

D.16 Mandatory Findings of Significance

The mandatory findings of significance include three additional criteria not covered in any of the environmental resource analyses. For the purposes of the following evaluation, the Project would cause a significant impact if any of the following apply:

- Has the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.
- Has impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects).
- Has environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

D.16.1 Quality of the Environment

As discussed in D.4, Biological Resources, the Project would not have a significant impact on biological resources including fish and wildlife habitat, populations, or communities. The Project would not significantly impact rare or endangered species. The implementation of all Biological APMs and MMs would reduce impacts to less than significant levels (Class II).

The Project would not affect cultural resources, including California history or prehistory, as discussed in Section D.5, Cultural Resources. The Project would avoid the identified cultural resources located near the proposed subtransmission route and Fogarty Substation site. The implementation of all Cultural APMs and MMs would reduce impacts to less than significant levels (Class II).

D.16.2 Cumulatively Considerable

No Project impacts identified as less than significant would result in a cumulatively significant impact. No mitigation is required (Class III). As discussed at the end of every environmental analysis sections D.2 through D.15, the following individually significant impacts would contribute to cumulatively significant impacts:

- Visual Resources
- Agricultural Resources
- Land Use
- Air Quality

D.16.3 Effects on Human Beings

The Project would result in significant impacts to the following resource areas:

- Visual Resources
- Agricultural Resources
- Land Use
- Air Quality

However, none of these significant impacts would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings as discussed in Sections D.2, D.3, D.10, and D.14. These impacts, although significant and unavoidable, would not cause direct or indirect substantial adverse effects on human beings.