

5.14 Public Services

PUBLIC SERVICES

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 objectives for any of the public services:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance criteria established by CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G.

5.14.1 Setting

Fire and police departments as well as school districts, parks and recreational areas, and other public services are provided by the Town of Windsor, special districts, and private entities. Table 5.14-1 lists applicable public service providers to the project area. The Windsor Fire Protection District (WFPD) provides fire protection to the project area. WFPD is staffed with 16 full-time personnel and has two stations within the Town of Windsor. The staff is supplemented with on-call volunteer personnel. The Windsor Police Department is staffed by the Sonoma County Sheriff Department through a contract between the Town and the County. There are 23 full-time Sonoma County Sheriff Department employees in the department, which provides police protection to the project site and the surrounding area (Town of Windsor 2011a). The department is located approximately 1.4 miles south of the proposed substation. The Windsor Unified School District (WUSD) serves Windsor and includes eight schools (WUSD 2011). There are 19 town parks and 3 County Regional Parks within Windsor (Town of Windsor 2011b). The proposed substation would be located 0.75 miles north of Los Robles Park.

Table 5.14-1. Service Providers

Fire Protection – Windsor Fire Protection District (8200 Old Redwood Highway, north of Highway 101)

Police Protection – Windsor Police Department, (9291 Old Redwood Highway)

Hospitals – Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital (1165 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa); Kaiser Foundation Hospital (401 Bicentennial Way, Santa Rosa)

Schools – Windsor Unified School District

Sources: PG&E 2010; Windsor Fire Protection District 2011; Windsor Unified School District 2011; Town of Windsor 2011a.

5.14.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures

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 objectives for any of the public services:

a) Fire protection?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED. Construction activities would not increase the demand for fire protection services or result in the need for new or altered facilities. Fire risk would be not

greater than at any other construction site. Following construction, operation of the substation could result in instances requiring fire protection services. However, the California Fire Code and Uniform Building Code require the proposed project to include fire protection features, including unobstructed access. Fire risk would be comparable to that from other existing electrical infrastructure in the area, and this would not create the need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities. The operation of the substation would not affect the ability of fire personnel to respond to fires.

There may be increased vehicle traffic and brief road closures (10 to 15 minutes maximum) during construction on distribution lines that are within or adjacent to existing roadways. This could temporarily affect access routes and emergency vehicle movement. However, traffic control would accommodate emergency service providers at all times. With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure T-2** (Ensure emergency response access), described in full in Section 5.16 (Transportation and Traffic), impacts related to fire protection and emergency response would be less than significant.

b) Police Protection?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED. Construction activities would not increase the demand for police protection services in the area. For security, the proposed substation would include a 10 foot tall perimeter wall on the north, east, and west sides of the substation. The construction and operation of the substation would not result in a need for additional police facilities. With the implementation of **Mitigation Measure T-2** (Ensure emergency response access), described in Section 5.16 (Transportation and Traffic), impacts related to police emergency response would be less than significant.

c) Schools?

NO IMPACT. Substation (civil) construction would require up to 15 workers over the course of eight months, and distribution line work would require up to 16 workers over ~~four to five months~~ six to seven months. These construction personnel would likely commute to the site from within Sonoma County or nearby counties and would not create a permanent change in local population. Upon completion, the proposed substation would be automated and require no additional PG&E employees for operation. Since the proposed project would not increase the local population, no increase in demand for school facilities would occur, and no new school facilities would be required.

d) Parks?

NO IMPACT. As described in Section 5.14.2(c) above regarding schools, the proposed project would not increase the region's population. Consequently, the project would not increase any long-term demands on existing parks in the project area, and no new or expanded park facilities would be required because of the proposed project. See Section 5.14, Recreation, for further discussion the proposed project's potential impacts to other recreational facilities.

e) Other Public Facilities?

NO IMPACT. The proposed project would not increase population and would not affect other governmental services or public facilities so as to require new or expanded facilities be developed. Therefore, no impact on other public facilities is expected.