County of San Diego

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KATHLEEN A. FLANNERY
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

NOTICE OF PREPARATION DOCUMENTATION

DATE: August 9, 2018

PROJECT NAME: TORREY WIND

PROJECT NUMBER(S): PDS2018-MUP-18-014

PROJECT APPLICANT: TORREY WIND, LLC.

ENV. REVIEW NUMBER: PDS2018-ER-18-21-001

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
The Torrey Wind Project is a wind energy generation project which would produce up to approximately 126 MW of renewable energy, which would help support the County's General Plan vision, local and regional air quality, the County's Climate Action Plan, and California's Renewable Portfolio Standard goals. The Project proposes the construction and operation of approximately 30 new wind turbines (rated up to 4.2 megawatts (MW) each), an underground electrical collection system, a Project collector substation, a new 500 kV substation/switchyard located adjacent to the Sunrise Powerlink, an operations and maintenance (O&M) building, a temporary staging area, a batch plant, meteorological towers, and various access roads. Eventual decommissioning would occur at the end of the Project's useful life.

Primary access to the Project site is and would be provided from Interstate 8 (I-8) with local access through Ribbonwood Road. Project construction is anticipated to last approximately 9-12 months.

PROJECT LOCATION:
The Project site is located on approximately 2,041 acres consisting of 13 parcels in southeastern portion of unincorporated San Diego County. The Project site is entirely on private land in the McCain Valley area, north of the community of Boulevard and Interstate 8 (I-8). The Project site is located within the Boulevard Subregional Community Plan Area. The Project site is largely undeveloped ranch land, a portion of which is grazed by cattle, that is neighbored by two large commercial wind projects along with rural residential homes and ranches scattered throughout the region. Regional access to the Project site is provided by I-8, and local access is provided by Ribbonwood Road. Land ownership surrounding the Project site consists of a mixture of private, State of California, Bureau of Land Management, and tribal lands.

PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:
The probable environmental effects associated with the Project are detailed in the attached Environmental Initial Study. All questions answered "Potentially Significant Impact" or "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" will be analyzed further in the Environmental Impact Report. All questions answered "Less than Significant Impact" or "Not Applicable" will not be analyzed further in the Environmental Impact Report. The following is a list of the subject areas to be analyzed in the EIR and the particular issues of concern:

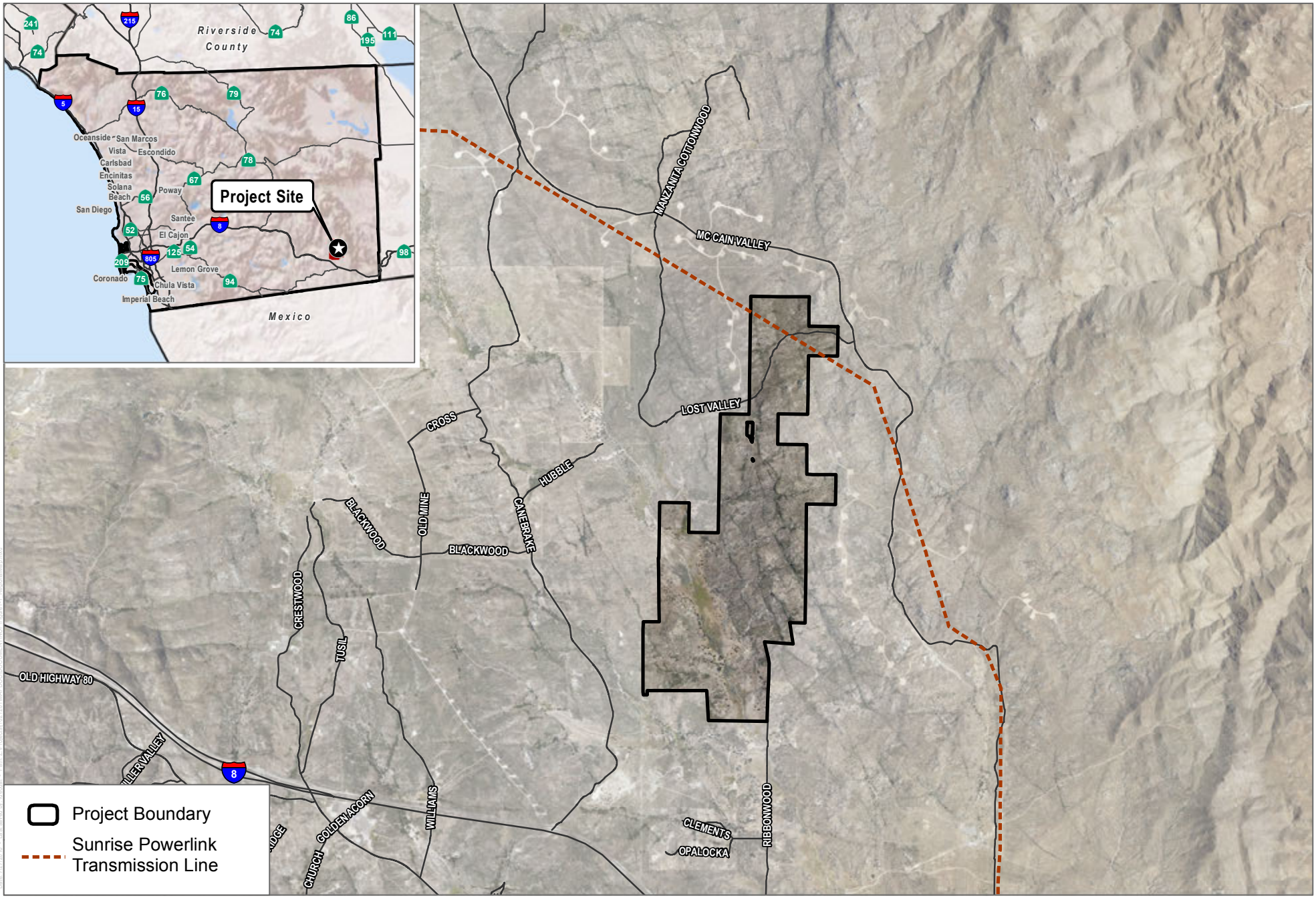
- Aesthetics
- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology & Soils
- Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology & Water Quality
- Land Use & Planning
- Noise
- Public Services
- Transportation & Traffic
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities & Service Systems Greenhouse
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

Please note that the Notice of Preparation signifies the beginning of the EIR review and public participation process. At the same time, the County contemplates further agency and public input as the Project proceeds through the County's environmental review process. During this process and before public circulation of the Draft EIR, the County anticipates some changes or additions to the Project, its description, and probable impacts in response to this Notice of Preparation, the comments received at the scoping meeting, and ongoing County staff input as it independently reviews the Project application and supporting documents. The iterative process is a necessary part of the County's EIR review process. However, the County does not anticipate circulating any new or revised Notices of Preparation for the Project provided the project-related changes or additions do not trigger substantial changes in the Project or its circumstances, or present new information of substantial importance as defined by CEQA. Instead, the Draft EIR that will be circulated for agency and public review will provide all interested entities and parties the opportunity to further comment on the Project and its probable environmental impacts when submitting public comments on the Draft EIR. Those comments also will be the subject of written responses that will be included in the Final EIR.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING:
Consistent with Section 21083.9 of the CEQA Statutes, a public scoping meeting will be held to solicit comments on the EIR. This meeting will be held on August 23, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. at the County Fire Authority Boulevard Fire Station, 40080 Ribbonwood Road, Boulevard.

Comments on this Notice of Preparation must to be sent to Bronwyn Brown, Planning and Development Services, 5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 310, San Diego, CA 92123 or by email to Bronwyn. Brown@sdcounty.ca.gov. Comments must be received no later than **September 10, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.** (a 30-day public review period). This Notice of Preparation can also be reviewed at the Jacumba Branch Library, 44605 Old Highway 80, Jacumba.

Attachments:
Regional Location Map
Environmental Initial Study



SOURCE: SANGIS 2017

0 3,000 6,000 Feet

Regional Location Map

Torrey Wind Project

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CEQA Initial Study - Environmental Checklist Form
(Based on the State CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G)

1. Project Name:

   Torrey Wind; PDS2017-MPA-17-015

2. Lead agency name and address:
   County of San Diego, Planning & Development Services
   5510 Overland Avenue, 3rd Floor
   San Diego, California 92123

3. a. Contact: Bronwyn Brown, Project Manager
   b. Phone number: (858) 495-5375
   c. E-mail: Bronwyn.brown@sdcounty.ca.gov

4. Project location:

   The Torrey Wind (Project) site is located on approximately 2,041 acres in southeastern San Diego County, California. The Project site is entirely on private land in the McCain Valley area, north of the community of Boulevard and Interstate 8 (I-8) (Figure 1, Project Location Map). The Project site is undeveloped, a portion of which is grazed by cattle, that is surrounded by rural residential homes and ranches scattered throughout the region. Regional access to the Project site is provided by I-8. Local access is provided by Ribbonwood Road. Land ownership surrounding the Project site consists of a mixture of private, State of California, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and tribal lands.

5. Project Applicant name and address:

   Torrey Wind, LLC, 11455 El Camino Real, Suite 160, San Diego, California 92130

6. General Plan

Community Plan:	Mountain Empire Subregional Plan
Land Use Designation:	Rural Lands 80 (RL-80)
Density:	1 du/80 acres
Floor Area Ratio (FAR)	N/A

7. Zoning

Use Regulation:	S92 (General Rural)
Minimum Lot Size:	8 acres
Special Area Regulation:	N/A/ “A”

8. Description of project:

The Project would involve construction and operation of approximately 30 new wind turbines (rated up to 4.2 megawatts (MW) each for a total of approximately 126 MW), an underground electrical collection system, a Project collector substation, an operations and maintenance (O&M) building and associated parking areas, a temporary staging area, a batch plant, meteorological towers, and various access roads. Eventual decommissioning would occur at the end of the Project's useful life.

