3.9 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

This section addresses the potential impacts resulting from hazards and hazardous materials that would be caused by the Tule Wind Project. This section identifies the affected environment/environmental setting, the existing federal, state, and local regulations pertaining to hazards and hazardous materials, and provides an analysis of the potential impacts of the proposed project and alternatives. A governmental research was conducted by Environmental Data Resources, Inc. (EDR) for the project construction area, located in Appendix M.

DATA GAP

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment has not been completed for the project as that activity is reserved for the financial and realty transaction phase of the project. Research for the analysis in this document was completed through the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health and the State Water Resources Control Board environmental database. Hazards related to hydrology can not be analyzed or substantiated on a quantitative basis at this time; quantitative results are pending the Final Grading Plan, SWMP, and Drainage Study.

3.9.1 Affected Environment/Environmental Setting

The project area is located in a rural setting that has been historically used as grazing land, with some limited areas of irrigated agriculture. The past agriculture uses may have the potential for pesticide or herbicide residuals found in the surface soil. The Rough Acres Ranch area is identified as the San Diego Chargers training camp in 1963, which includes an on-site non-operational airstrip. This property has the potential to contain hazardous materials, although this property was not identified in the County of San Diego hazards record search.

A hazards search was conducted with the County of San Diego and with the State of California Water Resources Control Board Geotracker data search within one-half mile of the project boundary. The County Department of Environmental Health (DEH) Public Records Requests for parcels within the project area are located in Appendix M and parcels in the surrounding area are located in Appendix N of this environmental document. According to the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) identification program, Geotracker, Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 611-110-01-00, McCain Valley Adult Conservation Camp located at 2550 McCain Valley Road is identified as containing a Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST), with a potential affected aquifer. The County of San Diego DEH has confirmed the site has a LUST. The site is currently in open status. Although the amounts of dissolved methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) detected in the groundwater has decreased; levels are still higher than the cleanup level established for this site and monitoring still continues. A historic site identified as the U.S, Navy La Posta Test Facility was previously located on La Posta Road and identified to be a small quantity generator for hazardous wastes. This area is currently occupied by the La Posta Tribe and is registered with the Integrated Compliance Information System, with no findings identified. No other sites were identified as hazardous within the project area boundary.

Geotracker also identified one site located in the proposed 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line corridor along Old Highway 80. The Caltrans/Boulevard maintenance facility located at 40945 Old Highway 80 is identified with a LUST and is monitored semi-annually for a potential affected aquifer. This site is not

located within the project area, but adjacent to the right-of-way (ROW) on Old Highway 80. The Mountain Top Market location had the potential for affected soil with a closed case status. The historic site of the Boulevard Transfer Station was located at 41097 Old Highway 80. This site was identified as a large and small hazardous waste generator. The facility is listed as a defunct site with a closed status as of September 1996. The addresses of the LUST sites are presented in **Table 3.9-1**, Project Area Potential Hazardous Site Locations.

Table 3.9-1. Project Area Potential Hazardous Site Locations

Name	Assessor Parcel Number	Location	Type	Status	Media Affected
Caltrans/Boulevard Maintenance Facility	6120910700, 6120910800	40945 Old Hwy 80, Boulevard	LUST Cleanup Site Small quantity generator	Open as of 11/28/2000 Wells monitored semi-annually	Potential affected aquifer
Mountain Top Market	919059613	39710 Old Hwy. 80, Boulevard	LUST Cleanup Site	Completed, case closed as of 2/17/2009.	Potential affected soil
McCain Valley Conservation Camp	6111000600	2550 McCain Valley Road, Boulevard	LUST Cleanup Site Small quantity generator	Open Site Assessment as of 6/19/1999. Wells monitored semi-annually for Diesel	Potential affected aquifer and generates hazardous waste.
Rough Acres Ranch	6110700300; 5291400100	2700 McCain Valley Road, Boulevard	HND/UST	Storage of diesel.	County requiring a Program Facility Permit. December 2009.
Boulevard Transfer Station	N/A	41097 Old Highway 80	Historic large and small quantity generator.	Large quality generator closed 9/1/1990. Small generator closed 12/21/1990.	Generates hazardous wastes.
U.S. Navy La Posta Test Facility	N/A	La Posta Road	Historic small Quantity Generator	Small quantity generator. Last date recorded by agency 2/28/96.	Generates hazardous wastes.

Source: California EPA Geotracker website and EDR report.

Airports

The airstrip located at the old Chargers training camp, currently Rough Acres Ranch on McCain Valley Road was closed by a previous owner and is currently non-operational. Based on communication with the present owner (Hamann Properties, March 8, 2010), an agreement has been made with San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) for the termination of fixed wing air rights, therefore the airstrip will remain non-operational. Additionally, private airstrips are monitored by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requiring prior approval for airport operation with the completion of FAA Form 7840-1, Notice of Construction, Alteration, Activation, and Deactivation of Airports.

The nearest active airport is the County operated Jacumba Airport located south of Old Highway 80, approximately 6.5 miles southeast of the project area. According to the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, Jacumba Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan 2006, the proposed project area is not located within airport influence areas for noise compatibility, safety, over flight, or airspace protection.

The FAA, Department of Defense (DOD) Preliminary Screening Tool gives a preliminary review of potential impacts to Long-Range and Weather Radar, Military Training Routes, and Special Airspace prior to official FAA filing. According to this screening tool, the project area is identified with the following:

- The project area is identified as a "Red" area, with a high likelihood to impact Air Defense and Homeland Security radars, of which an aeronautical study is required;
- The project area is identified as a "Green" area with minimal to no impact to Weather Surveillance Radar–1988 Doppler radar weather operation. National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) notification advised;
- Preliminary review does not return any likely impacts to military airspace, although contact with the U.S. Air Force (USAF) Regional Environmental Coordinator is advised for confirmation and documentation.

Iberdrola Renewables filed a Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration (7460-1) with the FAA on December 15, 2006. A determination of no hazard was received on February 18, 2007, and an extension of studies will be valid through November 25, 2010.

3.9.2 Regulatory Setting

Numerous federal, state, and local regulations have been enacted to prevent or mitigate damage to public health and safety and the environment from the release or threatened release of hazardous substances into the workplace or environment and to protect human health and environmental resources from existing or potential site contamination. The regulations below are relevant to the topics of hazardous substance releases and site contamination.

