

## 4.8 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

This section describes the environmental and regulatory settings and discusses impacts that may result from the construction and operation of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen 115-kilovolt (kV) Subtransmission Line Project (proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project) and the proposed Alberhill System Project (proposed Alberhill Project) with respect to hazards and hazardous materials. These projects are currently being proposed by Southern California Edison (SCE, or the applicant).

During scoping for the proposed projects, comments were received regarding concerns over increased fire risk, potential impacts to skydiving, and concerns regarding electromagnetic fields (EMFs) and transmission line safety during significant natural events and traffic accidents. During scoping for the Alberhill Project, commenters were concerned that transmission lines would prevent the use of helicopters for wildfire suppression and would increase fire risk. One commenter expressed concern over fire caused by a transformer blowout. Other concerns included potential impacts on air travel due to proximity to Skylark Field Airport; effects from hazardous materials and wastes. These comments are addressed in this section.

### 4.8.1 Environmental Setting

Materials and wastes may be considered hazardous if they are poisonous (toxicity), can be ignited by open flame (ignitability), corrode other materials (corrosivity), or react violently, explode, or generate vapors when mixed with water (reactivity). The term *hazardous material* is defined as any material that, because of quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant current or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment (California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 6.95, Section 25501(n)(1)(e)). Hazardous materials have the potential to leach into soils, surface water, and groundwater when spilled or released if not properly contained.

In addition to hazardous materials, hazards associated with the proposed projects include potential interference with airport operations, emergency response plans, and increased fire risk. Section 4.15, “Transportation and Traffic,” further discusses transportation hazards, and Section 4.13, “Public Services and Utilities,” further discusses impacts on public services, including fire and police protection services.

#### 4.8.1.1 Hazardous Materials Sites and Environmental Site Assessments

Government Code Section 65962.5 (often referred to as the “Cortese List”) includes the State Water Resource Control Board’s (SWRCB) Geotracker database, solid waste disposal sites list, Cease and Desist Orders and Cleanup and Abatement Orders list, and the California Department of Toxic Substance Control’s (DTSC’s) EnviroStor database and hazardous waste sites. A review of Cortese List sources did not identify any solid waste disposal sites, Cease and Desist Orders, or Cleanup and Abatement Orders sites within 1,000 feet of the proposed projects. However, as detailed in Table 4.8-1, sites were identified within 1,000 feet of the proposed projects in the SWRCB Geotracker and DTSC EnviroStor databases.

Table 4.8-1 Cortese List Sites within 1,000 Feet of the Proposed Projects

Name	Site Type	Location	Distance	Status
<b>Proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project</b>				
Good Hope Gold Mine (60001982)	Mining Operation/ Metals	Intersection of Highway 74 and Richard Street	Adjacent to 115-kV Segment VIG4	Open—Voluntary Clean-up Program
Pacific Clay (T0606500534)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	14741 Lake street Alberhill, CA	Adjacent to 115-kV Segment VIG5	Closed Case
Sycamore Creek/ Wildrose Ranch (T0600194033)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	15931 Indian Truck Trail Temecula Valley	500 feet south of fiber-optic undergrounding	Closed Case
<b>Proposed Alberhill Project</b>				
Good Hope Gold Mine (60001982)	Mining Operation/ Metals	Intersection of Highway 74 and Richard Street	Adjacent to 115-kV Segment ASP2	Open—Voluntary Clean-up Program
Pacific Clay (T0606500534)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	14741 Lake street Alberhill, CA	Adjacent to 115-kV Segment ASP2	Closed Case
Mobil #18-991 (T0606500318)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	31702 Mission Trail Lake Elsinore, CA	Less than 100 feet west of 115-kV Segment ASP4	Open – Remediation
ARCO #5346 (T060658567)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	250 Diamond Drive Lake Elsinore, CA	Less than 100 feet east of 115-kV Segment ASP4	Open – Remediation
So. Cal. Gas/ Elsinore MGP (33490082)	Historic Gas Manufacturing Plant/ PAH	226 West Flint Street Lake Elsinore, CA	Less than 1,000 feet south west of 115-kV Segment ASP4	Closed Case Certified Voluntary Clean-up Program
76 Station #5739 (T0606500046)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	265 Railroad Canyon Road Lake Elsinore, CA	Less than 500 feet west of 115-kV Segment ASP4	Closed Case
Arco #3067 (T0606500070)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	265 San Jacinto River Road Lake Elsinore, CA	Less than 200 feet north east of 115-kV Segment ASP4 - Proposed Alberhill Project	Closed Case
Circle K #0708 (T0606500313)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	32510 Mission Trail Lake Elsinore, CA	Less than 100 feet east of 115-kV Segment ASP4	Closed Case
Elsinore Valley Water District (T0606500259)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	33751 Mission Trail Lake Elsinore, CA	Less than 100 feet west of 115-kV Segment ASP4	Closed Case
Laidlaw Transit (T0606500097)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	609 W Minthorn Lake Elsinore, CA	Less than 200 feet south west of 115-kV Segment ASP4 - Proposed Alberhill Project	Closed Case
Rightway (T0606500035)	LUFT Site/ Petroleum Hydrocarbons	653 W Minthorn Lake Elsinore, CA	Less than 200 feet south west of 115-kV Segment ASP4	Closed Case

Sources: DTSC 2015a,b; SWRCB 2015a,b,c

Key:

CA = California

kV = kilovolt

LUFT = Leaking Underground Fuel Tank

PAH = Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons

## 1 **Environmental Site Assessments**

2 A Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) was conducted for the proposed Alberhill Substation  
3 site in accordance with American Society for Testing and Materials International Standards E 1527-05.  
4 The Phase I ESA identified four septic tanks and associated leach areas, a water well, and an aboveground  
5 water tank (Rubicon 2009a). Although no recognized environmental conditions were identified by the  
6 Phase I ESA, a Phase II ESA was conducted to test soil in proximity to the four septic systems, well  
7 water, and water in the aboveground tank. Additionally, lead- and asbestos-containing materials identified  
8 during the assessments were removed from the site (McKenna Environmental 2010). Abandonment and  
9 abatement of the water well and septic systems are discussed in Section 2.4.4.1, “Demolition of Horse  
10 Ranch Facilities and Weed Abatement” and Section 4.9, “Hydrology and Water Quality.”

11  
12 The Phase II ESA soil samples showed low concentrations of nitrate, acetone, benzene, and petroleum  
13 hydrocarbons. The well water and water in the tank were shown to contain low concentrations of nitrate  
14 that are well below maximum contaminant levels established by the U.S. Environmental Protection  
15 Agency (U.S. EPA). Oil and grease in the water in the tank was found at 19.6 milligrams per liter, which  
16 exceeds the 15 milligrams per liter limit established by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control  
17 Board. No oil or grease was found in the well water, and no other contaminants were found in the water  
18 samples tested. The depth to ground water, relative to the top of water well casing, was recorded at 7.5  
19 feet (Rubicon 2009b).

20  
21 A Phase I ESA was not conducted along the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project 115-kV subtransmission  
22 segments or the proposed Alberhill Project 115-kV subtransmission segments and 500-kV transmission  
23 lines. The alignment of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen 115-kV subtransmission segments would be  
24 approximately 27 miles long and constructed within approximately 23 miles of new ROW. It is not  
25 anticipated that hazardous wastes or soil contaminated with hazardous materials would be encountered  
26 along the proposed Valley-Ivyglen 115-kV subtransmission segments because the proposed route would  
27 be situated primarily in relatively non-industrial and undeveloped areas with no history of activities that  
28 would suggest contamination. However, the applicant would perform Phase I ESAs for the new ROW  
29 prior to acquisition, once acquired. Similar to the proposed Valley-Ivyglen segments, it is not anticipated  
30 that hazardous wastes or soil contaminated with hazardous materials would be encountered along the  
31 proposed Alberhill 115-kV subtransmission segments. The applicant does not yet own the property  
32 proposed for siting the Alberhill 500-kV transmission lines. However, the applicant would perform Phase  
33 I ESAs and any subsequent ESAs prior to when acquiring property in fee or in easement.

## 34 **Environmental Abatement Activities**

35  
36 The applicant removed two single-family residences, one mobile home, two garages, one barn, one shed,  
37 and a concrete animal shelter from the proposed Alberhill Substation site during demolition and weed  
38 abatement activities conducted from September 8 through September 20, 2011, and December 12 through  
39 December 15, 2011 (Chapter 2.0, “Project Description”). No foundations were removed, and no grading  
40 occurred. Prior to demolition activities, the applicant complied with requirements of the Riverside County  
41 Department of Building and Safety demolition permit, including demolishing each structure completely  
42 and removing all debris, disposing of debris in an approved landfill, obtaining an asbestos clearance  
43 permit, and complying with County inspection requirements. All materials from horse ranch demolition  
44 were delivered to an approved disposal, recycling, or landfill facility, and all hazardous waste was  
45 disposed of at an appropriately licensed facility. No contaminated soil or groundwater was encountered  
46 during demolition activities (SCE 2011). Thirty cubic yards of wood piles treated with creosote on the  
47 site were broken off at the ground level; the aboveground portion of the poles was recovered by the  
48 applicant.

1 During demolition activities that occurred in 2011, the applicant implemented, when needed, a number of  
2 best management practices (BMPs) specified by the California Stormwater Quality Association to avoid  
3 or reduce impacts from upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials. These  
4 BMPs included, among others: vehicle and equipment fueling and maintenance measures for preventing  
5 fuel spills and leaks; spill prevention and control measures for training workers and containing and  
6 properly disposing of spilled materials; and waste management measures for the training of workers and  
7 containment of waste to prevent the discharge of pollutants. A complete list of BMPs for demolition  
8 activities at the proposed Alberhill Substation site is provided in Appendix G.

9  
10 **4.8.1.2 Schools**

11 School facilities located within 0.25 miles of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen or Alberhill Projects are  
12 presented in Table 4.8-2.  
13  
14

Table 4.8-2 Schools within 0.25 Miles of the Proposed Projects

School	Address	Approximate Distance
<b>Proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project Components</b>		
Todd Elementary School	25105 Mayhew Canyon Road, Corona	0.23 miles south of VIG fiber optic line along Campbell Ranch Road.
Learning Tree Preschool	26704 Murrieta Road, Menifee	0.24 miles south of 115-kV Segment VIG1
<b>Southern California Online Academy Campus</b> (Gordon Kiefer Independent Study School and TriValley Community Day School also share the same Lake Elsinore Unified School District campus)	1405 Education Way Lake Elsinore,	0.11 miles southwest of Staging Area VIG6 and Adjacent to Staging Area VIG14
<b>Ortega High School and Valley Adult School Campus</b> (Keith McCarthy Academy and Lake Elsinore Head Start occupy rooms at the same Lake Elsinore Unified School District campus)	520 Chaney Street, Lake Elsinore	0.11 miles southwest of Staging Area VIG6 and Adjacent to Staging Area VIG14
<b>Proposed Alberhill Project Components</b>		
<b>Southern California Online Academy Campus</b> (Gordon Kiefer Independent Study School and TriValley Community Day School also share the same Lake Elsinore Unified School District campus)	1405 Education Way Lake Elsinore	0.25 miles southwest of 115-kV Segment ASP3
<b>Ortega High School and Valley Adult School Campus</b> (Keith McCarthy Academy and Lake Elsinore Head Start occupy rooms at the same Lake Elsinore Unified School District campus)	520 Chaney Street, Lake Elsinore	0.25 miles southwest of 115-kV Segment ASP3
<b>Railroad Canyon Elementary School</b>	1300 Mill Street, Lake Elsinore	0.16 miles west of 115-kV Segment ASP4
<b>St. Frances of Rome Preschool</b>	21591 Lemon Street, Wildomar	0.15 miles north of 115-kV Segment ASP5

Table 4.8-2 Schools within 0.25 Miles of the Proposed Projects

School	Address	Approximate Distance
Menifee Valley Middle School	26255 Garbani Road, Menifee	0.10 miles east of 115-kV Segment ASP6
Learning Tree Preschool	26704 Murrieta Road, Menifee	0.21 miles south of 115-kV Segment ASP8

Sources: Riverside County Office of Education 2015; Lake Elsinore Unified School District 2015; Menifee School District 2014; Google Earth 2015; Yellow Pages 2015a

Key:

VIG = Valley-Ivyglen

kV = kilovolt

1  
2 **4.8.1.3 Airports and Airstrips**  
3

4 Skylark Field Airport is a private use airport located approximately 1,000 feet west of proposed 115-kV  
5 Segments ASP4 and ASP5 (Figure 2-2a). Skylark Field Airport is primarily used for skydiving and  
6 gliders. The Perris Valley Airport is located approximately 1.5 miles north/northwest of 115-kV  
7 Segments VIG1 and ASP8. Perris Valley Airport primarily serves as a departing point for jump aircrafts  
8 and as a skydiver landing location. Perris Valley Airport is privately owned; however, for State Airport  
9 Permit purposes, the airport is considered a public-use facility. (Riverside County ALUC 2004a,b, 2010).

10  
11 The applicant may access local airports to stage helicopters during construction of the proposed projects.  
12 In addition, the applicant may use Chino Airport (approximately 18 miles northwest of Ivyglen  
13 Substation) for helicopter staging. Chino Airport is a public use airport (AirNav 2015). These airports are  
14 further discussed in Section 4.15, "Transportation and Traffic."  
15

16 **4.8.1.4 Emergency Response**  
17

18 Emergency response time is defined as the speed at which fire, police, and ambulance services effectively  
19 respond to an emergency or emergency call. Law enforcement in the proposed project area is provided  
20 through the Riverside County Sheriff's Department under contract with the cities of Lake Elsinore, Perris,  
21 Wildomar, and Menifee (Riverside County Sheriff 2015a,b). The California Highway Patrol also provides  
22 support to these jurisdictions.  
23

24 The Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD), in cooperation with the California Department of  
25 Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), provides fire and emergency services to residents of  
26 unincorporated areas of Riverside County and to numerous cities, including the cities of Lake Elsinore,  
27 Menifee, Perris, and Wildomar (RCFD 2015). The RCFD is also the Operational Area Coordinator for the  
28 California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System for all fire service jurisdictions in Riverside County and  
29 has several mutual and automatic aid agreements with other cities as well as the U.S. Forest Service  
30 (USFS).  
31

32 **4.8.1.5 Fire Hazards**  
33

34 The Riverside Unit of CAL FIRE implements the Riverside Unit Fire Management Plan (CAL FIRE  
35 2005). Although much of western Riverside County is identified as a potential wildfire area, the proposed  
36 projects would be located in areas that have significant potential to experience large, destructive wildfires  
37 (County of Riverside 2008). Additionally, the Riverside Unit Fire Management Plan identified equipment  
38 as the primary ignition source of wildland fires in the Riverside Unit between 1995 and 2005 (CAL FIRE  
39 2005).  
40

1 A significant portion of Riverside County is undeveloped and consists of rugged topography with highly  
2 flammable indigenous vegetation. In particular, the hillside terrain of Riverside County has a substantial  
3 fire risk. Fire potential for the County is typically greatest in the months of August, September, and  
4 October, when dry vegetation coexists with hot, dry Santa Ana winds. However, fires with conflagration  
5 potential can occur at any time of the year in the County (County of Riverside 2008).

6  
7 CAL FIRE identifies and maps areas of significant fire and wildland fire hazards based on fuels, terrain,  
8 weather, and other relevant factors. These areas include Fire Hazard Severity Zones, State Responsibility  
9 Areas, and Local Responsibility Areas (CAL FIRE 2007, 2009, 2010). State Responsibility Areas and  
10 Local Responsibility Areas establish whether the state or the local government, respectively, has the  
11 responsibility for wildland fire protection. Components of the proposed projects would be constructed  
12 within areas classified as Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (Figure 4.8-1).

13  
14 Adopted fire hazard severity zone data are not yet available for all Local Responsibility Areas. Therefore,  
15 proposed 115-kV segments within areas where adopted severity zone data are not yet available (e.g., 115-  
16 kV Segment ASP3) are assumed to be within either high or moderate fire hazard severity zones (Figure  
17 4.8-1). The microwave dish antenna proposed to be installed on an existing tower at the applicant's  
18 Serrano Substation in the City of Orange is located in a very high fire hazard severity zone (CAL FIRE  
19 2011).

