5.17 Utilities and Service Systems

UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Significance criteria established by CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G.

5.17.1 Setting

Utility and service system facilities associated with electricity, domestic (potable) water, stormwater, solid waste, communications, and natural gas are provided and maintained by a variety of local purveyors, including cities, counties, special districts, water agencies, and private companies. Utilities such as domestic water, wastewater and stormwater sewers, and natural gas are usually transmitted via underground pipelines or conduits (Town of Windsor 2011). Electrical and telecommunication services can be installed underground or overhead on utility poles. Most urban utility and public service infrastructure is located within public rights-of-way. The new substation and distribution lines would be located within the Town of Windsor. Table 5.17-1 lists applicable utility providers.

Table 5.17-1. Utility Providers

Natural gas – PG&E

Electricity – PG&E

Water – Town of Windsor (Utility Billing and Field Services)

Wastewater – Town of Windsor, Windsor Wastewater Treatment Reclamation and Disposal Facility

Telephone – AT&T

Solid Waste – Windsor Refuse & Recycling

Landfills Used: Healdsburg Transfer Station, Sonoma County (for processing and transfer, no storage); Hay Road Landfill, Solano County; Central Disposal Site, Sonoma County.

Sources: Town of Windsor 2011; Sonoma County Waste Management Agency 2011; Carter 2011.

Windsor is served chiefly by the Hay Road Landfill, but the Central Disposal Site also provides some disposal services (Carter 2011). However, other landfills have served the town in the recent past and may do so again in the future (PG&E 2010). Table 5.17-2 lists the total and remaining capacities of solid waste processors currently serving the Town of Windsor.

Table 5.17-2. Landfill Capacities

Landfill Name	Total Capacity (cu.yd.)	Remaining Capacity (cu.yd.)	Remaining Capacity (percent)	Maximum Throughput (tons/day)
Hay Road Landfill	37,000,000	30,433,000	82.3	2,400
Sonoma County Central Landfill	19,779,250	9,470,629	47.9	2,500

Source: CalRecycle 2011a, b.

5.17.2 Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures

a. Would the project exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT. The project area is within the jurisdiction of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). Currently, the site is undeveloped and generates no wastewater. Minimal wastewater would be generated by workers during project construction, and any wastewater would be disposed of offsite consistent with RWQCB requirements. The construction-related increase in wastewater would be temporary and would represent a very small fraction of the permitted flow for the wastewater treatment capability within Windsor. Upon completion of construction, the proposed project would not generate wastewater because the proposed substation would be an automated facility. The volume and quality of project wastewater would not exceed the treatment requirements of the RWQCB, and this impact would be less than significant.

b. Would the project require, or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT. The proposed project would generate minimal water demand or wastewater. Construction work crews would bring their own drinking water to the site and portable toilets would be provided. The Town of Windsor would supply both potable water for irrigation and water for construction purposes from an existing valve box along Old Redwood Highway at the eastern front of the proposed substation site (PG&E 2011). Existing wastewater and water treatment facilities are adequate to accommodate the demand generated by the proposed project (See Section 5.17.2[a] and [d]). Upon completion of construction, the proposed project would not generate substantial demand for water or wastewater treatment, because the substation would be an unstaffed, automated facility. Thus, the project would not require or result in the construction or expansion of water or wastewater treatment facilities, and this impact would be less than significant.

c. Would the project require, or result in the construction of, new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT. Construction of the proposed project could temporarily accelerate sedimentation and reduce surface water quality by disturbing the immediate area of the substation. Stormwater drainage features, along with the construction best management practices (BMPs), would manage project-

related stormwater without using offsite facilities. Substation site grading during construction would alter existing onsite drainage patterns so that runoff from the proposed substation pad would flow into a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) retention pond on the western end of the site (near the railroad right-of-way). From this pond, runoff would be pumped or directed into the existing drainage system along the northwestern boundary of the site, an underground concrete pipe that parallels Herb Road. Approximately 200 feet from Old Redwood Highway the underground pipe discharges into an existing 24-inch culvert under Herb Road. From there, a drainage ditch extends approximately 300 feet to Sotoyome Creek. A second 24-inch culvert under a private lane exists between the project site and Sotoyome Creek. (PG&E 2011-2013).Because no new or expanded drainage facilities would be required for the project, this impact would be less than significant.

d. Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Proposed project from existing entitlements and resources, or would new or expanded entitlements be needed?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT. Water would be required during construction for dust control, fire suppression, and cleaning of construction equipment. Portable toilets would be provided during construction and crews would be provided with bottled water for drinking. The Town of Windsor would supply both potable water for irrigation and water for dust control from an existing valve box along Old Redwood Highway at the eastern front of the proposed site (PG&E 2011). The amount of water needed for dust suppression during construction would be minimal in comparison to available municipal water supplies, and water use for construction would be temporary. Upon completion of construction, the proposed project would only require water for landscaping irrigation. The proposed project would not be expected to exceed the existing water supplies available, so this impact would be less than significant.

e. Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the Proposed project that it has adequate capacity to serve the Proposed project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT. The proposed project would generate minimal wastewater during construction. As discussed in Section 5.17.2(a) above, existing wastewater facilities would adequately accommodate the minor demand caused by project construction while serving existing commitments. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

f. Would the project be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the Proposed project's solid waste disposal needs?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT. Construction-related solid waste would be transported to the Healdsburg Transfer Station. After consolidation, the bulk of the waste would go to the Hay Road Landfill in Solano, the remainder potentially going to the Central Disposal Site in Sonoma County (Carter 2011). Small amounts of construction debris (such as concrete and metal), and would be transferred to a number of potential disposal sites in Sonoma County (Carter 2011). Total solid waste generated by construction of the proposed project would be minor and within the capacity of existing landfills serving the project area. Therefore, the impact of solid waste disposal would be less than significant.

g. Would the project comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

NO IMPACT. The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, which emphasizes resource conservation through reduction, recycling, and reuse of solid waste guide solid waste management requires that localities conduct a Solid Waste Generation Study (SWGS) and develop a Source Reduction Recycling Element (SRRE). The proposed project would operate in accordance with these applicable Solid Waste

Management Policy Plans by including recycling where feasible. As identified in Section 5.17(f) above, the landfills serving the site would have sufficient capacity to accommodate project construction solid waste disposal needs, and project solid waste disposal would not require the need for new or expanded landfill facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would comply with federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste disposal limits and landfill capacities. No impact would occur.