Federal

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) established a framework for national programs to achieve environmentally sound management of both hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. RCRA was designed to protect human health and the environment, reduce/eliminate the generation of hazardous waste, and conserve energy and natural resources. RCRA also promotes resource recovery techniques. The Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA) both expanded the scope of RCRA and increased the level of detail in many of its provisions. The hazardous waste management subchapter of RCRA deals with a variety of issues regarding the management of hazardous materials including the export of hazardous waste, state programs, inspections of hazardous waste disposal facilities, enforcement, and the identification and listing of hazardous waste.

Uniform Fire Code

The Uniform Fire Code (UFC) is the primary means for authorizing and enforcing procedures and mechanisms to ensure the safe handling and storage of any substance that may pose a threat to public health and safety. The UFC regulates the use, handling and storage requirements for hazardous materials at fixed facilities. The UFC and the Uniform Building Code (UBC) use a hazard classification system to determine what protective measures are required to protect fire and life safety. These measures may

include construction standards, separations from property lines, and specialized equipment. To ensure that these safety measures are met, the UFC employs a permit system based on hazard classification.

Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions 8

The provisions listed under Part 68 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) sets forth the list of regulated substances and thresholds, the petition process for adding or deleting substances to the list of regulated substances, the requirements for owners or operators of stationary sources concerning the prevention of accidental releases, and the State accidental release prevention programs approved under Section 112(r). The California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) Program described below is the state adaptation of this federal regulation. The list of federally regulated substances and federally regulated flammable substances and their threshold quantities can be accessed online from the State's Office of Emergency Services' website, http://www.oes.ca.gov.

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986

On October 17, 1986, the President of the U.S. signed into law the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986. This act amended the already existing Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) law, which is also known as "Superfund." SARA reflected the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) experience in administering the complex Superfund program during its first six years and made several important changes and additions to the program, as listed below:

- Stressed the importance of permanent remedies and innovative treatment technologies in cleaning up hazardous waste sites;
- Required Superfund actions to consider the standards and requirements found in other State and Federal environmental laws and regulations;
- Provided new enforcement authorities and settlement tools;
- Increased state involvement in every phase of the Superfund program;
- Increased the focus on human health problems posed by hazardous waste sites;
- Encouraged greater citizen participation in making decisions on how sites should be cleaned up; and
- Increased the size of the trust fund to $8.5 billion.

The law authorizes two kinds of response actions: (1) short-term removals, where actions may be taken to address releases or threatened releases requiring prompt response; and (2) long-term remedial response actions that permanently and significantly reduce the dangers associated with releases or threats of releases of hazardous substances that are serious, but not immediately life threatening. These actions can be conducted only at sites listed on EPA's National Priorities List (NPL) found online at http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/npl.htm.

Emergency Planning Community Right-to-Know Act

The Emergency Planning Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) was included under the SARA law and is commonly referred to as SARA Title III. EPCRA was passed in response to concerns regarding the environmental and safety hazards posed by the storage and handling of toxic chemicals. These concerns were triggered by the disaster in Bhopal, India, in which more than 2,000 people suffered death or serious injury from the accidental release of methyl isocyanate. To reduce the likelihood of such a disaster in the U.S., Congress imposed requirements on both states and regulated facilities. EPCRA establishes requirements for federal, state, and local governments, Indian Tribes, and industry regarding emergency planning and "Community Right-to-Know" reporting on hazardous and toxic chemicals. SARA Title III requires states and local emergency planning groups to develop community emergency response plans for protection from a list of Extremely Hazardous Substances (40 CFR 355 Appendix A). The Community Right-to-Know provisions help increase the public's knowledge and access to information on chemicals at individual facilities, their uses, and releases into the environment. In California, SARA Title III is implemented through CalARP.

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 Preliminary Remediation Goals

Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRGs) are tools for evaluating and cleaning up contaminated sites. They are risk-based concentrations that are intended to assist risk assessors and others in initial screening-level evaluations of environmental measurements. The PRGs are agency guidelines, not legally enforceable standards. They are used for site "screening" and as initial cleanup goals, but are not de facto cleanup standards.

State

Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory

Two programs found in the California Health & Safety Code (H&SC) Chapter 6.95 are directly applicable to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) issue of risk due to hazardous substance release. In San Diego County, these two programs are referred to as the Hazardous Materials Business Plan program and the CalARP program. The County of San Diego DEH Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) is responsible for the implementation of the HMBP program and the CalARP program in San Diego County. The HMBP and CalARP Program provide threshold quantities for regulated hazardous substances. When the indicated quantities are exceeded, a HMBP or RMP is required pursuant to the regulation. Congress requires the USEPA Region 9 to make RMP information available to the public through USEPA's Envirofacts Warehouse (http://www.epa.gov/enviro/California H&SC, Division 20, Chapter 6.9, http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html).

Hazardous Waste Control

The California H&SC Hazardous Waste Control Act regulates the generation, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous waste. Hazardous waste is any material or substance that is discarded, relinquished, disposed or burned, or for which there is no intended use or reuse, and the material or substance causes or significantly contributes to an increase in mortality or illness; or the material or substance poses a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment. These materials or substances include: spent solvents and paints (oil and latex), used oil, used oil filters, used acids and corrosives, unwanted or expired products (pesticides, aerosol cans, cleaners, etc.). If the original material or

substance is labeled danger, warning, toxic, caution, poison, flammable, corrosive or reactive, the waste is very likely to be hazardous.

Underground Storage Tank Regulations

Chapter 6.7 of the H&SC outlines the requirements for underground storage tanks (USTs) identifies requirements for corrective actions, cleanup funds, liability, and the responsibilities of owners and operators of USTs.

California Human Health Screening Levels

The California Human Health Screen Levels (CHHSLs or "Chisels") are concentrations of 54 hazardous chemicals in soil or soil gas that the CalEPA considers to be below thresholds of concern for risks to human health. CHHSLs were developed by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) on behalf of CalEPA, and are contained in their report entitled "Human-Exposure-Based Screening Numbers Developed to Aid Estimation of Cleanup Costs for Contaminated Soil." The thresholds of concern used to develop the CHHSLs are an excess lifetime cancer risk of one in a million (10-6) and a hazard quotient of 1.0 for non-cancer health effects. The CHHSLs were developed using standard exposure assumptions and chemical toxicity values published by the USEPA and CalEPA. The CHHSLs can be used to screen sites for potential human health concerns where releases of hazardous chemicals to soils have occurred. Under most circumstances, the presence of a chemical in soil, soil gas or indoor air at concentrations below the corresponding CHHSLs can be assumed to not pose a significant health risk to people who may live (residential CHHSLs) or work (commercial/industrial CHHSLs) at the site.

