

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102-3298



Mitigated Negative Declaration

Olinda Last Mile Underserved Broadband Project

1 Introduction

2 The Olinda Last Mile Underserved Broadband Project (Olinda Project, or the proposed project) would
3 involve construction of a second-generation, very-high-bit-rate digital subscriber line (VDSL2) fiber-
4 optic cable network with 25-megabit-per-second (Mbps) download speed and 5-Mbps upload speed
5 (25Mbps/5Mbps). Approximately 15.3 miles of new fiber-optic cable would be buried within protective
6 conduit along existing roads in southwestern Shasta County.
7

8 The proposed project would be funded in part by the California Advance Services Fund (CASF). On
9 October 3, 2013, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) adopted Resolution T-17411
10 approving CASF funding of the Grant Application for construction of TDS Telecom's (TDS's, or the
11 applicant's) proposed project. On May 12, 2016, the CPUC adopted Resolution T-17517 to provide
12 additional CASF funding for the environmental review and completion of the proposed project.
13

14 Resolution T-17411 stipulates that prior to receiving CASF funding, the applicant is required to provide a
15 Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) and the CPUC must complete California Environmental
16 Quality Act (CEQA) review. The applicant submitted a PEA to the CPUC on August 5, 2015. ¹
17

18 Background and Description of Project

19 The Olinda Project would be located approximately 11 miles south of the city of Redding in
20 unincorporated portions of southwestern Shasta County, near the communities of Happy Valley, Olinda,
21 and Igo. The majority of the proposed project area is used for agriculture, with limited residential and
22 commercial properties dispersed throughout. Public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management
23 (BLM) lies near the western portion of the proposed project area, but the proposed project is not within
24 BLM jurisdiction. The proposed project consists of installation of the following components:
25

- 26 • **New high-speed broadband fiber-optic cable:** TDS would construct a VDSL2 fiber-optic
27 network capable of 25 Mbps/5 Mbps download/upload speed. Approximately 15.3 miles of 96-
28 count, shielded fiber-optic telecommunications cable within 1.25-inch-diameter, high-density
29 polyethylene conduits would occur along existing roads within the proposed project area.

¹ The applicant's PEA and other source documentation referenced herein is available as part of the project's administrative record accessible via <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/ene/olinda/olinda.html>

- **Equipment cabinets on top of buried vaults and cross-connect boxes at Digital Loop Carrier (DLC) sites:** TDS would construct seven new DLC sites and renovate up to six existing sites. Each DLC would consist of an equipment cabinet; a large, partially buried vault (handhole); and a cross-connect box. Equipment cabinets would be installed on top of the buried handholes. Gravel would be placed in a 20-square-foot area around each equipment cabinet.

The proposed alignment would run alongside Shasta County roads between Igo and the applicant's central office in Happy Valley. TDS has completed applications and submitted plans to the County to secure the required encroachment permits for locations where installations would occur along Shasta County roads. No additional right-of-way (ROW) would be required. No construction work shall commence until the applicant has obtained all approvals. In accordance with the CPUC's General Order 131-D, approval of this project must comply with CEQA.

The CPUC has prepared this Initial Study (IS) pursuant to CEQA for the proposed project to determine if any significant adverse effects on the environment would result from project implementation. The IS utilizes the significance criteria outlined in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. If the IS for the project indicates that a significant adverse impact that could not be mitigated to a less-than-significant level could occur, the CPUC would be required to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

According to Article 6 (Negative Declaration Process) and Section 15070 (Decision to Prepare a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration) of the CEQA Guidelines, a public agency shall prepare or have prepared a proposed Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for a project subject to CEQA when:

(a) *The initial study shows that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project may have a significant effect on the environment, or*

(b) *The initial study identifies potentially significant effects, but:*

(1) *Revisions in the project plans or proposals made by, or agreed to by the applicant before a proposed mitigated negative declaration and initial study are released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur, and*

(2) *There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project is revised may have a significant effect on the environment.*

Based on the analysis in the IS, it has been determined that all project-related environmental impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level with the incorporation of applicant proposed measures and other mitigation measures. Therefore, adoption of an MND will satisfy the requirements of CEQA.

The information contained in the proposed project's PEA and additional information requested by the CPUC during the PEA review were fully considered during the preparation of this IS/MND.

Copies of the project application, PEA, and supporting technical studies are available on the project website at: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/ene/olinda/olinda.html>

1 Project Objective

2 The CASF program provides funds for the deployment of broadband infrastructure in unserved and
3 underserved areas of California. TDS’s subsidiary in the proposed project area is Happy Valley Telecom
4 (Happy Valley). Happy Valley provides voice and broadband services in the area as the sole wireline
5 internet service provider. TDS’s existing land-based telecommunications system in the proposed project
6 area consists of direct-buried copper lines and is able to provide basic telephone and 911 services. Dial-up
7 Internet services are available, but the transfer rate is limited to a non-broadband speed of 56 kilobits per
8 second.² TDS has targeted the proposed project area for broadband deployment because of existing
9 customer demand and because the project is considered economically feasible with the assistance of
10 CASF grants.

