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4.15 RECREATION

Would the Proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?			✓	
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?			✓	

4.15.0 Introduction

The section describes the existing recreational facilities in the vicinity of the proposed San Diego Gas & Electric Company and Southern California Gas Company—hereinafter referred to as “the Applicants”—Pipeline Safety & Reliability Project (Proposed Project) and evaluates potential impacts to these existing recreational resources that may result from the Proposed Project. The Proposed Project involves construction, operation, and maintenance of an approximately 47-mile-long, 36-inch-diameter natural gas transmission pipeline that will carry natural gas from San Diego Gas & Electric Company’s existing Rainbow Metering Station to the pipeline’s terminus on Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. The Proposed Project is located in San Diego County, as depicted in Figure 3-1: Project Overview Map in Chapter 3 – Project Description. This chapter focuses on existing recreational resources; however, Section 4.10 Land Use and Planning provides a discussion on land designated by a general plan or zoning ordinance for recreational use, which may include areas where no recreational facilities currently exist. With implementation of one Applicants-Proposed Measure (APM), it is anticipated that there will be less-than-significant impacts to recreational facilities as a result of construction, operation, and maintenance of the Proposed Project.

4.15.1 Methodology

The assessment of impacts to recreational facilities in the vicinity of the Proposed Project involved a review of the County of San Diego General Plan, the City of San Diego General Plan, the City of Escondido General Plan, and the City of Poway General Plan. In addition, Google Earth Pro aerial maps of the Proposed Project area and geographic information system data from the California Protected Areas Database (CPAD) were reviewed to obtain the locations of parks and other recreational facilities. Only the parks and recreational facilities that will be crossed by the Proposed Project or will be located within 0.5 mile of the Proposed Project were evaluated in detail.

4.15.2 Existing Conditions

Pursuant to Article XII, Section 8 of the California Constitution, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has exclusive jurisdiction in relation to local government to regulate the design, siting, installation, operation, maintenance, and repair of natural gas pipeline transmission facilities. Other state agencies have concurrent jurisdiction with the CPUC. Although local governments do not have the power to regulate such activities, the CPUC encourages, and the Applicants participate in, cooperative discussions with affected local governments to address their concerns where feasible. As part of the environmental review process, the Applicants have considered relevant regional and county policies and issues, and have prepared this evaluation of the Proposed Project's potential impacts to recreational resources. The Proposed Project's consistency with applicable land use policies related to recreation are discussed in Attachment 4.10-A: Local Land Use Plans and Policies Consistency Analysis in Section 4.10 Land Use and Planning.

A review of the CPAD and Google Earth Pro aerial photos was conducted to identify parks and recreational areas in the vicinity of the Proposed Project. Numerous parks and recreational facilities were identified within 0.5 mile of the Proposed Project and are depicted in Figure 4.15-1: Recreational Facilities within 0.5 Mile of the Proposed Project. They are also listed, along with the nearest Proposed Project milepost (MP), in Table 4.15-1: Recreational Facilities within 0.5 Mile of the Proposed Project.

The following 10 recreational parks/facilities identified in the vicinity of the Proposed Project are crossed by or directly adjacent to the Proposed Project's right-of-way (ROW):

- Champagne Lakes RV Resort,
- All Seasons RV Park & Campground,
- Kit Carson Park,
- the Vineyard at Escondido Golf Course,
- San Dieguito River Park,
- Lake Hodges Reservoir and Recreational Area,
- Battle Mountain Open Space,
- Adobe Ridge Neighborhood Park,
- Arbolitos Mini Park and Sports Field, and
- Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space.

The following subsections further describe these parks and the recreational activities that they offer.

Champagne Lakes RV Resort

The Champagne Lakes RV Resort is located directly east of MP 12.3 along North Old Highway 395 in the City of Escondido. The resort features 140 full hookup recreational vehicle (RV) sites, 15 tent sites, a playground, a swimming pool, and fishing lakes. The Proposed Project will be constructed underground within the road or road shoulder adjacent to this facility. Therefore, the Proposed Project will not cross the RV resort.