Local

San Diego County General Plan, Public Facilities Element (Part XII)

Hazardous substances are addressed in the Public Facilities Element of the General Plan in the discussion of fire protection and emergency services. Fire protection and emergency services are charged with the emergency response to hazardous materials incidents through the Hazardous Incident Response Team (HIRT).

San Diego County, Local Enforcement Agency

The Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) is the lead agency required to investigate and inspect active, closed, illegal and abandoned waste disposal sites in the unincorporated County of San Diego and incorporated cities, with the exception of the City of San Diego. The LEA is responsible for inspection and permitting of active solid waste disposal sites as a certification responsibility required by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), now known as CalRecycle, and pursuant to their enforcement responsibilities of the CCR, Title 27, Environmental Division 2, Solid Waste Standards relating to the protection of public health, safety and the environment The LEA, in coordination with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and CalRecycle, can review work plans, site assessment reports, and issue no further action letters related to the remediation of burn dump sites.

San Diego County, Site Assessment and Mitigation Program

San Diego County Site Assessment and Mitigation (SAM) Program, within the Land and Water Quality Division of the DEH, consists of project managers, field technicians, supervisors, and support staff, whose primary purpose is to protect human health, water resources, and the environment within San Diego County by providing oversight of assessments and cleanups in accordance with the California H&SC and the CCR. The SAM's Voluntary Assistance Program (VAP) also provides staff consultation, project oversight, and technical or environmental report evaluation and concurrence (when appropriate) on projects pertaining to properties contaminated with hazardous substances. SAM maintains an environmental assessment case listing at

County of San Diego, Underground Storage Tank Program

The DEH Hazardous Materials Division, UST program administers and enforces federal and state laws and regulations and local ordinances for the construction/installation, modification, upgrade, and removal of USTs in San Diego County. If contamination is discovered or likely to be present, owners or operators of USTs are required by law to report the contamination to the DEH HMD and SAM programs and to take corrective action.

3.9.3 Environmental Consequences/Impact Analysis

California Environmental Quality Act Significance Criteria

Based on *CEQA Guidelines* Appendix G (VII), the following significance criteria have been developed for hazardous materials compliance. A significant impact resulting from hazards and hazardous materials would be identified if the project was determined to result in any of the following:

- Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment;
- Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials;
- Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school;
- For a project located within an airport land use plan or where such a plan has not been adopted within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area;
- For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area; or
- Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 and, as a result, create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.

Significance conclusions for individual impacts are not required for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Therefore, conclusions presented in the following analysis regarding the significance of identified impacts are provided for the purposes of CEQA only.

The proposed project includes the construction of access roadways and temporary staging areas for the construction of the wind turbines. The project will include the construction and operation of up to 134wind turbines, two meteorological towers, one O&M/Substation facility, a 10-acre construction parking area, 5-acre batch plant, 19 laydown areas, above and belowground collector system, and overhead transmission line that would connect to the SDG&E proposed Rebuilt Boulevard Substation. Solid waste produced by the construction of the proposed project would include packaging material for turbine components, containers, and waste associated with the assembly of the turbines.

Construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the project would be limited to on-site hazardous materials which may include vehicle/equipment fuels, gear oil, hydraulic fluid, and coolant. **Table 3.9-2** shows the types of construction equipment commonly utilized for constructing wind turbines and **Table 3.9-3** presents the type of hazardous materials that would be typically associated with the project.

Table 3.9-2. Equipment Typically Used for Wind Facility Construction

Equipment	Use
Bulldozer	Road and pad construction
Grader	Road and pad construction
Water trucks	Compaction, erosion and dust control
Roller/compactor	Road and pad compaction
Backhoe/trenching machine	Digging trenches for underground utilities
Excavator	Foundation excavation
Heavy duty rock trencher	Underground trenching
Truck-mounted drilling rig	Drilling power pole holes
Concrete trucks/concrete pumps	Pouring tower and other structure foundations
Cranes	Tower/turbine erection
Dump trucks	Hauling road and pad material
Flatbed & Low-bed trucks	Hauling turbine towers, turbines and components, construction equipment
Pickup trucks	General use and hauling of minor equipment
Small hydraulic cranes/forklifts	Loading and unloading equipment
Four-wheel-drive all-terrain vehicles	Rough grade access and underground cable installation
Rough-terrain cranes/forklifts	Lifting equipment and pre-erection assembly

Source: Iberdrola Renewables

Table 3.9-3. Hazardous Materials Associated with Typical Wind Projects

Hazardous Material	Uses	Typical Quantities Present
Fuel: diesel fuel[a]	Powers most construction and transportation equipment during construction and decommissioning phases.	Less than 1,000 gal (3,785 L); stored in aboveground tanks during construction and decommissioning phases.[b]
Powers emergency generator during operational phase.	Less than 100 gal (379 L); stored in aboveground tanks to support emergency power generator throughout the operation phase.	
Fuel: gasoline[c]	May be used to power some construction or transportation equipment.	Because of the expected limited number of construction and transportation vehicles utilizing gasoline, no on-site storage is likely to occur throughout any phase of the life cycle of the wind energy project.
Fuel: propane[d]	Most probable fuel for ambient heating of the control building.	Typically 500 to 1,000 gal (1,893 to 3,785 L); stored in aboveground propane storage vessel.
Lubricating oils/grease/hydraulic fluids/gear oil	Lubricating oil is present in some wind turbine components and in the diesel engine of the emergency power generator. Maintenance of fluid levels in construction and transportation equipment is needed. Hydraulic fluid is used in the rotor driveshaft braking system and other controls. Gear oil and/or grease are used in the drive train transmission and yaw motor gears.	Limited quantities stored in portable containers (capacity of 55 gal [208 L] or less); maintained on site during construction and decommissioning phases. Limited quantities stored in portable containers (capacity of 55 gal [208 L] or less); stored on site during operational phase.
Glycol-based antifreeze	Present in some wind turbine components for cooling (e.g., 5 to 10 gal [19 to 38 L] present in recirculating cooling system for the transmission). Present in the cooling system of the diesel engine for the emergency power generator	Limited quantities (10 to 20 gal [38 to76 L] of concentrate) stored on site during construction and decommissioning phases. Limited quantities (1 to 10 gal [4 to 38 L] of concentrate) stored on site during operational phase.
Lead-acid storage batteries and electrolyte solution	Present in construction and transportation equipment. Backup power source for control equipment, tower lighting, and signal transmitters.	Limited quantities of electrolyte solution (< 20 gal [76 L]) for maintenance of construction and transportation equipment during construction and decommissioning phases. Limited quantities of electrolyte solution (< 10 gal [38 L]) for maintenance of control equipment during operational phase.
Other batteries (e.g., nickel-cadmium [NI-CAD] batteries)	Present in some control equipment and signal-transmitting equipment.	No maintenance of such batteries is expected to take place on site.