11
12 The applicant’s stated objective is to make affordable broadband Internet services available to currently
13 underserved areas in Shasta County.
14

15 Applicant Proposed Measures

16 TDS included proposed project protocols in the August 2015 PEA that would be followed during project-
17 related activities. Project protocols are specific to environmental issue areas and are herein termed
18 "applicant proposed measures" (or "APMs"), as listed in Table 1. ~~Additional~~ ~~M~~ mitigation measures,
19 listed in Table 2, are also identified to ensure that impacts of the proposed project would be less than
20 significant. The additional mitigation measures supplement ~~or supercede~~ the APMs.
21

22 Section 6 of this document includes a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) to ensure that
23 the APMs and mitigation measures presented below are properly implemented. The plan describes
24 specific actions required to implement each APM and mitigation measure, including information on
25 timing of implementation and monitoring requirements. Following project approval, the CPUC would
26 prepare and implement a Mitigation Monitoring Compliance and Reporting Program to ensure
27 compliance with mitigation measures approved in the Final IS/MND.
28

Table 1 Applicant Proposed Measures

APM Number	Description
Air Quality	
APM AQ-1	<p>TDS will require all construction contractors to implement the following measures for fugitive Particulate Matter (PM) less than 10 microns in diameter (PM10) control during construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All disturbed areas, including bulk material storage that is not being actively utilized, shall be effectively stabilized, and visible emissions shall be limited to no greater than 20 percent opacity for dust emissions by using water, chemical stabilizers, dust suppressants, tarps, or other suitable material such as vegetative ground cover. • All on- and off-site unpaved roads will be effectively stabilized, and visible emissions shall be limited to no greater than 20 percent opacity for dust emissions by non-toxic chemical stabilizers, dust suppressants, and/or watering. • All track-out and carry-out will be cleaned at the end of each workday or immediately when mud or dirt extends a cumulative distance of 15 linear m (50 linear feet) or more onto a paved road within an urban area. • Bulk material shall be stabilized prior to movement or at points of transfer with the application of sufficient water, the application of chemical stabilizers, or by sheltering or enclosing the operation and transfer line.

² 1 kilobyte per second is equal to 0.001 Mbps.

Table 1 Applicant Proposed Measures

APM Number	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle speed for all construction vehicles shall not exceed 24.1 km (15.0 miles) per hour on any unpaved surface at the construction site.
Biological Resources	
APM BIO-1	All waterways and wetlands in the project area will be bored beneath and avoided during construction.
APM BIO-2	Bore pits will be placed a minimum distance of 5 m (16 feet) beyond either the top of waterway banks or the maximum extent of any vegetation present along the waterways' margins.
APM BIO-3	Bore pits will be placed a minimum distance of 76 m (250 feet) beyond either the edge of seasonal wetlands or the maximum extent of any vegetation present along the wetlands' margins.
APM BIO-4	A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be developed and will include Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will be implemented during construction to minimize or eliminate sediment transport from areas subject to ground disturbance.
APM BIO-5	All orchards will be avoided during construction.
APM BIO-6	No trees will be removed during project construction. If vegetation trimming is required to complete the installations, trimming will be kept to the absolute minimum necessary.
Cultural Resources	
APM CR-1	Happy Valley Ditch will be avoided via subsurface boring.
APM CR-2	Cloverdale Cemetery and the Igo Inn will be avoided by rerouting the fiber-optic lines to the opposite side of the road.
APM CR-3	In the event that undiscovered historical or archaeological resources are encountered by construction personnel, all ground-disturbing activities within 30.5 m (100.0 feet) of the find in non-urban areas and 15.2 m (50.0 feet) in urban areas will be temporarily halted or diverted and a qualified archaeologist will be contacted to assess the discovery.
APM CR-4	If human remains are discovered or recognized in any location, construction personnel will suspend further excavation or disturbance of the site and any nearby areas reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains until the County coroner has been informed and has determined that no investigation of the cause of death is required.
APM CR-5	In the event that fossil remains are encountered by construction personnel, qualified paleontological specialists will be contacted. Construction within 30.5 m (100.0 feet) of the find in non-urban areas and 15.2 m (50.0 feet) in urban areas will be temporarily halted or diverted until a qualified vertebrate paleontologist examines the discovery.
Greenhouse Gas Emissions-Geology and Soils	
APM GEO-1	TDS will require the contractor to manage construction-induced sediment and excavated spoils in accordance with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for stormwater runoff associated with construction activities.
APM GEO-2	Prior to the onset of construction, TDS or its authorized contractor will complete a SWPPP that outlines BMPs to control discharges from construction areas.
APM GEO-3	No construction-related materials, wastes, spills, or residues will be discharged from the project.
APM GEO-4	The staging of construction materials, equipment, and excavation spoils will be performed outside of drainages.
APM GEO-5	Excavated or disturbed soil will be kept within a controlled area surrounded by a perimeter barrier that may include silt fence, hay bales, straw wattles, or a similarly effective erosion control technique that prevents the transport of sediment from a given stockpile.
APM GEO-6	All stockpiled material will be covered or contained in such a way that off-site runoff is eliminated.
APM GEO-7	Upon completion of construction activities, excavated soil will be replaced and graded so that post-construction topography and drainage matches pre-construction conditions.
APM GEO-8	Surplus soil will be transported from the site and disposed of appropriately.