#### 20 21 **4.8.1.6—Electromagnetic Fields**

22  
23 ~~EMFs occur both naturally and as a result of human activity across a broad electrical spectrum. Naturally~~  
24 ~~occurring EMFs are caused by the weather and the earth's geomagnetic field. The fields caused by human~~  
25 ~~activity result from technological application of the electromagnetic spectrum for uses such as~~  
26 ~~communications, appliances, and the generation, transmission, and local distribution of electricity.~~

27  
28 ~~After several decades of study regarding potential public health and safety risks associated with EMF~~  
29 ~~from power lines, research results remain inconclusive. In 1993, the California Public Utilities~~  
30 ~~Commission (CPUC) implemented decision D.93-11-013, which requires utilities to use "low cost or no-~~  
31 ~~cost" EMF reduction measures for EMFs associated with electrical facilities requiring certification under~~  
32 ~~CPUC GO 131-D. The decision directed utilities to use a 4 percent benchmark for low cost measures. The~~  
33 ~~applicant included a Field Management Plan as part of its applications for the proposed projects that~~  
34 ~~describes the EMF reduction measures that would be part of the proposed projects. This decision also~~  
35 ~~implemented a number of EMF measurement, research, and education programs. The CPUC did not adopt~~  
36 ~~any specific numerical limits on or regulation of EMF levels related to electric power facilities.~~

37  
38 ~~The CPUC's January 27, 2006, decision (D.06-01-042) affirmed the 1993 decision on the low cost/no-~~  
39 ~~cost policy to mitigate EMF exposure for new utility transmission and substation projects. Additionally,~~  
40 ~~the 2006 decision directs the CPUC's Energy Division to pursue and review all available studies~~  
41 ~~regarding EMF and to review scientific information and report on new findings. The CPUC has been~~  
42 ~~unable to determine whether there is a significant scientifically verifiable relationship between EMF~~  
43 ~~exposure and negative health consequences, and no change to the CPUC EMF policy has been made to~~  
44 ~~date. The CPUC will reconsider its EMF policies and open a new rulemaking, as necessary, if new~~  
45 ~~findings indicate negative EMF health impacts.~~

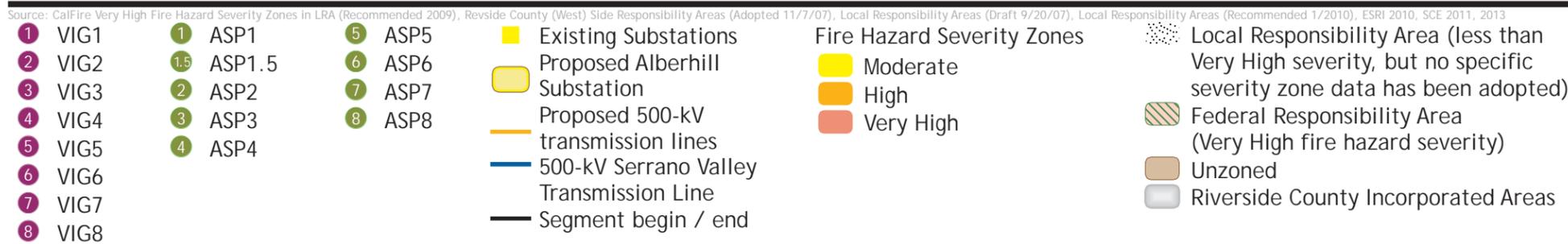
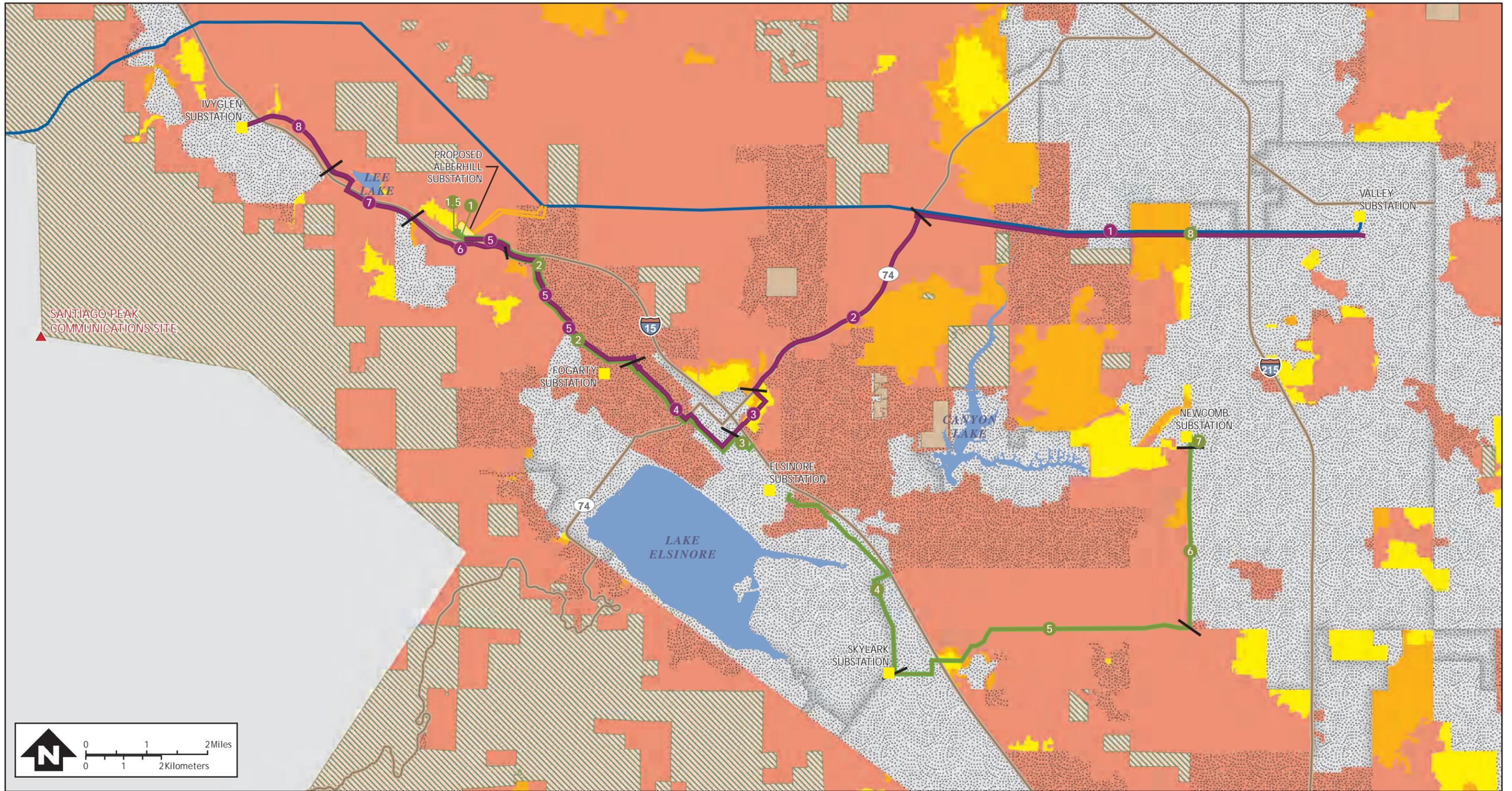


Figure 4.8-1  
 Fire Hazard Severity  
 Alberhill and Valley-Ivyglen Projects  
 Riverside County, California

1  
2 At present, the CPUC does not consider EMFs, in the context of the California Environmental Quality  
3 Act (CEQA), to be an environmental impact because there is no agreement among scientists that EMFs  
4 create a potential health risk and because CEQA does not define or adopt standards for defining any  
5 potential risk from EMFs. Therefore, EMFs are not addressed in the Environmental Impacts and  
6 Mitigation Measures section of this document. For further information about EMFs and CPUC guidelines,  
7 refer to the CPUC's web page:  
8 <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/Environment/ElectroMagnetic+Fields>.

#### 10 **4.8.1.7 Blasting/Fracturing Hazard**

11  
12 Blasting or fracturing would not be required as part of the proposed Alberhill Project. For the proposed  
13 Valley-Ivyglen Project, blasting or fracturing may be required where rock is present to install the  
14 proposed structures along 115-kV Segments VIG1, VIG2, VIG5, VIG6, and VIG8. Blasting or fracturing  
15 would only occur in areas that require excavation and where subsurface obstructions reasonably preclude  
16 excavation using conventional construction equipment. Blasting or fracturing may be required during  
17 access road construction, site preparation, excavation work, or foundation work. Structure and access road  
18 sites that may require blasting, further description about blasting and fracturing activities, and a list of  
19 explosive or expansive agents that may be used are provided under the "Blasting and Fracturing" heading  
20 in Section 2.4.5.4, "115-kV Structure Construction."

### 22 **4.8.2 Regulatory Setting**

#### 24 **4.8.2.1 Federal**

##### 26 ***Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act***

27 The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), also known  
28 as Superfund, outlines regulations for the cleanup of toxic waste sites nationwide. In 1986, Superfund was  
29 amended by the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III, also known as the  
30 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. SARA Title III and the Clean Air Act of 1990  
31 established a nationwide emergency planning and response program and imposed reporting requirements  
32 for businesses that store, handle, or produce significant quantities of extremely hazardous materials.  
33 These acts require states to implement a comprehensive system to inform local agencies and the public  
34 when a significant quantity of such material is stored or handled at a facility. There are no known  
35 CERCLA sites in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project area.

36  
37 When properties are purchased for commercial uses, All Appropriate Inquiries must be completed as part  
38 of due diligence activities. All Appropriate Inquiries is a process of evaluating a property's environmental  
39 conditions and assessing the likelihood of contamination. If All Appropriate Inquiries are not completed  
40 pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §312.21 and U.S. EPA requirements, the buyer may be  
41 liable for environmental issues and cleanups of the property. The U.S. EPA recognizes American Society  
42 for Testing and Materials International standards for Environmental Site Assessments as being compliant  
43 with All Appropriate Inquiries requirements (U.S. EPA 2009).

##### 45 ***Resource Conservation and Recovery Act***

46 The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulates hazardous waste from the time that  
47 waste is generated through to its management, storage, transport, treatment, and final disposal. The U.S.  
48 EPA has authorized the DTSC to administer the State's RCRA programs. A RCRA hazardous waste  
49 exhibits at least one of four characteristics—ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity. To keep track  
50 of hazardous waste activities, treatment, storage, and disposal facility owners and operators must keep

1 certain records and submit reports to the U.S. EPA at regular intervals. All facilities that generate,  
2 transport, recycle, treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste are required to notify the U.S. EPA (or its  
3 state agency) of their hazardous waste activities. A U.S. EPA Identification Number must be obtained  
4 unless the waste has been excluded from regulation or exempted. Sections 3002 and 3004 of RCRA  
5 require that the U.S. EPA collect information pertaining to hazardous waste management from hazardous  
6 waste generators and hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities every two years. This act  
7 is relevant to the proposed projects because used hazardous waste from construction and operation of the  
8 proposed projects is regulated under this act.

### 9 10 ***Hazardous Materials Transportation Act***

11 The primary objective of the Hazardous Material Transportation Act is to provide adequate protection  
12 against risks to life and property inherent in the transportation of hazardous materials in commerce. This  
13 act empowers the Department of Transportation to regulate the transportation of hazardous materials,  
14 including explosives, by rail, aircraft, vessel, or public highway. Hazardous materials regulations are  
15 subdivided by function into the following four areas within 49 CFR Parts 101, 106, 107, 171 to 177, and  
16 178 to 180: Procedures and/or Policies, Material Designations, Packaging Requirements, and Operational  
17 Rules. The transportation of all hazardous materials to and from the proposed project area during  
18 construction and operation would be regulated by this act.

### 19 20 ***Oil Pollution Prevention***

21 The objective of the oil pollution prevention regulation in 40 CFR Part 112 is to prevent oil discharges  
22 from reaching navigable waters of the United States or adjoining shorelines. This regulation was also  
23 written to ensure effective response to oil discharge. It further requires that proactive measures be used to  
24 respond to oil discharge. It contains two major types of requirements: prevention requirements (the Spill  
25 Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure [SPCC] rule) and Facility Response Plan requirements.

26  
27 SPCC plans are required for facilities that are non-transportation-related, have an aggregate aboveground  
28 storage capacity greater than 1,320 gallons or a completely buried storage capacity greater than 42,000  
29 gallons, and a reasonable expectation of a discharge into or upon navigable waters of the United States  
30 via drainage into Temescal Wash, which flows into the Santa Ana River (Figure 4.9-1 and Section 4.9,  
31 "Hydrology and Water Quality"). An SPCC plan would be required for the operation of the proposed  
32 Alberhill Substation because the facility would store more than 1,320 gallons of transformer oil in the  
33 transformers, which could reasonably discharge into navigable waters (40 CFR Parts 112.1–112.7). The  
34 Riverside County Environmental Health Department is responsible for administering SPCC plans in  
35 Riverside County. The applicant has existing SPCC plans for the Valley and Ivyglen substations.

### 36 37 ***Transformer Oil Transport and Recycling***

38 Title 49 CFR Part 130 applies to the transport of transformer oil (mineral oil) when shipped in containers  
39 of 3,500 gallons or more. Each transformer proposed for the Alberhill Substation would contain 33,550  
40 gallons of mineral oil. According to 49 CFR Part 130, containers used for the transportation of oil subject  
41 to this part must be designed, constructed, maintained, closed, and loaded such that under conditions  
42 normally incident to transportation, there will be no release of oil to the environment. In addition, a  
43 response plan must be developed pursuant to 49 CFR Part 130 requirements. Standards for recycling used  
44 transformer oil are established in 40 CFR Part 279.

### 45 46 ***Occupational Safety and Health Administration***

47 The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) administers Occupational Safety and Health  
48 Standards (CFR Title 29) that establish regulations for safety in the workplace and construction safety,  
49 including safety regarding the use of helicopters and explosives for construction.

1  
2 OSHA standards require implementation of a Hazard Communication Plan to identify and inventory all  
3 hazardous materials and material safety data sheets. OSHA’s standards also require employee training in  
4 safe handling of hazardous materials. OSHA standards are relevant to the proposed projects because their  
5 construction and operation would involve the use of heavy-duty equipment, helicopters, and heavy-duty  
6 and lighter vehicles that may pose health and safety risks to workers. In addition, workers would handle  
7 and use chemical substances.

8  
9 OSHA blasting and explosives standards (29 CFR 1926.90) are applicable to the proposed Valley–  
10 Ivyglen Project. OSHA standards outline requirements for the use and storage of explosives at job sites  
11 and the protection of worker safety. OSHA standards permit only authorized and qualified persons to  
12 handle and use explosives (OSHA 1993).

13  
14 ***Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives***

15 In addition to OSHA, explosives are regulated by the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and  
16 Explosives under 27 CFR 555, which outlines the requirements for the commerce of explosives. The  
17 Federal Department of Transportation also has jurisdiction over explosives as discussed above under the  
18 “Hazardous Materials Transportation Act” heading (BATF 2015).

19  
20 ***Federal Aviation Administration***

21 Under 14 CFR Part 77.9, notification of construction or alteration to the Federal Aviation Administration  
22 (FAA) is required for any structures exceeding 200 feet in height. Notification is also required for public  
23 use airports with runways more than 3,200 feet long if construction or alteration would exceed a slope of  
24 100 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 20,000 feet from the nearest runway. Two airports are located in  
25 proximity to proposed project area (refer to Section 4.8.1.3, “Airports and Airstrips”). FAA regulations  
26 regarding helicopter use for construction of the proposed projects are discussed in Section 4.15,  
27 “Transportation and Traffic.”

28  
29 ***United States Forest Service Cleveland National Forest Land Management Plan***

30 The Cleveland National Forest includes the east-facing slopes of the Santa Ana Mountains, which, in  
31 lower elevations, are almost completely developed with urban and residential uses. This area is defined as  
32 Elsinore Place in the Cleveland National Forest Land Management Plan. At the top of the slopes is  
33 Santiago Peak (5,600 feet), the tallest peak in the Santa Ana Range. Two microwave dish antennas would  
34 be installed on an existing antenna tower at the Santiago Peak Communications Site, which is managed  
35 by the USFS. Although the western side of the communication site is located within Orange County, and  
36 the eastern side is located within Riverside County, the site is administered by the USFS. Only the Orange  
37 County side of the communication site would be accessed during construction and operation of the  
38 proposed Alberhill Project.

39  
40 Wildland fires have resulted in high levels of property and resource losses in the Elsinore Place area. The  
41 plan includes several program strategies and tactics for preventing fire, such as installing Wildland-Urban  
42 Interface Defense and Threat Zone vegetation treatments and ensuring that defensible spaces are adequate  
43 to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire. The plan also includes the goal for development of a  
44 hazardous material management plan (USFS 2005a). Part 3 of the plan includes *Guidelines for*  
45 *Communication Tower Siting*. One of the guideline addresses fuel storage tanks associated with  
46 generators and other facilities. The guideline indicate that fuel storage tanks shall meet current fire  
47 department, federal, state, and local safety and hazardous materials requirements and that fuel storage  
48 shall be consolidated into one tank large enough to accommodate all tenants in a facility (USFS 2005b).

