

4.16 Utilities and Service Systems

This section describes utilities and services in the area of the Proposed Project and assesses the potential environmental impacts. The Proposed Project would not result in any change to existing utilities and services; Proposed Project components that were not addressed in this section include the installation of upgraded relay systems at the Newhall, Chatsworth, and San Fernando Substations¹. This section provides a general discussion of impacts to utilities and services in accordance with the CEQA.

4.16.1 Environmental Setting

Water and Wastewater Service

The Proposed Project site is located in portions of unincorporated Los Angeles County and the cities of Los Angeles and Santa Clarita.

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) provides water service to the city of Los Angeles and wastewater service is provided to the City by the City of Los Angeles Sanitation Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation (Bureau of Sanitation). LADWP supplies an average of 215 billion gallons of water per year to the City's 3.8 million residents. Approximately 50 percent of LADWP's water is drawn from the Eastern Sierras, 34 percent is purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and 15 percent is pumped from groundwater wells. Recycled water amounts to ~ 1 percent. The Bureau of Sanitation collects, conveys, treats, and disposes of wastewater within the City of Los Angeles, and provides watershed protection through sewer construction/maintenance and a stormwater pollution abatement program. The portions of the Proposed Project site located in city of Los Angeles and the county of Los Angeles would be served by LADWP and the Bureau of Sanitation. It should be noted that the LADPW is made up of a number of waterworks districts that serve portions of incorporated and unincorporated Los Angeles County; however, no LADPW district serves the Proposed Project site.

A portion of the Proposed Project site is located in the southern extent of the city of Santa Clarita. This area of the city of Santa Clarita is provided water service by the Newhall County Water District (NCWD). NCWD has potable deliveries of ~ 3.88 billion gallons per year to its 31,700 customers. Approximately 46 percent of NCWD's water is drawn from groundwater wells, and 54 percent is purchased from the Castaic Lake Water Agency. The city of Santa Clarita wastewater service is provided by the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation Districts), and the Santa Clarita Valley District (SCV District). The Sanitation Districts are a partnership of 24 independent districts that serve a combined 5.3 million people within an 800 square mile service area. The Sanitation Districts own and operate 1,400 miles of main trunk sewers and 11 wastewater treatment plants, which convey and treat ~ 500 million gallons per day of wastewater. Of the 500 million gallons per day, ~ 200 million gallons are treated and available for reuse.

¹ Relay replacement at the Chatsworth Substation located in Ventura County will not impact population growth or housing and therefore Ventura County is not included in this CEQA evaluation

The SCV District operates the Saugus and Valencia Water Reclamation Plants (WRP). The Saugus WRP is located at 26200 Springbrook Avenue, and has a capacity of 0.25 million gallons per day. The Valencia WRP is located at 28185 The Old Road, and has a capacity of 1.5 million gallons per day.

Solid Waste Service

According to the California Integrated Waste Management Board, there are a number of landfills that were used by unincorporated Los Angeles County, the city of Los Angeles, and the city of Santa Clarita in 2007. Of those landfills used, the two closest landfills to the Proposed Project site are the Sunshine Canyon Landfill and Chiquita Canyon Landfill. The Sunshine Canyon Landfill is located at 14747 San Fernando Road, Sylmar California, 91342, and is divided into two separate portions; one within the county of Los Angeles and the other within the city of Los Angeles. The city of Los Angeles portion of Sunshine Canyon Landfill has reached capacity. The part of the landfill in the county of Los Angeles is permitted to receive ~ 6,600 tons per day (TPD); however, the remaining permitted capacity is currently unknown, as the permitting application process for this landfill is under review. The Chiquita Canyon Sanitary Landfill is located at 29201 Henry Mayo Drive, Valencia California, 91384, and is north of the Proposed Project site. The Chiquita Canyon Landfill is permitted to receive ~ 6,000 TPD and has an estimated remaining capacity of 35,800,000 cubic yards.