Table 1 Applicant Proposed Measures

APM Number	Description
Hazards and Hazardous Materials/Fire Safety	
APM HAZ-1	TDS and/or their contractor will ensure proper labeling, storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials in accordance with BMPs and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA's) Hazardous Waste and Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) requirements.
APM HAZ-2	TDS and/or their contractor will ensure that employees are properly trained in the use and handling of hazardous materials and that each material is accompanied by a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).
APM HAZ-3	Any small quantities of hazardous materials stored temporarily in staging areas will be stored on pallets within fenced and secured areas and protected from exposure to weather. Incompatible materials will be stored separately, as appropriate.
APM HAZ-4	All hazardous waste materials removed during construction will be handled and disposed of by a licensed waste disposal contractor and transported by a licensed hauler to an appropriately licensed and permitted disposal or recycling facility to the extent necessary to ensure the area can be safely traversed.
APM HAZ-5	Spill clean-up kits would be provided and kept on-site during construction, and equipment would remain in good working order to prevent spills. Significant releases or threatened releases of hazardous materials will be reported to the appropriate agencies.
APM HAZ-6	Workers shall be instructed regarding the danger of wildland fire and the need to carefully park equipment in areas without dry, brushy vegetation. All work vehicles shall be equipped with a working fire extinguisher. All cigarettes and trash shall be disposed of in proper containers and taken off-site at the end of the day.
Noise	
APM NOI-1	All construction equipment operation shall be limited to the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. No construction operations shall occur on weekends or holidays or during nighttime hours.
Traffic	
APM TRA-1	TDS and/or their contractors will require the project contractor to obtain all necessary local road encroachment permits prior to construction and will comply with all the applicable conditions of approval.
APM TRA-2	As deemed necessary by the applicable jurisdiction, the road encroachment permits may require the contractor to prepare a traffic control plan in accordance with professional engineering standards prior to construction.
APM TRA-3	TDS and/or their contractors will develop circulation and detour plans to minimize impacts to local street circulation. This will include the use of signing and flagging to guide vehicles through and/or around the construction zone.
APM TRA-4	TDS and/or their contractors will schedule truck trips outside of peak morning and evening commute hours.
APM TRA-5	TDS and/or their contractors will limit lane closures during peak hours to the extent possible.
APM TRA-6	TDS and/or their contractors will include detours for bicycles and pedestrians in all areas potentially affected by project construction.
APM TRA-7	TDS and/or their contractors will install traffic control devices as specified in the <i>California Department of Transportation Manual of Traffic Controls for Construction and Maintenance Work Zones</i> .
APM TRA-8	TDS and/or their contractors will coordinate with local transit agencies for the temporary relocation of routes or bus stops in work zones as necessary.
Utilities and System Services	
APM PSU-1	TDS and/or their contractors will recycle solid waste generated during construction, to the extent practicable.

Table 2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Description
General	
MM GEN-1	Implementation of All APMs. The applicant will implement all APMs as stated in this environmental document, except in cases where they are superseded by Mitigation Measures, and the physical and operational components of the project will not exceed the limits of Shasta County roads, roadways, and right-of-ways. The APMs will be incorporated into the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program.
Biological Resources	
MM BIO-1	Nesting Birds Avoidance. Should construction activities take place between February 1 and August 31, a CPUC-approved qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey to identify active nests with the potential to be disturbed by construction within seven days of the onset of construction in areas within 200 feet of potential nesting bird habitat. Should active nests be detected within 200 feet of a construction area, the biologist will establish a buffer around the nest large enough to ensure that construction will not disturb the nesting pair. The buffer limits shall be identified where they meet the construction area using flagging or signage. If construction must take place within the buffer (e.g., the nest cannot be bored underneath and avoided), the biologist shall monitor the nesting pair for signs of disturbance for as long as construction activities remain within buffer limits. If the nesting pair shows signs of disturbance, the biologist will halt construction activities within the buffer until the pair exhibits normal behavior. If, in the biologist's best judgement, the presence of construction may threaten nest success, construction activities will be prohibited within the buffer until the nest is no longer active. Should construction activities in a given area lapse for more than seven days, the biologist shall re-survey that area. Results of surveys shall be submitted to the CPUC within one week of completion. <u>The applicant shall ensure that all pre-construction survey results are sent to CDFW at: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Attn: CEQA, 601 Locust Street, Redding, CA 96001.</u>
Cultural	
MM CUL-1	<p>Worker Education Program. TDS shall design and implement a Worker Education Program that requires training for all project personnel, including construction supervisors and field personnel, who may encounter and/or alter previously identified and as yet unidentified archaeological and/or architectural resources, including any that may be determined historical resources or unique archaeological resources. All construction workers shall receive this Worker Education Program training before engaging in field operations.</p> <p>The Worker Education Program shall include training that covers, at a minimum, the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of the prehistory, Native American ethnography/ethnohistory, and history of the proposed project area; • A review of the types of prehistoric, ethnographic/ethnohistoric, and historic archaeological and architectural resources, including artifacts, features, and/or human remains, that could be identified in the proposed project area, including, but not limited to, those that could be associated with historic archaeological site CA-SHA-3373H (Landfill Mining Complex), the former community of Piety Hill, historic archaeological site CA-SHA-3382H (Happy Valley Ditch), the historic Igo Inn, or the historic Cloverdale Cemetery (also known as Oak Cemetery or Happy Valley Cemetery), which is still in use today. • A review of applicable local, state, and federal ordinances, laws, and regulations pertaining to archaeological resources, architectural or other built resources (including prehistoric and ethnographic/ethnohistoric Native American and historic [Euro-American] archaeological and architectural or other built resources), human remains, tribal cultural resources, cultural resources management, and historic preservation;