Hazardous Material	Uses	Typical Quantities Present
Cleaning solvents	Organic solvents (most probably petroleum-based but not RCRA-listed) used for equipment cleaning and maintenance. Where feasible, water-based cleaning and degreasing solvents may be used.	Limited quantities (< 55 gal [208 L]) on site during construction and decommissioning to maintain construction and transportation equipment. Limited quantities (< 10 gal [38 L]) on site during operational phase to maintain equipment.
Paints and coatings[e]	Used for corrosion control on all exterior surfaces of turbines and towers.	Limited quantities (< 50 gal [189 L]) for touch-up painting during construction phase. Limited quantities (< 20 gal [76 L]) for maintenance during operational phase.
Dielectric fluids[f]	Present in electrical transformers, bushings, and other electric power management devices as an electrical insulator.	Some transformers may contain more than 500 gal (1,893 L) of dielectric fluid.
Explosives Limited quantities equal only the amount necessary to complete the task.	May be necessary for excavation of tower foundations in bedrock. May be necessary for construction of access and/or on-site roads or for grade alterations on site.	On-site storage expected to occur only for limited periods of time as needed by specific excavation and construction activities.
Pesticides	May be used to control vegetation around facilities for fire safety.	Site and applied by a licensed applicator as necessary.

Source: Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement on Wind Energy Development on BLM-Administered Pesticides would likely be brought to the Lands in the Western United States, June 5, 2005.

Notes:
a It is assumed that commercial vendors would replenish diesel fuel stored on site as necessary.
b This value represents the total on-site storage capacity, not the total amounts of fuel consumed. See footnote a. On-site fuel storage during construction and decommissioning phases would likely be in aboveground storage tanks with a capacity of 500 to 1,000 gal (approximately 2,000 to 4,000 L). Tanks may be of double-wall construction or may be placed within temporary, lined earthen berms for spill containment and control. At the end of construction and decommissioning phases, any excess fuel, as well as the storage tanks would be removed from the site, and any surface contamination resulting from fuel handling operation would be remediated. Alternatively, rather than store diesel fuel on site, the off-road diesel-powered construction equipment could be fueled directly from a fuel transport truck.
c Gasoline fuel is expected to be used exclusively by on-road vehicles (primarily automobiles and pickup trucks). These vehicles are expected to be refueled at existing off-site refueling facilities.
d Delivered and replenished as necessary by a commercial vendor.
e It is presumed that all wind turbine components, nacelles, and support towers would be painted at their respective points of manufacture. Consequently, no wholesale painting would occur on site. Only limited amounts would be used for touch-up purposes during construction and maintenance phases. It is further assumed that the coatings applied by the manufacturers during fabrication would be sufficiently durable to last throughout the operational period of the equipment and that no wholesale repainting would occur.
f It is assumed that transformers, bushings, and other electrical devices that rely on dielectric fluids would have those fluids added during fabrication. However, very large transformers may be shipped empty and have their dielectric fluids added (by the manufacturer's representative) after installation. It is further assumed that servicing of electrical devices that involves wholesale removal and replacement of dielectric fluids would not likely occur on site and that equipment requiring such servicing would be removed from the site and replaced. New transformers, bushings, or electrical devices are expected to contain mineral oil-based, or synthetic dielectric fluids that are free of PCBs; some equipment may instead contain gaseous dielectric agents (e.g., sulfur hexafluoride [SF6]) rather than liquid dielectric fluids.

There will be no cooling towers or other facilities that cause salt deposition. No liquid effluent will be produced. Only minimal amounts of chemicals such as lubricating oils and cleaners for the turbines and pesticides for weed control will be used at the facility site. Chemicals will be stored according to applicable requirements and regulations to limit the risk of adverse effects from chemical factors. The risk of a chemical spill is negligible and the impacts of any such spill would be limited because of the small amounts of chemicals that will be transported to the facility site.

Although no parcels have been identified as having an industrial history, it is possible to disturb contaminants in the soil from prior agricultural activities during the construction phases of the project. During the operational phases, wastewater will be collected by a septic tank. Impacts to water quality are discussed in Section 3.10, Hydrology and Water Quality.

The project may require use of explosives for the construction of turbine foundations depending on the geologic bedrock conditions. These activities would be limited to areas where absolutely necessary and precautions would be taken to limit accessibility to recreational users and the general public.

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

Construction
The project area has one identified LUST, located at McCain Valley Adult Conservation Camp, 2550 McCain Valley Road with wells monitored semi-annually for potential affected aquifers. This area is located within the project boundary on State of California conservation land. However, this property is not identified as an area for turbines, O&M/Substation facility, or transmission line construction for the proposed project.

Hazardous materials used by construction workers for the project have a potential for accidental spills during construction equipment operation on the site. Materials such as gasoline, diesel fuels, cleaning solutions and solvents, concrete, adhesives, human waste, and chemical toilets have direct impacts to human health and biological resources. A Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC) will be developed by Iberdrola Renewables prior to construction as presented in the Proposed Project Design Features and Best Management Practices (BMPs), **Table 2.0-6**. This plan will identify where hazardous materials and waste will be stored on-site, what spill prevention measures will be implemented, location of spill kits, the appropriate spill response action for each material or waste, and procedures for notification to the appropriate authorities.

In addition, Iberdrola Renewables will develop a Hazardous Materials Management Plan (HMMP) that addresses storage, use, transportation, and disposal of each hazardous material anticipated to be used at the site. The plan will establish inspection procedures, storage requirements, storage quantity limits, inventory control, non-hazardous product substitutes, and disposition of excess materials. The HMMP will also identify requirements for notices to federal and local emergency response authorities, and will include emergency response plans.

Construction waste will be minimized by estimating materials needs in advance and through efficient construction practices. Construction wastes will be recycled when feasible. Steel scrap will be collected and transported to a recycling facility. Wood waste will also be recycled where feasible, depending on size and quantity of scrap and leftover materials. Concrete waste will be used as on-site fill, or at another site. If there is no reuse option available for concrete waste, it will be removed to a nearby landfill. Packaging waste (such as paper and cardboard) will be separated and recycled. Any non-recyclable wastes will be collected and transported to a local landfill. Industrial waste would be generated in the

construction phase and include paints and solvents associated with the assembly of the turbines and towers. The project does not propose the demolition of any existing building which may contain asbestos or lead based paint. A Waste Management Plan will be completed by Iberdrola Renewables to determine waste procedures, waste storage locations, waste-specific management and disposal requirements, inspection procedures, and waste minimization procedures.