The Project site's regional landscape consists of a mixture of large-lot rural residences and open space with mountainous terrain consisting of steep slopes, prominent ridgelines, and rock outcroppings. The 500-kilovolt (kV) Sunrise Powerlink traverses the northeast portion of the Project site. Wind turbines associated with the Tule Wind Project are located immediately adjacent to the east, north, and northwest portions of the Project site. Wind turbines associated with the Kumeyaay Wind Project are located approximately 1 mile west of the Project site.

The Project would require a Major Use Permit (MUP) from the County of San Diego (County) and other permits as described herein, or any other approvals necessary or desirable to implement the Project. The estimated Project schedule is provided in Table 1 below:

Table1
Preliminary Project Development Schedule

Project Activity	**Estimated Completion Date**
Major use permit approval	September 2019
Construction initiation	December 2019
Construction completion	August 2020
Commercial operation	September 2020

Project Design

The Project has been designed to produce approximately 126 MW of renewable energy and includes the following components to be constructed and operated on private land:

- 30 turbines and associated generator step-up transformers
- 34.5 kV underground electrical collection system linking each turbine to the on-site collector substation
- On-site Project substation, including 34.5 to 230 kV and 230 to 500 kV main power transformers
- SDG&E 500 kV substation/switchyard, including the Project point of interconnection
- In and out 500 kV connection legs between the Sunrise Powerlink and the SDG&E 500 kV substation/switchyard
- Construction of temporary and permanent access roads between turbines, as well as improvements to existing roadways to accommodate construction and delivery of equipment
- Meteorological towers

- Temporary concrete batch plant
- Temporary parking, construction trailer, and staging areas
- O&M facility

Wind Turbines

Because wind turbine technology is continually improving, and the cost and availability of specific types of turbines vary from year to year, representative turbines for the Project are described as follows:

- Thirty wind turbines, ranging from 2.5 MW to 4.2 MW in nameplate capacity per turbine
- Tubular steel towers
- Rotor diameter – approximately 450 feet (approximately 225-foot blades)
- Base – approximately 20 feet
- Hub height – approximately 361 feet
- Total height of turbine (highest point) – approximately 586 feet

The dimensions above represent the maximum expected installed for the Project. Technical/physical specifications for the proposed turbines have been provided, ensuring that they reflect the most conservative estimate of proposed turbine-related impacts. All proposed turbines would be three bladed, upwind, horizontal-axis wind turbines. Each turbine would be mounted on a concrete pedestal supported by a permanent concrete foundation. Each turbine would have a turbine rotor and nacelle mounted on top of its tubular tower.

The turbine would be equipped with arc flash detection sensors, optical technology to detect the presence of the initial arc flash, over-current limiting devices, and either thermal circuit breakers or traditional fuses.

The turbines would be connected to the Project substation through a 34.5 kV underground electrical collection system. Turbines would be arranged within the Project site in accordance with applicable industry siting recommendations for optimum energy production and minimal land disturbance.

Consistent with Federal Aviation Administration rules established in Advisory Circular 70/7460-1L: Obstruction Marking and Lighting, all turbine components (including towers, nacelles, and rotors) would be painted or finished using low-reflectivity, neutral white colors. Exterior lighting installed on turbines would be restricted and would only include Federal Aviation Administration aviation warning lights.

Turbine towers would be a tapered tubular steel structure manufactured in three to six sections depending on the tower height, and approximately 20 feet in diameter at the base. An internal service platform at the top of each section would allow for access to the tower's connecting bolts for routine inspection. A ladder is located within the inside of the structure to provide access to the nacelle for turbine maintenance.

The nacelle is the component of the wind turbine that houses the main mechanical components, which consist of the drive train, gearbox, and generator. The nacelle would

be equipped with an anemometer and a wind vane that signals wind speed and direction information to an electronic controller. An electric motor rotates the nacelle and rotor to keep the turbine pointed into the wind to maximize energy capture. An enclosed, steel-reinforced fiberglass shell houses the nacelle to protect internal machinery from the elements.

The hub secures the blades to the rotor shaft and is usually made from a large iron casting. The hub is located on the front side of the nacelle and is covered by a composite nose-cone structure to streamline airflow and protect the equipment. The hub also contains the mechanisms that allow the blades to pitch in response to wind, temperature, and air density conditions.

The wind turbines would have a three-blade rotor. The diameter of the circle swept by the blades (rotor swept zone) would be approximately 450 feet. The wind turbines' control system includes provisions to safely stop the rotor by pitching the blades to a stall position under all foreseeable upset conditions. The turbines also would be equipped with a parking brake to keep the rotor stationary while maintenance or inspection is performed. Each turbine installed on the Project site would be equipped with a control system to monitor variables consisting of wind speed and direction, air and machine temperatures, electrical voltages, currents, vibrations, blade pitch, and yaw (side to side) angles. In addition to monitoring, the control system would control nacelle and power operations. Nacelle functions include yawing the nacelle into the wind and pitching the blades to either capture wind energy to make the rotor turn or stall the blades to stop the rotor when necessary. Power operations controlled at the bus cabinet inside the base of the towers include operation of the main breakers to engage the generator with the grid as well as control of ancillary breakers and systems. The control system would always be in operation to ensure that the machines operate efficiently and safely.

Each wind turbine control system is interconnected via fiber optic links to overall Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to remotely manage, diagnose and coordinate operation of the complete wind farm. The SCADA system server(s) would be located at the O&M building and would also be web-linked to remote locations such as the wind turbine manufacturer's facilities for supervisory and maintenance purposes. The SCADA system would also provide data to the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) through a third-party telecommunications provider, whose system would need to extend to the control room of the substation receiving power from the Project facilities.

A step-up transformer would be used at each wind turbine to boost voltage to the appropriate medium voltage to deliver power within the Project site, usually 34.5 kV. This boost is necessary because the low-voltage power generated by the wind turbine (600 – 1,000 Volts) is not suitable for distribution within the Project, because it would require larger underground collection cables and generate higher power losses. The transformer may either be contained within the wind turbine unit itself or may be pad-mounted next to the base of the wind turbine. Electrical cables in an underground collection system would transmit electricity from the transformer to a substation, where the substation main power transformers would boost the medium voltage to high voltage in two steps—34.5 kV to 230 kV, then 230 kV to 500 kV—to deliver power to the point of interconnection located

at the SDG&E 500 kV substation/switchyard, and for ultimate distribution to the customer base.

Each turbine would be installed in an area designated as the turbine pad, which would include the 60- to 70-foot-diameter steel-reinforced concrete turbine foundation, and a crane pad to provide the appropriate working surface and strength for safe operation of the high-capacity crawler crane required to erect each turbine. Each turbine pad would require an approximately 250-foot by 350-foot (2.9 acres) temporary construction area, including a 60-foot by 100-foot crane pad. A fuel modification zone would be required around each turbine pad. These fuel modification zones would be cleared and revegetated with fire-safe vegetation, consistent with fire agency standard practices.

The proposed wind turbines would include built-in safety measures to comply with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and American National Standards Institute (ANSI) requirements.

Electrical Collection System

The underground electrical collection system that connects each turbine to the Project substation would operate at Project's voltage of 34.5 kV. It would include multiple 34.5 kV circuits gathering the power generated from sub-groups of wind turbines. At the Project substation, all the collection circuits would be connected to a common 34.5 kV bus, which in turn would be connected to the 34.5 kV to 230 kV power transformer, then to the 230 kV to 500 kV power transformer and ultimately to the 500 kV Project point of interconnection at the SDG&E substation/switchyard. Each collection circuit would consist of three 34.5 kV cables direct buried on a trench with at least 4 feet of cover and with sizes that would vary with the designed electrical load. All cables would have stranded aluminum conductors, cross-linked polyethylene insulation, and a copper concentric shield neutral ground wire in black polyethylene jacket. Each circuit would also have a bare copper or copper-clad trench neutral ground wire fiber-optic cables for wind turbine generator management and control would be installed along the electrical cables on the same collection trenches. Vaults and splice boxes would be placed underground at locations as needed. Several below-ground junction boxes would be used in various locations adjacent to Project site access roads.

Project Substation

The Project substation is proposed to be located at the northern portion of the Project site adjacent to the Sunrise Powerlink transmission line, and interconnect directly to that line. The Project substation would increase the voltage received from the underground electrical collection system from 34.5 kV to 500 kV in two steps: 34.5 kV to 230 kV, and 230 kV to 500 kV. The substation equipment would include transformers that would be connected through circuit breakers to a jumper link located within the fenced boundary of the substation to deliver power to the point of interconnection. The substation would include a control house and a parking area for utility vehicles. The substation would generally be an unstaffed facility, except in cases of maintenance and repair activities. The cleared area surrounding the substation would be covered with gravel. Security fencing (8 feet tall) would be installed around the perimeter of the Project's substation site.

Most substation equipment would feature a low-reflectivity finish to minimize glare. Dull colored insulators would be used to minimize visibility. Outdoor nighttime lighting at the collector substation would be kept to the minimum required for security and safety, and all lighting would be hooded, directed downward, and turned off when not required.

O&M Building

The Project would include an approximately 6-acre O&M facility including building and staging area/yard that would be fenced. The fencing would be up to 8 feet tall consisting of 6-foot high chain-link structure with additional 2 feet of security wiring. The facility includes permanent administrative, maintenance, storage buildings, parking spaces and general on-site equipment storage necessary for operations.

SDG&E Substation/Switchyard and 500 kV Connection In & Out Legs to the Sunrise Powerlink

A new 500 kV substation/switchyard would be built to allow connection of the Project to the Sunrise Powerlink. The substation/switchyard would have a ring bus design with three 500 kV breakers, a control house and a fenced-in graveled area. The connection to the Sunrise Powerlink would be done through in and out transmission line legs that would effectively route the power through the ring bus and the Project's point of interconnection would be at an open position on that same bus.