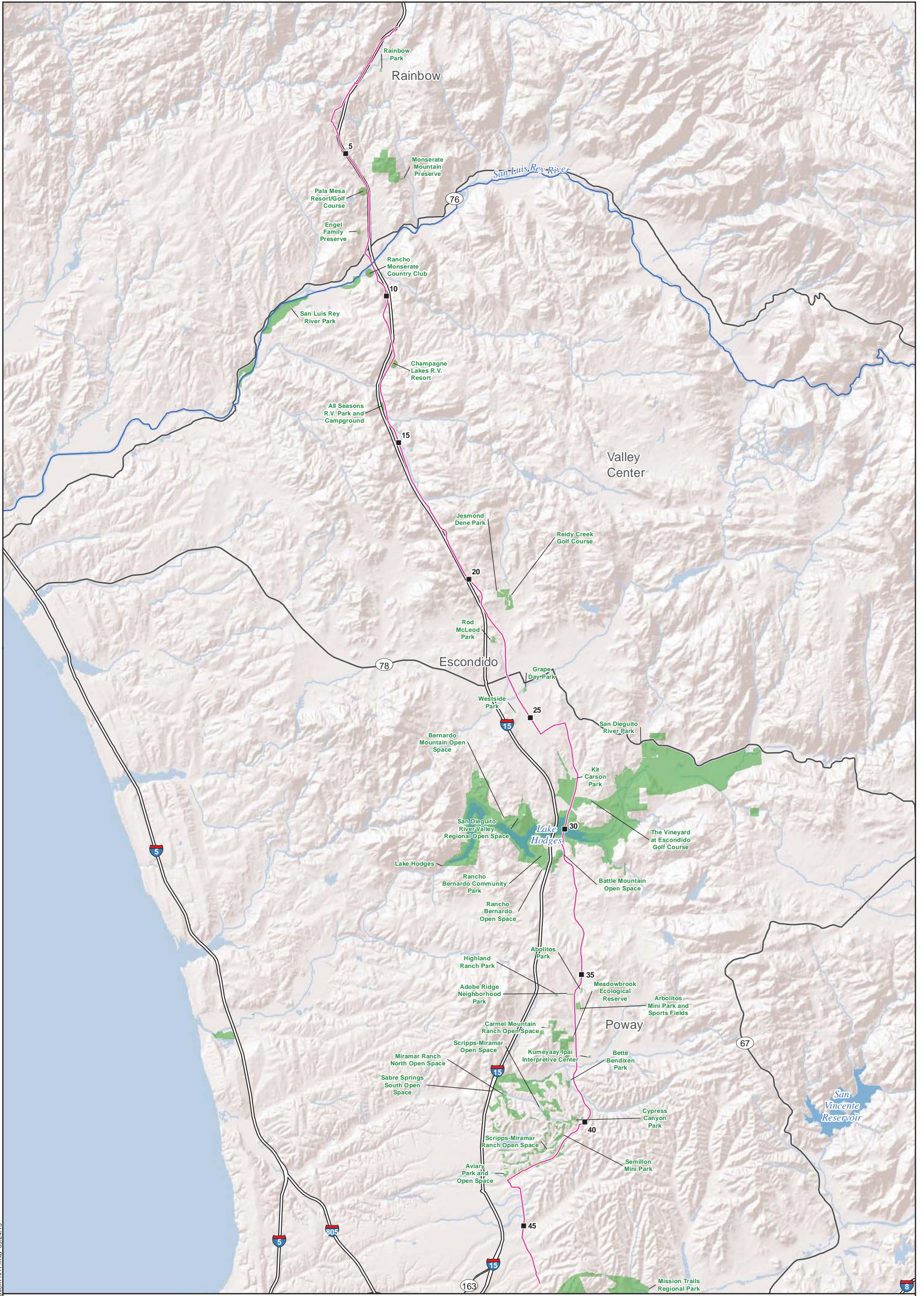
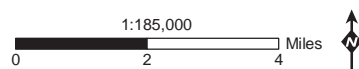


