

# Executive Summary

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has prepared this Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) to provide the public, responsible agencies, and trustee agencies with information about the potential environmental effects of the Estrella Substation and Paso Robles Area Reinforcement Project (Proposed Project), proposed by Horizon West Transmission, LLC (HWT) (formerly NextEra Energy Transmission West, LLC [NEET West]) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) (collectively referred to as the “Applicants”). The Proposed Project would involve construction and operation of a new 230 kilovolt (kV)/70 kV substation and a new approximately 7-mile-long 70 kV power line, and replacement/reconductoring of approximately 3 miles of an existing 70 kV power line.

The Proposed Project also would provide for the future establishment of three new distribution feeders from the proposed Estrella Substation, including construction of roughly 1.7 miles of new distribution line and additional reconductoring activities. All of these facilities would be located in unincorporated San Luis Obispo County and within the City of Paso Robles. The Proposed Project is intended to address identified deficiencies in the electrical grid system in the Paso Robles area and to accommodate projected new growth. This FEIR was prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (as amended) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations [CCR] title 14, Section 15000 et seq.).

## ES.1 Proposed Project Background, Purpose and Objectives

The Proposed Project is needed to provide transmission system redundancy and power support in the event of outages (i.e., contingencies), as well as increased distribution capacity to accommodate forecasted electrical load growth in the Paso Robles area. The Proposed Project was identified in the California Independent System Operator’s (CAISO) 2013-2014 Transmission Plan as a project needed to mitigate thermal overloads and voltage concerns in the Los Padres 70 kV system (specifically in the San Miguel, Paso Robles, Templeton, Atascadero, Cayucos, and San Luis Obispo areas) (CAISO 2014). CAISO modeling determined that thermal overloads and very low voltage conditions could occur in this system following either one of two Category B contingencies: loss of the Templeton 230 kV/70 kV #1 Transformer Bank or loss of the Paso Robles-Templeton 70 kV power line.

Essentially, if either the #1 Transformer Bank at the Templeton Substation or the 70 kV power line connecting the Paso Robles and Templeton Substations were to fail for any reason (e.g., vehicular impact to existing infrastructure, vegetation and/or storm damage, wildlife damage to existing electrical connections, and/or mechanical failure), this could result in dangerous overloading and low voltage conditions in the regional system. This is both due to high load (i.e., electrical service demand) in the Paso Robles area relative to substation capacity, as well as lack of redundancy in the system. The Proposed Project also would address existing undesirable conditions and projected load growth in the distribution system in the Paso Robles area, which is characterized by very long distribution feeders. Constructing the new Estrella Substation at the proposed location would allow the Applicants to easily extend new feeders to the areas of anticipated growth in the City of Paso Robles (e.g., Golden Hill Industrial Park, south of Paso

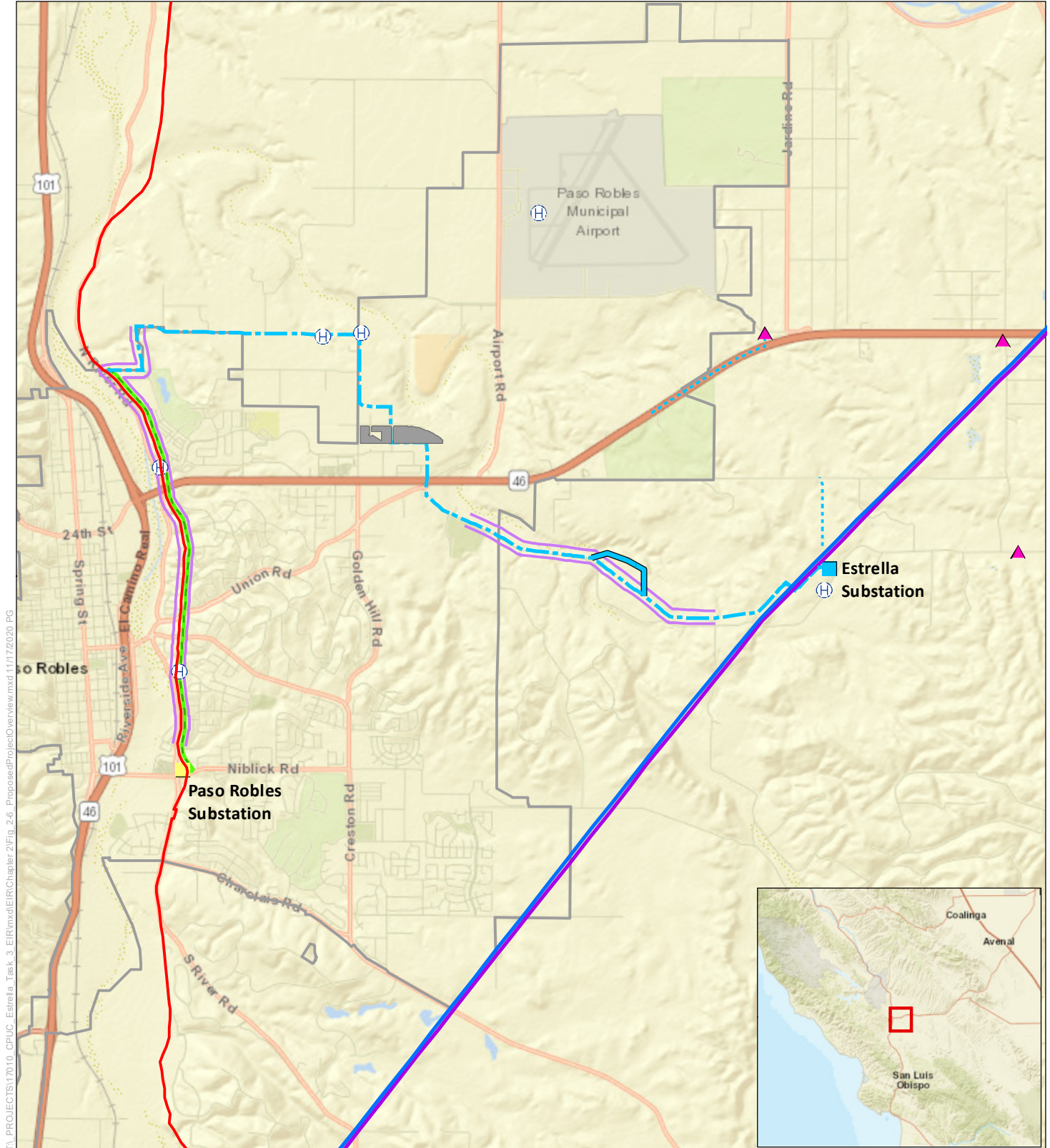
Robles Municipal Airport, and south of State Route [SR] 46), as well as split in half some of the long feeders emanating from Templeton Substation.