Table 2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A discussion of procedures to be followed in the event that unanticipated cultural resources or human remains are discovered during implementation of the proposed project; • A discussion of disciplinary and other actions that could be taken against persons violating historic preservation laws and TDS policies; and • A statement by the construction company or applicable employer agreeing to abide by the Worker Education Program, TDS policies and procedures, and other applicable local, state, and federal ordinances, laws, and regulations. <p>A copy of the materials included as part of the worker education program will be provided to Native American tribes participating in the AB 52 consultation with the CPUC, if requested.</p> <p>This MM shall be coordinated with MM Geology and Soils (GEO)-1</p>
MM CUL-2	<p>Cultural Resources Monitoring. For the purpose of this MM, cultural resources refers to archaeological resources (prehistoric and historic; known or previously unidentified); historic architectural resources (structures, buildings, and objects); and resources associated with California Native American tribes (sub-surface or above-ground). Cultural resources is a general term and does not account for significance (i.e., a historical resource, unique archaeological resource, or tribal cultural resource). TDS shall ensure that a CPUC-approved archaeologist that meets the Secretary of Interior’s Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology and has specific experience in the identification of human remains conducts monitoring with regard to cultural resources during construction of the proposed project. The qualified archaeologist shall be approved prior to the start of construction by the CPUC Project Manager (PM).</p> <p>The CPUC-approved archaeologist shall prepare a Monitoring and Treatment Plan for Cultural Resources. Prior to commencement of construction, TDS shall submit the Monitoring and Treatment Plan to the CPUC for review and approval. This plan will include a description of when the Wintu Tribe of Northern California (Wintu) will be notified and when the Wintu will conduct monitoring of the construction activities (see MM TCR-2). The CPUC PM will approve or request changes to the Monitoring and Treatment Plan for Cultural Resources within seven days of submittal by TDS. Once the CPUC PM approves the Monitoring and Treatment Plan for Cultural Resources, TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved archaeologist implements the approved plan. A courtesy copy will be provided to the Wintu Tribe.</p> <p>The CPUC-approved archaeologist shall monitor the effects of all construction-related work conducted within locations with the potential to contain previously unidentified cultural resources and within 200 feet of the known archaeological resources according to the Monitoring and Treatment Plan for Cultural Resources.</p> <p>TDS, in consultation with the CPUC-approved archaeologist, shall implement the following procedures as part of the monitoring for cultural resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A CPUC-approved archaeologist shall conduct monitoring during construction in those locations within the API with the potential to contain previously unidentified cultural resources, as identified in the Monitoring and Treatment Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - These areas shall include within 200 feet of known archaeological resources, consisting of sites CA-SHA-3373H and CA-SHA-3382H; within 200 feet of known historic architectural resources, consisting of the Igo Inn and the Cloverdale Cemetery; and within 200 feet of the Piety Hill historical marker (State of California 2017g, 2017h; The Historical Marker Database 2017).

Table 2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TDS shall erect protective barriers with signage identifying any exclusion area due to the presence of known cultural resources (if applicable) as an “environmentally sensitive area.” <p>The CPUC-approved archaeologist shall have the authority to implement the procedures in MM CUL-3 if an unanticipated cultural resource is discovered at any time and in any location during construction of the proposed project, including in the vicinity of any of the known archaeological resources, known historic architectural resources, and other resources.</p> <p>At the conclusion of monitoring for cultural resources, TDS shall submit a Monitoring Report documenting the results of the monitoring activities to the CPUC for review and approval. The report shall be prepared by the CPUC-approved archaeologist. The CPUC PM will approve or request changes to the report within seven days of submittal by TDS.</p>
MM CUL-3	<p>Treatment for Unanticipated Cultural Resources Discoveries. For the purpose of this MM, cultural resources has the same definition as noted per MM CUL-2. TDS shall immediately halt and exclude construction work within 100 feet of the discovery of an unanticipated cultural resource, and the CPUC-approved archaeologist shall inspect the unanticipated resource. At the request of the CPUC-approved archaeologist, TDS shall install protective barriers with signage identifying the exclusion area as an “environmentally sensitive area.”</p> <p>Per the CPUC-approved archaeologist’s discretion and knowledge of potential resources types, if the resource has the potential to be important to a Native American tribe, MM TCR-2 will be followed.</p> <p>Avoidance: If the CPUC-approved archaeologist determines the resource can be avoided, and no impacts would occur, TDS shall notify the CPUC of the unanticipated resource within 24 hours of its discovery and confirm that it can be avoided. As part of the notification, the resource will be described with sufficient detail to allow the CPUC an understanding of how the resource will be avoided and how no impacts would occur. TDS may proceed with construction work in the area of discovery.</p> <p>TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved archaeologist records the unanticipated cultural resource on the appropriate California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms. TDS shall submit the completed DPR 523 forms to the CPUC for review and approval within 48 hours of the find. The CPUC PM will approve or request changes to the DPR 523 forms within seven days of submittal by TDS. Once approved, TDS shall file the DPR 523 forms with the Northeast Information Center (NEIC) and shall provide a copy of the DPR 523 forms to the CPUC for its records.</p> <p>Evaluation: If TDS determines that it cannot avoid the unanticipated resource, the CPUC-approved archaeologist shall evaluate the resource to determine if there is a potential for it to be a historical resource (CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5(a)) or a unique archaeological resource (PRC 21083.2(g)).</p> <p>The following procedures will be implemented, if the resource cannot be avoided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the discretion of the CPUC-approved archaeologist, if the resource is not potentially a historical or unique archaeological resource, TDS may proceed with construction upon notification to the CPUC within 24 hours via email of the find and proper recordation on the appropriate DPR 523 forms. TDS may proceed with construction work in the area of discovery. <p>TDS shall submit the DPR 523 forms to the CPUC for review and approval within 48 hours of the find. The CPUC PM will approve or request changes to the DPR 523 forms within seven days of submittal by TDS. Once approved, TDS shall file the completed DPR 523 forms with</p>

