

# Chapter 15—Public Services, Utilities, and Service Systems

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## 15.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the existing conditions and potential impacts on public services and utilities and services systems as a result of the project. Public services include fire and police protection, and maintenance of public facilities such as schools and hospitals. Utilities and service systems include power, natural gas, communications, water treatment and distribution, sewer and septic facilities, storm water drainage, solid waste disposal, and local and regional water supplies. Figure 5-1 illustrates the public services located within a 1-mile radius of the proposed project facilities. No significant impacts will occur to public services or utilities and service systems as a result of this project.

### 15.1.1 Methodology

Information for analysis of impacts was obtained from literature searches and personal communications with local public service providers.

## 15.2 Existing Conditions

### 15.2.1 Fire Protection

#### Alameda County Fire Department

Fire protection for the City of Dublin is provided through a contract arrangement with the Alameda County Fire Department (ACFD). The ACFD has two stations within the City of Dublin. ACFD Station 15 is located on Broder Road and ACFD Station 16 is located on Donohue Drive. The ACFD has 29 firefighters on staff for both stations in Dublin. Station 15 houses one full-time engine company, one engine, and one Type III engine for structures and wildland fires. The station also contains the apparatus and equipment for the Volunteers of the Alameda County Fire Department. Station 16 contains one engine, one truck, and a fire patrol. ACFD services include fire suppression, hazardous materials mitigation, paramedic services, urban search and rescue, fire prevention, and public education.

#### Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) was formed in January 1997 by the consolidation of the Cities of Livermore and Pleasanton Fire Departments. The LPFD is responsible for fire protection for all areas within the city limits of both Pleasanton and Livermore. The Department is staffed by a total of 100 firefighters, 20 chief officers and 6 support staff (Basso, 1999). LPFD has an average response time of 5 minutes for the first response unit and 7 minutes for the second response unit.

The LPFD operates out of eight stations. It has an automatic aid agreement with the fire department at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), which allows LLNL firefighters to respond to fires in the LPFD jurisdiction, as well as to those at LLNL. Other mutual aid agreements include the Alameda County Mutual Aid Plan, where aid can be requested at any time from the California Division of Forestry, the Alameda County Fire Department, or the Tracy Rural Fire District.

## 15.2.2 Police Protection

### Alameda County Sheriffs Department

The Alameda County Sheriffs Department provides support services to the Dublin and Pleasanton Police Departments on an as-needed basis. The department is a full service operation, with the exception of dispatch operations, which are provided through the Eden Township Substation in San Leandro. The police-to-population ratio in Alameda County is 1.4 police officers per 1,000 people. The average response time is approximately 5 minutes.

### City of Pleasanton Police Department

The Pleasanton Police Department provides police service within the City of Pleasanton limits. The department maintains a central police facility and has approximately 80 sworn officers, 29 civilians, 22 volunteers and 14 reserve officers. The department has 24 police cars, 8 motorcycles, and 7 bicycles. The current response time is 4 minutes for an emergency and 18 minutes for an overall response time.

## 15.2.3 Schools

### Pleasanton Unified School District

Pleasanton is served by the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD). In 1999, the PUSD had a total of 11,800 students enrolled. The district provides primary and secondary school education to the City of Pleasanton and surrounding unincorporated areas. The district operates 8 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, and 2 high schools.

### Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) serves the City of Livermore, a majority of the unincorporated area east of Livermore in Alameda County, and a portion of unincorporated Contra Costa County. The district currently has 12 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 2 high schools, and 2 alternative/continuation high schools. In February 1999, LVJUSD had an enrollment of 13,291 students (McConnell, 1999).

## 15.2.4 Hospitals

### City of Pleasanton

Pleasanton has one major hospital, Valleycare Medical Center, in addition to a variety of clinics and private physicians. A Kaiser Permanente medical facility, Pleasanton Urgent Care, and the Tri-Valley Surgery Center are also located in the city.

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**Figure 15-1 Public Services Within a 1-Mile Radius of Proposed Project Facilities**

**Slip sheet 1 of 2 for Figure 15-1**

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**Figure 15-1 Public Services Within a 1-Mile Radius of Proposed Project Facilities**

**Slip sheet 2 of 2 for Figure 15-1**

## 15.2.5 Local Utilities

The City of Pleasanton is currently served by TCI Communications for cable television, Pacific Bell for telephone services, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company for natural gas and electric needs. A detailed description of PG&E load projections and current capacity is presented in Chapter 2, Project Description.

### Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Service

#### City of Pleasanton

The City of Pleasanton Water Division acquires and distributes water to all customers and is responsible for securing adequate water supply, meeting strict quality standards, and maintaining all storage and distribution facilities. The division purchases water from Zone 7 of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. Zone 7 water is delivered from the State Water Project from the South Bay Aqueduct, from surface runoff collected in the Del Valle Reservoir, and from local groundwater (City of Pleasanton, 1996). Pleasanton's current contract with Zone 7 entitles the City to use a maximum production capacity of 50 million gallons per day (mgd) and an average consumption of 26 mgd.