At Project completion, ownership and control of the new 500 kV substation/switchyard, including connection in and out legs would be transferred to SDG&E.

Meteorological Towers

The Project would include permanent meteorological towers within the Project site, which would be self-supported and approximately 361 feet in height.

Roads

Where feasible, the existing network of existing roads would be used to access the new wind turbines. In addition to the existing roads, additional roads would be constructed to provide access and circulation within the Project site. These access roads would be a minimum of 24-foot-wide and provide access to the wind turbines, substation/switchyard, O&M building, and other Project related improvements. These roads would be used during construction, although the width of these roads may be temporarily increased to up to 40 feet wide to accommodate cranes and larger construction equipment.

Access roads would consist of compacted native material and may also have approximately 4 to 6 inches of aggregate and/or geosynthetic material to provide the soil strength needed for construction. The temporary disturbance areas outside the final roadway width would be graded and compacted for use during construction, and then decompacted and stabilized at the conclusion of construction.

Primary access to the Project site is and would continue to be provided from I-8 with local access through Ribbonwood Road.

Temporary Staging, Parking, Batch Plant, and Construction Trailer Areas

Temporary staging areas would be used to stage and store wind turbine components, construction equipment, construction trailers, and construction materials located at the

southern boundary of the Project site. Steel construction containers would be used to securely store specialized equipment. The temporary staging area would be placed strategically within the Project site to optimize construction activities while also minimizing environmental impacts to the extent feasible. After construction, all temporary disturbances and construction containers associated with the temporary staging area would be removed and these areas would be restored.

A temporary work area for each wind turbine site would be used for the crane pad, equipment laydown, and other construction-related needs. The large turbine erection crane would work within the crane pad. The crane pad would consist of a compacted native soil or compacted aggregate base gravel area. The topsoil from the crane pads, if any, would be used at adjacent locations during restoration activities.

The batch plant would generate concrete for construction of the turbine foundations. The temporary batch plant is proposed to be located just north of the O&M building. Sand, aggregate, concrete, and water would be delivered to the temporary batch plant and stored in stock-piles until use. Alternatively, concrete may be delivered directly to the site from an offsite source in the event a temporary batch plant is not pursued.

Lighting and Security

Outdoor nighttime lighting would be kept to the minimum required for security and safety, and all lighting would be hooded, directed downward, and turned off when not required. Security fencing (8 feet tall) would be installed around the perimeter of the substation and O&M facility. All turbine tower access doors would be locked to limit public access, with no fencing.

Construction

Construction of the Project is anticipated to last approximately 9 - 12 months (Table 2).

The Project construction would involve the following tasks:

- Overall clearing, grubbing and grading of the Project site
- Construction of access roads, parking, and temporary equipment staging area
- Implementation of dust and erosion control measures
- Excavation for turbine foundations
- Installation of concrete batch plant
- Preparation of crane pads for erection of the turbines
- Construction of foundations for the wind turbines, including backfill and installation of crane pads
- Transportation of turbine components to the site
- Erection of wind turbines, including towers, nacelles, and rotors
- Erection of meteorological towers
- Trenching for underground utilities and 34.5 kV underground electrical collection system
- Construction of on-site substation and equipment
- Construction of O&M facility
- Commissioning and testing the wind turbines

- Completing final road grading and decommissioning, final erosion control, restoration, re-vegetation and site cleanup

Table 2 presents a list of equipment typically used for constructing wind facilities.

Table 2
Equipment Typically Used for Wind Facility Construction

Equipment	Use
Bulldozer	Road and pad construction
Grader	Road and pad construction
Water trucks	Compaction, erosion and dust control
Roller/compactor	Road and pad compaction
Backhoe/trenching machine	Digging trenches for underground utilities
Excavator	Foundation excavation
Heavy duty rock trencher	Underground trenching
Truck-mounted drilling rig	Drilling power pole holes
Concrete trucks/concrete pumps	Pouring tower and other structure foundations
Cranes	Turbine erection and decommissioning of existing turbines
Dump trucks	Hauling road and pad material
Flatbed and Low-bed trucks	Hauling turbine towers, turbines and components, construction equipment
Pickup trucks	General use and hauling of minor equipment
Small hydraulic cranes/forklifts	Loading and unloading equipment
Rough-terrain cranes / forklifts	Lifting equipment and pre-erection assembly

Work Force

The Project may require up to 350 employees per day during the peak construction period. Construction activities would occur during daytime hours, at least 6 days per week, but may involve extended hours, as needed, to complete certain construction activities.

Construction Access for Right-of-Way

The primary construction access and haul route into the Project would be from Ribbonwood Road. Construction contractors would post signs on public roads, alerting the public of increased heavy construction traffic. When possible, delivery times would be planned around local peak travel periods to avoid congestion.

Clearing and Grading

Each turbine work area would require an approximately 250-foot by 350-foot area to be cleared and graded depending on the site topography. Upon completion of construction, gravel with a minimum 12-foot width would be placed around each 20-foot-diameter reinforced concrete turbine pedestal to provide truck access.

The construction of the Project would rely on existing roads to the extent possible. Any new roads would minimize excessive grading and impacts to road embankments, ditches and drainages. Roads would be located away from dry washes and drainage bottoms, to the greatest extent feasible, and would be designed to minimize surface water runoff and

erosion and use the flow of the natural contours. The cut and fill required for the access roads would be balanced to the extent feasible to minimize the amount of materials that would need to be brought onto or removed from the Project site.

Foundation Construction and Tower Erection

Each turbine work area would be cleared for each wind turbine. Turbine work areas would vary in size and would be constructed differently in keeping with each work area's topography. Each turbine construction work area would require an approximately 250-foot by 350-foot area around each turbine to be cleared and leveled. The turbine work area is necessary for foundation excavation and construction, assembling turbine sections, and also to stage the construction crane, which would hoist tower sections, nacelle, and blades into place. The turbine construction work area would not be paved.

Permanent turbine foundations would be buried underground and would include scour protection provisions as necessary. Exact dimensions would depend on geotechnical survey, site-specific needs, and the wind turbine selected. After turbine erection has been completed, with the exception of the approximately 20-foot-diameter foundation pedestal and the turbine access road, the cleared area would be revegetated.

To support the construction crane for turbine erection, a compacted-soil crane pad with a maximum slope of one percent is required. The construction crane pad would not have an asphalt surface, and underlying soils would be compacted to provide a soil bearing capacity designed to provide a stable foundation for the crane. In locations where this is not feasible, a different type of crane pad would be used to stabilize the crane.

The turbine foundation design would be based on site-specific geotechnical investigations; and prior to confirming the final turbine locations, soil borings would be collected for each turbine site to ensure sufficient soil bearing capacity necessary to provide a stable foundation for the crane. During the construction phase, a licensed geotechnical engineer would then analyze and recommend specific construction techniques for foundational strength at each turbine. Reinforced concrete foundations would be placed for the turbines according to the manufacturer's and geotechnical engineer's recommendations.

Construction of Underground Electrical Collection System

The underground electrical collection system would coincide with the temporary impacts associated with new roads and where possible constructed within new roads and existing roads to minimize impacts. The underground electrical collection system would be placed within a cable trench generally located along the length of the proposed turbine access roads. Electrical cables would be installed first and the trench would be partially backfilled before placing communications cables. The topsoil in the trench would be removed and set aside. During backfill, the topsoil would be replaced as the uppermost layer.

Fiber-optic cables would be placed underground in trenches adjacent to access roads. Vaults and splice boxes would be placed underground at locations as needed. Several below-ground junction boxes would be used in various locations adjacent to existing and proposed access roads.

Project Substation

Construction of the substation would begin with clearing vegetation and organic material from the substation site. The substation site would then be excavated to frame and pour foundations.

Structural footings and underground utilities, along with electrical conduit and grounding gird would be installed, followed by aboveground structures and equipment. A chain-link fence would be constructed around the new substation for security and to restrict unauthorized persons and wildlife from entering the facility.

Water Quantities

Water would be required during the construction phase of the Project. During construction, water would be used for road construction, turbine foundations, dust suppression, and fire protection. The O&M building would include a groundwater well for potable water use.

Operation and Maintenance

The Project would require an on-site O&M facility. The O&M building and yard store critical spare wind turbine parts and provide a building for maintenance services. To operate the existing wind energy facilities, the Project applicant would employ approximately 12 staff. Employees would be present on site during normal business hours and would work out of the O&M building. The O&M building would include a groundwater well for potable water use. A site septic system would service the O&M sewer system.

Each wind turbine would be connected to a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. The SCADA system would allow for controlling and monitoring individual wind turbines, as well as the Project as a whole, from the O&M building. If problems occur, the SCADA system could send signals to a cell phone, tablet, computer, or other personal communication device to alert operations staff. The SCADA system would also be connected to the California Independent System Operator and SDG&E.

The Project would use wind turbines designed with several levels of built-in safety measures to comply with OSHA and ANSI requirements. Personnel located at the O&M facility would monitor the wind turbines with the SCADA system.

Each turbine would be serviced periodically (e.g., twice a year), or as needed. Inoperative turbines would be repaired, replaced, or removed in a timely manner. Typical turbine servicing activities would include temporarily deploying a crane within the maintenance area for each turbine, removing the turbine rotor, replacing generators, bearings, and deploying personnel to climb the turbine towers to inspect and service parts above ground level.

As part of emergency response and evacuation procedures that will be outlined in an Environmental Health and Safety Plan and a Fire Protection Plan, all fires would be immediately reported to O&M staff. Staff would be equipped with fire suppression equipment, radio and cellular access, and pertinent telephone numbers for reporting a

fire. In addition, one water storage tank shall be installed and operational at the start of construction and would be maintained by the fire agencies for the life of the Project.