Based on its understanding of the fundamental underlying purpose of the Proposed Project and using its authority as the lead agency under CEQA, the CPUC has identified the following objectives for the Proposed Project:

- **Transmission Objective:** Mitigate thermal overload and low voltage concerns in the Los Padres 70 kV system during Category B contingency scenarios, as identified by the CAISO in its 2013-2014 Transmission Plan.
- **Distribution Objective:** Accommodate expected future increased electric distribution demand in the Paso Robles DPA, particularly in the anticipated growth areas in northeast Paso Robles.

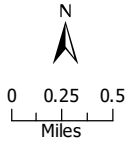
## ES.2 Project Location

The Proposed Project would be located within the northern portion of San Luis Obispo County, California, including within portions of the City of Paso Robles, as shown in Figure ES-1. Land uses surrounding the Proposed Project area south of SR 46 are a mixture of intensive agriculture, vineyards, and rural residential development. North of SR 46 and within the City of Paso Robles limits, land uses consist of light industrial development, urban and residential development, and wineries/vineyards. Topography in the vicinity of the Proposed Project is generally rolling hills, with existing elevations ranging from approximately 920 feet to ~~960~~970 feet above mean sea level.



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Source: ESRI 2020, NEET West and PG&E 2017



**Proposed Project**

- Estrella Substation
- 70kV Route
- - - New Distribution Line Segments
- 70 kV Minor Route Variation 1
- Reconductoring Segment
- Distribution Underbuild
- Power Line Staging Areas
- H Helicopter Landing Zones

- ▲ Additional 21/12 kV Pad-Mounted Transformer
- Paso Robles city limits
- Existing Infrastructure**
- Existing 500 kV Transmission Line
- Existing 230 kV Transmission Line
- Existing 70 kV Power Line
- Existing Substations

Note: Eight miles of distribution line segments would be reconducted in various locations to integrate the proposed substation. PG&E did not specify each location.

**Figure ES-1**  
Proposed Project  
Location and Overview

Estrella Substation and  
Paso Robles Area  
Reinforcement Project

## ES.3 Proposed Project, Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components, and Ultimate Substation Buildout

The Proposed Project would be comprised of three main components: Estrella Substation, the new 70 kV power line segment, and the 70 kV power line reconductoring segment. Each of these main components is described below. Additionally, the reasonably foreseeable distribution components and ultimate buildout of the Estrella Substation that would be facilitated through completion of the Proposed Project are described below.

### Estrella Substation

The proposed Estrella Substation would be comprised of two separate and distinct substations on an approximately 15-acre site. One 230 kV substation would be constructed and operated by HWT and one 70 kV substation would be constructed and operated by PG&E. Access to the Estrella Substation site would be off of Union Road, along a new private access road.

Electrical equipment at the 230 kV substation would be located within a fenced area and would include breakers, breaker-and-a-half bays, operating buses, transformers, air break switches, insulated circuit breakers, dead-end steel structures, and lightning surge arresters. The 230 kV substation would also include a protection and control enclosure which would have redundant air conditioning units installed to protect electronic components. In addition to electrical equipment, the 230 kV substation would include a telecommunications and distribution feeder line for electrical service; a secondary containment structure for transformer oil spill control; one spare sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) filler tank; a graveled internal access road, and perimeter security fencing. The 230 kV substation also would be connected to the existing 230 kV transmission line adjacent to the proposed Estrella Substation site via a new interconnection line composed of six lattice steel towers (LSTs).

The 70 kV substation would be located immediately adjacent to the 230 kV substation within the same 15-acre ~~site~~area of the 20-acre site. Electrical equipment at the 70 kV substation would be located within an enclosed ~~fenced~~ area and would include aluminum buses, transformers, air break switches, circuit breakers, dead-end steel structures, and lightning surge arresters. The 70 kV substation would also include a protection and control enclosure which would have an air conditioning unit installed to protect electronic components. In addition to the electrical equipment, the 70 kV substation would include a battery enclosure, a paved internal access road, a concrete skimmer/weir, and perimeter security fencing.

