collocation accident***

This alternative would reduce the amount of ground disturbance compared to the Proposed Project, and consequently would reduce the potential to cause a disruption to existing pipelines and utility systems. Because fewer transmission lines would be replaced in this alternative compared to the Proposed Project, the potential for a collocation accident would be reduced slightly.

The same as for the Proposed Project, construction of this alternative would result in the collocation of new structures and power lines adjacent to and across existing pipelines and utility lines. Compliance with existing regulations would require SCE to contact a regional notification center that would notify existing utilities that have buried lines within 1,000 feet of the project and require them to mark the

specific locations of their facilities reducing the likelihood of accidental disruptions. However, disruptions could still occur along the line due to the number of pipelines and utilities that the line crosses, resulting in a substantial adverse effect absent mitigation. Mitigation Measure UPS-2a (Protect pipelines and overhead and underground utilities) would require SCE to coordinate with pipeline and utility owners in the project vicinity to ensure these facilities are protected, reducing the severity of this adverse effect. Adverse effects to natural gas pipelines due to corrosion would be minor because SCE would study the potential for such adverse effects and install cathodic protection where necessary.

### **CEQA Significance Determination for Phased Build Alternative**

The CEQA significance determination for each utilities and public services impact in this alternative is presented below.

#### ***Impact UPS-1: Project construction and operation would increase the need for public services and utilities (Class II)***

Construction of this alternative would increase temporarily the need for public services and utilities, including police protection, fire protection, schools, parks, water, and solid waste disposal. With implementation of Mitigation Measures UPS-1a (Use non-potable water), WF-1a (Prepare and implement a fire management plan), and T-1b (Prepare traffic control plans), this impact would be less than significant (Class II).

#### ***Impact UPS-2: Construction would disrupt the existing utility systems or cause a collocation accident (Class II)***

Construction of this alternative would result in the collocation of new structures and power lines adjacent to and across existing pipelines and utility lines. This collocation could result in disruption to existing pipelines and utility systems. With implementation of Mitigation Measure UPS-2a (Protect pipelines and overhead and underground utilities) and compliance with existing regulation, this impact would be less than significant (Class II).

## **D.17.5 Environmental Impacts of No Project / No Action Alternative**

### **D.17.5.1 No Project Alternative Option 1**

The No Project/No Action Alternative (No Project Alternative) Option 1 is described in Section C.6.3.1. It would consist of a new 500 kV circuit, primarily following the Devers-Valley transmission corridor and extending 26 miles between Devers Substation. It would also require a new 40-acre substation south of Beaumont, and 4 new 220 kV circuits extending 7 miles from the new Beaumont Substation to El Casco Substation, primarily following the existing El Casco 115 kV ROW. The remainder of the No Project Alternative, from El Casco Substation to the San Bernardino and Vista Substations, would be identical to the Proposed Project. Information on environmental resources and project impacts is derived from the Devers–Palo Verde 500 kV No. 2 Project EIR/EIS (CPUC and BLM, 2006) and the El Casco System Project Draft EIR (CPUC, 2007); which include nearly all of the No Project alignment.

**No Project Alternative Transmission Lines and Beaumont Substation.** The No Project Alternative would be approximately 3 miles south of the Proposed Project alignment. This location would pass fewer sensitive receptors such as schools and hospitals. The types of utilities that would be potentially affected and the potential impacts to them would be similar to those for the Proposed Project, or would be fewer, as much of the route is in undeveloped land. Compliance with California Government Code requirements for

identification of subsurface utilities would address impacts to utilities below ground. Similarly, the No Project Alternative would have similar levels of service needs (fire, public safety, and medical) as the Proposed Project, and would have comparable water and landfill demands. Effects on schools, parks, and other community assets would be similar as well.

### **D.17.5.2 No Project Alternative Option 2**

No Project Alternative Option 2 would require the construction of over 40 miles of new 500 kV transmission line, following the existing Valley-Serrano 500 kV line. The alternative is described in Section C.6.3.2, and illustrated on Figure C-6b.