Hazardous impacts due to the construction phase of the project are expected to be less than significant with the implementation of the management plans previously mentioned and BMPs. The project is not anticipated to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Therefore, a less than significant impact is identified.

Operation and Maintenance

The project proposes the use of vehicle and equipment fuels, gear oil, hydraulic fluid, and coolant for the operation and maintenance of the wind turbines. These substances would be confined to the O&M building and would not create a significant hazard to the public or release hazardous materials into the environment.

Solid wastes produced during the operational phase would be limited to office-related waste generated at the O&M facility by the maintenance employees. Solid waste impacts are considered minimal and will be serviced by a local solid waste company. The area is solely dependant on groundwater and is not serviced by a water or sewer provider for these services. The proposed maintenance facility will utilize a septic tank and/or leach field for sewer services. Potable water will be supplied by the proposed on-site well.

Other hazards associated with the wind turbines have the potential to occur throughout the life of the project such as tower/rotor failures, exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF), aviation safety interference/electromagnetic interference, shadow effects, and lightning strikes which are discussed in Section 3.14, Public Health and Safety. The project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment throughout the operational phase. Therefore, no impact is identified.

Decommissioning

Substantial quantities of solid and industrial wastes will result if the wind project is decommissioned in the future. Waste would result from a substantial amount of broken concrete, fluids drained from turbine drive train components (e.g., hydraulic fluids, lubricating oils, coolants). Materials would be recycled when possible with turbine components sold as scrap metal and concrete used in other projects. Hazardous materials would be handled by a licensed service provider and disposed of at a permitted facility. Impacts due to decommissioning would be similar to the construction impacts of the proposed project. The decommissioning of the project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. A less than significant impact is identified.

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

Construction and Decommissioning

As discussed previously, the project will implement an HMMP and will implement BMPs to reduce potential impacts to the environment and the public. Portable toilets will be provided for on-site sewage handling during construction, and will be pumped and cleaned regularly by the construction contractor. Minimal amounts of chemicals such as lubricating oils and cleaners for the turbines and pesticides for weed control will be used at the project site. The risk of a chemical spill is negligible and the impacts of any such spill would be limited because of the small amounts of chemicals that will be transported to the project site.

The project is not anticipated to create hazards to the public or the environment from the transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. A less than significant impact is identified.

Operation and Maintenance

The only hazardous materials or substances the project will include are oil, lubricants, and cleaning solvents. Vehicles will be maintained by routine preventative maintenance to reduce the risk of oil, lubricants and coolant leaks. The maintenance of vehicles and construction equipment is expected to be conducted off-site.

Iberdrola Renewables will develop a SPCC plan that identifies where hazardous materials and wastes are stored on-site, spill prevention measures to be implemented, training requirements, appropriate spill response actions for each material or waste, the locations of spill response kits on site, a procedure for ensuring that the spill response kits are adequately stocked at all times, and procedures for making timely notifications to authorities. The operation of the project is not anticipated to generate any hazardous waste which may be a danger to the public or staff that will be on-site and in charge of maintenance. The project is not anticipated to create hazards to the public or the environment from the transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. Therefore, no impacts are identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

The Clover Flat Elementary school is located approximately 1.5 miles south of the project entrance area at Ribbonwood Road, or 3,500 feet from the Ribbonwood/I-8 intersection at 39639 Old Highway 80. The school is located approximately 3,500 feet (0.6 miles) south of the I-8 off-ramp from which the project components will be delivered by large trucks. Although the project will be utilizing materials that may be hazardous, these activities would be located away from the existing school. Additionally, if an accidental spill were to occur, the proposed construction area would be further than one-quarter mile; therefore, there would be no impacts.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

The project is not located within the Jacumba Airport Land Use Plan for noise compatibility, safety, overflight, or airspace protection.

A preliminary review was conducted with the FAA DOD Preliminary Screening Tool to identify potential impacts to Long-Range and Weather Radar, Military Training Routes, and Special Airspace prior to official FAA filing. Additionally, Iberdrola Renewables filed a Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration (7460-1) with the FAA on December 15, 2006, and a determination of no hazard was received on February 18, 2007. An extension of studies will be valid through November 25, 2010.

The project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, and would not result in safety hazards for people residing or working in the project area, thus there is no impact.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

A private landing strip is located within the project boundary. The airstrip is located on Rough Acres Ranch, the former San Diego Chargers training camp, and is currently non-operational and is not anticipated to be operational in the future. Rough Acres Ranch has an agreement with SDG&E to terminate fixed wing air rights, which will ensure the private airstrip will remain non-operational. The current owners would be required to obtain FAA approval before the airstrip could be operational, which is considered highly unlikely. There are no impacts related to private airstrips and safety hazards for people residing or working in the project area.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

The project area has one identified LUST, located at McCain Valley Adult Conservation Camp, 2550 McCain Valley Road, with wells monitored semi-annually for a potential affected aquifer. This area is within the project boundary and is located on State of California Conservation lands. However, this area is not identified as an area for turbines, O&M/Substation facility, or transmission line construction.

An additional LUST, Caltrans/Boulevard facility, located at 40945 Old Highway 80 is located adjacent to the proposed 138 kV transmission line. The construction of the transmission line poles is not anticipated to cause any impacts to the existing LUST site. Impacts are less than significant.

3.9.4 Cumulative Impacts

Potential impacts related to Hazards and Hazardous Materials are site specific. Cumulative development may impact cause an impacts to the surrounding environment. The following projects have been identified in **Table 2.8-8**, as possessing impacts due to hazards and hazardous materials.

- Ketchum Ranch Project Mixed Use Project in Jacumba for 2126 residential units and 272 townhomes, reclamation plan, elementary school and park. General Plan Amendment to change regional category from RDA to CT. MUP for wastewater treatment plant. County does not recommend approval–February 2007. NOP EIR–July 2007. Inactivity notification 60-day notice–November 2009. Extension to January 2010.
- Volli Tentative Parcel Map 20889 TPM for subdivision to create four 8.0-acre parcels, and one 7.9-acre parcel for single family residences. Land use and planning slope density is not current. Biological open space not viable mitigation. County requesting fire protection plan, hydrology study, grading plan, and stormwater plan. Project determined to have inactive status as of November 2009.
- Miller Creek Reclamation Plan 0- 04-004, 04-053- NOP February 2005, Major Use Permit and Reclamation Plan for the extraction of sand resources in Campo. Operation would encompass 136 acres on 763 acres. MUP would allow for extraction of sand on 58.2 acres. 16.4 acres would be used for the creation of wetlands. General operation for processing would consist of 61.9 acres. The project is to be completed over 25 years in four phases. A Draft EIR is currently in process. Impacts to aesthetics (a state scenic highway located viewshed off I-8) and visual impacts to the area. Impacts related to wildland fires. Funds not available for EIR submittal.