### New 70 kV Power Line Segment

The new 70 kV power line segment would consist of approximately 7 miles of double-circuit 70 kV power line on a combination of two types of structures: tubular steel poles (TSPs) and light-duty steel poles (LDSPs). Power line structures would vary in height depending on their location and purpose, but typically would range between 80 to 90 feet. TSPs would be utilized for the portion of the line that would be installed within the existing PG&E transmission corridor. In general, the TSPs would be installed adjacent to existing 500 kV transmission line towers, utilizing an average span length of approximately 650 feet. Each TSP would be installed on one individual concrete pier foundation.

The remainder of the new 70 kV power line segment would utilize both TSPs and LDSPs. These structures would typically be used in locations where the new 70 kV power line segment is not parallel to the existing 500 kV transmission line. TSP structures would be installed generally in locations where the alignment changes direction. The route would utilize an average span length of approximately 300 to 500 feet.

## Reconductoring Segment

Reconductoring and pole replacement would occur on approximately 3 miles of single-circuit 70 kV power line using a combination of TSPs and LDSPs. Power line structures would vary in height depending on their location and purpose, but typically would range between 80 to 90 feet. LDSPs would typically be used in locations where the alignment is generally straight, and either guyed LDSPs or TSPs would be used in locations where the alignment changes direction or where distribution tap spans are supported on line structures.

anchors and guy wires would be attached to LDSPs and/or wood poles in locations where additional stability is required to support the conductor tension. The new replacement poles would typically be installed within 10 feet of the existing poles, which would result in a typical pole span length of approximately 300 feet.

## Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components and Ultimate Substation Buildout

As shown on Figure ES-1, the reasonably foreseeable distribution components would include two new distribution line segments (totaling approximately 1.7 miles in length) and three new pad-mounted 21/12 kV transformers, and a new distribution (70/21 kV) transformer within Estrella Substation. Additionally, the reasonably foreseeable distribution components would include reconductoring of approximately 8 miles of existing distribution lines, which would be required to establish the new Estrella distribution feeders. Given that new overhead distribution lines are typically supported by 18 poles per mile, the 1.7 miles of reasonably foreseeable new distribution line would require about 31 new wood poles. New wood poles would likely be direct-bury poles (not requiring a foundation) and would require about 3 square feet of permanent ground disturbance per pole. Reasonably foreseeable new distribution poles would average 45 feet tall.

In addition to the reasonably foreseeable distribution components, the Estrella Substation would include space for additional facilities to serve potential distribution and transmission needs in the future. Ultimate buildout of the Estrella Substation could include an additional 230 kV interconnection, a second 230/70 kV transformer, three additional 70/21 kV transformers, and associated equipment (e.g., breakers, switches). The ultimate substation buildout could also accommodate future inside-the-fence improvements, including the potential future construction of ballistic walls around the transformer or fire walls between the proposed 230 kV transformer and the additional 230 kV transformer. The ultimate substation buildout would support additional distribution and power lines emanating from the Estrella Substation; however, the specific routes and lengths of these lines are not known at this time and are not evaluated in the EIR.

## ES.4 Proposed Project Construction Processes, Schedule, Workforce, and Water Use

Proposed Project construction activities would include site preparation, excavation, installation of equipment and structures, and restoration. Construction of the Estrella Substation would require ~~a survey marking~~ staging areas and work areas, establishment of the private access road, vegetation clearance, fencing installation, grading, installation of culverts and swales, excavation of foundations, installation of facilities, and cleanup and post-construction restoration. Based on preliminary grading design, Earthwork activities for the substation are anticipated to result in approximately 50,000~~68,000~~ cubic yards of cut and fill, which would be balanced on the site to the extent feasible. The cut and fill figure does not include approximately 16,500 cubic yards of topsoil which would be stripped and stockpiled during construction. Of the 16,500 cubic yards, about 4,000 cubic yards would be used on site, and the balance would be removed.

Construction of the new and reconducted 70 kV power line segments would require clearing of work areas at the location of each structure and minor grading (if necessary), excavation of foundations, installation of structures (crossing structures, TSPs, LDSPs, conductor), and removal of existing structures (i.e., distribution and power line poles).

Proposed Project construction would require establishment of temporary staging areas, structure work areas, conductor pull and tension sites, and helicopter landing areas. Construction of temporary access roads also would be required. The range of site preparation for these areas would include site leveling and grading, fencing, placement of gravel, vegetation removal, tree trimming/removal and/or vine removal, and placement of temporary rock bedding. All areas temporarily disturbed by the Project would be restored to pre-existing conditions following construction to the extent practicable.

Overall, Proposed Project construction is anticipated to take ~~1821~~ months. Construction would typically occur 6 days per week (Monday through Saturday) throughout the duration of construction, with daily work hours occurring between 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Occasionally, work may occur during evening or nighttime hours for time-sensitive and non-noise intensive activities. Different phases of the construction process would require varying numbers of construction personnel, but on a typical workday about ~~1210~~ to 15 construction crewmembers would be working at Estrella Substation, while about 10 to 15 construction crewmembers would be working on the 70 kV power line. A larger work team (up to 30 workers) may be required to complete certain work tasks (e.g., conductor pulling).