Figure 4.15-1: Recreational Facilities within 0.5 Mile of the Proposed Project

- Milepost
- Park/Recreational Facility
- Proposed Project Route
- Interstate
- Major Road/State Highway



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Table 4.15-1: Recreational Facilities within 0.5 Mile of the Proposed Project

Park	Location	Approximate MP	Approximate Distance to Closest Proposed Project MP (miles)
Rainbow Park	San Diego County	1.7	0.36
Monserate Mountain Preserve	San Diego County	5.5 – 6.6	0.37
Pala Mesa Golf Resort	San Diego County	6.0 – 7.0	<0.10
Engel Family Preserve	City of San Diego	7.70	0.17
San Luis Rey River Park	City of San Diego	9.1	0.50
Rancho Monserate Country Club	City of San Diego	9.1	0.15
Champagne Lakes RV Resort	City of Escondido	12.3	Adjacent
All Seasons RV Park & Campground	City of Escondido	13.8	Adjacent
Jesmond Dene Park	City of Escondido	20.7	0.46
Reidy Creek Golf Course	City of Escondido	21.3	0.48
Rod McLeod Park	City of Escondido	22.4	0.21
Grape Day Park	City of Escondido	24.2	0.18
Westside Park	City of Escondido	24.6	0.28
Kit Carson Park	City of Escondido	28.6 – 29.2	Adjacent
The Vineyard at Escondido Golf Course	City of Escondido	28.9 – 29.2	Adjacent
San Dieguito River Park	City of Escondido	29.3 – 29.8; Line 1600 Cross-Tie	Crossed
San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space	City of Escondido	29.3 – 30.2	0.36
Lake Hodges Reservoir and Recreational Area	City of San Diego	29.8 – 30.2 (Lake Hodges horizontal directional drill [HDD])	0.34
Battle Mountain Open Space	City of San Diego	30.9	Adjacent
Rancho Bernardo Community Park	City of San Diego	30.9	<0.10
Rancho Bernardo Open Space	City of San Diego	30.9	0.22
Adobe Ridge Neighborhood Park	City of Poway	35.7	Adjacent
Highland Ranch Park	City of San Diego	35.7	0.50

Park	Location	Approximate MP	Approximate Distance to Closest Proposed Project MP (miles)
Arbolitos Mini Park and Sports Field	City of Poway	36.0 – 36.1	Adjacent
Carmel Mountain Ranch Open Space	City of San Diego	36.0 – 36.1	0.25
Meadowbrook Ecological Reserve	City of Poway	36.0 – 37.7	<0.10
Bette Bendixen Park	City of Poway	38.5 ¹	<0.10
Sabre Springs South Open Space	City of San Diego	37.0 – 37.8	0.13
Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center	City of Poway	37.7	0.33
Cypress Canyon Park	City of San Diego	40.2	0.17
Miramar Ranch North Open Space	City of San Diego	40.2	0.45
Semillon Mini Park	City of San Diego	39.9	0.11
Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space	City of San Diego	41.0 – 43.4	Adjacent
Jerabek Neighborhood Park (Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space)	City of San Diego	41.8	0.28
Hoyt Park (Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space)	City of San Diego	42.6	0.22
Aviary Park and Open Space (Hendrix Park)	City of San Diego	43.2	0.12
Scripps Ranch Swim and Racquet Club (Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space)	City of San Diego	43.1	0.10

Sources: CPAD 2015; Google 2014

¹ This analysis assumed that the approximately one-mile pre-lay segment—from near MP 37.8 to near MP 39.0—would not be used and that new pipe would be installed along the entire Proposed Project route.