The presented projects have identified hazards impacts due to wildland fires. Cumulative impacts would not be considered significant. Any cumulative impacts due to wildland fires are discussed in Section 3.7, Fire/Fuels Management.

3.9.5 CEQA Levels of Significance Before Mitigation

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

Construction and Decommissioning

Hazardous impacts due to the construction and decommissioning phase of the project are expected to be less than significant with the implementation of the management plans and BMPs previously mentioned. The project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Impacts are less than significant.

Operation and Maintenance

The project proposes the use of vehicle and equipment fuels, gear oil, hydraulic fluid, and coolant for the operation and maintenance of the project. These chemicals are used for routine activities and are used or stored only at the O&M building. There is no significant hazard to the public or risk of release of hazardous materials into the environment. Impacts are less than significant.

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

Construction and Decommissioning

Minimal amounts of chemicals such as lubricating oils and cleaners for the turbines and pesticides for weed control will be used at the project site. The risk of a chemical spill is negligible and the impacts of any such spill would be limited because of the small amounts of chemicals that will be transported to the project site. The likelihood of significant hazards resulting from the routine transport of hazardous materials is low. The project is not anticipated to create hazards to the public or the environment from the transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. A less than significant impact is identified.

Operation and Maintenance

The operation and maintenance of the project will transport minimal amounts of cleaning supplies and lubricants necessary for routine maintenance to the turbines. Maintenance of the turbines is not anticipated to generate any significant hazards that may be dangerous to the public, or staff who will be on-site and in charge of maintenance. A less than significant impact is identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

The project will not release any hazardous emissions. Although the project will be utilizing materials that may be hazardous if misused or mishandled, these activities would be located away from the existing school. Additionally, if an accidental spill were to occur, the project area is farther than one-quarter mile from the school; therefore, there are no impacts.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

The project is not located within an airport land use plan. The Jacumba Airport, operated by the County of San Diego, is the nearest airport and is located 6.5 miles southeast of the project area. Therefore, no impact is identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

A private landing strip is located within the project boundary. The airstrip is currently non-operational and is not anticipated to be operational in the future, thus there are no impacts.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

The project area has one identified LUST located at McCain Valley Adult Conservation Corp, 2550 McCain Valley Road, with wells monitored semi-annually for a potential affected aquifer. This area is located within the project boundary on State of California conservation lands; however, this area is not identified as an area for turbines, O&M/Substation facility, or transmission line construction.

An additional LUST, the Caltrans/Boulevard facility, located at 40945 Old Highway 80 is adjacent to the proposed 138 kV transmission line. The construction of the transmission line poles adjacent to this property is not anticipated to cause any significant hazards to the public or the environment. Impacts are less than significant.

3.9.6 Mitigation Measures

All potential impacts resulting from hazards and hazardous materials have been identified as less than significant. The proposed project design and BMPs will be implemented throughout all project phases and the project will be developed in accordance with all federal, state, and local regulations and laws that are applicable to large-scale wind energy developments. No mitigation measures are necessary.

3.9.7 CEQA Levels Of Significance After Mitigation

All impacts are less than significant and no mitigation measures are required.

3.9.8 Comparison of Alternatives

In developing the alternatives to be addressed in this environmental document, the potential alternatives were evaluated in terms of their ability to meet the basic objectives of the project, while avoiding or reducing the environmental impacts of the project. The alternatives will contain all of the same components and construction corridor as the proposed project except they may vary in number and location.

No Project/No Action Alternative

Under the No Project/No Action Alternative, the proposed project would not be implemented and the impacts associated with the project as described in Section 3.8.3 would not occur. Although there would be no impacts to hazards or hazardous materials by the Tule Wind Project, the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) determination that the area is conducive to wind and renewable energy development are still valid, thus leaving the area available for another project. Also, this alternative would still leave the San Diego County region dependent on electricity generated by fossil fuels and without a more reliable source of electricity. The BLM, State, and County would be forced to continue to search for renewable energy projects to contribute to their renewable energy mandates and portfolios. Additionally, the County of San Diego would not move closer to meeting air quality and attainment goals. The project area would not incur any surface land disturbances, or be subject to the transportation, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

The No Project/No Action Alternative would have a lesser impact to the public and the surrounding environment than the proposed project.

Alternate Transmission Line Alternative #1

The Alternate Transmission Line Alternative #1 (T-line Alternative #1) would include all of the same components as the proposed project except for an alternate overhead 138 kV transmission line (T-line Alternative #1), as shown in **Figure 2.0-12**. The T-line Alternative #1 would be located parallel to, but in-lieu of, the proposed transmission line. T-line Alternative #1 would be located further west and run from either the proposed or deviant collector substation approximately 5.5 miles south to the Rough Acres Ranch (south of turbine G-19). From Rough Acres Ranch, the line would continue west to Ribbonwood Road. The line would continue south on Ribbonwood Road to Old Highway 80, and east along Old Highway 80 to the SDG&E proposed Rebuilt Boulevard Substation.

This alternative would increase the land disturbance by approximately 7.6 acres, from 772.7 acres to 780.3 acres, utilizing the deviant collector substation. The 138 kV transmission line would increase in distance from 9.7 miles to 11.7 miles and would increase the amount of transmission line poles from 116 poles to 152 poles, utilizing the deviant collector substation. The 34.5 kV overhead collector lines would remain the same distance of 9.4 miles, and would require the same amount of collector line poles (250), and the underground collector lines would also remain the same distance of 29.3 miles, utilizing the deviant collector substation.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would require placement of transmission line poles along Ribbonwood Road and Old Highway 80. It is not anticipated that this alternative would have an increased hazard to the public or the environment than the proposed project. This alternative would have similar potential impacts for construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning as the proposed project. Impacts are less than significant.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative will require the same minimal amounts of chemicals such as lubricating oils and cleaners for the turbines and pesticides for weed control as the proposed project. The risk of a chemical spill during transport is negligible and the impacts of any such spill would be limited because of the small amounts of chemicals that would be transported to the project site. The likelihood of significant hazards resulting from the routine transport of hazardous materials under this alternative is low. This alternative is not anticipated to create hazards to the public or the environment from the transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. A less than significant impact is identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would require the construction of the 138 kV transmission line along Ribbonwood Road and Old Highway 80. The Clover Flat Elementary school is located approximately 1.5 miles south of the project entrance area at Ribbonwood Road, or 3,500 feet from the Ribbonwood/I-8 intersection at 39639 Old Highway 80. Although close to the school, construction would still not be within the one-quarter mile threshold. No impacts are identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would not place the project within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. There are no airport land use plans applicable to this alternative, and people living and working in the area of the project would not be exposed to an increased hazard as a result of this alternative. No impacts are identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

A private landing strip is located within the project boundary. However, the airstrip is currently non-operational and is not anticipated to be operational in the future. No impacts or safety hazards would occur as a result of this alternative.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative does not propose development on a hazardous materials site and, therefore, would not result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment, thus there is no impact.

