SECTION 3: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

Approach to Environmental Analysis

Section 3.1 through Section 3.9 of this Draft EIR contain discussions of the potential environmental impacts related to construction and operation of the proposed project.

Environmental Topics

The potential environmental effects associated with the implementation of the proposed project are analyzed in the following topical environmental issue areas:

- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Noise
- Transportation and Traffic

Organization of Issue Areas

Each environmental issue section typically contains the following components:

- **Environmental Setting** identifies and describes the existing onsite physical environmental conditions associated with each of the impact sections.
- **Regulatory Setting** provides an understanding of the regulatory environment associated with the project.
- **Thresholds of Significance** identifies thresholds from Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines that assist in a determination the significance of an impact. Unless specifically identified within each environmental issue section of this document, the thresholds of significance used are those contained in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Project Impacts** describes environmental changes to the existing physical conditions that may occur if the proposed project is implemented, and evaluates these changes with respect to the thresholds of significance.

- **Mitigation Measures** are those specific measures that may be required of the project by the Lead Agency in order to: (1) avoid an impact; (2) minimize an impact; (3) rectify an impact by restoration; (4) reduce or eliminate an impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations; or (5) compensate for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources.
- **Level of Significance After Mitigation** describes the level of impact significance remaining after mitigation measures are implemented.

Format Used for Impact Analysis and Mitigation Measures

Table 3-1: Abbreviations Used in the Mitigation Measure Numbering

Code	Environmental Issue
AIR	Air Quality
BIO	Biological Resources
CUL	Cultural Resources
GEO	Geology, Soils, and Seismicity
GHG	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
HAZ	Hazards and Hazardous Materials
HYD	Hydrology and Water Quality
NOI	Noise
TRANS	Transportation / Traffic

The format adopted in this EIR to present the evaluation of impacts is described and illustrated below.

Summary Heading of Impact

Impact AIR-1: **An impact summary heading appears immediately preceding the impact description (Summary Heading of Impact in this example). The impact abbreviation identifies the section of the report (AIR for Air Quality in this example) and the sequential order of the impact (1 in this example) within that section. To the right of the impact number is the impact statement, which identifies the potential impact.**

Impact Analysis

A narrative analysis follows the impact statement.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

This section identifies the level of significance of the impact before any mitigation is proposed.

Mitigation Measures

In some cases, following the impact discussion, reference is made to state and federal regulations and agency policies that would fully or partially mitigate the impact. In addition, policies and programs from applicable local land use plans that partially or fully mitigate the impact may be cited.

Project-specific mitigation measures, beyond those contained in other documents, are set off with a summary heading and described using the format presented below:

MM AIR-1 Project-specific mitigation is identified that would reduce the impact to the lowest degree feasible. The mitigation abbreviation links the particular mitigation to the impact with which it is associated (**AIR** in this example); mitigation measures are then numbered sequentially.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

This section identifies the resulting level of significance of the impact following mitigation.