Construction of the substation and power line would require approximately 10.3 million gallons of water during the construction period (about 32 acre-feet). About 25 percent of the total water used would be for construction activities (e.g., concrete mixing), with the remaining 75 percent used for dust control during the construction period. Daily water use during the construction period would vary based on the construction phase, but it is estimated that the average water use per day would be about 68,600 gallons. Portable restroom facilities would be provided at the site for worker use during the construction period.

Construction of the reasonably foreseeable new distribution line segments would follow a similar process to the 70 kV power line construction but on a smaller scale. No site preparation or grading would be required for the distribution line construction and reconductoring. Distribution poles would be direct-embedded and, once installed, conductors would be strung

using reel trailers pulled behind trucks that park in flat areas. Construction of the reasonably foreseeable distribution components, including work within the 70 kV substation to allow for establishment of the new Estrella feeders, would take approximately 19 weeks.

## ES.5 Alternatives Considered

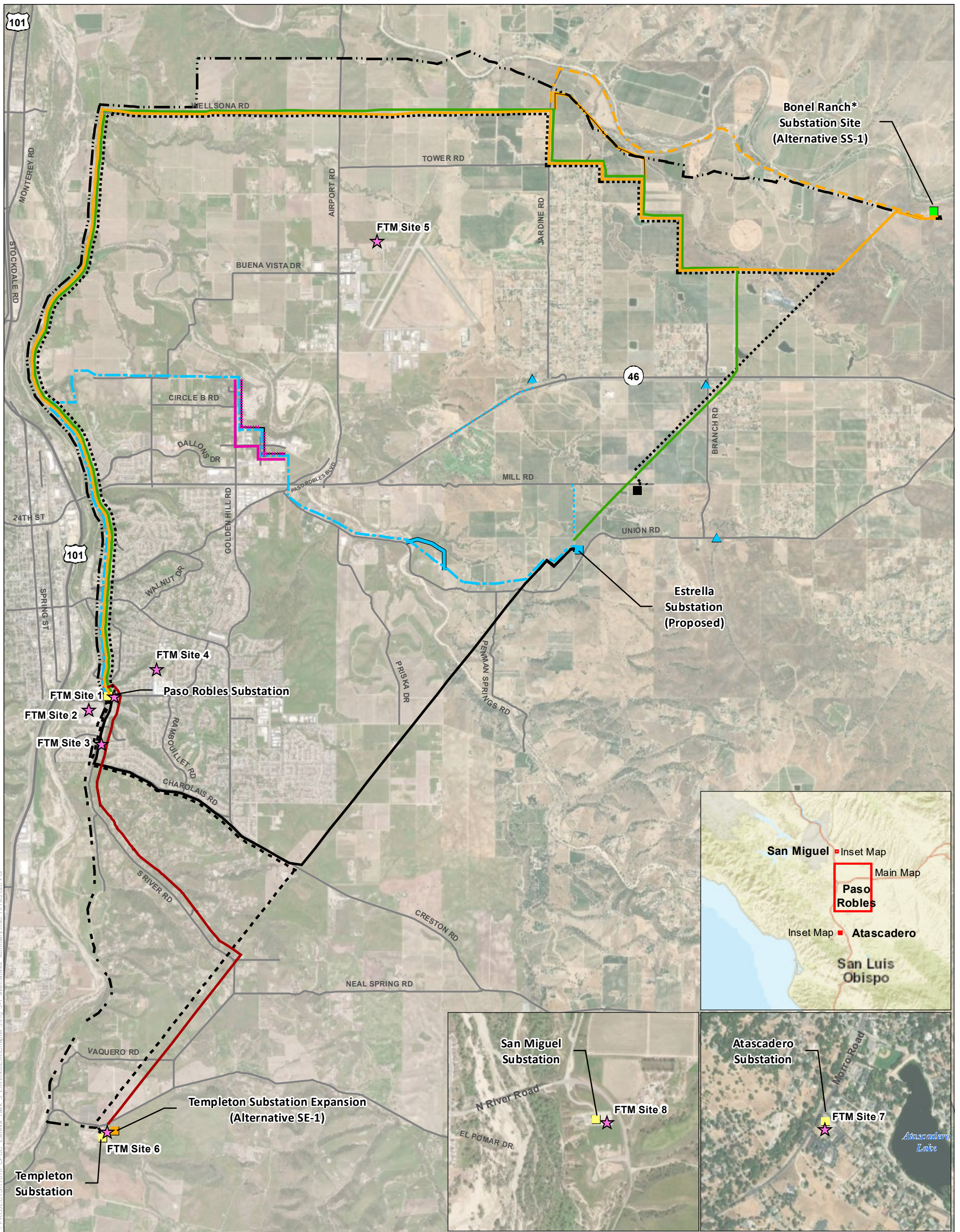
In accordance with the requirements of CEQA, the EIR considered a range of feasible alternatives to the Proposed Project. The alternatives could feasibly obtain most of the project objectives while reducing one or more of the Proposed Project's significant effects. The following alternatives have been evaluated in this EIR:

- No Project Alternative
- Alternative Substation Siting (SS)-1: Bonel Ranch Substation Site
- Alternative Power Line Route (PLR)-1A: Estrella Route to Estrella Substation
- Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch, Option 1
- Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding, Option 1 & 2
- Alternative Substation Expansion (SE)-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion – 230/70 kV Substation
- Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route
- Alternative Battery Storage (BS)-2: Battery Storage to Address Distribution Objective
- Alternative BS-3: Behind-the-Meter Solar and Battery Storage

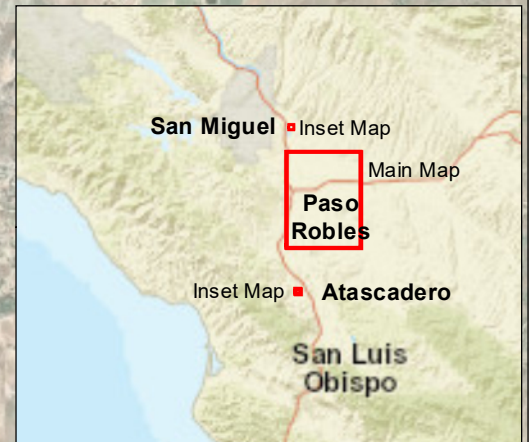
Several other alternatives were also considered, but ultimately dismissed from further analysis for one or more of the following reasons: (1) the alternative was infeasible; (2) the alternative failed to meet the basic project objectives; or (3) the alternative would not avoid or substantially reduce one or more significant impacts of the Proposed Project. Alternatives are described in detail in Chapter 3, *Alternatives Description*, and shown in Figure ES-2.

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- | Proposed Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Project Alternatives Carried Forward for Full Analysis                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Other Project Alternatives Considered                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: blue;">■</span> Estrella Substation</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">---</span> Proposed Project 70kV Route</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">---</span> 70 kV Minor Route Variation 1</li> </ul>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: purple;">★</span> Front-of-the-Meter (FTM) Battery Storage Sites (Alternative BS-2)</li> <li><span style="color: green;">■</span> Alternative SS-1: Bonel Ranch Substation Site</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">■</span> Alternative SE-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion - 230/70 kV Substation</li> <li><span style="color: green;">---</span> Alternative PLR-1A: Estrella Route to Estrella Substation</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">---</span> Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch, Option 1</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">---</span> Alternative PLR-1C: Minor Route Variation 1</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">---</span> Alternative PLR-1C: Minor Route Variation 2</li> <li><span style="color: magenta;">---</span> Alternative PLR-3A: Strategic Undergrounding, Option 1</li> <li><span style="color: magenta;">---</span> Alternative PLR-3B: Strategic Undergrounding, Option 2</li> <li><span style="color: red;">---</span> Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: black;">---</span> Alternative PLR-1D: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch, Option #2</li> <li><span style="color: black;">■</span> Alternative SS-2: Mill Road West Substation Site</li> <li><span style="color: black;">---</span> Alternative PLR-1B: Estrella Route to Mill Road West</li> <li><span style="color: black;">---</span> Alternative PLR-2: Creston Route (Variations not shown; not carried forward)</li> <li><span style="color: black;">---</span> Alternative SE-PLR-1: Templeton-Paso 70kV Route (Existing)</li> <li><span style="color: black;">---</span> Alternative SE-PLR-3: Templeton-Paso Creston Route</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: blue;">---</span> New Distribution Line Segments</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">▲</span> Additional 21/12 kV Pad-Mounted Transformer</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Existing Infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Existing Substations</li> </ul>                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

**Figure ES-2**  
Alternatives Summary Map

Note: The route variations shown are offset in order to display the alignments of the alternative routes that may overlap in places.

\* formerly McDonald Ranch

Source: NEET West and PG&E 2017

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## No Project Alternative

Under the No Project Alternative, HWT and PG&E would not construct or operate the substation or new and reconducted 70 kV power line segments. The No Project Alternative would not provide transmission system redundancy, increased distribution capacity or improved electrical service reliability, and would not meet any of the project objectives.

## Alternative SS-1: Bonel Ranch Substation Site

The Bonel Ranch Substation Site is situated on an approximately 72-acre parcel, of which the substation would occupy approximately 15 acres. This site is bordered by the Estrella River to the north and Estrella Road to the south and is generally surrounded by rural development. The Bonel Ranch site is located within the County of San Luis Obispo North County Planning Area, ~~El Pomar-Estrella Sub Area~~, and is currently used to grow alfalfa. If the substation were constructed at the Bonel Ranch Substation Site, it would be connected to the existing Paso Robles Substation via a 70 kV power line following Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch, Option 1. Electrical components, equipment, and site infrastructure included in a substation located at this alternative site would be essentially the same as for the proposed Estrella Substation.

## Alternative PLR-1A: Estrella Route to Estrella Substation

Alternative PLR-1A is an alternative route for the 70 kV power line that would connect the proposed Estrella Substation to the Paso Robles Substation. This route would allow for the power line to pass north of the Paso Robles Municipal Airport in a low-density area. Land uses surrounding the Estrella Route primarily consist of urban and rural residential developments and agricultural areas dominated by vineyards. Starting at the Estrella Substation, Alternative PLR-1A would follow the existing 230/500 kV transmission corridor northeast until veering north at roughly the intersection of the transmission corridor with SR 46. The route would then zig zag in a northwest direction through agricultural lands until meeting Wellsona Road. At this point, the route would follow Wellsona Road due west until meeting the existing San Miguel-Paso Robles 70 kV Transmission Line. This existing line would then be reconducted south to the existing Paso Robles Substation. Conductors on the new 70 kV power line and the reconducting segment for Alternative PLR-1A would be supported by a combination of the same types of structures and conductor configuration as the Proposed Project route.

## Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch, Option 1

Alternative PLR-1C is the 70 kV power line route that would be used to connect a substation at the Bonel Ranch Substation Site (Alternative SS-1) to the Paso Robles Substation. This route would be largely similar to Alternative PLR-1A but would have a different starting point at the Bonel Ranch site rather than the proposed Estrella Substation. Starting at the Bonel Ranch Substation Site, the Alternative PLR-1C route would follow Estrella Road west before meeting the existing 230/500 kV transmission corridor. The route would then turn and follow the existing 230/500 kV transmission corridor southwest for approximately 0.75-mile before veering west, crossing a riparian/drainage area, and then joining the Alternative PLR-1A route that zig zags

northwest through agricultural lands until meeting Wellsona Road. The remainder of the route is identical to Alternative PLR-1A.

### **Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding, Option 1 & 2**

Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding would involve undergrounding the portion of the Proposed Project's new 70 kV power line that passes through the Golden Hill Road area north of SR 46, which has the greatest potential for aesthetic and other environmental impacts. Two undergrounding routes are under consideration: Option 1 would begin where the proposed power line alignment turns west to parallel Wisteria Lane, would turn north along Germaine Way, and then turn west to follow Wisteria Lane. Where Wisteria Lane meets Golden Hill Road, Option 1 turns north following Golden Hill Road and continues north past Lake Place until the point at which the proposed 70 kV alignment turns to the west. Option 2 would be similar to Option 1 except that instead of turning west and following Wisteria Lane, it would follow the proposed 70 kV power line alignment behind San Antonio Winery. After reaching Golden Hill Road, Option 2 would be identical to Option 1. For both Option 1 and 2, two riser poles and a transition station would be installed at each end of the underground alignment.

### **Alternative SE-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion – 230/70 kV Substation**

Alternative SE-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion would involve expansion of the existing Templeton Substation to include new facilities to support an additional 70 kV double-circuit power line from Templeton Substation to Paso Robles and San Miguel substations. This alternative would entail installing a new 230/70 kV substation on an approximately 19-acre site adjacent to the existing Templeton Substation. This site currently is used for agricultural purposes and would be accessed from El Pomar Drive, on a new main private access road. The new substation would include essentially the same components/equipment as the proposed Estrella Substation.

### **Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route**

Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton–Paso South River Road Route is the 70 kV power line route that would be used to connect the expanded Templeton Substation (Alternative SE-1A) to Paso Robles Substation. Alternative SE-PLR-2 would always be constructed in tandem with Alternative SE-1A. Starting at the Templeton Substation Expansion site, the Templeton-Paso South River Road Route follows the existing 230/500 kV transmission line corridor northeasterly for approximately 2 miles to where it intersects with South River Road. At this point, the route would veer to the northwest and follow South River Road, eventually paralleling the existing Templeton–Paso single-circuit 70 kV power line until reaching the city limits of Paso Robles, ultimately terminating just north of Paso Robles Substation. The total length of the Templeton-Paso South River Route from Templeton Substation to Paso Robles Substation is approximately 5.2 miles and would not require the 3-mile-long reconductoring segment described for the Proposed Project. The new 70 kV power line under Alternative SE-PLR-2 would be comprised of a combination of TSPs and LDSPs.

## Alternative BS-2: Battery Storage to Address Distribution Objective

Alternative BS-2 would involve installation of front-of-the-meter (FTM) battery energy storage systems (BESSs) connected to the distribution system to defer the need for additional distribution capacity in the Paso Robles DPA, in accordance with the Distribution Objective of the Proposed Project. BESS facilities would function to “shave” peak loads during periods when energy use along these feeders is high (i.e., reduce peak loads during the summer) to relieve pressure on the area substations and feeders. BESSs would likely operate on a daily cycle where they would discharge during hours of peak demand and charge during hours of lower demand (e.g., nighttime). A number of potentially suitable sites for FTM BESSs in the vicinity of Paso Robles Substation and at other area substations are identified and considered for illustrative purposes in the EIR. The example FTM sites are shown in Figure ES-2.

## Alternative BS-3: Third Party, Behind-the-Meter Solar and Battery Storage

Behind-the-meter (BTM) solar and battery storage (i.e., “BTM resources”) would be metered at the building-level and could be owned and/or operated by either the building owner or a third party provider. Adoption of BTM resources also could reduce loading on circuits within the Paso Robles DPA and thereby avoid potential future forecasted substation overloads. Because it is unknown which specific customers will opt into the BTM resources program and install BTM resources on their property, the specific locations of activities under Alternative BS-3 are unknown. In general, BESSs would be anticipated to be installed within existing commercial and industrial buildings, and within existing residential homes or apartment complexes. Both Alternatives BS-2 and BS-3 could be ~~developed~~ evaluated through the CPUC’s Distribution Infrastructure Deferral Framework (DIDF) pursuant to the Distribution Resources Plan proceeding (R.14-08-013).