Facility Decommissioning

The Project lifespan would be at least 30 years. A Decommissioning Plan will be developed in compliance with the standards and requirements for closing a site at the time decommissioning occurs.

When the facility is retired or decommissioned, the turbines would be removed from the site and the materials would be reused or sold for scrap. Decommissioning activities are anticipated to have similar types of construction-related activities. Therefore, all management plans, BMPs, and stipulations developed for the construction phase of the Project would be applied to the decommissioning phase. At a minimum, the Decommissioning Plan would identify and require all above-grade structures and facilities be removed from the site. Decompaction, recontouring, hydroseeding and if necessary, installation of BMPs would be performed as required by the Minor Stormwater Management Plan to prevent significant impact to water quality.

After facilities have been removed and the Project site is returned to pre-construction and operation condition, the applicant would implement a restoration plan similar to the plan used during construction. Topsoil from all decommissioning activities would be salvaged and reapplied during final reclamation. All areas of disturbed soil would be reclaimed using weed-free native shrubs, grasses, and forbs. The vegetation cover, composition, and diversity would be restored to values commensurate with the area's ecological setting consistent measures identified in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process and other permits.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting:

The Project site's regional landscape consists of a mixture of large-lot rural residences and open space with mountainous terrain consisting of steep slopes, prominent ridgelines, and rock outcroppings. The Project site lies between two major drainage divides: the Tecate Divide to the west, and the In-Ko-Pah Mountains to the east. This area occurs within the Live Oak Springs U.S. Geographic Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle. The terrain in the area ranges from valley bottoms to house-sized boulder-covered ridgelines. The elevation ranges across the study area from approximately 3,280 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) to approximately 4,120 feet AMSL. Nearby areas include lands administered by Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and BLM. The 500 kV Sunrise Powerlink traverses portions of the Project site and wind turbines associated with Tule Wind are immediately adjacent to the Project site. Wind turbines associated with the Kumeyaay Wind project are located approximately 1 mile west of the Project site.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required may include but is not limited to the following:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Aviation Administration

California Fish and Wildlife
Regional Water Quality Control Board
California Public Utilities Commission

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project and involve at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" or a "Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated," as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☒ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture and Forest Resources	☒ Air Quality
☒ Biological Resources	☒ Cultural Resources	☒ Geology & Soils
☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☒ Hazards & Haz. Materials	☒ Hydrology & Water Quality
☒ Land Use & Planning	☐ Mineral Resources	☒ Noise
☐ Population & Housing	☒ Public Services	☐ Recreation
☒ Transportation/Traffic	☒ Tribal Cultural Resources	☒ Utilities and Service Systems
☒ Mandatory Findings of Significance	☐ Energy	

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)
On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ On the basis of this Initial Study, Planning & Development Services finds that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ On the basis of this Initial Study, Planning & Development Services finds that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ On the basis of this Initial Study, Planning & Development Services finds that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

Signature

8/7/18

Date

Darin Neufeld

Planning Manager

INSTRUCTIONS ON EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.

3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4. "Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level.

5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
   a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
   b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
   c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures that were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

7. The explanation of each issue should identify:
   a) The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
   b) The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant

I. AESTHETICS — Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

- ☒ Potentially Significant Impact
- ☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
- ☐ Less than Significant Impact
- ☐ No Impact

A vista is a view from a particular location or composite views along a roadway or trail. Scenic vistas often refer to views of natural lands, but may also be compositions of natural and developed areas, or even entirely of developed and unnatural areas, such as a scenic vista of a rural town and surrounding agricultural lands. What is scenic to one person may not be scenic to another, so the assessment of what constitutes a scenic vista must consider the perceptions of a variety of viewer groups.

The items that can be seen within a vista are visual resources. Adverse impacts to individual visual resources or the addition of structures or developed areas may or may not adversely affect the vista. Determining the level of impact to a scenic vista requires analyzing the changes to the vista as a whole and also to individual visual resources.

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project includes the construction and operation of approximately 30 wind turbines and associated facilities in the Mountain Empire Subregional Plan area. A Visual Impact Analysis will be required to identify and address all potential impacts to scenic resources, and this issue will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR).

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

- ☒ Potentially Significant Impact
- ☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
- ☐ Less than Significant Impact
- ☐ No Impact

State Scenic Highways refer to those highways that are officially designated by Caltrans as scenic as per the California Scenic Highway Program. Generally, the area defined within a State Scenic Highway is the land adjacent to and visible from the vehicular right-of-way. The dimension of a scenic highway is usually identified using a motorist's line of vision, but a reasonable boundary is selected when the view extends to the distant horizon. The scenic highway corridor extends to the visual limits of the landscape abutting the Scenic Highway.

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project includes the construction and operation of approximately 30 new wind turbines and associated facilities within the Boulevard portion of the Mountain Empire Subregional Plan area. The project site is located in the vicinity of County Designated Scenic Highway, I-8, as identified in the Open Space and Conservation Element of the County's (2011) General Plan. A Visual Impact Analysis will be prepared to identify and address all potential impacts to scenic resources including Scenic Highways, and this issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project includes the construction and operation of approximately 30 new wind turbines and associated facilities within the Boulevard portion of the Mountain Empire Subregional Plan area. Taking into account the construction of the turbines and ancillary structures as described above in response (a), a Visual Impact Analysis will be prepared to identify and address all potential impacts to scenic resources, and this issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project includes the construction and operation of approximately 30 new wind turbines and associated facilities within the Boulevard portion of the Mountain Empire Subregional Plan area. The turbines and most substation equipment would feature a low-reflectivity finish to minimize glare. Dull colored insulators would be used to minimize visibility. Additionally, outdoor nighttime lighting at the collector substation, O&M building, and associated parking areas would be kept to the minimum required for security and safety, and all lighting would be hooded, directed downward, and turned off when not required. However, a Visual Impact Analysis will be prepared to identify and address all potential impacts to scenic resources that may occur from new sources of light and glare, and this issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES — Would the project:

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide or Local Importance (Important Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, or other agricultural resources, to non-agricultural use?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: According to the California Department of Conservation (2018) Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP), the project site is categorized as “other land.” Use of this categorized land for the Project would not constitute converting any protected or important farmland; therefore, there is no impact.

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project site is zoned S92 General Rural, which is generally reserved for large parcels and open space/lands. The Project site is not subject to a Williamson Act contract and the site is considered "other land" by the California Department of Conservation FMMP. Some cattle grazing is occurring on some of the parcels. Because the site is not considered an important agricultural resource, the Project would have no impact on existing zoning for agricultural use; therefore, there is no impact.

c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), or timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project site does not contain forest lands or timberland. Therefore, project implementation would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland production zones. There would be no impact.

d) Result in the loss of forest land, conversion of forest land to non-forest use, or involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project site does not contain any forest lands as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g); therefore, project implementation would not result in the loss or conversion of forest land to a non-forest use. In addition, the project is not located in the vicinity of forest resources.

e) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Important Farmland or other agricultural resources, to non-agricultural use?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project site is not subject to a Williamson Act contract, and the site is considered "other land" by the California Department of Conservation FMMP. However, due to past and present cattle grazing on site, an Agricultural Resources Report will be prepared. This topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

III. AIR QUALITY — Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the San Diego Regional Air Quality Strategy (RAQS) or applicable portions of the State Implementation Plan (SIP)?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: Although it is not anticipated, the Project has the potential to obstruct implementation of the RQAS or SIP; an air quality study will be completed to identify and address any direct and/or cumulative air quality impacts resulting from the Project, specifically from construction. Air quality will be addressed further in the DEIR.

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

In general, air quality impacts from land use projects are the result of emissions from motor vehicles, and from short-term construction activities associated with such projects. The San Diego County Land Use Environment Group has established guidelines for determining significance which incorporate the Air Pollution Control District (APCD) established screening-level criteria for all new source review in APCD Rule 20.2. These screening-level criteria can be used as numeric methods to demonstrate that a project's total emissions (e.g., stationary and fugitive emissions, as well as emissions from mobile sources) would not result in a significant impact to air quality. Because APCD does not have screening-level criteria for emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), the use of the screening level for reactive organic compounds (ROCs) from the South Coast Air Quality Management District for the Coachella Valley (which are more appropriate for the San Diego Air Basin) will be used.

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would have the potential to significantly contribute to the violation of an air quality standard during construction activities. Therefore, an Air Quality Technical Report will be prepared in order to identify and address any direct and/or cumulative air quality impacts resulting from the project, specifically from construction. Air quality will be further addressed in the DEIR.

c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality

standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

San Diego County is presently in nonattainment for the 1-hour concentrations under the California Ambient Air Quality Standard (CAAQS) for ozone (O_3). San Diego County is also presently in nonattainment for the annual geometric mean and for the 24-hour concentrations of particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns (PM_{10}) under the CAAQS. O_3 is formed when VOCs and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) react in the presence of sunlight. VOC sources include any source that burns fuels (e.g., gasoline, natural gas, wood, oil), solvents, petroleum processing and storage, and pesticides. Sources of PM_{10} in both urban and rural areas include motor vehicles, wood burning stoves and fireplaces, dust from construction, landfills, agriculture, wildfires, brush/waste burning, and industrial sources of windblown dust from open lands.

Potentially Significant Impact: Air quality emissions associated with the Project could include emissions of PM_{10}, NO_x, and VOCs from construction/grading activities. An air quality study will be completed to identify and address any direct and/or cumulative air quality impacts resulting from the project. Air quality will be further addressed in the DEIR.

d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Air quality regulators typically define sensitive receptors as schools (preschool–12th Grade), hospitals, resident care facilities, or day-care centers, or other facilities that may house individuals with health conditions that would be adversely impacted by changes in air quality. The County of San Diego also considers residences as sensitive receptors because they house children and the elderly.