4.16.2 Significance Criteria

The significance criteria for assessing the impacts to utilities and services derive from the CEQA Environmental Checklist. According to the CEQA Checklist, a project would cause a potentially significant impact if it would:

- Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable RWQCB;
- Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects;
- Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects;
- Have insufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or if new or expanded entitlements would be needed;
- Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments;;
- Be served by a landfill with insufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs; or
- Comply with Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

4.16.3 Applicant Proposed Measures

The following measures will be implemented during construction:

- APM-US-01: Construction of the Proposed Project will result in the generation of various non-hazardous waste materials, including wood, soil, vegetation, and sanitation waste (portable toilets). These materials will either be re-used at the construction site (e.g., clean soil used for backfill) or disposed at an appropriately licensed off-site facility.
- APM-US-02: Construction activities will generate utility poles and other treated wood waste. This waste will either be reused by SCE, returned to the manufacturer, disposed of in a Class I hazardous waste landfill, or disposed in the lined portion of a RWQCB-certified municipal landfill.
- APM-US-03: Soils generated during excavation and grading activities which are or are suspected to be contaminated with oil or other hazardous materials; or materials resulting from spill cleanups; will be characterized and disposed off-site at an appropriately licensed waste facility. There are no known contaminated soils located at any of the Proposed Project construction locations.
- APM-US-04: All hazardous and non-hazardous wastes generated during operation of the Proposed Project (e.g., waste oil and gas condensates from the proposed Central Compressor Station) will be classified and managed in accordance with Federal and State regulations and site-specific permits.

4.16.4 Environmental Impacts

The potential impact to utilities and service systems from construction and operation of the Proposed Project was evaluated using the stated CEQA significance criteria and is presented in this section. For the purpose of presenting potential impacts to utilities and service systems, CEQA criteria were evaluated and are discussed separately for construction and operations

Construction Impacts

Would the Proposed Project exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

The Proposed Project includes construction and installation of the: proposed Central Compressor Station, proposed PPL, proposed office trailer and guard house relocations, proposed SCE Natural Substation, proposed SCE 66 kV sub-transmission modification, and proposed substation upgrades. It does not include any components that would result in the generation of raw sewage such as a large housing project. Consequently, the Proposed Project would not discharge large volumes of wastewater or concentrated wastewater to a wastewater treatment facility, exceeding treatment requirements set forth by the RWQCB. As a result, construction of the Proposed Project would have no significant impacts to the treatment requirements of the RWQCB wastewater treatment plants serving the area.

Would the Proposed Project require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

As described earlier, the Proposed Project would not result in the generation of raw sewage, nor create a demand for sewer collection and/or treatment facilities. The use of water during construction (for dust suppression) and operation (for landscaping) is minimal, and would not be in volumes or flow rates that would affect water treatment plant capacities. In addition, construction and operation of the Proposed Project would not discharge large volumes of wastewater. Construction and operation of the Proposed Project would have no impact to the expansion of water or wastewater treatment facilities serving the area.

Therefore, the Proposed Project would not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities. No significant impacts would occur.

Would the Proposed Project require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

The Proposed Project includes construction and installation of the: proposed Central Compressor Station, proposed PPL, proposed office trailer and guard house relocations, proposed SCE Natural Substation, proposed SCE 66 kV sub-transmission modification, and proposed substation upgrades.. Construction of the Proposed Project would not result in any substantial increase of impermeable surfaces that could increase the amount of storm water discharge from the site. During construction, the replacement and modification of existing facilities would be accomplished within the existing footprint of those facilities, and disturbance of the site would not increase over the existing condition. Pole replacement would be either in place of, or adjacent to, the existing pole structures. In addition, BMPs are currently employed by the Proponent for construction activities at the SoCalGas Plant Station, including practices for handling of hazardous materials and minimizing potential impacts to storm water. Construction activities associated with the removal of the existing office trailers, installation of new office trailers, and installation of new guard house, would include implementation of all applicable BMPs. As a result, the Proposed Project would not require the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities in the area. No significant impacts would occur.

Would the Proposed Project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

The Proposed Project includes construction and installation of the: proposed Central Compressor Station, proposed PPL, proposed office trailer and guard house relocations, proposed SCE Natural Substation, proposed SCE 66 kV sub-transmission modification, and proposed substation upgrades. Construction activities would require only a minimal amount of water (i.e., the temporary use of water for dust suppression) that would be accommodated from existing water supplies and entitlements. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in the need to expand existing water facilities or construct new water facilities. No significant impacts would occur.

Would the Proposed Project result in the determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it does not have adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

Construction of the Proposed Project would not result in the generation of raw sewage, nor discharge of wastewater from the Proposed Project site. Thus, there would be no exceedence of the wastewater treatment capacity of any facilities. Therefore, construction of the Proposed Project would have no significant impacts to wastewater treatment providers in the area.