1 **4.8.2.2 State**

2  
3 ***Hazardous Materials and Waste***

4 California Health and Safety Code Section 25501 defines the term *hazardous material* as any material  
5 that, because of quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant  
6 present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment. Hazardous materials  
7 include, but are not limited to, hazardous substances, hazardous waste, and any material that a handler or  
8 the administering agency has a reasonable basis for believing that it would be injurious to the health and  
9 safety of persons or harmful to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. Title 8,  
10 Section 339 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) lists substances identified as *hazardous*  
11 *substances* for which employers must provide material safety data sheets to employees.

12  
13 CCR Title 22, Section 66261.1 identifies wastes that are subject to regulation as hazardous wastes and  
14 that are subject to the notification requirements pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code. The  
15 code defines a waste as hazardous if it has any of the following characteristics: ignitability, corrosivity,  
16 reactivity, or toxicity. It also includes hazardous wastes listed pursuant to RCRA, non-RCRA hazardous  
17 wastes, hazardous wastes from specific sources, extremely hazardous wastes, hazardous wastes of  
18 concern, and special wastes. The U.S. EPA has authorized the DTSC to administer the RCRA program in  
19 California.

20  
21 Under federal regulations, transformer oil, under most intended uses, would become used oil, the  
22 recycling of which is regulated by 40 CFR 279. Use resulting in chemical or physical change or  
23 contamination may also subject it to regulation as hazardous waste, which is also managed under 40 CFR  
24 279. In California, however, all used oil is managed as hazardous waste until tested to show it is not  
25 hazardous (Health and Safety Code section 25250.4). Requirements for the transport of hazardous waste,  
26 including driver training, are established in CCR Title 26.

27  
28 ***Extremely Hazardous Substances***

29 The CEQA Guidelines identify “extremely hazardous substances” as those defined by Section  
30 25532(2)(g) of the California Health and Safety Code. These include the substances listed in Appendix A  
31 of Part 355 (commencing with Section 355.10) of 40 CFR Chapter I, Subchapter J that provides a list of  
32 extremely hazardous substances and their threshold planning quantities. The CEQA Guidelines define  
33 “hazardous air emissions” as emissions of air contaminants identified as toxic by the California Air  
34 Resources Board or the designated air pollution control officer. These include substances identified in  
35 Section 44321(a to f) of the California Health and Safety Code.

36  
37 ***Treated Wood Waste***

38 Section 25150.7 of the California Health and Safety Code outlines procedures and regulations for the  
39 management and disposal of treated wood waste. Wood waste, including the type of wood utility poles  
40 that would be disposed of as part of the proposed projects, may be treated with pesticides and other  
41 chemicals to protect the wood. Because the chemical treatments could leach into water supplies when  
42 disposed of, Section 25150.7 was developed to restrict how and where treated wood waste can be  
43 disposed of. The U.S. EPA also has guidance, but not regulations, on the handling of creosote-treated  
44 poles (US EPA 2015).

45  
46 ***Certified Unified Program Agency and Hazardous Materials Plans***

47 Administration of the certified unified agency program is authorized by the California Health and Safety  
48 Code (Chapter 6.11, Sections 25404-25404.8) and CCR Title 27, Division 1, Subdivision 4, Chapter 1,  
49 Sections 15100–15620. This program is implemented at the local level by government agencies certified

1 by the secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency. The program consolidates,  
2 coordinates, and makes consistent the administrative requirements, permits, inspections, and enforcement  
3 activities of environmental and emergency response programs, including Hazardous Materials Release  
4 Response Plans and Inventories (i.e., Hazardous Materials Business Plans [HMBPs]), SPCC plans, and  
5 Hazardous Waste Generator and Onsite Hazardous Waste Treatment Program permits (Bunchek personal  
6 communication 2011).

7  
8 The Riverside County Hazardous Materials Management Division, a division of the Riverside County  
9 Department of Environmental Health, is the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for Riverside  
10 County. The Office of the State Fire Marshal is responsible for ensuring implementation of the Hazardous  
11 Materials Management Plans and Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement Programs (California Health  
12 and Safety Code Section 25404 and CCR Sections 15100, 15160, and 15330), which are overseen by the  
13 CUPA.

### 14 ***Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Act of 1985***

15  
16 The Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Act, also known as the Business Plan  
17 Act, requires businesses using hazardous materials to prepare a plan that describes their facilities,  
18 inventories, emergency response plans, and training programs. Hazardous materials are defined under this  
19 act as raw or unused materials that are part of a process or manufacturing step. Health concerns pertaining  
20 to the release of hazardous materials are similar to those relating to hazardous waste.

21  
22 California Health and Safety Code (Section 25503.5) requires a business plan for emergency response for  
23 facilities that store hazardous materials in excess of 55 gallons (liquid), 500 pounds (solid), or 200 cubic  
24 feet (gas). Facilities that handle more than these indicated quantities of hazardous materials must submit  
25 an HMBP to the CUPA prior to project construction. The proposed Alberhill Project, which would  
26 include the installation of transformers that would each contain 33,550 gallons of transformer oil, would  
27 be required to implement an HMBP for construction and operations (Bunchek personal communication  
28 2011). In California, all used oil is managed as hazardous waste until tested to show it is not hazardous  
29 (Health and Safety Code section 25250.4). The applicant would be required to submit an HMBP to the  
30 CUPA for project construction and operation. In general, the HMBPs describe and identify storage areas  
31 for hazardous materials and waste; describe appropriate handling, storage, and disposal techniques; and  
32 include measures for avoiding and addressing spills. The proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project does not  
33 include installation of transformers.

### 34 ***Hazardous Waste Control Act***

35  
36 The Hazardous Waste Control Act established the state hazardous waste management program, which is  
37 similar to, but more stringent than, RCRA program requirements. CCR Title 26 describes the  
38 requirements for the proper management of hazardous waste under the Hazardous Waste Control Act,  
39 including the following:

- 40
- 41 • Identification and classification;
  - 42 • Generation and transportation;
  - 43 • Design and permitting of recycling, treatment, storage and disposal facilities;
  - 44 • Treatment standards;
  - 45 • Operation of facilities and staff training; and
  - 46 • Closure of facilities and liability requirements.
- 47

1 These regulations list more than 800 materials that may be hazardous and establish criteria for the  
2 identification, packaging and disposal of such waste. Under the Hazardous Waste Control Act, and Title  
3 26, the generator of hazardous waste must document waste from generation to transporter to disposal.  
4 Copies of this documentation must be filed with the DTSC.

5  
6 The DTSC operates programs to protect California from exposure to hazardous wastes through the  
7 following practices and procedures:

- 8
- 9 • Handling of the aftermath of improper hazardous waste management by overseeing site cleanup;
- 10 • Prevention of the release of hazardous waste by ensuring that those who generate, handle,  
11 transport, store, and dispose of wastes do so properly;
- 12 • Enforcement against those who fail to appropriately management hazardous wastes;
- 13 • Exploration and promotion of measures to prevent pollution and encourage reuse and recycling;
- 14 • Evaluation of site-specific soil, water, and air samples and the development of new analytical  
15 methods;
- 16 • Practice in other environmental sciences, including toxicology, risk assessment and technology  
17 development; and
- 18 • Involvement of the public in the DTSC's decision-making.

19  
20 Hazardous wastes that may be encountered or generated during the construction and operation of the  
21 proposed projects would be subject to the requirements of the Hazardous Waste Control Act.

### 22 ***Emergency Services Act***

24 Under the Emergency Services Act, the state developed an emergency response plan to coordinate  
25 emergency services provided by federal, state, and local agencies. Rapid response to incidents involving  
26 hazardous material or hazardous waste is an important segment of the plan administered by the California  
27 Emergency Management Agency. The California Emergency Management Agency coordinates the  
28 response of agencies, including the California Environmental Protection Agency, California Department  
29 of Transportation, California Highway Patrol, Regional Water Quality Control Boards, air quality  
30 management districts, and county disaster response offices.

### 31 ***Government Code Section 65962.5: Cortese List***

33 The Cortese List includes all hazardous waste facilities subject to corrective action; land designated as  
34 hazardous waste property or border zone property; information received by the DTSC about hazardous  
35 waste disposals on public land; sites listed pursuant to Section 25356 of the Health and Safety Code  
36 (removal and remedial action sites); and sites included in the Abandoned Site Assessment Program. As  
37 noted in Section 4.8.1.1, "Hazardous Materials Sites," the Cortese List includes the State Water Resource  
38 Control Board's (SWRCB) Geotracker database, solid waste disposal sites list, Cease and Desist Orders  
39 and Cleanup and Abatement Orders list; and the California Department of Toxic Substance Control's  
40 (DTSC's) EnviroStor database and hazardous waste sites. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5,  
41 the DTSC compiles and updates the Cortese List as appropriate, and at least annually.

### 42 ***California Fire Code and Public Resources Code***

44 The California Fire Code is Part 9 of CCR Title 24 (the California Building Standards Code). The  
45 California Fire Code incorporates, by adoption, the International Code Council's International Fire Code  
46 with amendments specific to California. All facilities constructed as part of the proposed projects must

1 comply with the fire codes established by Title 24 and as amended by local jurisdictions. Title 24 is  
2 further discussed in Section 4.13, “Public Services and Utilities.”

### 3 4 **California Public Resources Code**

5 The California Public Resources Code includes fire safety regulations that restrict the use of equipment  
6 that may produce a spark, flame, or fire; require the use of spark arrestors on construction equipment that  
7 has an internal combustion engine; specify requirements for the safe use of gasoline-powered tools in fire  
8 hazard areas; and specify fire suppression equipment that must be provided onsite for various types of  
9 work in fire prone areas. The Public Resources Code requirements apply to construction activities in areas  
10 designated by CAL FIRE as State Responsibility Areas with substantial wildland fire risk (California  
11 Public Resources Code Section 4125). The proposed project area would be located on CAL FIRE State  
12 Responsibility Areas designated as Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (Figure 4.8-1).

13  
14 California Public Resources Code Sections 4292 and 4293 address vegetation management in  
15 transmission (and subtransmission) line corridors. Within CAL FIRE State Responsibility Areas that  
16 include mountainous land, forest-covered land, brush-covered land, or grass-covered land, owners and  
17 managers of electrical transmission lines are required to maintain a firebreak consisting of a clearing of  
18 not less than 10 feet in each horizontal direction from the outer circumference of structures that support  
19 electrical infrastructure that could be a source of ignitions and therefore present a fire risk, including  
20 switches, fuses, transformers, and lightning arresters. California Public Resources Code Section 4293  
21 requires the felling, cutting, or trimming of dead, rotten, decayed, diseased, or otherwise weakened trees  
22 that may affect or fall on an electric line. Sections 4291 through 4299 also specify requirements for  
23 maintaining clearance around other types of structures and buildings to reduce fire risk that are applicable  
24 to both the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project and Alberhill projects.

### 25 26 **California Occupational Health and Safety Administration**

27 The California Occupational Health and Safety Administration is responsible for developing and  
28 enforcing workplace safety standards and ensuring worker safety in the handling and use of hazardous  
29 materials. This administration requires businesses to prepare Injury and Illness Prevention Plans and  
30 Chemical Hygiene Plans. The administration’s Hazards Communication Standard requires that workers  
31 be informed of the hazards associated with the materials they handle. Manufacturers are required to label  
32 containers, provide material safety data sheets in the workplace, and provide worker training.

### 33 34 **Underground Service Alert (DigAlert)**

35 California Government Code 4216 *et seq.* defines mandatory notification procedures for subsurface  
36 excavations and installations. Pursuant to Section 4216 *et seq.*, the applicant must contact the  
37 Underground Service Alert of Southern California at least two working days but no more than 14 days  
38 prior to conducting excavation activities for each component of the proposed projects (DigAlert 2015).

### 39 40 **Building Codes**

#### 41 **California Building Standard Code**

42 The California Building Standards Code (CCR Title 24) provides design and construction measures for  
43 structures and other facilities. Part 9 is the California Fire Code, and Part 3 is the California Electrical  
44 Code. Measures provided in the California Building Standards Code are integrated and enforced through  
45 city and county review of development projects, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and by local city or  
46 county fire chiefs or marshals.

1 **California Fire Code**

2 The California Fire Code is Part 9 of CCR Title 24 (the California Building Standards Code). The  
3 California Fire Code incorporates, by adoption, the International Code Council’s International Fire Code  
4 with amendments specific to California. All facilities constructed as part of the proposed project must  
5 comply with the fire codes established by Title 24 and as amended by local jurisdictions. Title 24 is  
6 further discussed in Section 4.13, “Public Services and Utilities.”  
7

8 **California Electrical Code**

9 The California Electrical Code is Part 3 of CCR Title 24. The California Electrical Code incorporates, by  
10 adoption, the National Electrical Code (NEC) or National Fire Protection Association 70, for the safe  
11 installation of electrical wiring and equipment. It is part of the NEC series published by the National Fire  
12 Protection Association, a private trade association. To avoid electrical hazards, a thorough knowledge by  
13 electrical contractors of the NEC is required to install any electrical power system. The NEC covers the  
14 installation of electrical conductors, equipment, and raceways; signaling and communications conductors;  
15 and equipment and optical fiber cables for public and private premises.  
16

17 **CPUC General Orders and Decisions**

18 The CPUC regulates the construction and operation of overhead transmission lines in California through  
19 the implementation and oversight of several rules and regulations known as General Orders (GOs). Rules  
20 GO 95, GO 128, GO 165, and GO 166 would apply to the proposed projects.  
21

22 **CPUC General Order 95: Rules for Overhead Electric Line Construction**

23 GO 95 regulates the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of overhead electric lines in  
24 California. This order includes safety standards for overhead electric lines, including minimum conductor  
25 ground clearance, electric line inspection requirements, and vegetation clearance requirements. Rule 35  
26 (Tree Trimming) defines minimum vegetation clearances around power lines and requires 10 feet of  
27 radial clearances for any conductor of a line operating at more than 110,000 volts and less than 300,000  
28 volts. This rule also requires that utility providers remove dead, rotten, and diseased trees that overhang or  
29 lean toward a span of an electric line. Rule 31.2 (Inspection of Lines) requires that lines be inspected  
30 frequently to ensure that they are in good condition and that lines temporarily out of service be inspected  
31 and maintained to prevent a hazard. This order applies to the proposed 500-kV transmission and 115-kV  
32 subtransmission lines.  
33

34 **CPUC General Order 128: Rules for Construction of Underground Electric Supply and  
35 Communication Systems**

36 GO 128 establishes requirements for the construction, operation, and maintenance of all underground  
37 electric supply and communications systems under CPUC jurisdiction. These requirements are designed  
38 to ensure safe design and operation of underground electrical facilities, including design and inspection  
39 criteria, to reduce the risk of fire. GO 128 is applicable to the proposed underground 115-kV and fiber  
40 optic components.  
41

42 **CPUC General Order 165: Inspection Requirements for Electric Distribution and  
43 Transmission Facilities**

44 GO 165 establishes requirements for electric distribution and transmission facilities (excluding facilities  
45 contained in a substation) regarding inspections to ensure safe and high-quality electrical service. This  
46 order establishes a minimum period between inspections and record-keeping requirements. It applies to  
47 the proposed 500-kV transmission and 115-kV subtransmission lines.  
48

1 **CPUC General Order 166: Standards for Operation, Reliability, and Safety during**  
2 **Emergencies and Disasters**

3 GO 166 applies to all electric utilities subject to the jurisdiction of the CPUC and addresses electric  
4 service reliability and safety. The purpose of this order is to ensure that jurisdictional electric utilities are  
5 prepared for emergencies and disasters to minimize damage and inconvenience to the public that may  
6 occur as a result of electric system failures, major outages, or hazards posed by damage to electric  
7 distribution facilities. Investigations required by this order are conducted following every major outage,  
8 pursuant to and consistent with Public Utilities Code Section 364(c) and CPUC policy.  
9

10 **CPUC Electric Safety Order Instituting Rulemaking**

11 In November 2008, after the Sesnon Fire, the CPUC issued an Order Instituting Rulemaking (OIR) to  
12 Revise and Clarify Commission Regulations Relating to the Safety of Electric Lines and Communications  
13 Infrastructure Provider Facilities (Electric Safety OIR; R.08-11-005). The purpose of the Electric Safety  
14 OIR was to determine whether revision or clarification was needed for CPUC regulations addressing  
15 potential hazards, such as fires, that could result from electric transmission and distribution lines.  
16