All Seasons RV Park & Campground

The All Seasons RV Park & Campground is located directly west of MP 13.8 along North Old Highway 395 in the City of Escondido. The resort features 150 campsites, picnic tables, a playground, and an approximately five-acre lake. The Proposed Project will be constructed underground within the road or road shoulder adjacent to this facility. Therefore, the Proposed Project will not cross the campgrounds.

Kit Carson Park

The Proposed Project travels along Bear Valley Parkway South and adjacent to Kit Carson Park, which is a regional park in the City of Escondido. Kit Carson Park features a sports complex (containing softball, baseball, soccer, tennis, skateboard, and roller hockey facilities), a disc golf course, picnic areas, walking trails, art/sculpture viewing areas, and a garden. The Kit Carson Park Master Plan Development Report states that utilities are allowed within the park as long as they are placed underground. The area of Kit Carson Park in which the Proposed Project will be located is undeveloped.

The Vineyard at Escondido Golf Course

The Vineyard at Escondido Golf Course—a public golf course—is located just north of Lake Hodges at 925 San Pasqual Road in the City of Escondido. The Proposed Project will not cross the golf course. Instead, the alignment and ROW travel adjacent to the southwest corner of the property in a vegetated area, which is across the street from the golf course.

San Dieguito River Park

The Proposed Project crosses San Dieguito River Park, which is just south of Kit Carson Park in the City of Escondido. The park is operated under the San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Agreement between the County of San Diego and the cities of Del Mar, Escondido, Poway, San Diego, and Solana Beach. The park offers pedestrian, equestrian, and bicycle trails. San Dieguito River Park contains approximately 45 miles of hiking trails that comprise the Coast to Crest Trail, which extends from the ocean at the City of Del Mar to the San Dieguito River's source on Volcan Mountain near the community of Julian.

The San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan, which was adopted by the San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park JPA in 1994 and was updated in 2002, recognizes that new facilities (e.g., gas pipelines) will likely be necessary within or throughout San Dieguito River Park's planning area. Currently, the planning area is crossed by a number of public facilities, including major utility easements containing water, gas, electric, and sewer lines. Such projects must be installed in a manner that limits environmental impacts, and construction is recommended to occur in accordance with its Appendix D Design and Development Standards of the San Dieguito River Park Concept Plan to conserve the sensitive quality of the area.

For approximately 0.5 mile between MP 29.3 and MP 30.2, the Proposed Project will follow Mule Hill Trail, a portion of the Coast to Crest Trail that is located near Lake Hodges. The trail is also utilized as an access road for operation and maintenance of the existing Line 1600. Between MP 30.4 and 30.5, the Proposed Project also travels near, but does not cross the Highland Valley Trail Staging Area.

Lake Hodges Reservoir and Recreational Area

The Lake Hodges Reservoir and Recreational Area in the City of San Diego is fed by the San Dieguito River and includes public access and facilities, such as picnic tables and barbecues. Recreational fishing is allowed on the lake from February through October, and the public may operate recreational watercraft at any time of the year. In addition, hiking and equestrian trails surround most of the lake's perimeter. Most of the trails in the vicinity of Lake Hodges are managed by the San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park JPA. The Proposed Project crosses the Lake Hodges between MP 29.8 and MP 30.2, but the Lake Hodges Reservoir and Recreational Area is located approximately 0.34 mile to the west of the nearest Proposed Project workspace. No recreational facilities associated with the Lake Hodges Reservoir and Recreational Area are crossed by the Proposed Project.

Battle Mountain Open Space

Battle Mountain is a designated open space that is characterized as a large, hilly open area within the community of Rancho Bernardo in the City of San Diego. Battle Mountain Open Space offers a public hiking trail with views of the surrounding community. No trails will be crossed or altered by the Proposed Project. The Proposed Project will be located entirely underground and within the road and road shoulder where it travels adjacent to Battle Mountain Open Space.