The need for law enforcement services during construction of this alternative would be unlikely, except in the event of an emergency. The need for emergency services may occur during the construction phase of this alternative, but the existing emergency services would be capable of addressing any emergency. The majority of the route is located in a very high fire hazard safety zone. Construction activities would include ignition sources as well as a general increase in humans and human activity in areas of fire hazard and therefore would result in an increased potential risk of fire and an increased need for emergency services. This would be substantial because of the length of construction time and the already high risk and cost of fires throughout California. Construction of the project and equipment would impede emergency access due to road closures, project use of fire and access roads, and potentially blocked property entrances during construction. These adverse effects would be minor due to the mostly rural character of the surrounding land and the use of an existing transmission corridor for this alternative.

Construction of the No Project Alternative Option 2 would require a limited amount of accommodations for workers during construction, and it is unlikely that these individuals would trigger any additional demand for public schools because of the temporary nature of their work. The corridor crosses Weir Canyon Regional Park between MP 37.3 and MP 38. Construction activities could temporarily disrupt recreational activities in this park. However, neither construction of the new 500 kV circuit nor the influx of construction workers and their families is expected to substantially increase demand for or use of parks in the areas surrounding the corridor. Construction and operation of this alternative would not require the expansion of or construction of new facilities for wastewater, stormwater drainage, or municipal water supply systems. Other public facilities, including hospitals and landfills, have sufficient capacity to accommodate both construction and operation of the new 500 kV circuit.

Construction within the existing ROW would result in the collocation of new structures and power lines adjacent to and across existing utility lines. The likelihood of a collocation accident is low because the presence of multiple transmission lines in a single corridor is common and because coordination with the owners and operators of the existing transmission line would occur prior to construction of the new 500 kV circuit. In addition, underground utilities including natural gas pipelines could be disrupted during ground disturbance associated with construction of this alternative. Compliance with California Government Code requirements for identification of subsurface utilities would address impacts to utilities below ground.

## D.17.6 Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting

Table D.17-8 presents the mitigation monitoring, compliance, and reporting actions for utilities and public services.

**Table D.17-8. Mitigation Monitoring Program – Utilities and Public Services**

<b>MITIGATION MEASURE</b>	<b>UPS-1a: Use non-potable water for construction purposes.</b> Project water supply for dust control, soil compaction activities, and site restoration/revegetation shall be obtained from non-potable sources, if available, and ensured in a water contract through a local water agency or district. The Applicant shall provide a letter describing the availability of non-potable water and efforts made to obtain it for use during construction to the CPUC and BLM a minimum of 60 days prior to the start of construction.
<b>Location</b>	Throughout project area.
<b>Monitoring / Reporting Action</b>	CPUC/BLM monitor verifies receipt of letter describing availability of non-potable water for project use.
<b>Effectiveness Criteria</b>	Non-potable water is used to the extent it is available, reducing need for potable water for dust control.
<b>Responsible Agency</b>	CPUC/BLM
<b>Timing</b>	At least 60 days prior to construction.
<b>MITIGATION MEASURE</b>	<b>UPS-2a: Protect pipelines and overhead and underground utilities.</b> Prior to commencing construction, SCE shall perform engineering studies to determine whether and what cathodic protection would be required on pipelines potentially affected. SCE shall submit to the CPUC and BLM written documentation of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Evidence of coordination with all pipeline and utility owners with facilities in the vicinity of planned construction, including their review of SCE’s construction plans and a description of any protective measures or compensation to be implemented to protect affected facilities;</li> <li>▪ Copy of the Applicant’s database of emergency contacts for pipelines and utilities that may be in close proximity or require monitoring during construction of the project; and</li> <li>▪ Evidence that the project meets all applicable local requirements.</li> </ul>
<b>Location</b>	Throughout project area.
<b>Monitoring / Reporting Action</b>	CPUC/BLM monitor verifies receipt of information required and its sufficiency
<b>Effectiveness Criteria</b>	No damage to utilities or interruption of service occur
<b>Responsible Agency</b>	CPUC/BLM
<b>Timing</b>	At least 30 days prior to construction.

## D.17.7 References

CalRecycle. 2015. Solid Waste Information System – Facility/Site Listing. [online]: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/SWFacilities/Directory/SearchList/List?COUNTY=Riverside&FAC=Disposal&OPSTATUS=Active>. Accessed February 20, 2015.

CPUC (California Public Utilities Commission). 2007. SCE El Casco System Project Draft EIR, individual resource Sections. <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspen/elcasco/toc-deir.htm>. Accessed April 15, 2015.

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SCE (Southern California Edison). 2013. Proponent's Environmental Assessment for the West of Devers Upgrade Project. Application A.13-10-020. October 25, 2013.