17 The CPUC issued Decision 09-08-029 (Phase 1, Measures to Reduce Fire Hazards in California Before  
18 the 2009 Fall Fire Season, or Phase 1 Decision) in this proceeding in August, 2009. In the next phase of  
19 this proceeding (Decision 12-01-032; Phase 2, Regulations to Reduce Fire Hazards Associated with  
20 Overhead Power Lines and Communication Facilities), on January 12, 2012, the CPUC adopted an order  
21 instituting rulemaking to revise and clarify its regulations relating to the safety of electric utility and  
22 communications infrastructure provider facilities. This decision adopted further regulations to reduce fire  
23 hazards associated with overhead power lines and aerial communication facilities located in close  
24 proximity to power lines, including revisions to GO 95, GO 165, and GO 166.  
25

26 GO 166 was revised to require investor-owned electric utilities in Southern California, such as SCE, to  
27 prepare and submit plans to prevent power-line fires during extreme weather events. SCE provided a Fire  
28 Management Plan within an Advice Letter to the CPUC that is applicable to operation, design,  
29 construction, inspection, and maintenance of the applicant's overhead lines and structures (SCE 2012).  
30 The CPUC is anticipated to issue a Phase 3 decision for the Electric Safety OIR that will reflect input  
31 from CAL FIRE. Phase 3 will address the establishment of:  
32

- 33 • Standards for wood structures and materials that will allow utilities to reliably obtain prescribed  
34 safety factors enforceable by the CPUC;
- 35 • Modern materials and practices, with the goal of improving fire safety; and
- 36 • Fire safety standards for the design and construction of electrical infrastructure in areas of high  
37 fire threat.  
38

39 In addition, the Phase 3 decision will address whether and how proposed fire safety standards should  
40 apply to existing facilities in high fire threat districts, as well as the development of a plan for reporting to  
41 the CPUC's Consumer Safety and Protection Division.  
42

43 **4.8.2.3 Regional and Local**

44 **Regional Water Quality Control Board and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans**

45 Under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, California's Regional Water Quality Control  
46 Boards require a Construction Activities Storm Water General Permit (Order 99-08-DWQ as amended by  
47 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012-0006-DWQ) for storm water discharges associated with any construction  
48

1 activity, including clearing, grading, excavation reconstruction, and dredge and fill activities that results  
2 in the disturbance of at least 1 acre of total land area. Since the proposed projects would disturb more than  
3 1 acre, both this permit and a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would be required.  
4 SWPPPs require the use of site-specific BMPs during construction to reduce the potential for erosion and  
5 sedimentation and for vehicle and equipment fueling and maintenance, material storage, spill prevention,  
6 and waste management. In Riverside County, permits are administered by the Santa Ana Regional Water  
7 Quality Control Board. The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, federal Clean Water Act,  
8 and California Water Quality Act are further described in Section 4.9, "Hydrology and Water Quality."  
9

#### 10 ***Riverside County Department of Environmental Health and Ordinances***

11 Riverside County Ordinance No. 651.3 (pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 25500)  
12 requires the preparation of an HMBP for storage of hazardous materials in excess of threshold quantities.  
13 The Riverside County Department of Environmental Health performs inspections at established facilities  
14 to verify that hazardous materials are properly stored and handled and that the types and quantities of  
15 materials reported in the HMBP are accurate. As the CUPA pursuant to the California Health and Safety  
16 Code (Chapter 6.11, Sections 25404-25404.8), this department is the regulatory body for all hazardous  
17 waste generated in the County. Transformers at the proposed Alberhill Substation would contain 33,550  
18 gallons of transformer oil.  
19

#### 20 ***Riverside County Emergency Operations Plan and Local Hazard Mitigation Plan***

21 The Riverside County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) provides guidance for the  
22 County's planned response to emergencies associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and  
23 natural emergencies occurring in or affecting the County. The EOP serves as the County's framework for  
24 implementation of the California Standardized Emergency Management System and, by extension, the  
25 EOP will also implement the National Incident Management System, which is being integrated into the  
26 California Standardized Emergency Management System. The EOP covers the mutual aid system,  
27 preparedness phase operations, recovery phase operations, and mitigation phase operations (County of  
28 Riverside 2006). For hazard identification, the EOP defers to the Riverside County Operational Area  
29 Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (County of Riverside 2012), which covers the entire  
30 proposed project area.  
31

32 Riverside County has developed both an Operational Area EOP and an Operational Area Multi-  
33 Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan to respond to a number of natural and human-created  
34 disasters, including fire (see Section 4.8.2.3). Electric utilities are identified as critical facilities in these  
35 plans. Specific evacuation and emergency response routes have not been defined in the proposed project  
36 area. Additional discussion of emergency services and emergency response is included in Section 4.13,  
37 "Public Services" and Section 4.15, "Transportation."  
38

#### 39 ***Riverside County Fire Code and Fire Protection Ordinance***

40 The Riverside County Fire Code contains baseline minimum standards to guard against unsafe  
41 development and establish site-specific investigation requirements, construction standards, and inspection  
42 procedures to ensure that development does not pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the  
43 public. Under County of Riverside Ordinance 787, the 2010 California Fire Code is adopted in its entirety  
44 with amendments made to clarify the code for use by the County. As the proposed projects would be  
45 constructed within Riverside County, the County Fire Code would apply.  
46

#### 47 ***Riverside County General Plan, Safety Element***

48 The Safety Element of the County of Riverside General Plan was developed to help reduce impacts from  
49 disasters in the County. The Safety Element addresses hazardous materials within Riverside County,

1 including agricultural chemicals, natural gas and petroleum, explosives, radioactive materials, and various  
2 commercial chemical substances, and their use, storage, and production.

3  
4 The Safety Element also adopts the Riverside County Multi-Hazard Functional Plan. According to the  
5 Multi-Hazard Functional Plan, the cities of Lake Elsinore, Perris, Wildomar, Corona, and Murrieta are  
6 affected by wildfire, as well as Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, Lake Elsinore Unified School  
7 District, Lee Lake Water District, and Menifee Unified School District. Wildfires have occurred in these  
8 locations, and the areas continue to be susceptible (County of Riverside 2012). A wildfire is defined as an  
9 uncontrolled fire spreading through vegetative fuels, posing danger and destruction to property. Wildfires  
10 can occur in undeveloped areas and spread to urban areas where structures and other human development  
11 are more concentrated. A number of policies presented in the Safety Element (County of Riverside 2008)  
12 are directed at identifying and reducing fire hazards or managing hazardous waste, such as:

- 14 • *Policy S 5.1: Develop and enforce construction and design standards that ensure that proposed*  
15 *development incorporates fire prevention features.*
- 16 • *Policy S 5.5: Conduct and implement long-range fire safety planning, including stringent*  
17 *building, fire, subdivision, and municipal code standards; improved infrastructure; and improved*  
18 *mutual aid agreements with the private and public sector.*
- 19 • *Policy S 7.4: Use incentives and disincentives to persuade private businesses, consortiums, and*  
20 *neighborhoods to be self-sufficient in an emergency by maintaining a fire control plan, including*  
21 *an onsite firefighting capability and volunteer fire response teams to respond to and extinguish*  
22 *small fires.*

### 23 24 **Riverside County General Plan, Land Use Element**

25 This element includes policies related to airport planning and safety that are intended to ensure the  
26 orderly expansion of airports and adoption of land use measures that address noise and safety hazards.  
27 Policies in the Land Use Element that address airports include:

- 28  
29 • *Policy LU 14.2: Review all proposed projects and require consistency with any applicable*  
30 *airport land use compatibility plan.*
- 31 • *Policy LU 14.7: Ensure that no structures or activities encroach upon or adversely affect the use*  
32 *of navigable airspace.*
- 33 • *Policy LU 14.9: All development proposals within an Airport Influence Area will be submitted to*  
34 *the affected airport.*

### 35 36 **Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission**

37 The Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) is responsible for development of the  
38 Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and each individual airport land use compatibility  
39 plan within the umbrella compatibility plan policy document. The individual airport land use  
40 compatibility plans define the Influence Areas of airports within the County. An Influence Area is defined  
41 as an area where current or future airport-related noise, overflight, safety, or airspace protection factors  
42 may significantly affect land uses or necessitate restrictions on those uses. An airport Influence Area  
43 constitutes the area within which certain land use actions are subject to County ALUC review.

44  
45 The County ALUC Plan includes policies applicable to land use compatibility planning in the vicinity of  
46 airports throughout the County. Proposals for new development with a height of more than 100 feet  
47 within Compatibility Zone E are subject to development review by the County ALUC. Any obstruction

1 reviewed by the FAA that receives a finding of anything other than “not a hazard to air navigation” is also  
2 subject to review by the ALUC (Riverside County ALUC 2004b).

3  
4 Under the current adopted Perris Valley Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, 115-kV Segments ASP8  
5 and VIG1 would not be located within the Perris Valley Airport Land Use zone (Riverside County ALUC  
6 2004c). However, a draft version of the revised Perris Valley Airport Land Use Plan does locate 115-kV  
7 Segments ASP8 and VIG1 within Perris Valley Airport Influence Area E (Riverside County ALUC  
8 2010). 115-kV Segment VIG1 would fall within the Aircraft Approach Accident Risk Intensity Contours  
9 (landings from the south) (Riverside County ALUC 2010). Additionally, sections of 115-kV Segments  
10 ASP4 and ASP5 are located within the Influence Area of the Skylark Field Airport (Riverside County  
11 ALUC 2004a).

### 12 13 **City of Lake Elsinore**

14 The City’s fire department contracts with Riverside County for fire services. County and City fire  
15 response areas are discussed above in Section 4.8.1.5. The City of Lake Elsinore Fire Department  
16 provides oversight for hazardous materials uses and permits for the handling, storage, and use of  
17 hazardous materials. The City maintains an Emergency Preparedness Plan website that encourages public  
18 involvement in preparing for emergencies due to earthquakes, wildfire, hazardous materials releases, and  
19 other events. The General Plan establishes goals and policies for emergency preparedness and minimizing  
20 the risk of wildland fire and hazardous materials releases and (City of Lake Elsinore 2011), including:

- 21  
22 • **Goal 3:** *Reduce the level of risk associated with the use, transport, treatment, and disposal of*  
23 *hazardous materials to protect the community’s safety, health, and natural resources.*
- 24 • **Policy 3.1:** *Continue to require hazardous waste generators to implement a waste reduction*  
25 *program per the Riverside County Hazardous Waste Management Plan with necessary*  
26 *inspections per the Riverside County Hazardous Materials Handlers Program.*
- 27 • **Policy 3.3:** *Encourage the safe disposal of hazardous materials with County agencies to protect*  
28 *the City against a hazardous materials incident.*
- 29 • **Goal 4:** *Adhere to an integrated approach to minimizing the threat of wildland fires to protect life*  
30 *and property using pre-fire management, suppression, and post-fire management.*
- 31 • **Policy 4.1:** *Require on-going brush clearance and establish low fuel landscaping policies to*  
32 *reduce combustible vegetation along the urban/wildland interface boundary.*
- 33 • **Policy 4.2:** *Create fuel modification zones around development within high hazard areas by*  
34 *thinning or clearing combustible vegetation within 100 feet of buildings and structures. The fuel*  
35 *modification zone size may be altered with the addition of fuel resistant building techniques. The*  
36 *fuel modification zone may be replanted with fire-resistant material for aesthetics and erosion*  
37 *control.*
- 38 • **Policy 4.3:** *Establish fire resistant building techniques for new development such as non-*  
39 *combustible wall surfacing materials, fire-retardant treated wood, heavy timber construction,*  
40 *glazing, enclosed materials and features, insulation without paper-facing, and automatic fire*  
41 *sprinklers.*

### 42 43 **City of Menifee**

44 The City of Menifee Draft General Plan (City of Menifee 2013) identifies the following goals and  
45 policies applicable to the proposed projects regarding hazards:  
46

- 1 • **Policy LU-3.1:** *Work with utility providers in the planning, designing, and siting of distribution*  
2 *and support facilities to comply with the standards of the General Plan and Development Code.*
- 3 • **Policy S-4.1:** *Require fire-resistant building construction materials, the use of vegetation control*  
4 *methods, and other construction and fire prevention features to reduce the hazard of wildland*  
5 *fire.*
- 6 • **Policy S-5.2:** *Ensure that the fire department can continue to respond safely and effectively to a*  
7 *hazardous materials incident in the City, whether it is a spill at a permitted facility, or the result*  
8 *of an accident along a section of the freeway or railroads that extend across the City.*
- 9 • **Policy S-5.4:** *Ensure that all facilities that handle hazardous materials comply with federal and*  
10 *state laws pertaining to the management of hazardous wastes and materials.*
- 11 • **Policy S-5.5:** *Require facilities that handle hazardous materials to implement mitigation*  
12 *measures that reduce the risks associated with hazardous material production, storage, and*  
13 *disposal.*
- 14 • **Goal S-6:** *A City that responds and recovers in an effective and timely manner from natural*  
15 *disasters such as flooding, fire, and earthquakes, and as a result is not impacted by civil unrest*  
16 *that may occur following a natural disaster.*
- 17 • **Policy S-6.4:** *Locate new essential or critical facilities away from areas susceptible to impacts or*  
18 *damage from a natural disaster.*
- 19 • **Policy S-6.5:** *Promote strengthening of planned and existing critical facilities and lifelines, the*  
20 *retrofit and rehabilitation of existing weak structures, and the relocation of certain critical*  
21 *facilities as necessary to adequately meet the needs of Menifee's residents and workforce.*  
22

### 23 **City of Perris**

24 The Safety Element of the City of Perris General Plan (City of Perris 2005a, b) outlines the City's goals  
25 for reducing the potential risks for death, injuries, property damage, and economic and social dislocation  
26 resulting from hazards or catastrophic events. No components of the proposed Alberhill Project are  
27 located within the City of Perris. The following goals and policies would be applicable to the Valley-  
28 Ivyglen Project:

- 29
- 30 • **Goal I:** *Reduce risk of damage to property or loss of life due to a natural or man-made disasters.*
- 31 • **Policy I.C.2:** *Adopt landscaping standards to include a fire-resistant plant palette, where*  
32 *appropriate.*
- 33 • **Policy I.C.4:** *Maintain weed abatement Code Enforcement efforts.*
- 34 • **Policy I.D.2:** *Continue to notify March Air Reserve Base of new development project applications*  
35 *and consider their input prior to making land use decisions.*
- 36 • **Goal II:** *Improved response times for emergency service providers (police, fire, medical services)*
- 37 • **Policy II.A.4:** *Require that access roads be completed prior to development in outlying areas.*
- 38 • **Policy I.F:** *Hazardous Materials. The City will cooperate with the County of Riverside and the*  
39 *Riverside County Fire Department to enforce all rules related to Hazardous Materials generators*  
40 *and handlers.*  
41

1 **City of Wildomar**

2 At the time of preparation of this document, the City of Wildomar had not adopted a general plan.  
3 Wildomar was incorporated in 2008 and adopted all County of Riverside ordinances at that time. County  
4 ordinances remain in effect until the City enacts ordinances that supersede them. Policies listed above  
5 under the Riverside County General Plan as applicable to the proposed Alberhill Project also apply to the  
6 City of Wildomar. No components of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project would be located within the  
7 City of Wildomar.  
8

9 **City of Orange**

10 As part of the proposed Alberhill Project, one microwave dish antenna would be installed at the  
11 applicant's Serrano Substation on an existing antenna tower in the City of Orange in Orange County,  
12 California. The City's fire department provides fire, paramedic, and ambulance services. The City's  
13 General Plan includes goals and policies to protect lives and property of City residents and businesses  
14 from urban and wildland fire hazards. It also includes goals and policies to minimize risks to life,  
15 property, and the environment associated with producing, using, storing, or transporting hazardous  
16 materials and for emergency response preparedness. The City follows the County of Orange's Hazardous  
17 Materials Inspection and Enforcement Plan (City of Orange 2010).  
18

19 **4.8.3 Methodology and Significance Criteria**

20  
21 The evaluation of impacts from hazards and hazardous materials during construction and operation of the  
22 proposed projects was based on the review of relevant federal, state, county, and local laws, regulations,  
23 plans (e.g., emergency response and hazard mitigation plans), policy documents, and standards and  
24 hazards and hazardous materials that would be associated with construction, operation, and maintenance  
25 of the proposed projects as described in Chapter 2, "Project Description." State, county, and local maps  
26 were reviewed to determine the location of schools, known hazardous materials sites, airports, and fire  
27 severity zones as classified by CAL FIRE in proximity to the proposed project area.  
28

29 Potential impacts from hazards and hazardous materials were evaluated in accordance to the following  
30 significance criteria. The criteria were defined based on the checklist items presented in Appendix G of  
31 the CEQA Guidelines. The proposed projects would cause a significant impact related to hazards and  
32 hazardous materials if they would:  
33

- 34 a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or  
35 disposal of hazardous materials;
- 36 b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset  
37 and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment;
- 38 c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or  
39 waste within 0.25 miles of an existing or proposed school;
- 40 d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to  
41 Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the  
42 public or the environment;
- 43 e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted,  
44 within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard  
45 for people residing or working in the project area;
- 46 f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for  
47 people residing or working in the project area;