Adobe Ridge Neighborhood Park

Adobe Ridge Neighborhood Park, which is located at 12251 Adobe Ridge Road in the City of Poway, offers basketball courts, picnic shelters and tables, and a children's playground. The Proposed Project ROW is located directly adjacent to the park's eastern side, where the alignment travels within Pomerado Road. The Proposed Project does not cross the park.

Arbolitos Mini Park and Sports Field

Arbolitos Mini Park and Sports Field—located at 12495 Ted Williams Parkway in the City of Poway—is a community park that offers basketball courts, soccer fields, picnic shelters, a children's playground, and restroom facilities. The Proposed Project ROW is located directly adjacent to the park's western side, where the alignment travels within Pomerado Road. The Proposed Project does not cross the park.

Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space

The Proposed Project travels directly adjacent to the Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space in the community of Scripps Miramar Ranch at MP 41.0 in the City of San Diego. Just after MP 43.2, the alignment travels cross-country within the Scripps Miramar Ranch planning boundaries. Though the City of San Diego General Plan designates the area as Institutional and Public and Semi-Public Facilities, and through the City of San Diego Land Development Code zones the area as residential single unit, it is currently undeveloped and used as open space. The greater Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space is comprised of natural areas with trees and vegetation, walking trails, picnic areas, benches, drainage facilities, and equestrian access. The trailhead to Giant Grove Trail, which provides pedestrian access through a portion of the Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space, is located near the intersection of Avenida Magnifica and Pomerado Road;

the Proposed Project is located adjacent to the trailhead where it travels within Pomerado Road at approximate MP 42.0. No trails or facilities will be crossed by the Proposed Project.

Several neighborhood parks and community recreational areas listed in Table 4.15-1: Recreational Facilities within 0.5 Mile of the Proposed Project are located within the Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space boundaries, including Jerabek Neighborhood Park, Hoyt Park, and Scripps Ranch Swim and Racquet Club. None of the Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space neighborhood parks will be crossed by the Proposed Project.

4.15.3 Impacts

Significance Criteria

Standards of significance were derived from Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. Impacts to recreation will be considered significant if the Proposed Project:

- Increases the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities to the extent that substantial physical deterioration of the facility will occur or be accelerated.
- Requires the construction or expansion of recreational facilities to meet population demand, potentially resulting in an adverse physical effect on the environment.

Question 4.15a – Recreational Facilities Use

Construction – Less-than-Significant Impact

Thirty-seven recreational facilities were identified within 0.5 mile of the Proposed Project. Of these, the Proposed Project's ROW will travel directly adjacent to eight identified recreational facilities and will directly cross one identified recreational facility. In addition, one aboveground facility (i.e., the Line 1600 Cross-Tie) will be installed within the boundaries of a recreational area. Each facility identified within 0.5 mile of the Proposed Project is listed in Table 4.15-1: Recreational Facilities within 0.5 Mile of the Proposed Project and is depicted in Figure 4.15-1: Recreational Facilities within 0.5 Mile of the Proposed Project.

Construction personnel will be on site during various phases of construction. During the peak construction period, approximately 600 personnel will be required by using four crews of approximately 125 to 150 people to construct different segments of the Proposed Project. Approximately half of the construction personnel will likely already reside in the San Diego area and will commute to the Proposed Project, rather than temporarily relocate from areas outside of San Diego County. The crew members who will temporarily relocate or commute to the Proposed Project vicinity will be mobilized to the Proposed Project at different times and will not be concentrated in any one area. In addition, temporary closure may be required within the recreational facility crossed by the Proposed Project. The potential closure is unlikely to significantly increase the use of other parks in the region, and the closure is discussed further in the following paragraphs. Therefore, construction personnel are not expected to significantly increase the use of local parks and recreational facilities, and construction of the Proposed Project will not put additional demand on existing recreational facilities.