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project has the potential to impact sensitive receptors during construction; therefore, an Air Quality Technical Report will be completed in order to identify and address any direct and/or cumulative air quality impacts resulting from the Project on sensitive receptors. Air quality will be further addressed in the DEIR.

e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Less than Significant Impact: The Project would not be considered an odor generating project and VOC emissions from architectural coatings and other potential sources of odor are not expected to be significant. Any odor generation would terminate upon completion of the

construction phase of the project. As a result, the Project would not create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people, and impacts would be less than significant.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES — Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project has the potential to directly and indirectly impact candidate, sensitive, or special status species. Therefore, a Biological Resources Report will be completed in order to identify and address any direct, indirect, and/or cumulative impacts to biological resources resulting from the Project. This topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project has the potential to have an adverse effect on riparian and other sensitive natural communities. Therefore, a Biological Resources Report will be completed in order to identify and address any direct, indirect, and/or cumulative impacts to biological resources resulting from the Project. This topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The site contains drainages that would likely be subject to the Resource Protection Ordinance and/or jurisdictional water regulations of the U.S./State. Therefore, a Biological Resources Report will be completed to identify and address any direct, indirect, and/or cumulative biological resources impacts resulting from the Project. This topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project has the potential to impact native resident or migratory wildlife corridors. Therefore, a Biological Resources Report will be completed to identify and address any direct, indirect, and/or cumulative biological resources impacts resulting from the project. This topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

e) Conflict with the provisions of any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Communities Conservation Plan, other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan or any other local policies or ordinances that protect biological resources?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The project site is located in the draft Multiple Species Conservation Program East County Planning Area and significant portions of the project site are located within the designated Focused Conservation Area. The document is still in draft form and thus is being mentioned here for informational purposes. A Biological Resources Report will be completed to identify and address any direct, indirect, and/or cumulative biological resources impacts resulting from the Project. This topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES — Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in 15064.5?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: Historical resources may be located on the Project site and/or in the nearby vicinity, the significance of which will be evaluated within a Cultural Resources Report. Any direct and/or cumulative impacts to cultural resources that result from the Project will be further addressed in the DEIR.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to 15064.5?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less than Significant Impact

☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project has the potential to impact archaeological resources pursuant to 15064.5, the significance of which will be evaluated within a Cultural Resources Report. Any direct and/or cumulative impacts to cultural resources that result from the project will be further addressed in the DEIR.

c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique geologic feature?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact ☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☒ No Impact

San Diego County has a variety of geologic environments and geologic processes which generally occur in other parts of the state, country, and the world.

No Impact: The site does not contain any unique geologic features as listed in the County's (2007a) Guidelines for Determining Significance for Unique Geology Resources nor does the site support any known geologic characteristics that have the potential to support unique geologic features. There would be no impact.

d) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact ☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: A review of the County's (2007b) Paleontological Sensitivity Map indicates that the Project site is located in an area with no paleontological resource potential. However, due to the unknown nature of excavation, there could be a potential for indirect impacts. By adhering to the County Guidelines for Determining Significance of Paleontological Resources and the County Grading Ordinance, this project would avoid potential impacts through standard practices, which may include a paleontological monitor as determined by SEC. 87.430 of the Grading Ordinance. Thus, by following standard practices, impacts are anticipated to be less than significant; however, this topic will be further analyzed in the DEIR.

e) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact ☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: Although it is not anticipated, ground-disturbing activities during construction of the Project could have the potential to uncover human remains. Potential impacts would be mitigated for and addressed in the Cultural Resources Report.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS — Would the project:

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project site is not located in a fault rupture hazard zone (County of San Diego 2007, Figures 1 and 2) identified by the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, Special Publication 42, Revised 2018, Fault-Rupture Hazards Zones in California, or located within any other area with substantial evidence of a known fault. However, the Project includes habitable structures, such as the O&M building, and due to the seismically active nature of southern California, could expose people or structures to potentially significant impacts. A Geologic Investigation Report will be prepared and this topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: To ensure the structural integrity of all turbines and ancillary structures, the Project must conform to the Seismic Requirements as outlined within the California Building Code. The County Code requires a soils compaction report with proposed foundation recommendations to be approved before the issuance of a building permit. Compliance with the California Building Code and the County Code would minimize potential impacts from the exposure of people or structures to potential adverse effects from strong seismic ground shaking; however, a Geologic Investigation Report will be prepared and this topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: Portions of the Project site contain potential liquefaction areas as identified in the County (2007) Guidelines for Determining Significance for Geologic Hazards. Measures to mitigate potential impacts from liquefaction to levels below significance and environmental design considerations will be covered in the Geologic Investigation Report. Liquefaction will be addressed in the DEIR.

iv. Landslides?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Less-Than-Significant Impact: The project site is not within a “Landslide Susceptibility Area" as identified in the County (2007) Guidelines for Determining Significance for Geologic Hazards. Landslide Susceptibility Areas were developed based on landslide risk profiles included in the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, San Diego, CA (OES and UDC 2017). Landslide risk areas from this plan were based on data including steep slopes (greater than 25%); soil series data (San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) based on U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 1970s series); soil-slip susceptibility from USGS; and Landslide Hazard Zone Maps (limited to western portion of the County) developed by the California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology. Also included within Landslide Susceptibility Areas are gabbroic soils on slopes steeper than 15% in grade because these soils are slide prone. Because the Project is not located within an identified Landslide Susceptibility Area and the geologic environment has a low probability to become unstable, the Project would result in a less-than-significant impact associated with the exposure of people or structures to potential adverse effects from landslides.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project will develop a Minor Stormwater Management Plan that will detail how erodible soils will be protected during grading, construction, and operation of the proposed facilities. Additionally, roads would be located away from drainage bottoms, steep slopes, and erodible soils if practicable, and would be designed to maintain current surface water runoff patterns and prevent erosion. Soil erosion would be controlled at culvert outlets with appropriate structures. If road grade and/or runoff patterns result in added erosion, control measures would be installed to minimize the added erosion. Although impacts are anticipated to be less than significant, this topic will be further addressed in the Minor Stormwater Management Plan and the DEIR.

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in an on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project involves site grading for installation of wind turbines that would result in the creation of areas of cut and areas underlain by fill. In order to assure that any proposed turbines or buildings included in this project site are adequately supported, a

Geologic Investigation Report will be prepared and soil stability will be further discussed in the DEIR.

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: As shown in the County of San Diego Geologic Hazards Guidelines (Figure 6, Potential Expansive Soils) the Project site may contain expansive soils (County of San Diego 2007, 2011), as defined by Table 18-I-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994). The soils on site are mostly La Posta rocky/loamy coarse sand, with areas of Mottsville loamy coarse sand, Tollhouse rocky coarse sandy loam, Calpine coarse sandy loam, and loamy alluvial land. This was confirmed by a review of the Soil Survey for the San Diego Area (Conservation Biology Institute 2011), prepared by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation and Forest Service dated December 1973. A Geologic Investigation Report will be prepared and soil expansion will be further discussed in the DEIR.

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The proposed O&M building would be served by an on-site septic system. The adequacy of the soils to support the use of septic tanks will be addressed in the Geologic Investigation Report. This topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS — Would the project:

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions result in an increase in the Earth's average surface temperature commonly referred to as global warming. This rise in global temperature is associated with long-term changes in precipitation, temperature, wind patterns, and other elements of the Earth's climate system, known as climate change. These changes are now broadly attributed to GHG emissions, particularly those emissions that result from the human production and use of fossil fuels.

GHGs include carbon dioxide, methane, halocarbons, and nitrous oxide, among others. Human induced GHG emissions are a result of energy production and consumption, and personal vehicle use, among other sources. A regional GHG inventory prepared for the San Diego Region (Energy Policy Initiatives Center and Ascent Environmental Inc. 2017) identified on-road transportation (cars and trucks) as the largest contributor of GHG emissions in the region, accounting for 45% of the total regional emissions. Electricity and natural gas combustion were the second (24%) and third (9%) largest regional contributors, respectively, to regional GHG emissions.

Climate changes resulting from GHG emissions could produce an array of adverse environmental impacts including water supply shortages, severe drought, increased flooding, sea level rise, air pollution from increased formation of ground level ozone and particulate matter, ecosystem changes, increased wildfire risk, agricultural impacts, ocean and terrestrial species impacts, among other adverse effects. It should be noted that an individual project's GHG emissions will generally not result in direct impacts under CEQA, as the climate change issue is global in nature; however, an individual project could be found to contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact.

In 2006, the State of California passed the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, commonly referred to as Assembly Bill (AB) 32, which set the GHG emissions reduction goal for the state into law. The law requires that by 2020, state emissions must be reduced to 1990 levels by reducing GHG emissions from significant sources via regulation, market mechanisms, and other actions.

SB 32 and AB 197 (enacted in 2016) are companion bills that set a new statewide GHG reduction target; make changes to CARB's membership, and increase legislative oversight of CARB's climate change-based activities; and expand dissemination of GHG and other air quality-related emissions data to enhance transparency and accountability. More specifically, SB 32 codified the 2030 emissions reduction goal of EO B-30-15 by requiring CARB to ensure that statewide GHG emissions are reduced to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.

The County of San Diego Board of Supervisors adopted the Climate Action Plan (CAP) on February 14, 2018 that serves as a comprehensive strategy guide to reduce GHG emissions in the unincorporated communities of San Diego County. The CAP outlines specific reduction methods residents and businesses can implement to reduce GHG emissions and aid the County meeting state-mandated GHG reduction targets. The CAP contains GHG Reduction Measure E-2.1, Increase Renewable Electricity. Measure E-2.1 requires the County to achieve a 90 percent renewable electricity for the unincorporated county by 2030. The CAP sets the following County-specific GHG reduction targets: by 2020, a 2 percent reduction from 2014 levels; by 2030, a 40 percent reduction from 2014 levels; and, by 2050, a 77 percent reduction from 2014 levels.