- 1 g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or  
2 emergency evacuation plan; or
- 3 h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires,  
4 including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed  
5 with wildlands.  
6

7 Due to the hang gliding activity in the proposed project area, the following significance criterion has been  
8 added to this section to analyze the safety risk to hang gliders:  
9

- 10 • Result in substantial safety risks to hang gliders

#### 11 **4.8.4 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures (Valley-Ivyglen Project)**

##### 12 **4.8.4.1 Project Commitments (Valley-Ivyglen Project)**

13  
14  
15  
16 The applicant has committed to the following as part of the design of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen  
17 Project. See Section 2.6, "Project Commitments," for a complete description of each project commitment.  
18

- 19 • **Project Commitment B: Worker Environmental Awareness Plan:** Prior to construction, a  
20 Worker Environmental Awareness Plan would be developed based on final engineering designs,  
21 the results of preconstruction surveys, and mitigation measures developed by the California  
22 Public Utilities Commission. A presentation would be prepared by the applicant and shown to all  
23 site workers prior to their start of work. A record of all trained personnel would be kept with the  
24 construction foreman. In addition to the instruction for compliance with any site-specific  
25 biological or cultural resource protective measures and project mitigation measures. All  
26 construction personnel would ~~also~~ receive instruction on site-specific dust control, cultural  
27 resources identification, contaminant reduction practices, spill prevention and response  
28 procedures, emergency procedures, hazardous material safety, incident reporting, Best  
29 Management Practices, individual worksite responsibilities and legal requirements. Additionally,  
30 contact information of key personnel responsible for environmental compliance and emergency  
31 response would be made available to all site workers.
- 32 • **Project Commitment F: Geotechnical Study, Soil Testing, and Seismic Design Standards:**  
33 Prior to the start of construction, the applicant would conduct geotechnical and hydrologic studies  
34 and field investigations of the proposed Alberhill Substation site, 500-kV transmission line  
35 routes, and all 115-kV subtransmission line routes. The studies would include an evaluation of  
36 the depth to the water table, liquefaction potential, physical properties of subsurface soils, soil  
37 resistivity, and slope stability (landslide susceptibility). The studies would include soil boring and  
38 laboratory testing to determine the engineering properties of soils, would characterize soils and  
39 underlying bedrock units, characterize groundwater conditions, and evaluate faulting and  
40 seismicity risk. Soil samples would be collected and analyzed for common contaminants and the  
41 presence of hazardous materials. If chemicals are detected in the soil samples at concentrations  
42 above acceptable action levels, the applicant would avoid the above threshold ~~contaminated~~ soil or  
43 work with the property owner to remove the contaminated soil. The results of this study would be  
44 applied to final engineering designs for the proposed projects. The information collected would  
45 be used to determine final TSP foundation designs. In addition, the proposed Alberhill Substation  
46 would be located in an area susceptible to earthquakes. The applicant would design the proposed  
47 substation consistent with the applicable federal, state, and local codes, including the Institute of  
48 Electrical and Electronic Engineers 693 Standard, Recommended Practices for Seismic Design of  
49 Substations.

1  
2 **4.8.4.2 Impacts Analysis (Valley-Ivyglen Project)**  
3

4 **Impact HZ-1 (VIG): Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the**  
5 **routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.**  
6 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION*  
7

8 Construction and operation of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project would include the use, transport, and  
9 disposal of hazardous materials and wastes. Hazardous materials that would be used throughout the  
10 proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project area during construction and operation include fuel, lubricants, and  
11 antifreeze associated with construction and maintenance equipment and vehicles, as well as paints,  
12 solvents, adhesives, and cleaning chemicals. Construction vehicles would be fueled by existing offsite  
13 fuel supply facilities or from an offsite fuel supply truck temporarily brought onsite to provide fuel.  
14 Helicopters used for 115-kV conductor stringing and tower construction would be fueled by either the  
15 helicopter contractor’s fuel truck or fuel service available at an airport. Perris Valley Airport and Chino  
16 Airport may be used for fueling helicopters as part of the Valley-Ivyglen Project. Additionally, any of the  
17 staging areas and disturbance areas along the proposed Valley-Ivyglen 115-kV route, with the exception  
18 of 115-kV Segments VIG2, VIG3, and VIG8 and Staging Area VIG5, may be used for helicopter fueling.  
19

20 During site preparation and excavation/foundation work activities, blasting or fracturing may be required  
21 along 115-kV Segments VIG1, VIG2, VIG5, VIG6, and VIG8. Explosive agents that may be used include  
22 dynamite, ammonium nitrate/fuel oil, slurry (water-gel explosive), and packaged emulsion explosives.  
23 Expansive agents that may be used for fracturing include limestone, dolomite, calcium hydroxide,  
24 calcium oxide, silicon dioxide, aluminum oxide, and ferric oxide as described under the “Blasting and  
25 Fracturing” heading in Section 2.4.5.4, “115-kV Structure Construction.”  
26

27 Blasting agents are considered hazardous materials and are identified on materials safety data sheets as  
28 highly reactive or unstable. None of the proposed expansive agents are listed on the 40 CFR Part 355,  
29 Appendix A list of Extremely Hazardous Substances, but some of the agents or some forms of the agents  
30 (e.g., fumes) are listed on the California Hazardous Substances List (CCR Title 8, Section 339), including  
31 calcium hydroxide, calcium oxide, aluminum oxide, and ferric oxide (fume). The definition of hazardous  
32 materials includes hazardous substances (California Health and Safety Code Section 25501). Materials  
33 safety data sheets identify calcium oxide as “extremely hazardous” and calcium hydroxide and aluminum  
34 oxide as “hazardous” under the health hazard label. The routine use of blasting agents could also  
35 introduce a potential wildfire ignition source and could generate toxic decomposition products, residual  
36 solids, airborne particulates, and gases. The routine use of blasting agents, if imprecisely applied, could  
37 also generate a blast radius with the potential to harm bystanders, wildlife, plant life, and structures.  
38 Impacts would be potentially significant. Hazardous materials that may be required for blasting or  
39 fracturing would be managed as specified in Mitigation Measure (MM) HZ-1 and MM WQ-1, and  
40 contaminated soils or groundwater that may be encountered during blasting would be handled in  
41 accordance with MM HZ-2 and MM WQ-1.  
42

43 Construction waste would be managed in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations and  
44 requirements. The majority of construction-related wastes would be inert materials (clean soil, vegetation,  
45 metal scrap, packaging materials, etc.), most of which would be containerized and disposed of at a  
46 licensed facility. Hazardous wastes that are likely to be generated during construction include waste  
47 motor oils, used transformer oil, waste hydraulic fluids, discarded batteries, waste solvents and adhesives,  
48 and old conductor wire. Wooden utility poles and wooden components treated with preservatives would  
49 be managed in accordance with California Health and Safety Code Section 25150.7 requirements. To  
50 comply with this code, the applicant would dispose of treated wooden poles only at a Class I hazardous

1 landfill or in a composite-lined portion of a solid waste landfill unit that meets the requirements outlined  
2 in the code.

3  
4 Transportation, use, or disposal of hazardous materials or wastes and petroleum products are to be  
5 conducted in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations. However, routine  
6 transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials and petroleum products could result in accidental  
7 releases or spills, representing a potential hazard to the public and environment during construction and  
8 operations. This would be a potentially significant impact. Implementation of MM ~~HZBR-15-4~~ would  
9 reduce potentially significant impacts from improper transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.  
10 Spills that occur near aquatic resources could have a significant impact on water quality that could  
11 quickly spread downstream. The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would provide cleanup  
12 requirements for any incidental spills or other potential releases of hazardous materials. If minor spills or  
13 drips occur during construction activities, any fluid or impacted soil would be cleaned up immediately.  
14 With implementation of the SWPPP, all impacts due to accidental spills or releases would be less than  
15 significant. Implementation of MM BR-15 would require the applicant to perform vehicle maintenance  
16 activities at least 150 feet (or as specified by agency permits) from all aquatic resources and would  
17 require immediate cleanup of hazardous materials spills.

18  
19 Three hazardous material or waste sites were identified in proximity to proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project  
20 components, and unrecorded hazardous material sites may also be present. Since soil contamination along  
21 the proposed route has not been thoroughly investigated, it remains possible that hazardous materials or  
22 wastes may be encountered along the proposed routes. Disposal of soils from contaminated sites would  
23 result in a significant impact. The applicant would perform geotechnical studies along the 115-kV  
24 subtransmission line segments (Project Commitment F), which would include soil studies. The soil  
25 analysis studies would include the collection and analysis of soil samples for common contaminants and  
26 the presence of hazardous materials. If chemicals are detected in the soil samples at concentrations above  
27 action levels, the applicant would avoid the contaminated soil or work with the property owner to remove  
28 it. In addition, the applicant would train construction personnel to notify the foreman and regional spill  
29 response coordinator in the event of hazardous materials spills and leaks from equipment or upon the  
30 discovery of soil or groundwater contamination (Project Commitment B). Since soil contamination along  
31 the proposed route has not been thoroughly investigated, it remains possible that hazardous materials or  
32 wastes may be encountered along the proposed routes, and the improper handling of encountered  
33 materials could lead to significant impacts. MM HZ-2 would require the applicant to develop a  
34 Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan, which would define procedures for soil and  
35 groundwater testing if unanticipated contamination is encountered. Implementation of MM HZ-2 would  
36 reduce the risk of improperly handling and disposing of contaminated soil, contaminated groundwater,  
37 and spilled hazardous materials by generating accurate and precise data on the contamination extent and  
38 characteristic.

39  
40 The applicant would prepare and require all site workers to participate in Worker Environmental  
41 Awareness Plan training prior to construction (Project Commitment B). The training would instruct  
42 workers on their individual responsibilities under the SWPPP, site-specific BMPs, and location of  
43 material safety data sheets. The Worker Environmental Awareness Plan would also instruct workers on  
44 proper procedures in the event of hazardous materials spills, leaks from equipment, or upon the discovery  
45 of soil or groundwater contamination. The SWPPP would require that the location of hazardous materials  
46 be identified and protective measures, notifications, and cleanup requirements for spills of hazardous  
47 materials to be developed. MM BR-15 requires impacts may be significant related to stormwater without  
48 implementation of the project SWPPP, which would include specific measures. MM BR-15 outlines  
49 minimum BMPs that must be included in the project SWPPP.

1 In summary, implementation of Project Commitments B and F in addition to compliance with applicable  
2 laws and regulations would reduce impacts from the routine use, transport, and disposal of hazardous  
3 materials, but impacts would remain significant. Implementation of MM HZ-1, MM HZ-2, MM BR-15,  
4 and MM WQ-1 would reduce impacts under this criterion to less than significant levels.

5  
6 **Mitigation Measures**

7 **MM BR-15: Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs).**

8  
9 ~~MM HZ-1: Hazardous Materials Management. Prior to construction, the applicant shall prepare a~~  
10 ~~hazardous materials management, handling, transport, storage, disposal, and emergency response plan for~~  
11 ~~project construction, operation, and maintenance, following the requirements of applicable federal, state,~~  
12 ~~and local regulations. Unless otherwise implemented prior to construction in accordance with plans~~  
13 ~~required by the Riverside County Hazardous Materials Management Division, the plan includes the~~  
14 ~~following:~~

- 15  
16 1. ~~Train project personnel in appropriate work practices including spill prevention and response~~  
17 ~~measures.~~
- 18 2. ~~Contain all hazardous materials at work sites and properly dispose of all such materials.~~
  - 19 a. ~~Hazardous materials shall be stored on pallets within fenced and secured areas and protected~~  
20 ~~from exposure to weather.~~
  - 21 b. ~~Fuels and lubricants shall be stored only at designated staging areas.~~
- 22 3. ~~Maintain hazardous material spill kits for small spills at all active work sites and staging areas.~~
- 23 4. ~~Thoroughly clean up all spills as soon as they occur.~~
- 24 5. ~~Store sorbent and barrier materials at the Alberhill Substation site and all construction staging~~  
25 ~~areas, including staging areas used during activities for decommissioning of the Alberhill~~  
26 ~~Substation. Sorbent and barrier materials shall be used to contain runoff from contaminated areas~~  
27 ~~and from accidental releases of oil or other potentially hazardous materials to prevent the runoff~~  
28 ~~from entering the storm drainage system.~~
- 29 6. ~~Perform all routine equipment maintenance at a shop or at the staging area and recover and~~  
30 ~~dispose of wastes in an appropriate manner.~~
- 31 7. ~~Monitor and remove any vehicles with chronic or continuous leaks from use and complete repairs~~  
32 ~~before returning them to operation.~~
- 33 8. ~~Store shovels and drums at the staging area. If small quantities of soil become contaminated, use~~  
34 ~~shovels to collect the soil and store in drums before proper offsite disposal. Large quantities of~~  
35 ~~contaminated soil may be collected using heavy equipment and stored in drums or other suitable~~  
36 ~~containers prior to disposal. Should contamination occur adjacent to staging areas because of~~  
37 ~~runoff, shovels and/or heavy equipment shall be used to collect the contaminated material.~~

38  
39 ~~The applicant shall submit the plan to CPUC for review and approval at least 60 days prior to the start of~~  
40 ~~construction. The applicant shall implement the plan during construction, operation, and maintenance of~~  
41 ~~the projects.~~

42  
43 **MM HZ-2: Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan.** Prior to the start of construction, to  
44 the extent not otherwise included within plans required by the Riverside County Hazardous Materials  
45 Management Division, the applicant shall develop a Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan to  
46 address the unearthing or exposure of buried hazardous materials or contamination or contaminated

1 groundwater during construction of the projects. The Plan shall detail steps that the applicant or its  
2 contractor will take to prevent the spread of contamination, the sampling necessary if contamination is  
3 discovered, and remedial action to be taken. The Plan, at minimum, shall include the following:

- 4  
5 1. Contact information for federal, regional, and local agencies, the applicant's environmental  
6 coordinator(s) responsible for the cleanup of contaminated soil or groundwater, and licensed  
7 disposal facilities and haulers.
- 8  
9 2. Procedures to minimize environmental impacts in the event that hazardous soils, contaminated  
10 groundwater, or other hazardous materials are encountered during construction including  
11 stopping work; securing and marking the contaminated area; preventing the spread of  
12 contamination; testing; primary, secondary, and final cleanup procedures; and proper disposal in  
13 accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- 14  
15 3. Training requirements for construction workers performing excavation activities including  
16 training on types of contamination including common contaminants (e.g., petroleum  
17 hydrocarbons, lead, mercury, and metals, asbestos, acetone, nitrate, semi-volatile organic  
18 compounds and volatile organic compounds (benzene), polychlorinated biphenyls, sanitary waste,  
19 and pesticides) and *hazardous materials* (as defined by the California Health and Safety Code)  
20 and identifying potentially hazardous contamination (e.g., stained or discolored soil and odor).
- 21  
22 4. Dewatering procedures including storage, testing, treatment, and disposal requirements and  
23 dewatering BMPs set forth in the applicant's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

24 The applicant shall submit the plan to CPUC for review and approval at least 60 days prior to the start of  
25 construction. The applicant shall implement the plan during construction of the projects.

#### 26 **MM WQ-1: Blasting Plan and Best Management Practices.**

27  
28 **Impact HZ-2 (VIG): Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through**  
29 **reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of**  
30 **hazardous materials into the environment.**  
31 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION*

32  
33 As described under Impact HZ-1 (VIG), the applicant would transport, use, or dispose of hazardous  
34 materials and petroleum products in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations.  
35 However, routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials and petroleum products could result in  
36 accidental releases or spills, representing a potential hazard to the public and environment during  
37 construction and operations.

38  
39 There are no large volume containers associated with the Valley-Ivyglen Subtransmission Line Project.  
40 However, hazards could result from the disturbance of unknown contaminated sites during construction  
41 or operation and maintenance activities. As indicated in HZ-1 (VIG), the applicant would perform  
42 collection and analysis of soil samples for common contaminants and the presence of hazardous materials.

43  
44 Accidental contact with existing underground utility lines or private utilities line such as leach lines  
45 associated with a septic system during construction of the proposed Valley Ivyglen Project could release  
46 hazardous materials. Compliance with California Government Code 4216.1 (DigAlert) would reduce  
47 potential impacts to public utility lines. However, significant impacts would remain for private  
48 underground infrastructure. Prior to finalizing the engineering design, MM HZ-3 requires the applicant to  
49 ~~contact the Underground Service Alert of Southern California to identify the exact locations of gas~~  
50 ~~pipelines within the project area. In addition, the applicant will~~ contact affected private landowners to

1 determine if septic systems and associated leach fields, as well as other underground facilities, may be  
2 impacted by construction of the projects. Final engineering plans for the projects will be designed to  
3 avoid or minimize interference or damage to underground facilities, both public and private. Once  
4 identified, the applicant will immediately notify by telephone the owner of underground facilities that  
5 may have been damaged or dislocated during construction of the projects. The implementation of MM  
6 HZ-3 would reduce potential impacts to private underground infrastructure to less than significant.

