

3.11 MINERAL RESOURCES

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3.11.1 Definitions

As mandated under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (California State Mining and Geology Board 1975), mineral resources are characterized by the following Mineral Resource Zones (MRZs):

- **MRZ-1.** Areas where adequate geologic information indicates that no significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that little likelihood exists for their presence.
- **MRZ-2.** Areas where adequate information indicates that significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that a high likelihood for their presence exists. This zone is applied to known mineral deposits or where well-developed lines of reasoning, based upon economic-geologic principles and adequate data, demonstrate that the likelihood for occurrence of significant mineral deposits is high.
- **MRZ-3.** Areas containing mineral occurrences of undetermined mineral resource significance.
- **MRZ-4.** Areas where available information is inadequate for assignment to any other MRZ category.

3.11.2 Environmental Setting

There are no known significant mineral resources (MRZ-2 or MRZ-3 areas) within the proposed project area. Most of the proposed project area occurs on federally-owned land that has not been included in state-wide MRZ classifications. While it is possible that mineral deposits exist within MCB CPEN, mining is not an authorized activity within the base (MCB CPEN 2010). The small portion of the proposed project that occurs outside of MCB CPEN to the north of Talega Substation is designated as MRZ-1, an area of no mineral resource significance. The City of San Clemente General Plan prohibits the extraction of significant mineral resources (City of San Clemente 2014).

3.11.3 Impact Analysis

Summary of Impacts

Table 3.11-1 presents a summary of the CEQA significance criteria and impacts on mineral resources that would occur during construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed project.

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Table 3.11-1 Summary of Proposed Project Impacts on Mineral Resources

Would the Proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Impact Discussion

a) Would the proposed project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	Significance Determination
	No impact

No known mineral resources are located within the proposed project area. The proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource. No impact would occur.

Mitigation Measures: None required.

b) Would the proposed project result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	Significance Determination
	No impact

All proposed project structures would be located within MCB CPEN. MCB CPEN does not allow mineral resource extraction or mining. The proposed project would not affect the availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. No impacts would occur.

Mitigation Measures: None required.

3.11.4 References

California State Mining and Geology Board. 1975. "Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975."

City of San Clemente. 2014. "City of San Clemente Centennial General Plan Natural Resources Element." <http://san-clemente.org/home/showdocument?id=24897>.

MCB CPEN. 2010. "Base Order 5000.2K Ch 1, Base Regulations."