Table 2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Description
	<p>the Northeast Information Center and shall provide a copy of the DPR 523 forms to the CPUC for its records.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the CPUC-approved archaeologist, determines that the resource is potentially a historical or unique archaeological resource, the CPUC-approved archaeologist shall prepare an Evaluation Plan that details the procedures to be used to determine whether the resource is a historical or unique archaeological resource. The CPUC PM will approve or request changes to the Evaluation Plan within three days of submittal by TDS. • Once the CPUC PM has approved the Evaluation Plan, TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved archaeologist implements the approved Evaluation Plan. <p>Evaluation Plan Implementation: When fieldwork implemented as part of the approved Evaluation Plan is completed, the CPUC-approved archaeologist shall prepare an Evaluation Memo that describes the results of the evaluation. TDS shall submit the Evaluation Memo to the CPUC for review and approval. The CPUC PM will approve or request changes to the Evaluation Memo within seven days of submittal by TDS.</p> <p>After implementation of the Evaluation Plan, TDS may proceed with work in the area of the discovery, if the following occurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CPUC-approved archaeologist determines that the unanticipated resource is not a historical or unique archaeological resource, and • The CPUC PM concurs with that recommendation. <p>Data Recovery Plan: If after implementation of the Evaluation Plan, the CPUC-approved archaeologist recommends that the unanticipated resource is a historical or unique archaeological resource, TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved archaeologist prepares a Data Recovery Plan that would reduce impacts on the potential historical or unique archaeological resource to less than significant.</p> <p>TDS shall ensure that the Data Recovery Plan is prepared by the CPUC-approved archaeologist in accordance with CEQA Guidelines section 15126.4(b)(3)(C) and PRC section 21083.2 and describes methods that will yield relevant information. TDS shall submit the Data Recovery Plan to the CPUC for review and approval. The CPUC PM will approve or request changes to the Data Recovery Plan within seven days of submittal by TDS. Once the CPUC PM approves the Data Recovery Plan, TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved archaeologist implements the approved plan.</p> <p>When fieldwork implemented as part of the approved Data Recovery Plan is completed, the CPUC-approved archaeologist shall prepare a Data Recovery Field Memo that briefly describes the results of the data and materials recovery. TDS shall submit the Data Recovery Field Memo to the CPUC for review and approval. The CPUC PM will approve or request changes to the Data Recovery Field Memo within seven days of submittal by TDS. Once the CPUC PM has approved the Data Recovery Field Memo, TDS may proceed with construction work in the area of the discovery.</p> <p>TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved archaeologist prepares a more detailed Data Recovery Report within 90 days of the CPUC's approval of the Data Recovery Field Memo. TDS shall ensure that the Data Recovery Report presents a thorough discussion of the data recovery efforts, presents the conclusions drawn from the data recovery work, and indicates where materials associated with the Data Recovery will be curated; it shall also contain the appropriate completed California DPR 523 forms. TDS shall submit the Data Recovery Report to the CPUC for review and approval. Once</p>

Table 2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Description
	the CPUC PM approves the Data Recovery Report, TDS shall file the Data Recovery Report and the appropriate completed California DPR 523 forms with the NEIC.
MM CUL-4	<p>Conduct Class III cultural resources surveys for unsurveyed work areas. Prior to construction, TDS shall compare the limits of the proposed areas of disturbance (i.e., where surface disturbance and sub-surface activities will occur) to the portion of the proposed project area for which a Class III Cultural Resources Survey has been prepared (Howell and Copperstone 2017). TDS then shall verify that all proposed areas of disturbance for the proposed project have been surveyed at the Class III Cultural Resources Survey level. TDS shall provide this verification, consisting of a written statement and accompanying project maps, to the CPUC for review and approval. Notification also will be sent as a courtesy to the Wintu.</p> <p>If the CPUC PM concurs that the 2014 Class III Cultural Resources Survey for the proposed project (Howell and Copperstone 2017) sufficiently covered the proposed areas of disturbance, TDS may commence construction work as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If no known resources are located in the areas of disturbance based on the 2014 Class III Cultural Resources Survey, construction-related work for the proposed project can proceed. • If known resources or areas of potential archaeological sensitivity are located in the areas of disturbance based on the Class III Cultural Resources Survey, they must be monitored pursuant to MM CUL-2. • Any unanticipated cultural resources that are discovered during construction work activities shall be subject to MM CUL-3. <p>If the 2014 Class III Cultural Resources Survey for the proposed project does not sufficiently cover the proposed areas of disturbance, TDS shall notify CPUC of this determination. TDS shall ensure that a CPUC-approved archaeologist conducts a supplemental Class III Cultural Resources Survey of the unsurveyed areas, and TDS shall provide the report documenting the results of the supplemental Class III Cultural Resources Survey to the CPUC for review and approval. Any newly identified resources will be treated similar to an unanticipated discovery. Those that are not historical resources or unique archaeological resources will be subject to monitoring as noted in MM CUL-2; for those that may be historical resources or unique archaeological resources, the procedures identified in MM CUL-3 shall be followed. TDS shall not commence construction work until the CPUC PM reviews and approves the results, conclusions, and recommendations of the supplemental Class III Cultural Resources Survey. Copies of the documentation for these activities will be provided to the Wintu.</p>
MM CUL-5	<p>Treatment of Human Remains. In the event of the discovery or recognition of human remains during construction, including, but not limited to, in the vicinity of the Cloverdale Cemetery, the following steps shall be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDS shall ensure that there is no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains while TDS in consultation with the CPUC PM and the Wintu, contacts the Shasta County Coroner, and the coroner works to determine if the human remains are modern, historic, prehistoric, and/or Native American and to determine whether an investigation of the cause of death is required. • Further, pursuant to California PRC Section 5097.98(b), TDS shall ensure that the area containing the discovered or recognized human remains is left in place and free from disturbance until the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work makes a final decision as to the treatment and disposition of the human remains. • For this proposed project, the CPUC considers the site or any nearby area to be the 100-foot exclusion area developed for the Cloverdale Cemetery and the 200-foot monitoring area for the