7  
8 Felled aboveground transmission lines would pose a health and safety hazard to people in the area if  
9 people come in contact with active lines. Compliance with CPUC GO 95, GO 165, and GO166 would  
10 reduce the risk and prevent significant impacts that may occur during accidents and natural events, which  
11 would cause public safety hazards from felled aboveground transmission lines to less than significant.

12  
13 Compliance with applicable regulation, Project Commitment B, and Project Commitment F would reduce  
14 the risk but not prevent significant impacts that may still occur from upset and accident conditions  
15 involving the release of hazardous materials. The implementation of a ~~site-specific hazardous materials~~  
16 ~~management plan (MM HZ-1)~~, a contaminated soil/groundwater contingency plan (MM HZ-2), an  
17 investigation of public and private underground facilities (MM HZ-3), a SWPPP (MM BR-15), and  
18 blasting management plan (MM WQ-1) would further prevent the potential for upset and accident  
19 conditions and would reduce impacts under this criterion to less than significant levels.

## 20 21 **Mitigation Measures**

22 **MM BR-15: Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs).**

23  
24 ~~**MM HZ-1: Hazardous Materials Management.**~~

25  
26 **MM HZ-2: Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan.**

27  
28 **MM HZ-3: Contacting Affected Landowners Regarding Underground Facilities.** ~~Prior DigAlert.~~ As  
29 part of the siting and engineering for the projects, the applicant shall precisely locate all underground  
30 natural gas lines that may be impacted. Prior to finalizing the engineering design, the applicant shall  
31 contact the Underground Service Alert of Southern California (DigAlert) to identify the exact locations of  
32 gas pipelines within the project area. ~~In addition, prior~~ to construction the applicant shall contact affected  
33 private landowners to determine if septic systems and associated leach fields as well as other underground  
34 facilities may be impacted by construction of the projects. Final engineering plans for the projects shall be  
35 designed to avoid damage to underground facilities, both public and private. The applicant shall  
36 immediately notify by telephone the owner of underground facilities that may have been damaged or  
37 dislocated during construction of the projects.

38  
39 **MM WQ-1: Blasting Plan and Best Management Practices.**  
40

1 **Impact HZ-3 (VIG): Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous**  
2 **materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 miles of an existing or proposed**  
3 **school.**

4 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION*  
5

6 Four schools are located within 0.25 miles of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project (Table 4.8-2). It is not  
7 anticipated that the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project would involve the handling or emission of  
8 hazardous or acutely hazardous materials as defined by CEQA Section 21151.4 in quantities equal to or  
9 greater than the state threshold quantities specified in Section 25532 of the California Health and Safety  
10 Code.

11  
12 Diesel-powered vehicles and construction equipment would be used during construction of the proposed  
13 Valley-Ivyglen Project. Diesel exhaust emissions are considered toxic emissions by the California Air  
14 Resources Board. Diesel exhaust would be emitted within 0.25 miles of schools; however, because  
15 construction activities would be temporary and would not take place at any single location for an  
16 extended period, impacts from diesel exhaust emissions would be less than significant.

17  
18 As discussed under Impact HZ-1 (VIG) and Impact HZ-2 (VIG), hazardous materials could be released  
19 during construction or operation of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project. Project Commitments B and F  
20 and compliance with applicable laws and regulations would reduce impacts but not to less than  
21 significant. Implementation of ~~MM HZ-1~~, ~~MM HZ-2~~, ~~MM HZ-3~~, MM BR-15, and MM WQ-1 would  
22 reduce impacts under this criterion to less than significant levels.  
23

#### 24 **Mitigation Measures**

25 **MM BR-15: Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs).**

26  
27 ~~**MM HZ-1: Hazardous Materials Management.**~~

28  
29 **MM HZ-2: Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan.**

30  
31 ~~**MM HZ-3: DigAlert.**~~

32  
33 **MM WQ-1: Blasting Plan and Best Management Practices.**

34  
35 **Impact HZ-4 (VIG): Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites**  
36 **compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result,**  
37 **would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.**

38 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION*  
39

40 As described in Section 4.8.1.1, Cortese List (Government Code Section 65962.5) database searches  
41 identified three solid waste disposal sites, sites with Cease and Desist Orders or Cleanup and Abatement  
42 Orders, or DTSC EnviroStor sites within 1,000 feet of components of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen  
43 Project (DTSC 2015a,b; SWRCB 2015a,b,c).  
44

45 Since project components would not be located on these identified sites, it is not anticipated that the  
46 associated project activities would expose contaminated soils. However, it remains possible that  
47 hazardous materials or wastes from undocumented releases may be encountered along the proposed route,  
48 since there has not been a soil contamination investigation of the proposed route. Discovery of hazardous  
49 materials or wastes could lead to a potentially significant hazard to the public or environment if materials  
50 are improperly handled. MM HZ-2 would require the applicant to develop a Contaminated

1 Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan to address the potential for encountering subsurface sources of  
2 contamination throughout all areas to be disturbed during construction of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen  
3 Project. Implementation of MM HZ-2 would reduce potential impacts to less than significant.  
4

5 **Mitigation Measure**

6 **MM HZ-2: Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan.**

7  
8 **Impact HZ-5 (VIG): For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan**  
9 **has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use**  
10 **airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or**  
11 **working in the project area.**

12 *NO IMPACT*  
13

14 Proposed 115-kV Segment VIG1 would be located approximately 1.5 miles south of Perris Valley Airport  
15 but would not be located within a Perris Valley Airport Land Use zone under the current Perris Valley  
16 Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Riverside County ALUC 2004c). A portion of the 115-kV Segment  
17 VIG1 would be located within the Perris Valley Airport Compatibility Zone E under the draft version of  
18 the revised Perris Valley Airport Land Use Plan (Riverside County ALUC 2010). Applicable  
19 development conditions within Perris Valley Airport Influence Area E include required airspace review  
20 for developments over 150 feet tall due to concerns about compatibility with airport activities (Riverside  
21 County ALUC 2004b). The segment would also be located within an Aircraft Approach Accident Risk  
22 Intensity Contours, which indicates that the proposed segment would be located in an area with  
23 statistically higher potential for accidents based on nationwide data (Riverside County ALUC 2010).  
24

25 The proposed 115-kV Segment VIG1 would be located within the applicant's existing ROW, on the north  
26 side of the existing Valley-Serrano 500 kV transmission line. LWSPs installed as part of 115-kV  
27 Segment VIG1 are anticipated to extend about 75 feet above the ground surface but would not exceed 115  
28 feet above the ground surface. Because these structures would be less than 150 feet in height, installation  
29 of these structures would not require airspace review under the draft version of the revised Perris Valley  
30 Airport Land Use Plan. Furthermore, the existing lattice steel towers of the Valley - Serrano 500-kV  
31 transmission line range from 129 to 132 feet above the ground and would be taller than the LWSPs  
32 installed as part of 115-kV Segment VIG1. 115-kV Segment VIG1 would therefore not result in a  
33 significant safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area and there would be no impact  
34 under this criterion.  
35

36 Airspace hazards, in general, are discussed in Section 4.15, "Traffic and Transportation."  
37  
38

39 **Impact HZ-6 (VIG): For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project**  
40 **result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.**

41 *NO IMPACT*  
42

43 There are no private airstrips within 2 miles of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project components.  
44 Therefore, there would be no impact under this criterion. Airspace hazards, in general, are discussed in  
45 Section 4.15, "Traffic and Transportation."  
46

47 **Impact HZ-7 (VIG): Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency**  
48 **response plan or emergency evacuation plan.**

49 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT*  
50

1 No emergency or evacuation routes are identified in the Riverside County General Plan, Riverside County  
2 EOP, Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, City of Lake Elsinore General Plan, City of Perris General Plan, or  
3 City of Menifee Draft General Plan in the vicinity of any of component of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen  
4 Project (County of Riverside 2006, 2008, 2012; City of Lake Elsinore 2011; City of Menifee 2013).

5  
6 Construction of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project could interfere with emergency response services at  
7 locations where subtransmission line stringing activities would occur. The temporary road and lane  
8 closures associated with construction activities could lengthen response times required for emergency  
9 vehicles passing through the construction zone. Construction activities completed within or along public  
10 streets would be conducted in accordance with local ordinances, applicable general plan policies, the  
11 Riverside County EOP and Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and control measures  
12 published in the California Joint Utility Traffic Control Manual (California Inter-Utility Coordinating  
13 Committee 2014).

14  
15 In places where the components of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project would span a road or require lane  
16 closure, construction activities would be coordinated with the local jurisdiction in accordance with local  
17 ordinances and permit conditions to avoid closure of emergency routes. Traffic Control Plans would be  
18 developed and implemented as required by Riverside County and the cities of Lake Elsinore, Menifee,  
19 and Perris during local permitting processes that would provide traffic control services to ensure adequate  
20 flow of traffic during lane or road closures (Section 4.15, "Transportation and Traffic").

21  
22 Operation of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project would not result in lane closures or other obstructions  
23 to area roads or traffic. Maintenance would be performed consistent with local ordinances, applicable  
24 general plan policies, the Riverside County EOP and Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan,  
25 and control measures published in the California Joint Utility Traffic Control Manual (California Inter-  
26 Utility Coordinating Committee 2014). Therefore, impacts under this criterion would be less than  
27 significant.

28  
29 **Impact HZ-8 (VIG): Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death**  
30 **involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to**  
31 **urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands.**  
32 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION*

33  
34 Construction, operation, and maintenance activities associated with the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project  
35 would increase fire risk during refueling, vehicle and equipment use, welding, vegetation clearing, worker  
36 cigarette smoking, and other activities. Fires could ignite when objects contact the proposed electrical  
37 lines or other energized equipment, when a live-phase conductor falls to the ground, due to conductor-to-  
38 conductor contact, or due to power surges.

39  
40 The proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project would be constructed and maintained in a manner consistent with  
41 California Public Resources Code Sections 4291 through 4299, which regulate vegetation management.  
42 Per these regulations, the applicant would maintain vegetation clearance areas along the subtransmission  
43 line segments. The proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project would also be constructed and maintained in a  
44 manner consistent with CPUC GO 95, GO 128, GO 165, and GO 166 for overhead and underground  
45 subtransmission line construction, inspection, and safety.

46  
47 Because segments of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project would be located in Very High Fire Hazard  
48 Severity Zones and in areas identified by CAL FIRE as having significant potential for large, destructive  
49 wildfires (CAL FIRE 2005), construction of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project would substantially  
50 increase fire risk regardless of vegetation clearing and compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and  
51 standards. Operation of the proposed Valley-Ivyglen Project would also increase fire risk. MM HZ-4

1 presents requirements for a Fire Control and Emergency Response Plan that would reduce the risk of fire  
2 and impacts that would result should a fire occur. Implementation of MM HZ-4 would ensure that  
3 impacts under this criterion are less than significant during construction and operation.  
4

#### 5 **Mitigation Measure**

6 **MM HZ-4: Fire Control and Emergency Response.** The applicant, in consultation with its contractors,  
7 shall develop and implement site-specific fire control and emergency response plans to address the risk of  
8 fire or other emergencies (e.g., flooding) during construction, operation, and maintenance of the projects.  
9 The plans and a record of contact and coordination with the fire departments with jurisdiction over each  
10 worksite shall be submitted to the CPUC for review and approval prior to start of construction. The plans  
11 shall describe fire prevention and response practices that the applicant and its contractors will implement  
12 to minimize the risk of fire, and in the event of fire or other emergencies, provide for immediate response.  
13

14 The site-specific plans shall specify that the applicant or its contractors will furnish supervision, labor,  
15 tools, equipment, and materials for the prevention of fire and extinguishing and controlling the spread of  
16 fires started as a result of project activities.  
17

#### 18 **During Construction:**

- 19
- 20 • The applicant or its ~~designee~~ ~~contractors~~ shall ~~designate a full time~~ ~~assign~~ Fire Risk  
21 ~~Manager~~ ~~Managers~~ who will be present ~~at each worksite~~ during construction activities, whose sole  
22 responsibility will be to monitor the contractor's fire-prevention activities, and who will have full  
23 authority to stop construction as needed to prevent fire hazards. The Fire Risk Managers shall:
    - 24 - Serve as liaisons to fire departments and act as a point of contact for fire departments in the  
25 event of fire or other emergency;
    - 26 - Manage the prevention, detection, control, and extinguishing of fires set accidentally as a  
27 result of construction activity;
    - 28 - Review site-specific fire control and emergency response plans ~~with construction personnel~~  
29 prior to starting work ~~at each project area~~;
    - 30 - Ensure that all construction personnel are trained in fire safety measures relevant to their  
31 responsibilities. At minimum, construction personnel shall be trained in fire and emergency  
32 reporting and incipient-stage fire prevention, control, and extinguishing (i.e., the fire can be  
33 controlled or extinguished by portable fire extinguishers, small hose systems, or portable  
34 water supplies without the need for protective clothing or breathing apparatus). Each member  
35 of the construction workforce shall be trained and equipped to extinguish small fires;
    - 36 - Be equipped with radio and cellular telephone access for the duration of each work day;
    - 37 - Ensure that all construction personnel are provided with operational radio and cellular  
38 telephone access at each worksite to allow for immediate reporting of fires or other  
39 emergencies and ensure that communication pathways and equipment are tested and  
40 confirmed operational each day prior to initiating construction activities at each worksite; and
    - 41 - Maintain an updated key personnel and emergency services contact (telephone and email) list  
42 onsite and available to construction personnel.
  - 43 • Construction workers shall immediately report all fires to the nearest Fire Risk Manager.  
44

#### 45 **During All Project Phases:**

- 1       • Equipment installed and maintained as part of the project shall include:
  - 2           - Spark arresters that are in good working order and meet applicable regulatory standards for
  - 3           all internal combustion engines (both stationary and mobile);
  - 4           - Fire suppression equipment on all motorized vehicles that includes, at minimum, one shovel
  - 5           and one pressurized chemical fire extinguisher;
  - 6           - A fire extinguisher capable of extinguishing any equipment-caused fire on all heavy
  - 7           construction equipment; and
  - 8           - Portable communication devices (e.g., radios or cellular telephones) and communication
  - 9           protocols for project workers to coordinate with local agencies and emergency personnel in
  - 10          the event of fire or other emergencies.
- 11       • Measures to be undertaken by the applicant or its contractors shall include:
  - 12           - Prohibiting smoking during the operation of light or heavy construction equipment; in
  - 13           wildland areas; and within 30 feet of any area where combustible materials (e.g., fuels, gases,
  - 14           and solvents) are stored;
  - 15           - Limiting smoking to paved areas or areas cleared of all vegetation;
  - 16           - Posting no-smoking signs and fire rules on project bulletin boards, at contractor field offices,
  - 17           and in other areas visible to workers during fire season;
  - 18           - Maintaining all worksites in an orderly, safe, and clean manner. Maintaining staging areas
  - 19           and parking areas free of extraneous flammable materials. Removing all oily rags and used
  - 20           oil filters from worksites;
  - 21           - Confining hot-work activities (e.g., welding, brazing, soldering, grinding, and arc cutting) to
  - 22           cleared areas with a minimum 10-foot clearance radius measured from place of hot-work
  - 23           activity;
  - 24           - Ensuring an appropriate fire extinguisher is present before initiating each hot-work activity;
  - 25           - Preventing vehicles with hot exhaust manifolds from idling on roads with combustible
  - 26           vegetation under the vehicles;
  - 27           - Ensuring all Blasting Plan (MM WQ-1) BMPs are followed, e.g., pre-blast and post-blast
  - 28           inspections;
  - 29           - Notifying the fire department with jurisdiction over the worksite in advance of all planned
  - 30           burning activities (e.g., to clear vegetation). Special care shall be taken to prevent damage to
  - 31           adjacent structures, trees, and vegetation during planned burning activities; and
  - 32           - Any additional fire prevention and detection measures to lower the risk of wildland fires.
- 33       • Measures to be undertaken by the applicant or its contractors for days when the National Weather
- 34       Service issues a Red Flag Warning for a project area shall include:
  - 35           - Abiding by all restrictions and requirements that may be imposed by fire departments during
  - 36           Red Flag Warning periods (e.g., parking restrictions; road closures; and work activity and
  - 37           equipment use restrictions and requirements); and
  - 38           - Prohibiting smoking at all worksites.