This alternative has the same level of impacts as the proposed project.

Alternate Transmission Line #2 and Collector Substation Alternative

The Alternate Transmission Line #2 and Collector Substation Alternative would include the alternate O&M/Substation facility co-located on Rough Acres Ranch (T17S R7E Sec9), the Alternate Transmission Line #2 (138 kV), as well as an alternate overhead collector system, as shown in **Figure 2.0-13**. This alternative would consist of two 34.5 kV lines connecting the turbines to the alternate collector substation location. All other elements of the project including the turbine locations, parking and laydown areas, roadway upgrades, and batch plant would remain as described in the proposed project. The Alternate Transmission Line #2 would run from the alternate collector substation south along

McCain Valley Road, and then west along Old Highway 80 until reaching the SDG&E proposed Rebuilt Boulevard Substation.

This alternative would increase the land disturbance by 1.9 acres, from 772.7 acres to 774.6 acres. The 138 kV transmission line would decrease in distance as a result of this alternative from 9.7 miles to 3.8 miles and would decrease the amount of transmission line poles from 116 poles to 44 poles. The 34.5 kV overhead collector lines would increase in distance from 9.4 miles to 17 miles, and would increase the amount of collector line poles from 250 to 452 poles. The underground collector lines would decrease in distance from 29.3 miles to 28.9 miles.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would require placement of transmission line poles along McCain Valley Road and Old Highway 80 and would locate the alternate O&M/Substation facility on Rough Acres Ranch, west of McCain Valley Road. It is not anticipated that this alternative would subject an increased hazard to the public or the environment. This alternative would have similar potential impacts resulting from hazardous materials as the proposed project. Impacts are less than significant.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative will require the same minimal amounts of chemicals such as lubricating oils and cleaners for the turbines and pesticides for weed control as the proposed project. The risk of a chemical spill during transport is negligible and the impacts of any such spill would be limited because of the small amounts of chemicals that will be transported to the project site. The likelihood of significant hazards resulting from the routine transport of hazardous materials under this alternative is low. This alternative is not anticipated to create hazards to the public or the environment from the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. A less than significant impact is identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would require the construction of the 138 kV transmission line along McCain Valley Road and Old Highway 80 and would locate the alternate O&M/Substation facility on Rough Acres Ranch, west of McCain Valley Road. This alternative would not locate construction or hazardous waste within one-quarter mile of Clover Flat Elementary or any other school. No impacts are identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would not place the project within two miles of an active public airport or public use airport. There are no airport land use plans applicable to this alternative and people living and working in the area of the project would not be exposed to an increased hazard as a result of this alternative, thus there are no impacts.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

A private landing strip is located on Rough Acres Ranch just south of where the alternate O&M/ Substation facility would be located. However, the airstrip is currently non-operational and is not anticipated to be operational in the future. No impacts or safety hazards would occur as a result of this alternative.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative does not propose development on a hazardous materials site and therefore, would not result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment. No impact is identified.

This alternative has the same level of impacts as the proposed project.

Alternate Transmission Line #3 and Collector Substation Alternative

The Alternate Transmission Line #3 and Collector Substation Alternative would include the alternate O&M/Substation facility co-located on Rough Acres Ranch (T17S R7E Sec9), the Alternate Transmission Line #3 (138 kV), as well as an alternate overhead collector system as shown in **Figure 2.0-14**. This alternative would consist of two 34.5 kV lines connecting the turbines to the alternate collector substation. All other elements including the turbine locations, parking and laydown areas, roadway upgrades, and batch plant would remain as described in the proposed project. The Alternate Transmission Line #3 would run from the alternate collector substation west to Ribbonwood Road, continue south along Ribbonwood Road, and then east along Old Highway 80 until reaching the SDG&E proposed Rebuilt Boulevard Substation.

This alternative would increase the land disturbance by 7.3 acres; from 772.7 acres to 780.0 acres. The 138 kV transmission line would decrease in distance as a result of this alternative from 9.7 miles to 5.4 miles and would decrease the amount of transmission line poles from 116 poles to 60 poles. The 34.5 kV overhead collector lines would increase in distance from 9.4 miles to 17 miles, and would increase the amount of collector line poles from 250 to 452 poles. The underground collector lines would decrease in distance from 29.3 miles to 28.9 miles.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would require placement of transmission line poles along Ribbonwood Road and Old Highway 80 and would locate the alternate O&M/Substation facility on Rough Acres Ranch, west of McCain Valley Road. It is not anticipated that this alternative would subject an increased hazard to the public or the environment than the proposed project. This alternative would have similar potential impacts resulting from hazardous materials as the proposed project. Impacts are considered less than significant.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative will require the same minimal amounts of chemicals such as lubricating oils and cleaners for the turbines and pesticides for weed control than the proposed project. The risk of a chemical spill during transport is negligible and the impacts of any such spill would be limited because of the small amounts of chemicals that will be transported to the project site. The likelihood of significant hazards resulting from the routine transport of hazardous materials under this alternative is low. This alternative is not anticipated to create hazards to the public or the environment from the transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. A less than significant impact is identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would require the construction of the 138 kV transmission line along Ribbonwood Road and Old Highway 80 and would locate the alternate O&M/Substation facility on Rough Acres Ranch, west of McCain Valley Road. The Clover Flat Elementary school is located approximately 1.5 miles south of the project entrance area at Ribbonwood Road, or 3,500 feet from the Ribbonwood/I-8 intersection at 39639 Old Highway 80. Although close to the school, construction would still not be within the one-quarter mile threshold. No impacts are identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would not place the project within two miles of an active public airport or public use airport. There are no airport land use plans applicable to this alternative and people living and working in the area of the project would not be exposed to an increased hazard as a result of this alternative. No impacts are identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

A private landing strip is located on Rough Acres Ranch just south of where the alternate O&M/ Substation facility would be located. The airstrip is currently non-operational and is not anticipated to be operational in the future. No impacts or safety hazards would occur as a result of this alternative.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative does not propose development on a hazardous materials site and therefore, would not result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment. No impact is identified.