Table 2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Description
	<p>Cloverdale Cemetery, within which cultural monitoring of the cemetery is being conducted pursuant to MM CUL-2/3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the Shasta County Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, then the coroner shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 24 hours, and the NAHC shall identify the person or persons from which the NAHC believes the deceased to be the "most likely descendent." • The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work by which the human remains were discovered or recognized regarding means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and associated grave goods as provided in California PRC Section 5097.98. <p>TDS shall notify the CPUC within 24 hours of receiving notification of the landowner's, or the person responsible for the excavation work's, decision for the final treatment or disposition of the human remains and associated grave goods.</p>
Geology and Soils	
MM GEO-1	<p>Worker Education Program. TDS shall design and implement a Worker Education Program that requires training for all project personnel, including construction supervisors and field personnel, who may encounter and/or alter previously identified and as yet unidentified paleontological resources, including any that may be determined to be a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature. All construction workers shall receive this Worker Education Program training before engaging in field operations.</p> <p>The Worker Education Program shall include training that covers, at a minimum, the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of the types of paleontological resources that could be identified in the proposed project area; • A review of applicable local and state ordinances, laws, and regulations pertaining to paleontological resources; and • A discussion of procedures to be followed in the event that paleontological resources are discovered during implementation of the proposed project. <p>This program shall be coordinated with the cultural resources training provided as part of Section 5.5 Cultural Resources, MM CUL-1.</p>
MM GEO-2	<p>Paleontological Monitoring. TDS shall ensure that a CPUC-approved paleontologist conducts paleontological monitoring for the proposed project. The qualified paleontologist shall be approved prior to the start of construction by the CPUC.</p> <p>The CPUC-approved paleontologist shall prepare a Paleontological Monitoring Plan. Prior to commencement of construction, TDS shall submit the Paleontological Monitoring Plan to the CPUC for review and approval. The CPUC will approve or request changes to the Paleontological Monitoring Plan within seven days of submittal by TDS. Once the CPUC approves the Paleontological Monitoring Plan, TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved paleontologist implements the approved plan.</p> <p>The Paleontological Monitoring Plan shall include the significance criteria for the fossils likely to be yielded by the Red Band and Tehama Formations, subject to CPUC-approval and outline how such criteria shall be applied to determine whether or not the paleontological resource is significant. In the absence of other agreed-upon criteria, a paleontological resource shall be considered unique if it meets the definition of a significant paleontological resource under the 2010 Society of Vertebrate</p>

Table 2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Description
	<p>Paleontology <i>Standard Procedures for the Assessment of Adverse Impacts to Paleontological Resources</i> definition:</p> <p>Significant paleontological resources are fossils and fossiliferous deposits, here defined as consisting of identifiable vertebrate fossils, large or small, uncommon invertebrate, plant, and trace fossils, and other data that provide taphonomic, taxonomic, phylogenetic, paleoecologic, stratigraphic, and/or biochronologic information. Paleontological resources are considered to be older than recorded human history and/or older than middle Holocene (i.e., older than about 5,000 radiocarbon years). (Society for Vertebrate Paleontology 2010)</p> <p>The CPUC-approved paleontologist shall monitor the effects of all construction-related work conducted in these areas according to a Paleontological Monitoring Plan that is prepared for the proposed project by the CPUC-approved paleontologist and approved by the CPUC prior to the start of construction.</p> <p>TDS, in consultation with the CPUC-approved paleontologist, shall implement the following procedures as part of paleontological monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A CPUC-approved paleontologist conducts paleontological monitoring during construction in the locations with the potential to contain paleontological resources. • TDS, in consultation with the CPUC-approved paleontologist, shall identify the locations within the proposed project area with the potential to contain paleontological resources. • TDS shall erect protective barriers with signage identifying each exclusion area as an “environmentally sensitive area.” <p>The CPUC-approved paleontologist shall have the authority to implement the procedures set forth in MM GEO-2 if a paleontological resource is discovered at any time and in any location during construction of the proposed project, including within, and outside of, the locations that have been identified as having potential to contain paleontological resources.</p> <p>At the conclusion of paleontological monitoring, TDS shall submit a report documenting the results of paleontological monitoring to the CPUC for review and approval. The monitoring report shall be prepared by the CPUC-approved paleontologist. The CPUC will approve or request changes to this monitoring report within seven days of submittal by TDS.</p>
MM GEO-3	<p>Treatment for Paleontological Resources. TDS shall immediately halt and exclude construction work within 100 feet of the discovery of a paleontological resource, and the CPUC-approved paleontologist shall inspect the paleontological resource. At the request of the CPUC-approved paleontologist, TDS shall install protective barriers with signage identifying the exclusion area as an “environmentally sensitive area.” TDS shall notify the CPUC of the paleontological resource discovery within 24 hours of its discovery.</p> <p>The CPUC-approved paleontologist shall examine the find and evaluate it to determine whether it is likely to be considered unique under Part V of CEQA Guidelines Appendix G based on the criteria set forth in the Paleontological Monitoring Plan.</p> <p>The CPUC-approved paleontologist shall prepare a report documenting the results of the evaluation of each discovered paleontological resource, or group of paleontological resources if located within the same exclusion area. TDS shall submit an evaluation report(s) to the CPUC for review and approval. The CPUC will approve or request changes to the evaluation report(s) within seven days of submittal by TDS. Once the CPUC has approved the evaluation report(s), the CPUC shall determine whether or not the paleontological resource is unique.</p>