40 **Impact HZ-9 (VIG): Result in substantial safety risks to hang gliders.**  
41 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT*  
42

1 The proposed subtransmission line would be located in an area known to be used for hang glider landing.  
2 The vacant fields adjacent to Interstate-15 (I-15) where it crosses Nichols Road are used as a landing zone  
3 for hang gliders west of I-15. This area is about 1,250 feet east of 115-kV Segments VIG4 and VIG5.  
4 Overhead electrical lines are present along Pierce Street, Baker Street, and an unnamed dirt road  
5 approximately 650 feet southeast of the intersection of Baker Street and Pierce Street. The existing wood  
6 structures support a section of the Valley–Elsinore–Fogarty–Ivyglen 115-kV Subtransmission Line (with  
7 structures approximately 90 feet above ground surface) and distribution lines (with structures  
8 approximately 65 feet above ground surface). Proposed 115-kV Segments VIG4 and VIG5 would include  
9 the installation of replacement structures that range in height between 75 and 105 feet above ground  
10 surface along these existing subtransmission and distribution line ROWs. Although some of the proposed  
11 structures would be incrementally taller than some of the existing structures, the replacement of these  
12 structures would not substantially increase safety risks to hang gliders. Therefore, impacts under this  
13 criterion would be less than significant.  
14

#### 15 **4.8.5 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures (Alberhill Project)**

##### 16 **4.8.5.1 Project Commitments (Alberhill Project)**

17 The applicant has committed to the following as part of the design of the proposed Alberhill Project. See  
18 Section 2.6, “Project Commitments,” for a complete description of each project commitment.  
19

- 20
- 21  
22 • **Project Commitment A: Landscaping and Irrigation Plan:** ~~The~~ ~~Prior to the start of~~  
23 ~~construction,~~ the applicant would develop a Landscaping and Irrigation Plan for the proposed  
24 Alberhill Substation road frontage only along Temescal Canyon Road, Concordia Ranch Road  
25 and Love Lane that is consistent with surrounding community standards, substation security and  
26 safety requirements. The applicant would consult with Riverside County about the Plan and  
27 incorporate applicable County recommendations to the extent possible. Landscaping would be  
28 designed to filter views from the surrounding community and other potential sensitive receptors  
29 near the proposed substation and be consistent with the surrounding community. The landscape  
30 plan would include a plant species list and installation and construction requirements. The  
31 applicant would contract a landscape architect to complete the landscaping plan during final  
32 engineering for the Alberhill Project. Irrigation and landscaping installation would occur after  
33 construction of the proposed substation perimeter wall, and transmission poles/towers erected,  
34 underground utility lines/cable ducts installed, and water service has been established. During  
35 operations, the applicant would maintain the substation site pursuant to the Landscaping and  
36 Irrigation Plan and be responsible for upkeep as long as the applicant owns the property.
  - 37 • **Project Commitment B: Worker Environmental Awareness Plan:** Prior to construction, a  
38 Worker Environmental Awareness Plan would be developed based on final engineering designs,  
39 the results of preconstruction surveys, and mitigation measures developed by the California  
40 Public Utilities Commission. A presentation would be prepared by the applicant and shown to all  
41 site workers prior to their start of work. A record of all trained personnel would be kept with the  
42 construction foreman. In addition to the instruction for compliance with any site-specific  
43 biological or cultural resource protective measures and project mitigation measures. All  
44 construction personnel would also receive instruction on site-specific dust control, cultural  
45 resources identification, contaminant reduction practices, spill prevention and response  
46 procedures, emergency procedures, hazardous material safety, incident reporting, Best  
47 Management Practices, individual worksite responsibilities and legal requirements.
  - 48 • **Project Commitment F: Geotechnical Study, Soil Testing, and Seismic Design Standards:**  
49 Prior to the start of construction, the applicant would conduct geotechnical and hydrologic studies

1 and field investigations of the proposed Alberhill Substation site, 500-kV transmission line  
2 routes, and all 115-kV subtransmission line routes. The studies would include an evaluation of  
3 the depth to the water table, liquefaction potential, physical properties of subsurface soils, soil  
4 resistivity, and slope stability (landslide susceptibility). The studies would include soil boring and  
5 laboratory testing to determine the engineering properties of soils, would characterize soils and  
6 underlying bedrock units, characterize groundwater conditions, and evaluate faulting and  
7 seismicity risk. Soil samples would be collected and analyzed for common contaminants and the  
8 presence of hazardous materials. If chemicals are detected in the soil samples at concentrations  
9 above acceptable action levels, the applicant would avoid the contaminated soil or work with the  
10 property owner to remove the contaminated soil. The results of this study would be applied to  
11 final engineering designs for the proposed projects. The information collected would be used to  
12 determine final TSP foundation designs. In addition, the proposed Alberhill Substation would be  
13 located in an area susceptible to earthquakes. The applicant would design the proposed substation  
14 consistent with the applicable federal, state, and local codes, including the Institute of Electrical  
15 and Electronic Engineers 693 Standard, Recommended Practices for Seismic Design of  
16 Substations.

#### 17 18 **4.8.5.2 Impacts Analysis (Alberhill Project)**

19  
20 **Impact HZ-1 (ASP): Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the**  
21 **routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.**

22 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION*

23  
24 Construction and operation of the proposed Alberhill Project would include the use, transport, and  
25 disposal of hazardous materials. Hazardous materials that would be used throughout the proposed  
26 Alberhill Project area during construction and operation include fuel, lubricants, and antifreeze associated  
27 with construction and maintenance equipment and vehicles, as well as paints, solvents, adhesives, and  
28 cleaning chemicals. Blasting would not occur as part of the proposed Alberhill Project.

29  
30 Construction vehicles would be fueled by existing offsite fuel supply facilities or from an offsite fuel  
31 supply truck temporarily brought onsite to provide fuel. Helicopters used for 500-kV transmission line  
32 construction and conductor stringing would be fueled by either the helicopter contractor's fuel truck or  
33 fuel service available at a local airport (e.g., Skylark Field). Helicopter fueling may occur at Skylark Field  
34 Airport, Perris Valley Airport, or the applicant's Chino Air Operations Facility, the proposed Alberhill  
35 Substation site, Staging Area ASP1, Staging Area ASP2, and Staging Area ASP3. Small quantities of fuel  
36 (10 to 40 gallons) would be stored onsite for gasoline-powered hand tools, small portable generators, and  
37 the emergency backup generator; otherwise, the applicant would not store bulk fuels at work sites during  
38 construction of the proposed Alberhill Project.

39  
40 Construction of the Alberhill Substation would require the transportation of approximately 134,200  
41 gallons of transformer oil. Federal and state laws regulate transport vehicle specifications, driver  
42 qualifications, and load container specifications used for transportation of the proposed volume of oil  
43 such that under normal conditions, no release of oil to the environment would occur.

44  
45 Construction waste would be managed in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations and  
46 requirements. The majority of construction-related waste would be inert material (clean soil, vegetation,  
47 metal scrap, packaging materials, etc.), most of which would be containerized and disposed of at a  
48 licensed facility. Hazardous wastes that are likely to be generated during construction include waste  
49 motor oils, used transformer oil, waste hydraulic fluids, discarded batteries, waste solvents and adhesives,  
50 aboveground storage tanks, contaminated water, and old conductor wire. Wooden utility poles and

1 wooden components treated with preservatives would be managed in accordance with California Health  
2 and Safety Code Section 25150.7 requirements. To comply with this code, the applicant would dispose of  
3 treated wooden poles only at a Class I hazardous landfill or in a composite-lined portion of a solid waste  
4 landfill unit that meets the requirements outlined in the code. During construction at the proposed  
5 Alberhill Substation site, the applicant or its contractor may encounter subsurface structures such as  
6 pipelines or unknown/undetected storage tanks, or materials resulting in a release of contaminants such as  
7 lead, asbestos, pesticides, or fuel, that may be associated with past uses.

8  
9 During operation, the applicant would store up to 134,200 gallons of transformer oil used as insulating  
10 media for the 500/115-kV transformers; approximately 960 gallons of diesel (Low-Sulfur Diesel No. 2)  
11 for the backup generator; and lead-calcium batteries would be stored in the control room at the proposed  
12 Alberhill Substation. Prior to operation, an SPCC plan would be developed and implemented. The  
13 proposed Alberhill Substation would be unstaffed, and electrical equipment within the proposed  
14 substation would be remotely monitored and controlled by an automated system from the applicant's  
15 Valley Substation Regional Control Center. The applicant's personnel would visit the proposed Alberhill  
16 Substation for electrical switching and routine maintenance purposes at least once per week. Routine  
17 maintenance would include equipment testing, equipment monitoring, and repair. Maintenance activities  
18 at the transmission and subtransmission lines would be inspection-related and would occur at least once  
19 per year by driving and/or flying the line routes. It is not anticipated that vehicle fueling would occur at  
20 the proposed substation site or along the transmission or subtransmission lines during routine  
21 maintenance.

22  
23 The applicant would transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials and petroleum products in  
24 accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations, including the preparation and  
25 implementation of an SPCC plan (40 CFR Part 112) and an HMBP (Riverside County Ordinance 651.3,  
26 California Health and Safety Code Section 25500) for construction and operation of the proposed  
27 Alberhill Substation. However, routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials and petroleum  
28 products could result in accidental releases or spills, representing a potentially significant hazard to the  
29 public and environment during construction and operations. The applicant would prepare and require all  
30 site workers to participate in Worker Environmental Awareness Plan training prior to construction, as  
31 described in Project Commitment B. The training would instruct workers on their individual  
32 responsibilities under the SWPPP, site-specific BMPs, and location of material safety data sheets. The  
33 Worker Environmental Awareness Plan would also instruct workers on proper procedures in the event of  
34 hazardous materials spills, leaks from equipment, or upon the discovery of soil or groundwater  
35 contamination. Project Commitment B would reduce impacts but not to less than significant. The  
36 applicant would also develop and implement a ~~Hazardous Material Management Plan~~ SWPPP (MM HZ-  
37 ~~1~~BR-15) that would address prevention, control, and clean-up of upset and accident conditions involving  
38 the release of hazardous materials. Impacts would be less than significant with implementation of MM  
39 ~~HZ-1~~BR-15.

40  
41 The closest aquatic resource, Lake Elsinore, is located 1 mile east of the closest Alberhill Project  
42 component. Spills that occur near storm drains that lead to Lake Elsinore or the other surface waters  
43 shown in Figure 4.9-2 could have a significant impact on water quality that could quickly spread  
44 downstream. Implementation of MM BR-15 would require the applicant to perform vehicle maintenance  
45 activities at a distance least 150 feet (or as specified by agency permits) from all aquatic resources  
46 recommended by a qualified SWPPP preparer. The SWPPP would also and MM HZ-1 would contain  
47 other standard measures related to require immediate cleanup of hazardous materials spills.

48  
49 Eleven hazardous material or waste sites were identified in proximity to proposed Alberhill Project  
50 components, and unrecorded hazardous material sites may also be present. It remains possible that  
51 hazardous materials or wastes from undocumented releases may be encountered along the proposed routes

1 because soil contamination in these areas has not been thoroughly investigated. Improper handling and  
2 disposal of soils from contaminated sites would result in a significant impact. The applicant would  
3 perform geotechnical studies along the 115-kV subtransmission line segments (Project Commitment F),  
4 which would include soil studies. The soil analysis studies would include the collection and analysis of  
5 soil samples for common contaminants and the presence of hazardous materials. If chemicals are detected  
6 in the soil samples at concentrations above acceptable levels, the applicant would avoid the  
7 contaminated soil or work with the property owner to remove it. In addition, the applicant would train  
8 construction personnel to notify the foreman and regional spill response coordinator in the event of  
9 hazardous materials spills and leaks from equipment or upon the discovery of soil or groundwater  
10 contamination (Project Commitment B). Project Commitments B and F would reduce impacts, but  
11 impacts would remain significant if unanticipated contamination is discovered. MM HZ-2 would require  
12 the applicant to develop a Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan, which would define  
13 procedures for soil and groundwater testing if unanticipated contamination is encountered.  
14 Implementation of MM HZ-2 would reduce the risk of improper handling and disposal of contaminated  
15 soil, contaminated groundwater, and spilled hazardous materials by generating accurate and precise data  
16 on the contamination extent and characteristic.

17  
18 In summary, compliance with applicable laws and regulations and implementation of Project  
19 Commitment B would reduce impacts under this criterion. However, implementation of ~~MM HZ-1~~, MM  
20 HZ-2; and MM BR-15 would reduce impacts under this criterion to a less than significant level.

## 21 **Mitigation Measures**

22  
23 **MM BR-15: Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs).**

24  
25 ~~MM HZ-1: Hazardous Materials Management.~~

26  
27 **MM HZ-2: Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan.**

28  
29 **Impact HZ-2 (ASP): Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through**  
30 **reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of**  
31 **hazardous materials into the environment.**

32 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION*

33  
34 Construction and operation of the proposed project would require the transport of large quantities (i.e.,  
35 more than 10,000 gallons) of new and used transformer oil to and from the proposed Alberhill Substation  
36 site. In addition, 960 gallons of Low-Sulfur Diesel No. 2 would be stored at the proposed substation site  
37 within the fuel tank of a backup generator. The transportation of oil, fuel, and hazardous materials would  
38 have the potential to leak along roadways and enter nearby sensitive areas. Federal and state regulations  
39 regarding hazardous materials/wastes are designed to ensure that the use, transport, storage, and disposal  
40 of hazardous materials are done safely and in a manner to avoid upset and accident conditions. Upset and  
41 accident conditions involving release of these materials would be a significant impact.

42  
43 The applicant would implement a SWPPP (MM BR-15), which would reduce the potential for stormwater  
44 ~~pollution, and would prevent the release of stored hazardous materials on site during construction,~~  
45 ~~which would be reviewed and overseen by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (MM BR-15).~~ The  
46 applicant would also develop and implement a Hazardous Material Management Plan (MM HZ-1) that  
47 ~~would address and would address~~ prevention, control, and cleanup of upset and accident conditions  
48 involving the release of hazardous materials. Impacts during construction of the substation would be less  
49 than significant with implementation of ~~these~~ this mitigation measures.

1 During operation of the proposed substation, the applicant would also implement an SPCC plan to  
2 prevent a release of stored hazardous materials on site during operation. In addition, an HMBP would be  
3 developed to describe and identify storage areas for hazardous materials and waste; describe appropriate  
4 handling, storage, and disposal techniques; and provide measures for avoiding and addressing spills. The  
5 substation would also have secondary containment around the transformer and a grading design that  
6 incorporates requirements from the SPCC plan. Typical required SPCC plan features include secondary  
7 containment, curbs, berms, and basins designed and installed to contain spills should they occur.  
8 Impacts would still be potentially significant. Project Commitment B would ensure that workers have a  
9 list of phone numbers of key personnel associated with the proposed project to ensure proposer  
10 communication during an emergency (e.g., environmental compliance coordinator and regional spill  
11 response coordinator). Compliance with the applicable regulations would reduce the potential for leakage  
12 of transported hazardous materials to less than significant.

13  
14 During construction activities, especially in the area of the proposed substation site, the applicant or its  
15 contractor may encounter subsurface structures such as pipelines or unknown/undetected storage tanks, or  
16 materials resulting in a release of contaminants such as lead, asbestos, pesticides, or fuel, that may be  
17 associated with past uses. It is not anticipated that hazardous materials would be encountered along the  
18 115-kV subtransmission lines because they would be constructed within existing ROWs. The applicant  
19 has stated that it performs Phase I ESAs and subsequent ESAs when acquiring property in fee or in  
20 easement. A review of state databases found that two active leaking underground fuel tank (LUFT)  
21 cleanup sites are located within 100 feet of 115-kV Segment ASP4 (Table 4.8-1), indicating that  
22 underground soil or groundwater contamination could be present along this route. Impacts may occur if  
23 fuel has spread offsite from one or both of the LUFT sites onto the ROW. These impacts are further  
24 discussed below under Impact HZ-4. Records searches indicated that no active cleanup sites are located  
25 within 0.3 miles of the proposed substation site, but lead- and asbestos-containing materials were  
26 identified and removed from the site (McKenna Environmental 2010). Additionally, demolition activities  
27 that took place at the site in 2011 indicated the presence of creosote-treated wood poles at the site. Past  
28 uses of the proposed substation site and the aboveground materials removed from the site during  
29 demolition activities indicate the potential presence of underground hazardous materials or petroleum  
30 products that could be disturbed and/or released during excavation activities.