## ES.6 Public Involvement

### Scoping Comment Period

A notice of preparation (NOP) for the Proposed Project was prepared pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines (Section 15082) and circulated to the Office of Planning and Research’s State CEQA Clearinghouse on July 30, 2018. Subsequently, a revised NOP was circulated on August 1, 2018. The scoping period continued for 30 days and concluded on August 31, 2018, although several comment letters were accepted beyond this date. The NOP presented general background information on the Proposed Project, the scoping process, the environmental issues to be addressed in the environmental impact report (EIR), and the anticipated uses of the EIR. The NOP was posted online, and more than 200 hard copies of the NOP were distributed by mail to a broad range of stakeholders including state, federal, and local regulatory agencies and jurisdictions, non-profit organizations, and property owners in the vicinity of the Proposed Project.

To provide the public, as well as responsible and trustee agencies, an opportunity to ask questions and submit comments on the scope of the EIR, a public scoping meeting was held during the scoping period. The meeting was held on Tuesday, August 7, 2018, from 6 p.m. to

8 p.m. at the Winifred Pifer Elementary School located at 1350 Creston Road in Paso Robles. The meeting format consisted of a presentation by the CPUC and consultant staff followed by opportunities for attendees to ask questions and submit comments. Written comment cards were provided to all meeting attendees, as well as information on how to access project documents and participate in the public review process going forward. A tablet showing an interactive map of the Proposed Project and potential alternatives also was available for viewing during the scoping meeting. A total of 50 individuals signed in to the meeting.

During the scoping period, the CPUC received 43 comment letters, 37 of which were from members of the general public. Letters were received from five public agencies, including the City of Paso Robles, County of San Luis Obispo, California Department of Conservation, California Native American Heritage Commission, and the California Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources. Additionally, the CPUC received a comment letter from the Xolon Salinan tribe. Comments received during scoping covered a wide range of topics, as detailed in the Proposed Project's Scoping Report.

## **Alternatives Screening Report**

To identify a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives for consideration in the EIR, an Alternatives Screening Report (ASR) was prepared. The alternatives described in Section ES.5 are the outcome of the ASR process. To provide an opportunity for the public to review and comment on the CPUC's preliminary alternatives screening process and results, a Draft ASR was circulated for public review from March 28, 2019 to May 10, 2019. The CPUC received a large number of comments during the Draft ASR review period, including support and opposition for various alternatives and concerns regarding environmental impacts associated with different alternatives. The comments on the Draft ASR were considered by the CPUC during preparation of the Final ASR, which is included as Appendix B to this FEIR.

An analysis of BTM solar and battery storage adoption propensity (BTM Report) was also prepared and circulated to the public as a supplement to the original Draft ASR. A public notice regarding the availability of the BTM Report on the Project website was distributed on January 31, 2020. The BTM Report is included as Appendix B to the Final ASR.

## **Draft Environmental Impact Report Public Review and Comment Period**

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) was circulated for public review for 76 days. The public review period for the DEIR began on December 8, 2020 with the filing of the Notice of Completion (NOC) with the State Clearinghouse and the distribution and posting of the Notice of Availability (NOA). The NOA was sent to all trustee agencies and any person or organization requesting a copy. CPUC also posted the NOA on its website along with the electronic DEIR files. During the public review period for the DEIR, CPUC held two public meetings, which were conducted virtually via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Both meetings were held on December 15, 2020; one at midday (12 pm to 2 pm) and one in the evening (5:30 pm to 7:30 pm). The meetings each featured the same content, including a presentation by CPUC describing the Proposed Project, reasonably foreseeable distribution components, and alternatives, and the analysis and conclusions set forth in the DEIR. The meeting provided an opportunity for meeting attendees to provide oral comments and ask questions.

CPUC received a total of 131 letters during the public review period for the DEIR. Letters were submitted by state elected representatives and local agencies; additional stakeholders, such as the Proposed Project Applicants, homeowners associations (HOAs), law firms representing a union labor group and a local business, and environmental organizations; and individual members of the public. No federal agencies submitted comments on the DEIR. Refer to Chapter 3, *Individual Responses to Comments*, in Volume 3 of this FEIR, for copies of the letters submitted during the public review period and the list of persons, agencies and organizations that submitted comment letters.

### **Recirculated DEIR Review and Comment Period**

Based on several comments received on the DEIR, the CPUC decided to revise and recirculate portions of the document. Specifically, the CPUC recirculated Chapter 2, *Project Description*; Section 4.2, “Agricultural Resources,” and Section 4.3, “Air Quality”. The recirculated portions of the DEIR were available for public review for a total of 55 days, from November 18, 2021 to January 12, 2022. CPUC followed all the same noticing procedures described above for the original DEIR. A total of 6 comment letters were received during the Recirculated DEIR review period. Refer to Chapter 3, *Individual Responses to Comments*, in Volume 3 of this FEIR, for copies of the letters submitted during the public review period for the recirculated portions of the DEIR and a list of persons, agencies and organizations that submitted comment letters.

### **FEIR Review and Certification**

The FEIR will be posted on CPUC’s website and all public agencies that submitted comments on the DEIR and/or Recirculated DEIR will be notified of the FEIR’s availability at least 10 days before its certification. After the close of the 10-day public agency review period, CPUC will consider the EIR, staff recommendations, and public testimony, and decide whether to certify the EIR and whether to approve or deny the Proposed Project or approve one of the alternative combinations.