Table 2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Description
	<p>If the CPUC, in consultation with the CPUC-approved paleontologist, determines that the paleontological resource is not unique, TDS may commence work in the area upon approval by the CPUC. If the CPUC, in consultation with the CPUC-approved paleontologist, determines that the resource is unique, preservation in place, i.e., avoidance, is the preferred method of mitigation for impacts to unique paleontological resources. If TDS, in consultation with the CPUC-approved paleontologist, determines that the unique paleontological resource can be avoided and thus not impacted, TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved paleontologist documents the resource(s) in accordance with professional standards, such as those in the 2010 Society of Vertebrate Paleontology <i>Standard Procedures for the Assessment of Adverse Impacts to Paleontological Resources</i>. TDS shall continue to flag the area for avoidance during construction, and no further treatment shall be required as long as the unique paleontological resource is avoided during construction of the proposed project.</p> <p>However, if the resource is found to be unique and TDS, in consultation with the CPUC-approved paleontologist, determines that it cannot feasibly be avoided, TDS shall consult with the CPUC to determine appropriate mitigation measures for the treatment of impacts on a unique paleontological resource as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation methods may include ensuring that fossils are recovered, prepared, identified, catalogued, and analyzed according to current professional standards under the direction of the CPUC-approved paleontologist. • Methods of recovery, testing, and evaluation shall adhere to current professional standards for recovery, preparation, identification, analysis, and curation, such as the 2010 Society of Vertebrate Paleontology <i>Standard Procedures for the Assessment of Adverse Impacts to Paleontological Resources</i>. • The CPUC-approved paleontologist shall present the mitigation measures that are agreed upon by the CPUC and TDS, in consultation with the CPUC-approved paleontologist, in a Paleontological Treatment Plan. <p>TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved paleontologist implements the approved Paleontological Treatment Plan, and TDS may commence work in the area with the CPUC's approval after the identified paleontological resource(s) have been recovered from the field (if recovery is implemented as part of mitigation) and upon approval by the CPUC.</p> <p>TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved paleontologist prepares a report documenting the results of the treatment within 90 days of the CPUC's approval of the Paleontological Treatment Plan. TDS shall ensure that the report presents a thorough discussion of the data recovery efforts, presents the conclusions drawn from the data recovery work, and indicates where the recovered unique paleontological resources will be curated. TDS shall submit the report documenting the treatment to the CPUC for review and approval. Once the CPUC approves this report, TDS shall curate the materials and shall provide a copy of the approved report documenting the treatment to CPUC for its records.</p>
Noise	
MM NOI-1	<p>Notify Local Landowners of Construction Activities. The applicant shall provide written notice to residences and landowners located within 50 feet of proposed project alignment at least within five days of commencement of construction activities at the street where works will occur. The notice shall state the date of planned construction activity in proximity to that landowner's property and the range of hours during which maximum noise levels may be anticipated.</p>

Table 2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Description
Transportation and Traffic	
MM TRAN-1	Road Repair. The applicant shall repair to pre-project conditions any roads damaged by project vehicle traffic. The applicant shall document roadway conditions with photographs prior to the project along roadways within the project area. The applicant shall take photographs after the project and after any repairs that document restoration of pre-project pavement conditions.
MM TRAN-2	Emergency Access. The applicant shall notify local emergency service providers (i.e., police departments, ambulance services, and fire departments) of lane closures at least one week prior to the closure. The applicant shall notify the provider of the location, date, time, and duration of the lane closure. The applicant shall make provisions to maintain emergency vehicle access at all times in coordination with local emergency service providers, such as allowing for bypass of slow vehicle traffic during lane closures.
Tribal Cultural Resources	
MM TCR-1	<p>Tribal Monitoring for Cloverdale Cemetery: One Native American monitor from the Wintu Tribe of Northern California (Wintu) shall be retained, at the Tribe's option, to observe ground-disturbing activities and all work within 200 feet of the Cloverdale Cemetery, subject to the conditions outlined in this mitigation measure.</p> <p>Wintu monitoring shall be subject to the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant shall give the Wintu Tribe of Northern California 14 days advance notice of construction in the vicinity of the Cloverdale Cemetery and shall provide the Wintu Tribe of Northern California with the opportunity to monitor construction activities in the vicinity of the Cloverdale Cemetery as requested in AB-52 consultation with CPUC. The applicant shall make a good-faith best effort to schedule construction activities in the vicinity of the Cloverdale Cemetery when a Wintu monitor is available. • The Wintu monitor's attendance during construction activities within 200 feet of the Cloverdale Cemetery is ultimately at the discretion of the Tribe, and the absence of a Wintu monitor shall not delay construction work if the Wintu Tribe of Northern California has been given 14 days advance notice. The applicant shall include documentation of its notification of, and communications with, the Wintu Tribe of Northern California for the Tribe's monitoring in the vicinity of Cloverdale Cemetery as part of the monitoring plan for the proposed project. <p>The Wintu monitor shall have the ability to temporarily halt work or redirect trenching from the immediate vicinity of a potential unanticipated find or the unanticipated discovery of human remains within 200 feet of the Cloverdale Cemetery. The Wintu monitor shall immediately notify the CPUC-approved archaeological monitor to follow the procedures for the discovery of unanticipated finds (per MM CUL-3) and/or for the unanticipated discovery of human remains per PRC section 5097.98.</p>
MM TCR-2	<p>Treatment for Unanticipated Tribal Cultural Resources. In the event a resource is discovered that, in the opinion of the CPUC-approved archaeologist may be considered a tribal cultural resource or a resource of importance to the Wintu Tribe, TDS shall notify the CPUC Project Manager (PM) and Wintu Tribe (Wintu AB 52 or cultural representative) within 24 hours of its discovery. As part of the notification, the resource will be described with sufficient detail to allow the CPUC PM/Wintu AB 52 or cultural representative an understanding of the resource.</p> <p>The CPUC-approved archaeologist, the CPUC PM, and the Wintu AB 52 or cultural representative will assess the potential significance of the find based on the notification information. If the CPUC-approved archaeologist, the CPUC PM, and Wintu AB 52 or cultural representative determine that the resource is not significant, TDS may proceed with construction within 24 hours of receiving notification of this determination.</p> <p>If the find is not determined to be significant, TDS shall submit the appropriate California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms to the CPUC for review and approval within</p>