The project consists of a wind energy project that would produce approximately 126 MW of renewable energy. Although the Project facilitates the development of renewable energy sources in place of a typical fossil fuel-based electrical generation resulting in long-term air quality benefits, the development could have the potential to result in emissions related to construction activities and vehicle trips. Emissions from the construction activities are anticipated to be minimal, temporary, and localized. Operational emissions are anticipated to be minimal and would be

generated from vehicle trips for ongoing operation and maintenance activities. The project is expected to offset GHG emissions by serving as a long-term renewable energy source, thereby decreasing overall emissions attributable to electrical generation in California and assisting the state in meeting its 50% by 2030 Renewable Portfolio Standard. The Project would also assist the County of San Diego to meet its CAP targets, specifically to help the County implement GHG Reduction Measure E-2.1. Therefore, the project would result in a less than significant impact. However, a Climate Change Analysis will be prepared in order to quantify GHG emissions. This subject will be further addressed in the DEIR.

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The project will be evaluated to determine whether it would impede the implementation of AB 32, SB 32, and the County's CAP. For the reasons discussed in response VII (a), the Project is not anticipated to impede the implementation of state or County reduction targets. Therefore, the Project is not anticipated to conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs. Regardless, a Climate Change Analysis will be prepared and this topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS — Would the project:

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, storage, use, or disposal of hazardous materials or wastes or through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Less-Than-Significant Impact: The Project includes the construction and operation of wind energy systems in the Mountain Empire Subregional Plan area and, more specifically, the Boulevard Subregional Group Area.

No hazardous materials (40 Code of Federal Regulations 355) are anticipated to be produced, used, stored or disposed of as a result of construction, operation, or decommissioning of the facilities. Thus, the project would not result in a significant hazard to the public or environment because all storage, handling, transport, emission, and disposal of hazardous substances would be in full compliance with local, state, and federal regulations. California Government Code Section 65850.2 requires that no final certificate of occupancy or its substantial equivalent be issued unless there is verification that the owner or authorized agent has met, or is meeting, the applicable requirements of the Health and Safety Code, Division 20, Chapter 6.95, Article 2, Sections 25500–25520.

The San Diego County Department of Environmental Health – Hazardous Materials Division (DEH HMD) is the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for San Diego County responsible for enforcing Chapter 6.95 of the Health and Safety Code. As the CUPA, the DEH HMD is required to regulate hazardous materials business plans and chemical inventory, hazardous waste and tiered permitting, underground storage tanks, and risk management plans. The hazardous materials business plan is required to contain basic information on the location, type, quantity, and health risks of hazardous materials stored, used, or disposed of on site. The plan also contains an emergency response plan which describes the procedures for mitigating a hazardous release, procedures and equipment for minimizing the potential damage of a hazardous materials release, and provisions for immediate notification of the HMD, the Office of Emergency Services, and other emergency response personnel such as the local Fire Agency having jurisdiction. Implementation of the emergency response plan facilitates rapid response in the event of an accidental spill or release, thereby reducing potential adverse impacts. Furthermore, the DEH HMD is required to conduct ongoing routine inspections to ensure compliance with existing laws and regulations; to identify safety hazards that could cause or contribute to an accidental spill or release; and to suggest preventative measures to minimize the risk of a spill or release of hazardous substances.

Therefore, due to the strict requirements that regulate hazardous substances outlined above and the fact that the initial planning, ongoing monitoring, and inspections would occur in compliance with local, state, and federal regulation, the Project would not result in any potentially significant impacts related to the routine transport, use, and disposal of hazardous substances or related to the accidental explosion or release of hazardous substances. Thus, this will not be further discussed in the DEIR.

b) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project is not located within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school. No hazardous materials (40 Code of Federal Regulations 355) are anticipated to be produced, used, stored or disposed of as a result of construction, operation, or decommissioning of the facilities. Thus, the project would not result in a significant hazard to the public or environment because all storage, handling, transport, emission, and disposal of hazardous substances would be in full compliance with local, state, and federal regulations. Therefore, the Project would not emit hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school and this topic would not be further addressed in the DEIR.

c) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, or is otherwise known to have been subject to a release of hazardous substances and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less than Significant Impact

☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: Based on an initial regulatory database search, the Project site is not included in the State of California Hazardous Waste and Substances sites list (Department of Toxic Substances Control 2018), nor is it located within 1,000 feet of a Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) (ACOE 2015). However, a more thorough search of all hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 will occur and this will be addressed in the Phase 1 ESA. Hazardous materials sites will be further discussed in the DEIR.

d) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact ☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project is not located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport (County of San Diego 2011, Figure M-1). However, based on the FAA's Notice Criteria Tool on the FAA website (FAA 2018), the Project site is in proximity to a navigation facility which may impact the assurance of navigation signal reception. Thus, the appropriate filing with the FAA is required in order to ensure that the Project is in compliance with the FAA, in accordance with Part 77.9 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

e) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact ☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project is not within 1 mile of a private airstrip. However, as stated above, based on the FAA's Notice Criteria Tool on the FAA website (FAA 208), the Project site is in proximity to a navigation facility which may impact the assurance of navigation signal reception. Thus, the appropriate filing with the FAA is required in order to ensure that the Project is in compliance with the FAA, in accordance with Part 77.9 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This topic will be further addressed in the DEIR.

f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact ☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☐ No Impact

The following sections summarize the project's consistency with applicable emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans.

i. OPERATIONAL AREA EMERGENCY PLAN AND MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN:

Less-Than-Significant Impact: The Operational Area Emergency Plan (OES 2010) is a comprehensive emergency plan that defines responsibilities, establishes an emergency organization, defines lines of communications, and is designed to be part of the statewide Standardized Emergency Management System. The Operational Area Emergency Plan provides guidance for emergency planning and requires subsequent plans to be established by each jurisdiction that has responsibilities in a disaster situation. The Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (OES and UDC 2017) includes an overview and discussion of the risk assessment process, hazards present in the jurisdiction, hazard profiles, and vulnerability assessments. The plan also identifies goals, objectives, and actions for each jurisdiction in the County of San Diego, including all cities and the County's unincorporated areas. The Project would not interfere with this plan because it would not prohibit subsequent plans from being established or prevent the goals and objectives of existing plans from being carried out.

ii. SAN DIEGO COUNTY NUCLEAR POWER STATION EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

No Impact: The Project would not interfere with the San Diego County Nuclear Power Station Emergency Response Plan due to the location of the project and the specific requirements of the plan. The emergency plan for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station includes an emergency planning zone within a 10-mile radius. All land area within 10 miles of the station is not within the jurisdiction of the unincorporated County and, as such, a project in the unincorporated area is not expected to interfere with any response or evacuation.

iii. OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY ELEMENT

No Impact: The Project is not located along the coastal zone or coastline; therefore, it would not interfere with the Oil Spill Contingency Element.

iv. EMERGENCY WATER CONTINGENCIES ANNEX AND ENERGY SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN

No Impact: The Project would not alter a major water or energy supply infrastructure, such as the California Aqueduct; therefore, it would not interfere with the Emergency Water Contingencies Annex and Energy Shortage Response Plan.

v. DAM EVACUATION PLAN

No Impact: The Project is not located within a dam inundation zone; therefore, it would not interfere with the Dam Evacuation Plan.

g) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

- ☒ Potentially Significant Impact
- ☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
- ☐ Less than Significant Impact
- ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project site is located in a "very high" Fire Hazard Severity Zone as determined by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. A fire protection plan (FPP) will be prepared for the Project that will describe how the project will comply with requirements related to emergency access, water supply, and fire suppression design measures in consideration of the high concentration of electrical equipment that would be present on the Project site. The FPP will identify and address any direct and/or cumulative impacts resulting from the project regarding fire hazards, and will be discussed in the DEIR.

h) Propose a use, or place residents adjacent to an existing or reasonably foreseeable use that would substantially increase current or future resident's exposure to vectors, including mosquitoes, rats or flies, which are capable of transmitting significant public health diseases or nuisances?

- ☐ Potentially Significant Impact
- ☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
- ☐ Less than Significant Impact
- ☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project does not involve or support uses that allow water to stand for a period of 72 hours (3 days) or more (e.g., artificial lakes, agricultural irrigation ponds). Also, the project does not involve or support uses that would produce or collect animal waste, such as equestrian facilities, agricultural operations (e.g., chicken coops, dairies), solid waste facilities, or other similar uses. Therefore, the project would not substantially increase current or future residents' exposure to vectors, including mosquitoes, rats, or flies.

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY -- Would the project:

a) Violate any waste discharge requirements?