This alternative has the same level of impacts as the proposed project.

Operation and Maintenance Facility Location #1 Alternative

The O&M Facility Location #1 Alternative would be located on private property (T17S R7E Sec4), north of the alternate collector substation and located west of McCain Valley Road, as shown in **Figure 2.0-13**. This alternative would consist of separating the 5-acre O&M building site from the collector substation; however, both would remain on Rough Acres Ranch property. Alternate Transmission Line #2 would be utilized under this alternative, as well as the Alternate Overhead Collector System consisting of two 34.5 kV lines connecting the turbines to the alternate collector substation. All other elements of the project including the turbine locations, parking and laydown areas, and batch plant would remain as described in the proposed project.

This alternative is estimated to have the same land disturbance impacts as the Alternate Transmission Line #2 and Collector Substation Alternative. However, by relocating the O&M building site to the northern portion of Rough Acres Ranch, this alternative would require an approximate 650-foot new access road to be constructed on the west side of McCain Valley Road, thus necessitating an approximate 0.07 acres of permanently impacted area and a temporary impact of 0.55 acres. In comparison to the proposed project, this alternative would decrease the land disturbance by approximately 2.5 acres, from 772.7 acres to 775.2 acres. The 138 kV transmission line would decrease in distance as a result of this alternative from 9.7 miles to 3.8 miles and would decrease the amount of transmission line poles from 116 poles to 44 poles. The 34.5 kV overhead collector lines would increase in distance from 9.4 miles to 17 miles, and would increase the amount of collector line poles from 250 to 452 poles. The underground collector lines would decrease in distance from 29.3 miles to 28.9 miles.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would require placement of transmission line poles along McCain Valley Road and Old Highway 80. It is not anticipated that this alternative would subject an increased hazard to the public or the environment than the proposed project. This alternative would have similar potential impacts resulting from hazardous materials than the proposed project. Impacts are less than significant.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative will require the same minimal amounts of chemicals such as lubricating oils and cleaners for the turbines and pesticides for weed control than the proposed project. The risk of a chemical spill during transport is negligible and the impacts of any such spill would be limited because of the small amounts of chemicals that will be transported to the project site. The likelihood of significant hazards resulting from the routine transport of hazardous materials under this alternative is low. This alternative is not anticipated to create hazards to the public or the environment from the transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. A less than significant impact is identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would require the construction of the 138 kV transmission line along McCain Valley Road and Old Highway 80 located 1.3 miles west of the area of the alternate 138 kV transmission line that will connect to the SDG&E proposed Rebuilt Boulevard Substation. This alternative would not locate construction or hazardous waste within one-quarter mile of Clover Flat Elementary or any other school. No impacts are identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would not place the project within two miles of an active public airport or public use airport. There are no airport land use plans applicable to this alternative, and people living and working in the area of the project would not be exposed to an increased hazard as a result of this alternative. No impacts are identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

A private landing strip is located within the project boundary. However, the airstrip is currently non-operational and is not anticipated to be operational in the future. No impacts or safety hazards would occur as a result of this alternative.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative does not propose development on a hazardous materials site and, therefore, would not result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment. No impact is identified. This alternative has the same level of impacts as the proposed project.

Operation and Maintenance Facility Location #2 Alternative

The O&M Facility Location #2 Alternative would be located on private property (T17S R7E Sec 16), south of the alternate collector substation and located west of McCain Valley Road, as illustrated in **Figure 2.0-13**. This alternative would consist of separating the 5-acre O&M building site from the collector substation; however, both would remain on Rough Acres Ranch property. Alternate Transmission Line #2 would be utilized under this alternative, as well as the Alternate Overhead Collector System consisting of two 34.5 kV lines connecting the turbines to the alternate collector substation. All other elements of the project including the turbine locations, parking and laydown areas, and batch plant would remain as described in the proposed project.

This alternative is estimated to have the same land disturbance impacts as the Alternate Transmission Line #2 and Collector Substation Alternative. However, by relocating the O&M building site to the southern portion of Rough Acres Ranch, this alternative would result in a very slight difference of 1.0 acre of permanent impacts and 0.08 acre of temporary impacts resulting from the construction of new access roads than those described in **Table 2.0-10**. In comparison to the proposed project, this alternative would increase the land disturbance by approximately 2.0 acres, from 772.7 acres to 774.7 acres. The 138 kV transmission line would decrease in distance as a result of this alternative from 9.7 miles to 3.8 miles and would decrease the amount of transmission line poles from 116 poles to 44 poles. The 34.5 kV overhead collector lines would increase in distance from 9.4 miles to 17 miles, and would increase the amount of collector line poles from 250 to 452 poles. The underground collector lines would decrease in distance from 29.3 miles to 28.9 miles.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would require placement of the O&M Facility #2 on private property, the alternate collector substation on Rough Acres Ranch, and the transmission line and poles along McCain Valley Road and Old Highway 80. It is not anticipated that this alternative would subject an increased hazard to the public or the environment than the proposed project. This alternative would have similar potential impacts as the proposed project. Impacts are less than significant.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative will require the same minimal amounts of chemicals such as lubricating oils and cleaners for the turbines and pesticides for weed control as the proposed project. The risk of a chemical spill during transport is negligible and the impacts of any such spill would be limited because of the small amounts of chemicals that will be transported to the project site. The likelihood of significant hazards resulting from the routine transport of hazardous materials under this alternative is low. This alternative is not anticipated to create hazards to the public or the environment from the transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. A less than significant impact is identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would require placement of the O&M Substation facility #2 on private property, the alternate collector substation on Rough Acres Ranch, and the transmission line and poles along McCain Valley Road and Old Highway 80. This alternative would not locate construction or hazardous waste within one-quarter mile of Clover Flat Elementary or any other school. No impacts are identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative would not place the project within two miles of an active public airport or public use airport. There are no airport land use plans applicable to this alternative and people living and working in the area of the project would not be exposed to an increased hazard as a result of this alternative. Impacts would be the same as the proposed project. No impacts are identified.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

A private landing strip is located on Rough Acres Ranch, in close proximity to both the alternate collector substation and alternate O&M building. However, the airstrip is currently non-operational and is not anticipated to be operational in the future. No impacts or safety hazards would occur as a result of this alternative.

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

Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning

This alternative does not propose development on a hazardous materials site and therefore, would not result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment. No impact is identified.

This alternative has the same level of impacts as the proposed project.