31  
32 The Phase I and II ESAs indicate that four septic tanks and associated leach areas, a water well, and an  
33 aboveground water tank are located at the proposed Alberhill Substation site (Rubicon 2009a,b).  
34 Abandonment and abatement of the water well and septic systems are discussed in Section 4.9,  
35 "Hydrology and Water Quality." The applicant would dispose of the water in the aboveground tank at a  
36 facility licensed to accept water contaminated with oil and grease, and the water tank would be removed  
37 and disposed of in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. There could still be contamination  
38 on the substation site, which could lead to a potentially significant impact. As described in Project  
39 Commitment F, the applicant would conduct follow-up assessments to the Phase II ESA (Rubicon 2009b)  
40 at the proposed substation site, along the proposed 500-kV transmission lines, and along the proposed  
41 115-kV subtransmission lines. Soil samples would be collected and analyzed for common contaminants.  
42 If chemicals are detected in the soil samples at concentrations above ~~acceptable~~ action levels, the applicant  
43 would avoid the ~~above-threshold~~ contaminated soil or work with the property owner to remove it (Project  
44 Commitment F). In addition, construction personnel would be trained to notify the foreman and regional  
45 spill response coordinator in the event of hazardous materials spills and leaks from equipment or upon the  
46 discovery of soil or groundwater contamination (Project Commitment B). Project Commitments would  
47 reduce impacts, but the impacts would remain significant. The implementation of MM HZ-2 would  
48 address the potential for encountering subsurface sources of contamination throughout all areas that may  
49 be disturbed during construction of the proposed project or identified after conducting onsite evaluations  
50 for the presence of hazardous materials and other contaminants. Mitigation would reduce the potential for  
51 significant impacts related to below-ground contaminants to less than significant.

1  
2 Accidental contact with existing underground utility lines or private utilities line such as leach lines  
3 associated with a septic system during construction of the proposed Alberhill Project could release  
4 hazardous materials. Compliance with California Government Code 4216.1 (DigAlert) would reduce  
5 potential impacts to public utility lines. However, significant impacts would remain for private  
6 underground infrastructure. Prior to finalizing the engineering design, MM HZ-3 would require the  
7 applicant to contact the Underground Service Alert of Southern California to identify the exact locations  
8 of gas pipelines within the project area. In addition, the applicant will contact affected private landowners  
9 to determine if septic systems and associated leach fields, as well as other underground facilities, may be  
10 impacted by construction of the projects. Final engineering plans for the projects will be designed to  
11 avoid or minimize interference or damage to underground facilities, both public and private. Once  
12 identified, the applicant will immediately notify by telephone the owner of underground facilities that  
13 may have been damaged or dislocated during construction of the projects. The implementation of MM  
14 HZ-3 would reduce potential impacts to private underground infrastructure to less than significant.

15  
16 As described under Impact HZ-1 (ASP), the applicant would transport, use, or dispose of hazardous  
17 materials and petroleum products in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations.  
18 However, routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials and petroleum products could result in  
19 accidental releases or spills, representing a potential hazard to the public and environment during  
20 construction and operations.

21  
22 Felled aboveground transmission lines would pose a health and safety hazard to people in the area if  
23 people come in contact with active lines. Compliance with CPUC GO 95, GO 165, and GO 166 would  
24 reduce the risk and prevent significant impacts that may occur during accidents and natural events that  
25 would cause public safety hazards from damaged overhead electrical lines.

26  
27 In summary, compliance with applicable regulations and implementation of a SPCC plan, HMBP, Project  
28 Commitment B, and Project Commitment F would reduce the risk but not prevent significant impacts that  
29 may still occur from upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials. The  
30 implementation of a site-specific hazardous materials management plan (MM HZ-1), a SWPPP (BR-15),  
31 and a contaminated soil/groundwater contingency plan (MM HZ-2) would further prevent the potential  
32 for upset and accident conditions and would reduce impacts under this criterion to less than significant  
33 levels.

### 34 **Mitigation Measures**

35  
36 **MM BR-15: Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs).**

37  
38 **MM HZ-1: Hazardous Materials Management.**

39  
40 **MM HZ-2: Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan.**

41  
42 **MM HZ-3: Contacting Affected Landowners Regarding Underground Facilities DigAlert.**

43  
44 **Impact HZ-3 (ASP): Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous**  
45 **materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 miles of an existing or proposed**  
46 **school.**

47 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION*

48  
49 Twelve schools are located within 0.25 miles of the proposed Alberhill Project 115-kV subtransmission  
50 segments (Table 4.8-2). No schools are located within 0.25 miles of the proposed Alberhill Substation site

1 or 500-kV transmission line routes. Construction and operation of the 115-kV subtransmission segments  
2 would not involve the handling or emission of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials as defined by  
3 CEQA Section 21151.4 in quantities equal to or greater than the state threshold quantities specified in  
4 Section 25532 of the California Health and Safety Code.

5  
6 Diesel-powered vehicles and construction equipment would be used during construction of the proposed  
7 Alberhill Project. The California Air Resources Board considers diesel exhaust emissions toxic. Diesel  
8 exhaust would be emitted within 0.25 miles of schools along the proposed 115-kV subtransmission line  
9 segments; however, because construction activities would be temporary and would not take place at any  
10 single location for an extended period, impacts from diesel exhaust emissions would be less than  
11 significant.

12  
13 As discussed under Impact HZ-1 (ASP) and Impact HZ-2 (ASP), hazardous materials could be released  
14 during construction or operation of the proposed Alberhill Project. However, Project Commitments B and  
15 F and implementation of ~~MM HZ-1~~, MM HZ-2, MM HZ-3, and MM BR-15, in addition to compliance  
16 with applicable laws and regulations, would reduce impacts under this criterion to less than significant  
17 levels.

18  
19 ***Mitigation Measures***

20 **MM BR-15: Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs).**

21  
22 ~~**MM HZ-1: Hazardous Materials Management.**~~

23  
24 **MM HZ-2: Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan.**

25  
26 **MM HZ-3: Contacting Affected Landowners Regarding Underground Facilities DigAlert.**

27  
28 **Impact HZ-4 (ASP): Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites**  
29 **compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result,**  
30 **would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.**  
31 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION*  
32

33 As described in Section 4.8.1.1, Cortese List (Government Code Section 65962.5) database searches did  
34 not identify solid waste disposal sites, sites with Cease and Desist Orders or Cleanup and Abatement  
35 Orders, or DTSC EnviroStor and hazardous waste sites within 1,000 feet of components of the proposed  
36 Alberhill Project (DTSC 2015a,b; SWRCB 2015a,b,c). Two open-case LUFT sites (Table 4.8-1),  
37 however, were listed in the SWRCB Geotracker database that would be located less than 100 feet from  
38 115-kV Segment ASP4. No other open-case SWRCB Geotracker sites were identified within 1,000 feet of  
39 the proposed Alberhill Project. There are also nine other Cortese List sites, including eight closed-cased  
40 LUFT sites and an open-case DTSC voluntary cleanup site.

41  
42 The two LUFT sites are located on the property of operational gas stations (Yellow Pages 2015b). It is not  
43 anticipated that excavation along 115-kV Segment ASP4, which would occur within an existing ROW,  
44 would expose contaminated soils, but impacts could occur if the fuel leaks have spread underground from  
45 the LUFT sites into the ROW or if undocumented sites or released are discovered. This would lead to a  
46 potentially significant impact. MM HZ-2 would require the applicant to develop a Contaminated  
47 Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan to address the potential for encountering subsurface sources of  
48 contamination throughout all areas to be disturbed during construction of the proposed Alberhill Project.  
49 Therefore, impacts under this criterion would be less than significant with mitigation.  
50

1 Several potentially contaminated soil and/or groundwater sites have been identified adjacent to proposed  
2 Alberhill Project components, as indicated in Table 4.8-1. Excavation and handling of contaminated soils  
3 associated with these sites or any other previously unrecorded contaminated site would result in a  
4 significant impact. The applicant would perform geotechnical studies along the proposed 500-kV  
5 transmission lines and 115-kV subtransmission line segments (Project Commitment F). The geotechnical  
6 studies would include the collection and analysis of soil samples for common contaminants and the  
7 presence of hazardous materials. If chemicals are detected in the soil samples at concentrations above  
8 acceptable action levels, the applicant would avoid the above-threshold contaminated soil or work with the  
9 property owner to remove it. In addition, the applicant would train construction personnel to notify the  
10 foreman and regional spill response coordinator in the event of hazardous materials spills and leaks from  
11 equipment or upon the discovery of soil or groundwater contamination (Project Commitment B). Impacts  
12 would still be potentially significant without guidelines to adhere to during construction activities. MM  
13 HZ-2 would require the applicant to develop a Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan, which  
14 would define procedures for soil and groundwater testing. Impacts would be less than significant with  
15 implementation of MM HZ-2.

### 16 **Mitigation Measure**

#### 17 **MM HZ-2: Contaminated Soil/Groundwater Contingency Plan.**

18  
19  
20 **Impact HZ-5 (ASP): For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan**  
21 **has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use**  
22 **airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or**  
23 **working in the project area.**

24 *NO IMPACT*

25  
26 Proposed 115-kV Segment ASP8 would be located approximately 1.6 miles southeast of Perris Valley  
27 Airport but would not be located within a Perris Valley Airport Land use zone under the adopted Perris  
28 Valley Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Riverside County ALUC 2004c). 115-kV Segment ASP8  
29 would be located within the Perris Valley Airport Compatibility Zone E under the draft version of the  
30 revised Perris Valley Airport Land Use Plan (Riverside County ALUC 2010). Applicable development  
31 conditions within Perris Valley Airport Compatibility Zone E include required airspace review for  
32 developments over 150 feet due to concerns about compatibility with airport activities (Riverside County  
33 ALUC 2004b). The segment would also be located within an Aircraft Approach Accident Risk Intensity  
34 Contours, which indicates that the proposed segment would be located in an area with statistically higher  
35 potential for accidents based on nationwide data (Riverside County ALUC 2010).

36  
37 The proposed 115-kV Segment ASP8 would be located within the applicant's existing ROW, on the south  
38 side of the existing Valley-Serrano 500-kV transmission line. The line would have LWSPs and TSPs that  
39 would range from 70 to 115 feet tall. Because these structures are less than 150 feet in height, installation  
40 of these structures would not require airspace review under the draft version of the revised Perris Valley  
41 Airport Land Use Plan. Furthermore, the existing Valley - Serrano 500-kV transmission line lattice steel  
42 towers range from 129 to 132 feet above the ground and would be taller than the LWSPs and TSPs that  
43 would be installed as part of 115-kV Segment ASP8. Installation of 115-kV Segment ASP8 would  
44 therefore not result in a significant safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area and  
45 there would be no impact under this criterion.

46  
47 Airspace hazards, in general, are discussed in Section 4.15, "Traffic and Transportation."  
48

1 **Impact HZ-6 (ASP): For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project**  
2 **result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.**  
3 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT*  
4

5 Sections of 115-kV Segments ASP4 and ASP5 would be located less than 1,000 feet east of Skylark Field  
6 Airport (Figure 2-2b). Construction would occur along an existing 115-kV subtransmission line and  
7 within an existing ROW.  
8

9 The lightweight steel poles installed along 115-kV Segments ASP4 and ASP5 within the Influence Area  
10 of Skylark Field Airport would range in height from 70 to 115 feet (Figure 2-6). The Skylark Field  
11 Airport manager stated that an initial review of the project did not raise concerns with regard to the  
12 proposed Alberhill Project as long as the structures installed are less than 120 feet high (Gulledge  
13 personal communication 2010). The 115-kV structures would range from 70 to 115 feet tall. Because the  
14 proposed structures would be less than 120 feet in height, installation of structures along ASP4 and ASP5  
15 within the vicinity of the Skylark Field Airport would not result in a safety hazard for people working in  
16 the project area. Impacts under this criterion would be less than significant.  
17  
18

19 **Impact HZ-7 (ASP): Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency**  
20 **response plan or emergency evacuation plan.**  
21 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT*  
22

23 No emergency or evacuation routes are identified in the Riverside County General Plan, Riverside County  
24 EOP, or Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, the City of Lake Elsinore General Plan, or the City of Menifee  
25 Draft General Plan in the vicinity of any of component of the proposed Alberhill Project (County of  
26 Riverside 2006, 2008, 2012; City of Lake Elsinore 2011; City of Menifee 2013). The City of Orange's  
27 EOP does not define evacuation routes for emergencies (City of Orange 2010).  
28

29 Construction activities completed within or along public streets would be conducted in accordance with  
30 local ordinances, applicable general plan policies, Riverside County EOP and Multi-Jurisdictional Local  
31 Hazard Mitigation Plan, and control measures published in the California Joint Utility Traffic Control  
32 Manual (California Inter-Utility Coordinating Committee 2014). In places where the components of the  
33 proposed Alberhill Project would span a road or require lane closure, construction activities would be  
34 coordinated with the local jurisdiction in accordance with local ordinances and permit conditions to avoid  
35 closure of emergency routes. Traffic Control Plans would be developed and implemented as required by  
36 Riverside County and the cities of Lake Elsinore, Menifee, and Wildomar during local permitting  
37 processes that would provide traffic control services to ensure adequate flow of traffic during lane or road  
38 closures (Section 4.15, "Transportation and Traffic").  
39

40 Operation of the proposed Alberhill Project would not result in lane closures or other obstructions to area  
41 roads or traffic. Maintenance would be performed consistent with local ordinances, applicable general  
42 plan policies, the Riverside County EOP and Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and  
43 control measures published in the California Joint Utility Traffic Control Manual (California Inter-Utility  
44 Coordinating Committee 2014). Therefore, impacts under this criterion would be less than significant.  
45

46 **Impact HZ-8 (ASP): Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death**  
47 **involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to**  
48 **urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands.**  
49 *LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION*  
50

1 Construction, operation, and maintenance activities associated with the proposed Alberhill Project would  
2 increase fire risk during refueling, vehicle and equipment use, welding, vegetation clearing, worker  
3 cigarette smoking, and other activities. Fires could ignite when objects contact the proposed power lines  
4 or other energized equipment, when a live-phase conductor falls to the ground, due to conductor-to-  
5 conductor contact, or due to power surges.

6  
7 During construction, the applicant would clear vegetation from the proposed Alberhill Substation site and  
8 staging areas and along access roads and power line routes. Landscaping and irrigation would be installed  
9 after the proposed Alberhill Substation wall is constructed and maintained during operation of the  
10 proposed Alberhill Project (Project Commitment A). To address fire risk during operation of the proposed  
11 Alberhill Substation, the applicant would install an early-detect smoke and fire detection system in the  
12 proposed Alberhill Substation control room. Handheld fire extinguishers rated for electrical fire would be  
13 available in the control building and within the proposed Alberhill Substation boundary. The 500-kV  
14 transmission lines, transformer bank leads, and 115-kV operating buses would have lightning arresters.

15  
16 Additionally, the proposed transmission and subtransmission facilities would be constructed and  
17 maintained in a manner consistent with California Public Resources Code Sections 4291 through 4299,  
18 which regulate vegetation management. Per these regulations, the applicant would maintain vegetation  
19 clearance areas around the proposed Alberhill Substation and transmission and subtransmission lines. The  
20 proposed Alberhill Project would also be constructed and maintained in a manner consistent with CPUC  
21 GO 95, GO 165, and GO 166 for power line construction, inspection, and safety.

22  
23 Because components of the proposed Alberhill Project would be located in Very High Fire Hazard  
24 Severity Zones and in areas identified by CAL FIRE as having significant potential for large, destructive  
25 wildfires (CAL FIRE 2005), construction of the proposed Alberhill Project would substantially increase  
26 fire risk regardless of fire prevention systems that would be installed, vegetation clearing, and compliance  
27 with applicable laws, regulations, and standards. Operation of the proposed Alberhill Project would also  
28 increase fire risk. These impacts would be potentially significant given nearby residential areas. MM HZ-  
29 4 presents requirements for a Fire Control and Emergency Response Plan that would reduce the risk of  
30 fire and impacts that would result should a fire occur. Implementation of MM HZ-4 would ensure that  
31 impacts under this criterion are less than significant during construction and operation.

### 32 **Mitigation Measure**

#### 33 **MM HZ-4: Fire Control and Emergency Response.**

#### 34 **Impact HZ-9 (ASP): Result in substantial safety risks to hang gliders.**

35 *NO IMPACT*

36  
37  
38  
39 The proposed subtransmission line would be located in an area known to be used for hang glider landing.  
40 The vacant fields adjacent to Interstate-15 (I-15) where it crosses Nichols Road are used as a landing zone  
41 for hang gliders west of I-15. This area is about 1,250 feet east of 115-kV Segment ASP2. Here, 115-kV  
42 ASP2 would be placed on existing structures installed as part of proposed 115-kV Segments VIG4 and  
43 VIG5 and would not require increasing the height of the structures. Therefore, installation of 115-kV  
44 ASP2 would not result in substantial safety risks to hang gliders and there would be no impact under this  
45 criterion.

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