- ☒ Potentially Significant Impact
- ☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
- ☐ Less than Significant Impact
- ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: A Minor Stormwater Management Plan will be prepared for the Project which is intended to meet the permit requirements of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Minor Stormwater Management Plan will incorporate several Best Management Practices to provide water quality treatment consistent with the Regional Permit's standards. It is also important to note that the project proposes to discharge domestic waste to on-site wastewater systems, also known as septic systems. This issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

b) Is the project tributary to an already impaired water body, as listed on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list? If so, could the project result in an increase in any pollutant for which the water body is already impaired?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: According to the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list, the nearest impaired water body is Cottonwood Creek approximately 11 miles west of the Project site, and outside the watershed of the Project site (County of San Diego 2011, Figure C-3; County of San Diego 2014). Therefore, it is unlikely that any pollutants that might be generated by the project would contribute to this impaired water body. However, a Minor Stormwater Management Plan will be prepared for the project that will address all necessary BMPs to ensure that potential pollutants will be reduced in any runoff to the maximum extent practicable so as not to impact receiving waters. Although impacts are anticipated to be less than significant, this topic will be further discussed in the DEIR.

c) Could the Project cause or contribute to an exceedance of applicable surface or groundwater receiving water quality objectives or degradation of beneficial uses?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would utilize groundwater for the construction and operational phases of the project including road construction, turbine foundation concrete mixing, dust suppression, and fire protection. A Minor Stormwater Management Plan will be prepared for the Project that will address all necessary BMPs to prevent significant impacts to water quality and ensure potential pollutants will be reduced in any runoff to the maximum extent practicable so as not to impact receiving waters. Water quality will be further discussed in the DEIR.

d) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would utilize groundwater for the construction and operational phases of the project including road construction, turbine foundation concrete mixing, dust suppression, and fire protection. The O&M building would also include a groundwater well for potable water use. A Groundwater Investigation Report and water quality analysis will be further discussed in the DEIR.

e) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would include wind turbines, access roads, driveways, and other improvements which may impede or redirect flood flows. Roads would be located away from drainage bottoms, steep slopes, and erodible soils if practicable, and would be designed to maintain current surface water runoff patterns and prevent erosion. Soil erosion would be controlled at culvert outlets with appropriate structures. If road grade and/or runoff patterns result in added erosion, control measures would be installed to minimize the added erosion. Although impacts are anticipated to be less than significant, this issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

f) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would include wind turbines, access roads, driveways, and other improvements which may impede or redirect flood flows. Roads would be located away from drainage bottoms, steep slopes, and erodible soils if practicable, and would be designed to maintain current surface water runoff patterns and prevent flooding. This issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

g) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: A Minor Stormwater Management Plan and a Drainage Study will be prepared for the Project that will evaluate all potential drainage facilities and will ensure that adequate drainage facilities are included in the project design. This issue will be further addressed in the DEIR.

h) Provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: No substantial additional sources of polluted runoff are anticipated to occur as a result of the Project beyond those discussed in responses a) through c) above. A minor stormwater management plan will be prepared for the Project that will address all necessary BMPs to ensure that potential pollutants will be reduced in any runoff to the maximum extent practicable so as not to significantly impact water quality. Nonetheless, water quality will be discussed in the DEIR.

i) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map, including County Floodplain Maps?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project does not include any housing as part of project and therefore would have no impact.

j) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project site is not identified as being within a 100-year flood hazard area as determined by a review of the County Floodplain Map (County of San Diego 2011, Figure S-5) and FEMA panels 06073C2050F, 06073C2075F, and 06073C2100F (Westwood 2018). However, the Project would include wind turbines, access roads, driveways, or other improvements which may impede or redirect flood flows. The applicant is required to provide a Drainage Study indicating runoff quantities and conditions before and after development of the project, including analysis of existing and proposed drainage facility capacity and lines of inundation by the 100-year flood. In addition, the applicant will also provide preliminary grading plans showing drainage patterns, improvements to storm drain system, inlets, points of entry into natural drainage channels, energy dissipaters, and any other applicable drainage features. This issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

k) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would include wind turbines, access roads, driveways, or other improvements which may impede or redirect flood flows. The applicant is required to provide a Drainage Study indicating runoff quantities and conditions before and after development of the project, including analysis of existing and proposed drainage facility capacity and lines of inundation by the 100-year flood. In addition, the applicant will also provide

preliminary grading plans showing drainage patterns, improvements to storm drain system, inlets, points of entry into natural drainage channels, energy dissipaters, and any other applicable drainage features. This issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

l) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project site lies outside a mapped dam inundation area (County of San Diego 2011, Figure S-6) for a major dam/reservoir within San Diego County. In addition, the project is not located immediately downstream of a minor dam that could potentially flood the property. Therefore, the Project will not expose people to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding.

m) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

i. SEICHE

No Impact: The project site is not located along the shoreline of a lake or reservoir; therefore, it could not be inundated by a seiche.

ii. TSUNAMI

No Impact: The project site is located more than 1 mile from the coast; therefore, in the event of a tsunami, it would not be inundated.

iii. MUDFLOW

No Impact: Mudflow is type of landslide. The Project site is not located within a landslide susceptibility zone (County of San Diego 2007, Figure 5). In addition, though the Project does propose land disturbance that may expose unprotected soils, the project is not located downstream from unprotected, exposed soils within a landslide susceptibility zone. Therefore, it is not anticipated that the Project will expose people or property to inundation due to a mudflow.

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING — Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Less than Significant Impact: The Project site is entirely on private land in the McCain Valley area, north of the community of Boulevard and I-8. The Project site is undeveloped ranch land, a portion of which is grazed by cattle, and is surrounded by rural residential homes and ranches scattered throughout the region. Although the Project site is quite extensive, it would not disrupt of physically divide the surrounding area, which consists of sparsely populated rural residential and grazing lands. Typical projects that have the potential to physically divide an established community would be stadiums, freeways, railroads etc., none of which are being proposed. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

- ☒ Potentially Significant Impact
- ☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
- ☐ Less than Significant Impact
- ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project is subject to the General Plan Rural Lands Regional Category and contains lands within the Rural Lands 80 (RL-80) Land Use Designation. The Project is also subject to the policies of the Mountain Empire Subregional Plan. The properties are zoned S92. The proposed use can only be allowed with the approval of an MUP on the Project site.

The DEIR will analyze the Project with regard to land use plans and policies and determine if there are any conflicts. This topic will be further addressed in the EIR.

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES — Would the project:

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?

- ☐ Potentially Significant Impact
- ☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
- ☒ Less than Significant Impact
- ☐ No Impact

Less-Than-Significant Impact: The lands within the Project site have not been classified by the California Department of Conservation – Division of Mines and Geology (Update of Mineral Land Classification: Aggregate Materials in the Western San Diego Production-Consumption Region, 1997). The Project site may contain mineral resource deposits suitable for crushed rock. However, due to the expensive mining and processing of crushed rock combined with transportation costs, this currently restricts crushed rock operations to urbanized areas within the Western San Diego Consumption Region of the County. Therefore, no potentially significant loss of availability of a known mineral resource of value to the region and the residents of the state would occur as a result of this project. Moreover, if the resources are not considered significant mineral deposits, loss of these resources cannot contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact.

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?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project site is not located on a mineral resource recovery site delineated in the General Plan or other land use plan. Therefore, the Project would not result in the loss of availability of locally important mineral resource(s).

XII. NOISE — Would the project result in:

a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project may produce noise during construction and operation phases of the Project, which could exceed the applicable sound limits of the Noise Element of the General Plan. A Noise Analysis Report will be prepared for the Project that will evaluate noise generating sources of the project for conformance with the County Noise Ordinance and General Plan, and in comparison with existing noise levels on the project site. This issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project may produce groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels during construction of the Project. A Noise Analysis Report will be prepared that will evaluate noise generating sources for conformance with the County Noise Ordinance and General Plan, and in comparison with existing noise levels on the Project site. Analysis will include the potential for groundborne vibration and groundborne vibration noise levels during the construction phase of the Project. This issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project has the potential to result in a permanent increase in ambient noise levels. A Noise Analysis Report will be prepared for the Project that will evaluate noise generating sources of the Project for conformance with the County Noise Ordinance and General Plan, and in comparison with existing noise levels on the project site. This issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

- ☒ Potentially Significant Impact
- ☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
- ☐ Less than Significant Impact
- ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project may produce temporary or periodic increases in ambient noise levels, principally during construction. A Noise Analysis Report will be prepared for the project that will evaluate noise-generating sources of the project for conformance with the County Noise Ordinance and General Plan, and in comparison with existing noise levels on the Project site. Analysis will include the potential for temporary or periodic increases in ambient noise levels in the Project vicinity. This issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

- ☐ Potentially Significant Impact
- ☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
- ☐ Less than Significant Impact
- ☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport where a plan has not been adopted (County of San Diego 2007, Figure M-1). Therefore, the Project would not expose people working or residing in the area to excessive noise levels.

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

- ☐ Potentially Significant Impact
- ☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
- ☐ Less than Significant Impact
- ☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project is not located within a 1-mile vicinity of a private airstrip; therefore, the project would not expose people residing or working in the Project site to excessive airport-related noise levels.

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING — Would the project:

a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project would develop wind turbines to supply California and the County of San Diego with additional renewable energy supplies. However, this physical change would not induce substantial population growth in the area because there would be no extension of water, sewer, or roadways into previously unserved areas, and no regulatory changes are proposed that would allow increased population growth.

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: No homes are located within the Project site and none are proposed as part of the project. No homes would be displaced.

c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: No homes or people would be displaced necessitating the construction of homes elsewhere. No impact would result.

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES — Would the project:

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, 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 service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

i. Fire protection?
ii. Police protection?
iii. Schools?

iv. Parks?
v. Other public facilities?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project does not include residential use and is not expected to significantly alter the need for additional schools, parks, or police protection. However, regarding fire protection, a Fire Protection Plan will be prepared that will address measures to reduce fire risk in the area and evaluate the adequacy of existing emergency service facilities in relation to the determined fire risk. Fire protection will be addressed in the DEIR.

XV. RECREATION — Would the project:

a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project does not involve any residential use, including, but not limited to, a residential subdivision, mobile home park, or construction for a single-family residence that may increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities in the vicinity.

b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☒ No Impact

No Impact: The Project does not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, the construction or expansion of recreational facilities cannot have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

XVI. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC — Would the project:

a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of the effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths and mass transit?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

The County of San Diego Guidelines for Determining Significance for Traffic and Transportation (Guidelines) establish measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. These Guidelines incorporate standards from the County of San Diego Public Road Standards and Mobility Element, the County of San Diego Transportation Impact Fee (TIF) Program, and the Congestion Management Program (CMP).