Table 2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Description
	<p>48 hours of the find. The CPUC PM will approve or request changes to the DPR 523 forms within seven days of submittal by TDS. Once approved, TDS shall file the completed DPR 523 forms with the Northeast Information Center and shall provide a copy of the DPR 523 forms to the CPUC for its records.</p> <p>If the find is potentially significant, the following procedures will be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the resource can be avoided and the CPUC-approved archaeologist, CPUC PM, and Wintu AB 52 or cultural representative concur, TDS may proceed with construction work in the area of discovery. <p>TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved archaeologist records the unanticipated resource on the appropriate DPR 523 forms. TDS shall submit the DPR 523 forms to the CPUC for review and approval within 48 hours of the find. The CPUC PM will approve or request changes to the DPR 523 forms within seven days of submittal by TDS. Once approved, TDS shall file the completed DPR 523 forms with the Northeast Information Center and shall provide a copy of the DPR 523 forms to the CPUC for its records.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the Wintu request further consultation on a resource, the CPUC-approved archaeologist, CPUC PM, and Wintu AB 52 or cultural representative will consult on the development of the Evaluation Plan and/or the Data Recovery Plan and all subsequent documentation. The review and approval will be sought in the same timeframe for both the CPUC and Wintu AB 52 or cultural representative as that described in MM CUL-3. If the Wintu indicate that consultation with them regarding the Evaluation Plan and/or Data Recovery Plan is not needed, only the CPUC review and approval will be required for this plan(s), along with subsequent fieldwork and documentation. <p>Once the CPUC-approved archaeologist, CPUC PM, and Wintu AB 52 or cultural representative approve the Evaluation Plan and/or Data Recovery Plan, TDS shall ensure that the CPUC-approved archaeologist implements the approved plan. If a Wintu monitor is requested as part of the Evaluation and/or Data Recovery Plan, the role of the monitor will be outlined in the Evaluation Plan and/or Data Recovery Plan.</p>

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16

Environmental Determination

Pursuant to the Public Resource Code and CEQA Guidelines, the Lead Agency (CPUC) has prepared an IS for the proposed project to evaluate the proposed project’s potential effects on the environment and to evaluate the level of significance of these effects. The IS relies on information in the TDS’s PEA filed on August 5, 2015; TDS responses to data requests; project site reconnaissance by the CPUC environmental team in November 2016; comments received during the public review period; the CPUC’s independent analysis; and other environmental analyses.

Based on the IS, it is determined that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment with the incorporation of the proposed APMs and mitigation measures. The IS is available for review at the CPUC, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California 94102 and at:

- Shasta County Library, Anderson Branch at 3200 West Center St., Anderson, CA 96007; and
- Shasta County Library, Redding Branch at 1100 Parkview Ave., Redding, CA 96001.

1 **Review Period**

2 All comments regarding the correctness, completeness, or adequacy of this IS/MND must be received by
 3 the CPUC no later than 5:00 p.m. of May 31, 2019. The CPUC initiated a 31-day comment period starting
 4 April 30, 2019, and extending through May 31, 2019. All written comments must have been postmarked
 5 or received by fax or email no later than May 31. The comment period is now closed. The CPUC received
 6 written comments on the Draft IS/MND from the public.

7
 8 The following comments were received on the Draft IS/MND:
 9

Table 3 Written Comments Received on the Draft IS/MND

Name	Affiliation	Date Received
State and Local Agencies		
<u>Curt Babcock</u>	<u>California Department of Fish and Wildlife</u>	<u>5/30/2019</u>
Individuals		
<u>Jonathan Bank</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>2/19/2019¹</u>
Note: ¹ This comment was submitted by this commenter on 2/19/2019, prior to the 31-day comment period; however, it is still considered as a comment received on the Draft IS/MND.		

10
 11 The IS/MND, as well as TDS’s PEA for the Olinda Project are available at the project’s website:
 12 <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/ene/olinda/olinda.html>.
 13

14 **Revisions to the Draft IS/MND**

15 On May 30, 2019, CDFW submitted to the CPUC a comment letter (See Chapter 7). Text revisions to the
 16 Draft IS/MND in the relevant environmental analyses (see specifically Sections 5.4, “Biological
 17 Resources”; and 5.21 “Mandatory Findings of Significance”) to sufficiently analyze any potential
 18 environmental effects associated with issues raised in the comment letter.

19
 20 The revisions and clarifications to this Final MND do not amount to “substantial revisions” as defined in
 21 Section 15073.5 of the State CEQA Guidelines. The potential impact is already addressed (reduced to less
 22 than significant) by mitigation measures provided in the Draft IS/MND and a minor revision to a
 23 proposed boring site location (See Appendix F). Thus, no new significant effect is identified, and no new
 24 mitigation measure or project revisions are needed to reduce any effect to insignificance.

25 **Contact Person**

Connie Chen

10/07/2019

 Connie Chen, Project Manager
 Infrastructure Permitting and CEQA
 California Public Utilities Commission
 505 Van Ness Avenue
 San Francisco, CA 94102

 Date