

### **O3 Backcountry Against Dumps**

**O3-1** The comment requests that the included comments and attached ambient sound measurement report be included in the Campo Wind Project with Boulder Brush Facilities (Project) Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) record. The comment is noted and is included in the Final EIR.

**O3-2** The comment references the dBF report dated July 31, 2019 (dBF 7/31/19 report), which the commenter states was not included in Appendix A of the Draft EIR. The comment further states that the dBF report measures invalidated 2018 Dudek sound measurements because the equipment could not record as low as ambient rural levels. In response, Appendix A to the Draft EIR includes the Notice of Preparation (NOP), Initial Study prepared for the Project, and public comment letters received during the NOP public review period. As stated in the NOP, all comments were to be received by the County no later than March 18, 2019. The dBF 7/31/19 report was prepared and submitted to the County subsequent to that date, thus the dBF 7/31/19 report was not recorded as a comment to the NOP, nor was the report included in Appendix A to the Draft EIR. Also, for clarification, the dBF 7/31/19 report relied upon ambient sound level measurements using American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Type 1 sound level meters.

As explained in the Draft EIR, Dudek conducted ambient sound level measurements using ANSI Type 1 and Type 2 sound level meters. As stated in the Draft EIR, Type 1 meters have the capability to measure lower outdoor environment sound magnitudes than Type 2 sound level meters. As explained under Noise Survey in Section 2.6.1.3, Existing Setting, of Chapter 2.6, Noise, of the Draft EIR, Dudek measured the ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the Project Site on September 5 to 7, 2018, using ANSI Type 2 sound level meters. Although the Type 2 sound level meters used in the 2018 measurements were considered adequate by way of measuring sound and drawing conclusions, a supplemental baseline outdoor ambient sound level survey was performed from August 29, 2019, to September 2019 in the vicinities of the previously surveyed locations using ANSI Type 1 sound level meters. This supplemental data measured with the ANSI Type 1 instruments was used to support the accuracy of the ambient noise data collected in 2018. Comparing the collected datasets of measured background sound level from the 2018 and 2019 field surveys, the value ranges are generally comparable and did not result in changes to the noise analysis determination of significance. Please refer to Chapter 2.6 of the Draft EIR, the Acoustical Assessment Report (Appendix G to the Draft EIR), and the Addendum to Appendix G for further discussion of the ambient sound level methodologies and results. Please also see Global Response GR-4, Noise, for further discussion of ambient noise levels in the Project vicinity.

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- O3-3** The comment requests the information contained in this comment letter be included as part of the record. The comment does not raise an issue with the adequacy of the analysis contained within the Draft EIR. No further response is required.
- O3-4** The comment states that, based on concerns that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared for the Project by the Bureau of Indian Affairs included high rural ambient sound measurements as measured by Dudek, the commenter hired a third-party acoustic expert to conduct independent sound measurements. The comment refers to the dBF 7/31/19 report and states that the report results bolster concerns that Dudek has used improper equipment to record ambient sound levels in the Project Area. The comment lists 72-hour measurements described in the dBF 7/31/19 report at six sites in proximity to the measurement locations used by Dudek in the Draft EIS. Please see Response to Comment O3-2 regarding ambient sound measurements taken by Dudek for the Draft EIR. Also please refer to Global Response GR-4 for further discussion of ambient noise levels in the Project vicinity. Chapter 2.6 of the Draft EIR, the Acoustical Assessment Report (Appendix G to the Draft EIR), and the Addendum to Appendix G provide detailed discussion of the ambient sound level methodologies and results.
- O3-5** The comment summarizes ambient sound level measurements included in the dBF 7/31/19 report and requests that Dudek be required to conduct new ambient sound levels for a revised and recirculated Draft EIS, using “proper equipment.” In response, this comment is referring to the Draft EIS prepared for the Project by the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs. As explained in Response to Comment O3-2, ambient sound level measurements for the acoustical analysis in the Draft EIR, for which the County of San Diego is the lead agency, were taken using ANSI Type 2 instruments in 2018 and supplemental measurements were taken using ANSI Type 1 instruments in 2019. Please also refer to the Acoustical Analysis Report (Appendix G of the Draft EIR) and the Addendum to Appendix G.
- O3-6** The comment consists of background information regarding noise levels and how sound and noise levels are calculated. The information contained within this comment does not raise an issue regarding the adequacy of the analysis within the Draft EIR; therefore, no further response is required.
- O3-7** The comment describes the ambient sound level measurements detailed in the dBF 7/31/19 report. The comment describes the equipment used to take the measurements, the locations, and the results of the measurements taken by dBF. Table 1 in this comment also includes the measurements taken by Dudek and calculates a difference in the measurements taken by dBF and Dudek. In response, Table 1 in the dBF 7/31/19 report compares measurement data and calculated day-night noise level values from its

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- Morrison residence location to those of the 2018 Dudek field survey LT10 monitoring location. It also compares its data from the DeGroot residence to data from the 2018 Dudek LT7 position. However, these pairs of monitoring positions should not be readily compared. Please refer to Global Response GR-4 (Existing Outdoor Sound Environment) for further discussion of Table 1 from the dBF 7/31/19 report.
- O3-8** The comment presents adjustments to sound level measurements made by dBF. In response, justification is not provided for the adjustments. Please refer to Global Response GR-4 (Existing Outdoor Sound Environment) for further discussion regarding adjustments made by dBF.
- O3-9** The comment summarizes the comparison of the dBF report's adjusted sound level measurements to those presented in the 2018 Dudek report included in the Draft EIS prepared by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Please also refer to Global Response GR-4 (Existing Outdoor Sound Environment).
- O3-10** The comment makes reference to a dBF report dated July 8, 2019. This comment does not raise an issue regarding the adequacy of the analysis within the Draft EIR; therefore, no further response is required.
- O3-11** The comment includes a vicinity map and figure showing locations of sound level measurements. The information contained within this comment does not raise an issue regarding the adequacy of the analysis within the Draft EIR; therefore, no further response is required.
- O3-12** The comment includes sound level measurement data collected by dBF that is referenced as "Figure 2" in comment O3-7. Please refer to Response to Comment O3-7 which addresses the sound level measurement data collected by dBF. Additionally, please refer to Global Response GR-4 (Existing Outdoor Sound Environment).

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