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would require a Traffic Impact Analysis to determine if the project could conflict with any performance measures establishing measures of effectiveness of the circulation system. A Traffic Control Plan would also be prepared prior to the start of construction to reduce impacts to off-site traffic flow and would address transportation activities, such as the delivery of turbine components, main assembly cranes, and other large pieces of equipment. Transportation and traffic will be addressed in the DEIR.

b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

The designated congestion management agency for the San Diego region is SANDAG. SANDAG is responsible for preparing the RTP of which the CMP is an element to monitor transportation system performance, develop programs to address near- and long-term congestion, and better integrate land use and transportation planning decisions. The CMP includes a requirement for enhanced CEQA review applicable to certain large developments that generate an equivalent of 2,400 or more ADTs or 200 or more peak hour vehicle trips. These large projects must complete a traffic analysis that identifies the project's impacts on CMP system roadways, determines their associated costs, and identifies appropriate mitigation. Early project coordination with affected public agencies (i.e., the Metropolitan Transit System and the North County Transit District) is required to ensure that the impacts of new development on CMP transit performance measures are identified.

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would require a Traffic Impact Analysis to determine if there are any conflicts with applicable congestion management programs. A Traffic Control Plan would also be prepared to address transportation activities, travel demand measures and other standards of the congestion management agency. Transportation and traffic will be discussed in the DEIR.

c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less than Significant Impact

☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport where a plan has not been adopted (County of San Diego 2011, Figure M-1). However, upon review of the Notice Criteria Tool on the FAA website (FAA 2018), the Project site is in proximity to a navigation facility which may impact the assurance of navigation signal reception. Thus, the appropriate forms will be filed to assure that the Project is in compliance with the FAA, in accordance with Part 77.9 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Air traffic patterns will be further discussed in the DEIR.

d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact ☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☐ No Impact

Less than Significant Impact: The Project would use the existing network of permanent roads to access the new wind turbines, where feasible. In addition to the existing roads, new roads would be constructed to provide access and circulation within the Project. Access roads would consist of compacted native material and may also have approximately 4 to 6 inches of aggregate and/or geosynthetic material to provide the soil strength needed for construction. The temporary disturbance areas outside the final roadway width would be graded and compacted for use during construction, and then decompacted and stabilized at the conclusion of construction. New permanent access road layout would incorporate applicable federal and local standards regarding internal road design and circulation, particularly those provisions related to emergency vehicle access. Therefore, the Project will not significantly increase hazards due to design features or incompatible uses. This topic will not be further addressed in the DEIR.

e) Result in inadequate emergency access?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact ☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated ☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: It is not anticipated that the Project would result in inadequate emergency access. An FPP will be prepared for the project that will describe how the project will comply with requirements related to emergency access, water supply, and fire suppression design measures in consideration of the high concentration of electrical equipment that will be present on the pProject site. Additionally, new permanent access road layout would incorporate applicable federal and local standards regarding internal road design and circulation, particularly those provisions related to emergency vehicle access. Adequate emergency access will be required of the project and this issue will be discussed in the DEIR.

f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact	☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	☒ No Impact

No Impact: Project implementation will not result in the construction of any road improvements or new road design features that would interfere with the provision of public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities.

XVII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES — Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, as defined in Public Resources Code §21074 as either a site, feature, place, or cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

i. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of Historical Resources as defined in Public Resources Code §5020.1(k), or

☒ Potentially Significant Impact	☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: Consultation will be conducted with the California Native American tribes that request consultation. The EIR will analyze whether the proposed Project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources or in a local register of Historical Resources.

ii. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code §5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code §5024.1, the Lead Agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

☒ Potentially Significant Impact	☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: Consultation will be conducted with the California Native American tribes that request consultation. The EIR will analyze whether the proposed Project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as determined by the lead agency.

XVIII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS — Would the project:

a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Less than Significant Impact: The Project proposes to discharge domestic waste to on-site wastewater systems (OSWS), also known as septic systems. Discharged wastewater must conform to the Regional Water Quality Control Board's (RWQCB's) applicable standards, including the Regional Basin Plan and the California Water Code. California Water Code Section 13282 allows RWQCBs to authorize a local public agency to issue permits for OSWS "to ensure that systems are adequately designed, located, sized, spaced, constructed and maintained." The RWQCBs with jurisdiction over San Diego County have authorized the County of San Diego, Department of Environmental Health (DEH) to issue certain OSWS permits throughout the County and within the incorporated cities. DEH will review the OSWS lay-out for the project pursuant to DEH, Land and Water Quality Division's, "On-site Wastewater Systems: Permitting Process and Design Criteria" and ensure it will meet all requirements. Therefore, the Project is consistent with the wastewater treatment requirements of the RWQCB as determined by the authorized, local public agency. Impacts would be less than significant.

b) 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?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would require a permit from the DEH for an appropriately sized and designed OSWS as described above. Any environmental impacts from the OSWS would be evaluated with other appropriate technical reports such as for biological or cultural resources. Potential impacts will be addressed in the DEIR.

c) 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?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would require appropriately sized and designed stormwater drainage facilities for the project to operate safely and efficiently. Any environmental impacts from the construction of drainage facilities would be evaluated with other appropriate

technical reports such as drainage, biological, or cultural resources. This topic will be addressed further in the DEIR.

d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project would rely on groundwater for the construction and operation phases of the Project. A Groundwater Investigation Report will be prepared to evaluate whether the project poses significant impacts to available water resources. This issue will be addressed in the DEIR.

e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Less than Significant Impact: During construction, portable toilets would be provided for on-site sewage handling, and would be pumped and cleaned regularly by the construction contractor. During operation, the Project would rely entirely on the OSWS and would not interfere with any wastewater treatment provider's service capacity.

f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Less than Significant Impact: Construction of the Project would generate construction wastes that would be recycled to the extent possible. The waste generated by construction that would be sent to local landfills is not anticipated to overwhelm the remaining capacity of local landfill facilities such that these facilities would not be able to serve existing demand. In addition, area landfills have sufficient capacity to accommodate the minor volume of waste expected to be generated during operation of the Project. During decommissioning of a turbine, waste generated would be similar to those generated during construction and would also be recycled to the extent possible. Though exact landfill capacities at the time of decommissioning cannot be known at this time, based on the requirement of the Integrated Waste Management Act that the County provide for sufficient solid waste capacity in its landfills for a 15-year period (to be periodically updated), it is anticipated that the local landfills would have capacity to accept the waste from decommissioning activities. Total waste sent to local landfills during construction, operation, and turbine decommissioning is not anticipated to be substantial. Therefore, sufficient

solid waste capacity exists to accommodate the Project's solid waste disposal needs and impacts would be less than significant.

g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Less than Significant Impact: The Project would be required to comply with applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste and recycling. Furthermore, the County's General Plan goals and policies related to solid waste disposal would ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. Therefore, impacts associated with solid waste disposal would be less than significant.

XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:

a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: As discussed in Sections IV and V, the Project has the potential to significantly impact biological and/or cultural resources and these issues will be further addressed in technical studies being prepared, as well as, the DEIR.

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated
☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project has the potential to incrementally contribute to cumulatively significant impacts. Potentially significant cumulative effects could occur related to Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Water Quality, Noise, Land Use Planning, Public Services (Fire Service), and Traffic. Therefore, cumulative impacts associated with the Project will be analyzed in the DEIR.

c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

☒ Potentially Significant Impact	☐ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: The Project has the potential to result in adverse effects on human beings directly, and indirectly. Potential impacts will be addressed in the DEIR.

XX. ENERGY:

a) The County's Guidelines for Determining Significance do not include guidelines on energy. Therefore, Appendix F of the CEQA Guidelines applies to the direct and indirect impact analysis, as well as the cumulative impact analysis. Appendix F does not prescribe a threshold for the determination of significance. Rather, Appendix F focuses on reducing and minimizing inefficient, wasteful, and unnecessary consumption of energy.

A significant impact to energy would result if the project would:

1. Result in the wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary use of nonrenewable resources during its construction or long-term operation.
2. Be inconsistent with adopted plans and policies.
3. Place a significant demand on local and regional energy supplies, or require a substantial amount of additional capacity.

☐ Potentially Significant Impact	☒ Less than Significant Impact
☐ Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	☐ No Impact

Potentially Significant Impact: Appendix F (Energy Conservation) of the CEQA Guidelines requires that an EIR include a discussion of the potential energy impacts, with particular emphasis on avoiding or reducing inefficient, wasteful and unnecessary consumption of nonrenewable energy, in order to ensure energy implications are considered in project decision-making processes. The Project could result in electricity, natural gas, petroleum, and other resources use during the construction phase. Operation of the wind energy facility is expected to reduce overall energy use throughout the region and is not expected to result in the wasteful or inefficient use of energy. Appendix F of the CEQA Guidelines outlines what information should be included within an EIR regarding energy conservation where considered applicable or relevant. This appendix includes a list of energy impact possibilities and potential conservation measures and the goals of wise and efficient use of energy during construction and operations. Although the Project is a renewable energy project and would be expected to reduce energy use throughout the region, potential impacts from the inefficient, wasteful, and unnecessary consumption of nonrenewable energy will be evaluated in the DEIR.

XXI. REFERENCES USED IN THE COMPLETION OF THE INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

All references to federal, state, and local regulations are available on the Internet. For federal regulations refer to http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/. For state regulations refer to www.leginfo.ca.gov. For County regulations refer to www.amlegal.com. All other references are available upon request.

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Westwood. 2018. *Preliminary Hydrology Study Torrey Wind Project San Diego County, California*. Prepared for Terra-Gen. June 2018.

14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 77.9. Construction or alteration requiring notice.

40 Code of Federal Regulations 355. Emergency Planning and Notification.