Most of the parks within the Proposed Project vicinity are located within urban settings and will not be impacted during construction of the Proposed Project, which will generally be confined to existing roads and road shoulders. However, parks and recreational facilities crossed by or adjacent to the Proposed Project may be temporarily affected by construction-generated noise and traffic congestion. The eight recreational facilities—Champagne Lakes RV Resort, All Seasons RV Park & Campground, Kit Carson Park, the Vineyard at Escondido Golf Course, Battle Mountain Open Space, Adobe Ridge Neighborhood Park, Arbolitos Mini Park and Sports Field, and Scripps Miramar Ranch Open Space—located directly adjacent to, but not crossed by, the Proposed Project will not be physically altered by construction of the Proposed Project. In addition, although at times access may be delayed, these facilities will remain accessible during construction through the use of traffic control measures. No single recreational facility will be closed for the entire approximately 12- to 18-month construction period, as construction will occur in linear phases.

The Champagne Lakes RV Resort and All Seasons RV Park & Campground are located adjacent to the Proposed Project at MP 12.3 and MP 13.8, respectively. Although the Proposed Project will not cross these campgrounds, construction activities may result in temporary impacts to residents within these facilities. Potential impacts to campground residents may include the generation of dust during construction, construction-related noise, and lighting used during potential nighttime construction activities. If nighttime construction is required in the vicinity of the campgrounds, portions of these facilities may be temporarily impacted (e.g., construction noise) for an estimated period of two to three weeks. However, as described in APM-REC-01, the Applicants will post signage in parks, coordinate with park personnel to determine the necessity of temporary closures, and provide advance notice of Proposed Project activities four to six weeks prior to construction. In addition, due to the availability of alternative camping locations in the vicinity of the Proposed Project, the potential partial closure of these two campground facilities will be less than significant.

The recreational facility directly crossed by the Proposed Project alignment—San Dieguito River Park—may be partially inaccessible during construction; however, closures or detours will be temporary, lasting an estimated six to eight weeks. Construction-related impacts to this recreational facility is further described in the following paragraphs.

Beginning where the alignment leaves Bear Valley Parkway South, the Proposed Project will be constructed adjacent to Mule Hill Trail of San Dieguito River Park for approximately 0.5 mile until the Lake Hodges HDD entry point. The Line 1600 Cross-Tie, which will include pressure-limiting equipment and Mainline Valve 7, will have a footprint of approximately 0.09 acre (i.e., 50 feet by 75 feet). The facility will be installed directly adjacent to Mule Hill Trail and will begin near the trailhead at Bear Valley Parkway South. The aesthetic character of the Line 1600 Cross-Tie is analyzed in Section 4.01 Aesthetics, and APM-AES-01 will ensure that the facility will include a decorative treatment in coordination with the San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park JPA. Where the Proposed Project exits the Lake Hodges HDD and travels west along Highland Valley Road, the alignment travels adjacent to the Highland Valley Trail Staging Area, which is associated with the San Dieguito River Park. However, construction will be confined to the road and road shoulder, and public access to the Highland Valley Trail Staging Area will be maintained. No other aboveground facilities, aside from the Line 1600 Cross-Tie, will be located within the San Dieguito River Park boundaries.

Partial closures or detours of Mule Hill Trail and other areas of the San Dieguito River Park are anticipated to occur for approximately six to eight weeks during HDD activities and construction of the Line 1600 Cross-Tie. Hiking will be temporarily rerouted around the Mule Hill Trail closure, as necessary, to facilitate pedestrian access. During construction, detour and closure signage will be posted where appropriate to ensure hikers and pedestrians are appropriately informed. Mule Hill Trail will be restored to pre-construction conditions following construction of the Proposed Project.

