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CHAPTER 4 – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.12 PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Measures	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities (the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts), in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4.12.0 Introduction

The section describes local public services in the vicinity of the San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) South Bay Substation Relocation Project (Proposed Project). Fire and emergency services, police and protective services, hospitals, schools, and other public services are addressed, and the potential effects resulting from Proposed Project construction, operation, and maintenance are evaluated. Through this analysis, it was determined that the Proposed Project would have no impacts on public services.

4.12.1 Methodology

Information regarding local public services was primarily gathered from Internet searches of local planning agencies. Data regarding fire, police, and emergency services was obtained from the City of Chula Vista (the City) website and individual web pages for the fire and police departments. Data pertaining to local area schools was obtained from various Internet searches, as well as the Sweetwater Union High School District (SWUHSD) and the Chula Vista Elementary School District (CVESD) websites. Internet searches were also conducted in order to obtain information regarding hospitals and libraries.

4.12.2 Existing Conditions

Fire and Emergency Services

Fire protection and emergency services for the Proposed Project vicinity are provided by the City of Chula Vista Fire Department. The Department serves the City's approximately 52 square miles, with its main headquarters located at 447 F Street. The Department employs an estimated 120 employees, with the majority of personnel being sworn professional firefighters. Remaining staff members provide administrative and fire prevention services and activities.

During a typical 24-hour shift, an estimated 36 six-line firefighters and two Battalion Chiefs are on constant duty spread among the City's nine fire stations. Each station has a Captain, an engineer, and a firefighter. Fire Station #3 has one additional firefighter to staff a heavy-rescue truck, and Fire Stations #1 and #7 have one additional Captain, engineer, and two firefighters to staff a ladder truck. The Chula Vista Fire Department's medical transport is provided through a contract with American Medical Response.

The Proposed Project would be served by Fire Station #1, located at 447 F Street (at the main headquarters). The station is located approximately 1.4 miles northeast of the Proposed Project site.

Police and Protection Services

The Chula Vista Police Department serves the Proposed Project area. The department serves approximately 52 square miles within the City. The main headquarters is located at 315 4th Avenue, approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the Proposed Project site. The Department employs an estimated 240 officers, including supervisors. During a typical weekday shift, an estimated 50 officers are on constant duty spread among the City's 12 police beats. The Department operates the following divisions: Administrative Services Division, Patrol Operations Division, Investigations Division, and a Fiscal Operations/Research Division.

Hospitals

No major hospitals or emergency health service facilities are located within the immediate vicinity of the Proposed Project. The two closest major medical facilities are located at 330 Moss Street (Bayview Hospital), approximately 1.2 miles east of the Proposed Project, and at 435 H Street (Scripps Memorial Hospital), approximately 1.1 miles northeast of the Proposed Project.

Schools

The Proposed Project area lies within the CVESD and the SWUHSD. The CVESD operates kindergarten through sixth grade and the SWUHSD operates junior and senior high schools, and ancillary programs. The CVESD has 44 elementary schools, three of which are charter schools. The SWUHSD has 11 middle schools and 15 high schools, one of which is a charter school. As shown in Table 4.12-1: Schools Within Two Miles, there are 11 public schools within two miles of the Proposed Project and eight specialty/private schools within two miles of the Proposed Project site. The nearest school—Harborside Elementary School—is located approximately 0.35 mile east of the Proposed Project.

Table 4.12-1: Schools Within Two Miles

School Name	Address	Approximate Distance from the Proposed Project (Miles)
Harborside Elementary School	681 Naples Street Chula Vista, California 91911	0.35
Mueller Charter School	715 I Street Chula Vista, California 91910	0.40
Lillian J Rice Elementary School	915 Fourth Avenue Chula Vista, California 91911	1.02
Vista Square Elementary School	540 G Street Chula Vista, California 91910	1.05
J Calvin Lauderbach Elementary School	390 Palomar Street Chula Vista, California 91911	1.30
Feaster (Mae L.) Charter School	670 Flower Street Chula Vista, California 91910	1.50
John J Montgomery Elementary School	1601 Fourth Avenue Chula Vista, California 91911	1.54
Hilltop Drive Elementary School	30 Murray Street Chula Vista, California 91910	1.95
Chula Vista Middle School	415 Fifth Avenue Chula Vista, California 91910	1.11
Chula Vista High School	820 Fourth Avenue Chula Vista, California 91911	1.01
Palomar High School	480 Palomar Street Chula Vista, California 91911	1.10
Chula Vista Learning School	590 K Street Chula Vista, California 91911	0.55
South Bay Community Preschool/Christian School	950 Fifth Avenue Chula Vista, California 91911	0.77
Southwestern Christian Schools	482 L Street Chula Vista, California 91911	0.80
Options Secondary School	467 Moss Street Chula Vista, California 91911	0.88
Pilgrim Lutheran School	497 E Street Chula Vista, California 91910	1.52

School Name	Address	Approximate Distance from the Proposed Project (Miles)
Cottontail Preschool	471 E Street Chula Vista, California 91910	1.57
St. John Episcopal School	760 1 st Avenue Chula Vista, California 91911	1.76
Otay Christian Academy	257 Tremont Street Chula Vista, California 91911	1.90

Sources: CVESD, 2010; SWUHSD, 2010; Google Earth, 2010

Other Services

The City of Chula Vista South Chula Vista Branch Library is located at 389 Orange Avenue, approximately 1.44 miles southeast of the Proposed Project. The City of Chula Vista Civic Center Branch Library is located at 365 F Street, approximately 1.56 miles northeast of the Proposed Project. No other public buildings are located within 0.25 mile of the Proposed Project.