Would the Proposed Project be served by a landfill with insufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

Construction of the Proposed Project would require the removal of existing LSTs to accommodate the new specially designed and engineered TSPs. As described earlier, an APM would ensure that any utility poles and other treated wood waste would either be reused by SCE, returned to the manufacturer, disposed in a Class I hazardous waste landfill, or disposed in the lined portion of a RWQCB-certified municipal landfill. Construction of the Proposed Project would also result in the generation of various non-hazardous waste materials, including wood, soil, vegetation, and sanitation waste (portable toilets). As discussed previously, an APM would ensure that these materials would either be reused at the construction site (e.g., clean soil used for backfill) or disposed at an appropriately licensed off-site facility. However, the amount of solid waste material generated from construction of the Proposed Project would be minimal and it is not anticipated that its solid waste generation would exceed the permitted capacity of any landfill (Chiquita Canyon Landfill accepts 6,000 TPD and has a remaining capacity of 35,800,000 cubic yards). Therefore, construction of the Proposed Project would not be served by a landfill with insufficient capacity to accommodate the Proposed Project's solid waste disposal needs. Impacts would be considered less than significant.

Would the Proposed Project comply with Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Construction of the Proposed Project would comply with Federal, State, and local statutes related to solid waste. The Proposed Project includes the removal of existing steel electrical towers and replacement of gas compressors. It is anticipated that the steel towers and other recyclable materials would be deposited in a landfill or recycled, in accordance with all applicable statutes and regulations. As a result, construction of the Proposed Project would comply with applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Impacts would be considered less than significant.

Operation Impacts

Would the Proposed Project exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

The Proposed Project includes construction and installation of the: proposed Central Compressor Station, proposed PPL, proposed office trailer and guard house relocations, proposed SCE Natural Substation, proposed SCE 66 kV sub-transmission modifications, and proposed substation upgrades. It does not include any components that would result in the generation of raw sewage such as a large

housing project. Consequently the Proposed Project would not discharge concentrated wastewater or large volumes of wastewater to a wastewater treatment facility, exceeding treatment requirements set forth by the RWQCB. As a result, operation of the Proposed Project would have no significant impacts to the treatment requirements of wastewater treatment plants serving the area.

Would the Proposed Project require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

As described earlier, the Proposed Project would not result in the generation of raw sewage, nor create a demand for sewer collection and/or treatment facilities. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities. No significant impacts would occur.

Would the Proposed Project require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

The Proposed Project consists of the upgrade of existing electrical infrastructure and replacement of gas compressors and would not result in any substantial increase of impermeable surfaces that could increase the amount of storm water discharge from the site. As a result, the Proposed Project would not require the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities in the area. No significant impacts would occur.

Would the Proposed Project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

Operation of the Proposed Project would not affect water supplies as it does not include Proposed Project components that would increase water usage. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in the need to expand existing water facilities or construct new water facilities. No significant impacts would occur.

Would the Proposed Project result in the determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it does not have adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

Operation of the Proposed Project would not result in the generation of raw sewage, nor discharge of wastewater from the Proposed Project site. Thus, there would be no exceedence of the wastewater treatment capacity of any facilities. Therefore, operation of the Proposed Project would have no significant impacts to wastewater treatment providers in the area.

Would the Proposed Project be served by a landfill with insufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

Operation of the Proposed Project would not increase solid waste generation over the existing condition since implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in changes that would require additional workers/employees at SCE or SoCalGas. Therefore, operation of the Proposed Project would not be

served by a landfill with insufficient capacity to accommodate the Proposed Project's solid waste disposal needs. Impacts would be considered less than significant.

Would the Proposed Project comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Operation of the Proposed Project would comply with Federal, State, and local statutes related to solid waste. The Proposed Project would not result in any change to the existing volume of, or compliance with, solid waste disposal, as implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in changes that would require additional workers/employees at SCE or SoCalGas. As a result, operation of the Proposed Project would comply with applicable Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Impacts would be considered less than significant.

4.16.5 Mitigation Measures

The Proposed Project was determined to have **no impact** due to construction and operation; therefore no mitigation is required or proposed.

4.16.6 References

California Integrated Waste Management District, April 2009. <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/profiles/> [accessed April 28, 2009].

Newhall County Water District, April 2009. <https://www.ncwd.org/about.asp> [accessed April 28, 2009].

Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, 2009. <http://www.lacsd.org/default.asp> [accessed April 28, 2009].