As described in Section 4.12 Noise, construction activities will be conducted in accordance with local ordinances and will generally occur between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. from Monday through Saturday. No work will be conducted on Sundays or on federal holidays. Therefore, these recreational areas will not be impacted during the periods of their heaviest use. APM-TRA-01 in Section 4.16 Transportation and Traffic requires the preparation of a Traffic Management Plan. The Traffic Management Plan will ensure that the proper traffic control measures are implemented to reduce traffic congestion near recreational area access roads and parking/staging areas and will ensure the accessibility of these areas. In addition, APM-REC-01 requires the Applicants to provide notification prior to construction within or directly adjacent to a park or other recreational facility to ensure that users and park authorities are notified of the upcoming inaccessibility. The notices will provide the contact information of a public liaison, who will address any concerns regarding dust, noise, odor, or access, as appropriate. Given the limited duration of construction and the availability of other recreational facilities in the vicinity of the Proposed Project, construction of the Proposed Project will have a less-than-significant impact on recreational resources.

Operation and Maintenance – No Impact

Operation and maintenance activities will be completed by the Applicants' existing staff, and the Applicants will not be required to hire any additional employees to maintain the pipeline and their appurtenant facilities. As described in Section 4.13 Population and Housing, the Proposed Project will not create a need for additional housing or cause long-term population growth; therefore, a permanent increase in park and recreational facility use will not result. No new employees will be hired to operate or maintain the Proposed Project facilities. The facilities will be operated and maintained by the Applicants' existing personnel in the same manner that existing facilities in the surrounding area are operated and maintained. Temporary closures of recreational facilities are not anticipated to result from typical operation and maintenance of the Proposed Project. Operation and maintenance will not increase the recreational uses or facilities in the area and, therefore, no impacts will occur.

Question 4.15b – Recreational Facilities Changes

Construction – Less-than-Significant Impact

In general, natural gas transmission lines are used to serve existing populations and do not induce growth. As described in Chapter 2 – Purpose and Need, the Proposed Project will provide redundancy in case of an outage or service reduction, as well as a replacement capacity for an existing natural gas line located in San Diego County. Though the Proposed Project will increase the overall capacity of the Applicants' natural gas transmission system, it is intended to meet the existing service demand of the area. Therefore, the Proposed Project will not induce

substantial population growth, and further discussion on population growth is provided in Section 4.13 Population and Housing.

The Proposed Project will not include the construction or expansion of any recreational facilities, nor will it result in an increase in demand for existing recreational facilities. Temporary disturbance resulting from construction activities will not result in lasting effects to the recreational areas and will not necessitate the expansion of any park or recreational facility. Therefore, impacts to recreational resources as a result of construction activities will be less than significant.

Operation and Maintenance – No Impact

As discussed previously and in Chapter 2 – Purpose and Need, the Proposed Project will be operated to serve existing populations and will not induce growth; therefore, the Proposed Project will not require expansion or creation of recreational facilities. Operation and maintenance will be performed by the Applicants' existing personnel and will not add new recreational users to the San Diego County area. Because operation and maintenance personnel will not cause the number of local recreational facility users to increase, the expansion or creation of new recreational facilities will not be required. Therefore, no impacts will occur.

4.15.4 Applicants-Proposed Measures

The Applicants have designed and incorporated the following APM into the Proposed Project to avoid or minimize potential impacts to recreation:

- **APM-REC-01:** The Applicants will post signage in parks that are crossed by or adjacent to the Proposed Project no less than four weeks prior to the beginning of construction activities within or adjacent to the park. This signage will notify park users of the impending construction activities; construction impacts (e.g., increased noise and dust); the affected locations; and the estimated duration of temporary park facility closures, which will give park patrons time to plan their use of alternative recreational facilities. Contact information to reach the Proposed Project's public liaison will be provided on the signage, and the public liaison will address any complaints related to dust, noise, odor, and access restrictions. In addition to the signage, park and open space authorities will be directly contacted and provided advance notice of Proposed Project activities no less than four weeks prior to construction.

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