Several regional, county, and state parks can be found in and around the City of Chula Vista. These areas include the Chula Vista Marina View Park, Chula Vista Bayfront Park, and the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Complex. The Chula Vista Marina View Park is located approximately 150 feet north of the transmission line right-of-way. The San Diego Bay NWR is located adjacent to the western boundary of the Bay Boulevard Substation site. The complex is comprised of the South Bay NWR, Sweetwater Marsh NWR, Seal Beach NWR, and Tijuana Slough NWR. This area is of local ecological importance and portions of the refuge are publicly accessible by recreational users. For example, the Silver Strand Bikeway is located within the San Diego Bay NWR, approximately 0.80 mile south of the Proposed Project. More information regarding nearby parks and recreation areas is included in Section 4.13 Recreation.

4.12.3 Impacts

Significance Criteria

Determination of impacts was derived from Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. Impacts to public services are considered potentially significant if they result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives. These public services include police services, fire protection, emergency services, hospitals, schools, and public facilities.

Construction – No Impact

The Proposed Project would be constructed within the City of Chula Vista. The population of Chula Vista may increase slightly during the construction phase as a result of the seven to 36 construction personal required to be on site during the various phases of construction. Construction of the proposed facilities is not likely to affect the use or operation of any public services or facilities within the immediate area, including schools, fire or police protection services, emergency services, hospitals, or other services (i.e., libraries) because the crewmembers would likely commute from the San Diego County area. It is not anticipated that workers would need to reside temporarily at local lodging establishments. In addition, the Proposed Project would not result in a permanent need for new or additional public services because it would not induce population growth, as described further in Chapter 5 – Detailed Discussion of Significant Impacts.

Fire and Police Protection

Several emergency providers are located in the vicinity of Proposed Project; however, none are located within approximately 0.25 mile. Therefore, construction of the proposed facilities would

not directly interfere with fire protection, police, or other emergency service providers in the immediate area. The Proposed Project would not result in an increase in the temporary demand for nor alter the level of local public services required as it would not perceptibly increase area population or demands for housing. An emergency could arise as a result of Proposed Project construction, but such an incident is of low probability and would not tax the existing emergency services beyond their current capabilities. Construction is not anticipated to affect response times because no road closures would be required for construction activities. As a result, no impacts to fire and police protective services are anticipated.

Schools

The Proposed Project would not increase the temporary demand for school enrollment because it would not perceptibly increase local population during the duration of construction. The majority of the construction crew members are likely to be hired from the local operators union and local electrical workers union, which can provide a large pool of potential workers from the greater San Diego area; therefore, Proposed Project construction would not create a significant new workforce that would result in a new or increased demand for school services. Family relocation would not be necessary. No new hires would be required for operation and maintenance of the Proposed Project. Therefore, school enrollment would not be affected and no new schools would be necessary as a result of the Proposed Project. As a result, no impacts to schools are expected.

Parks

Various recreational facilities are found within 0.25 mile of the Proposed Project site and include the Marina View Park and the San Diego Bay NWR, as discussed in Section 4.13 Recreation. Construction of the Proposed Project would not significantly increase local population growth resulting in the need for new parks or park expansion, nor would it cause a reduction in the availability of area recreational resources, as none would be affected by the Proposed Project. Therefore, no impacts to parks or other recreational facilities would result.

Other Public Facilities

No other public facilities are located within close proximity to the Proposed Project components. The Proposed Project would not increase the local population or otherwise result in a change that would necessitate alteration or expansion of existing public services. As a result, no impacts would result.

Operation and Maintenance – No Impact

After construction, the substation associated with the Proposed Project would be unmanned. Operation and maintenance of the 230 kilovolt (kV) loop-in, 69 kV relocation, and 138 kV extension would be conducted in a manner similar to the existing transmission lines in the area. These activities would not impede the use of existing public services nor result in a need for new services because they would be limited to periodic visits once a year and for no more than a few days on each occasion. An operator would visit the Bay Boulevard Substation several times per week to monitor its operation, in a manner similar to the existing South Bay Substation. Maintenance of the substation occurs only a few times a year and for no more than a few days on

each occasion. As a result, there would be no impacts to public services from the operation and maintenance of the Proposed Project.

4.12.4 Applicant-Proposed Measures

Because the Proposed Project would have no impacts on public services, no avoidance or minimization measures are proposed.

4.12.5 References

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