The City of Pleasanton Sewer Division operates and maintains the city's sewer collection and storm drainage systems. The Dublin San Ramon Services District provides sewage treatment. The district facility is designed to accommodate a maximum daily capacity of 11.5 mgd of wastewater. The City of Pleasanton is entitled to 7.1 mgd of the facility's capacity. Treated wastewater is pumped to the Livermore-Amador Valley Water Management Agency (LAVWMA) for discharge into the San Francisco Bay.

Pleasanton currently has a franchise agreement with Pleasanton Garbage Service. The Pleasanton Garbage Service collects solid waste from homes and businesses and transports the materials to the Pleasanton Transfer Station, where recyclable materials are separated. Pleasanton Garbage Service contracts with Browning Ferris industries for disposal at the Vasco Road Landfill in Livermore.

## 15.3 Potential Impacts

### 15.3.1 Significance Criteria

Standards of significance were derived from Appendix G of the revised CEQA Guidelines. Impacts to public services and utilities and service systems would be significant if they resulted in any of the following:

- Interference with emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans
- The need for new or altered government services, such as fire and police protection, schools, parks, or maintenance of public facilities
- A breach of published national, state, or local standards relating to solid waste or litter control
- Contamination of a public water supply
- Extension of a sewer trunk line with capacity to serve new development

- The need for new or altered water or wastewater treatment facilities or storm drainage facilities
- The need for new or expanded water supply

### 15.3.2 Construction Impacts

#### Public Services

**Impact 15.1.** The demand for public services, such as fire and police protection, schools, hospitals, and maintenance of public facilities, will not significantly increase during construction of the project.

Construction activities could potentially disrupt services provided by underground and overhead utilities. Prior to construction, surveys will be conducted to locate all underground and overhead utilities in the project area. Before any ground disturbance occurs, PG&E will contact Underground Service Alert to verify the location of existing underground utilities to ensure that they are avoided. In addition, construction schedules will be coordinated with local service agencies and utilities to coordinate construction schedules and work along roadways. Potential impacts would be less than significant, and mitigation is not required.

#### Police and Fire Protection

**Impact 15.2.** During construction, the project would require the temporary closure of traffic lanes and subsequent impedance of traffic on several roadways. In some instances construction may require temporary lane closures. This could have a potentially significant impact on police and fire emergency response times and emergency evacuation plans. This impact is addressed in Chapter 11, Transportation, and potential impacts would be less than significant with implementation of mitigation measures described in Section 11.4.

#### Hospitals

**Impact 15.3.** Construction activities will not physically affect local hospitals. Given the size of local hospital facilities and the number of construction workers relative to the number of physicians and facilities available, potential medical emergencies among construction crews will not place an undue burden on the local hospitals. The potential impact is less than significant.

#### Water and Sewer Service

**Impact 15.4.** Construction of the project would not increase the demand for public water supply, nor would it jeopardize the water quality of the public water supply system, or impact sewer services. The only demand for water would be for domestic use by construction crews and water brought in for dust control. Potable water for drinking and portable restrooms would be brought in during construction. Water used for dust control would be brought in by truck. Potential impacts would be less than significant.

#### Solid Waste

**Impact 15.5.** Non-hazardous waste materials generated during construction will be deposited in a local landfill. The Altamont and Vasco Road landfills are capable of receiving

construction waste from the project. The project would not result in the breach of published national, state, or local standards relating to solid waste or litter control, and potential impacts would be less than significant.

### 15.3.3 Operation Impacts

#### Public Services

No impacts would result to public services during operation of the project. PG&E maintains transmission lines and substations on a regular basis and there is no need for local government involvement in maintenance activities.

#### Local Utilities

**Impact 15.6.** As described in Chapter 2, the project is needed to meet the electric demand in the Tri-Valley area. By increasing the amount of energy available during peak demand in the area, the project will make the existing systems more efficient while reducing the possibility of power shortages. No impacts to other utilities would occur.

## 15.4 Mitigation Measures

#### Construction

Because no significant impacts have been identified, mitigation measures are not required.

#### Operation

Because no significant impacts have been identified, mitigation measures are not required.

## 15.5 References

Case, Jack, Central Contra Costa Sanitary District. 1999. Personal Communication with K. Swanson, CH2M HILL. March.

Connely, Sue, Pleasanton Unified School District. 1999. Personal Communication with K. Swanson, CH2M HILL. March.

Touray, Jacque, Livermore Water Reclamation Center. 1999. Personal Communication with D. Sokolove, CH2M HILL. July.