

This section discusses CEQA Guidelines Section 15358 (a) (2) and CPUC PEA Guidelines requirements for addressing potential indirect impacts of a proposed project. Indirect effects are those impacts resulting from the development of a project (both construction and operation-related impacts) that occur either after implementation of the project or at some distance away from the project. General examples of indirect effects include impacts resulting from development that could change the land use patterns, population density or growth rate and resultant impacts on environmental conditions such as air quality, water quality, and other natural systems. Specific examples of an indirect impact are the resultant air quality, traffic, and noise impacts associated with a truck traveling to and from a construction site.

As described in Section 8.0, the proposed project and alternatives are not anticipated to induce growth. Rather, the proposed project would allow SCE, in compliance with CPUC requirements, to interconnect and integrate potential alternative energy projects (owned by other entities) and SCE's electrical system, as discussed in Section 2.0 of this PEA. The Antelope Transmission Project is not intended to supply power related to potential growth for any particular development or area.

Residential, commercial, and industrial growth and residential population increases in the area of the proposed project (northern Los Angeles County and the incorporated jurisdictions traversed by the transmission lines, and unincorporated areas in southern Kern County) are managed at the local and county levels and are anticipated to occur consistent with the general and specific plans approved by each jurisdiction. Refer to Section 4.10 for a description of these approved plans.

The development of this project would not influence planned or future residential or commercial developments. Further, development of the proposed Antelope Transmission Project – Segments 2 and 3 is not expected to cause any indirect impacts to land use, population density or growth rate, or any resultant impacts to natural systems. Additionally, no significant long term indirect changes or growth can be reasonably attributed solely to this project.

Segments 2 and 3 of the proposed Antelope Transmission Project are designed primarily to accommodate transmission and integration of projected new alternative energy generation by non-SCE entities, as required by the CPUC. Assuming Segments 2 and 3 are approved and implemented, they would facilitate the implementation of related wind farm developments by other entities. To the extent that this project facilitates expansion of alternate energy development, the project could benefit the environment by facilitating non-polluting energy production. The project would also indirectly contribute to the environmental effects caused by the wind farm development, since the project is necessary to allow the planned wind farm development to occur.