## **ES.7 Areas of Known Controversy and Issues to be Resolved**

CEQA Guidelines Section 15123(b) requires that an Executive Summary identify “areas of controversy known to a lead agency including issues raised by agencies and the public.” To date, a number of issues have been raised regarding the Proposed Project which may be considered controversial, including the following:

- Potential for overhead power lines to result in various environmental and societal impacts, including aesthetic impacts, fire risk, hazards associated with electromagnetic fields (EMFs), decreased property values, noise impacts, and interference with helicopters used in firefighting. However, CEQA is concerned with impacts on the physical environment; therefore, issues related to EMFs and decreased property values are outside the scope of this EIR.
- Concerns that the underlying need for the Proposed Project is not well-founded.

- The Proposed Project and various alternatives are supported or opposed by different stakeholders in the community; however, significant public opposition to the Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route was noted.

## ES.8 Significant Impacts

This FEIR evaluates the potential for the Proposed Project, reasonably foreseeable distribution components, and alternatives to affect the following resource topics:

- |                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ▪ Aesthetics                         | ▪ Land Use and Planning         |
| ▪ Agriculture and Forestry Resources | ▪ Mineral Resources             |
| ▪ Air Quality                        | ▪ Noise                         |
| ▪ Biological Resources               | ▪ Population and Housing        |
| ▪ Cultural Resources                 | ▪ Public Services               |
| ▪ Energy                             | ▪ Recreation                    |
| ▪ Geology, Soils, and Seismicity     | ▪ Traffic and Transportation    |
| ▪ Greenhouse Gas Emissions           | ▪ Tribal Cultural Resources     |
| ▪ Hazards and Hazardous Materials    | ▪ Utilities and Service Systems |
| ▪ Hydrology and Water Quality        | ▪ Wildfire                      |

Table ES-1 at the end of this Executive Summary summarizes the impacts analysis and significance determinations for the Proposed Project, while Table ES-2 summarizes the impacts and significance determinations for the reasonably foreseeable distribution components and alternatives. Significant and unavoidable impacts were identified for the Proposed Project for aesthetics, agriculture and forestry resources, air quality, and noise (see below). Other potentially significant effects identified for the Proposed Project would be reduced to less than significant levels with implementation of applicant proposed measures (APMs) and/or mitigation measures. Several significant and unavoidable impacts were identified for various alternatives, as indicated in Table ES-2 and described below. Sections 4.1 through 4.20 of this FEIR address each of these environmental resource topics and the impacts of the Proposed Project, reasonably foreseeable distribution components, and alternatives in detail.

Section 15126.2(b) of the CEQA Guidelines requires an EIR to describe any significant impacts that cannot be mitigated to a less-than-significant level. All of the impacts associated with the Proposed Project, reasonably foreseeable distribution components and ultimate substation buildout, and alternatives would be reduced to a less-than-significant level through the implementation of identified mitigation measures, with the exception of the impacts discussed below. The following impacts have been identified as significant and unavoidable:

- Impact AES-1 (Significance Criterion A): Have a substantial effect on a scenic vista (*Alternative SE-PLR-2*)
- Impact AES-3 (Significance Criterion C): In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings (public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If



the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality? (*Proposed Project; Alternative SE-PLR-2*)

- Impact CUM-1: Cumulative Effects on Aesthetics (*Proposed Project; Alternative SE-PLR-2*)
- Impact AGR-1 (Significance Criterion A): Conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural use. (*Proposed Project; Alternatives PLR-1A, PLR-1C, and SE-PLR-2*)
- Impact AGR-2 (Significance Criterion B): Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract. (*Proposed Project; Alternative SS-1*)
- Impact CUM-2: Cumulative Effects on Agriculture and Forestry Resources (*Proposed Project; Alternatives PLR-1A, PLR-1C, and SE-PLR-2*)
- Impact AQ-2 (Significance Criterion B): Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. (*Proposed Project; Alternatives SS-1, PLR-1A, PLR-1C, PLR-3, SE-1A, and SE-PLR-2*)
- Impact AQ-3 (Significance Criterion C): Potential to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. (*Proposed Project; Alternatives SS-1, PLR-1A, PLR-1C, PLR-3, SE-1A, and SE-PLR-2*)
- Impact HAZ-6 (Significance Criterion F): Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. (*No Project Alternative*)
- Impact NOISE-1 (Significance Criterion A): Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in a local general plan or noise ordinance or in the applicable standards of other agencies. (*Proposed Project; Alternatives SS-1, PLR-1A, PLR-1C, PLR-3, and SE-PLR-2*)
- Impact WF-1 (Significance Criterion A): Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. (*No Project Alternative*)

## ES.9 Environmentally Superior Alternative

Due to the nature of the Proposed Project, which includes a substation and power line (and provides space for reasonably foreseeable distribution components and ultimate substation buildout), alternatives were evaluated individually (e.g., substation siting or power line route alternatives) throughout the EIR. But practically, alternatives would be implemented in tandem with one or more other alternatives. In order to meet the Transmission Objective a substation and power line would need to be included in any alternative combination, but the Distribution Objective could be met either through traditional infrastructure (e.g., reasonably foreseeable

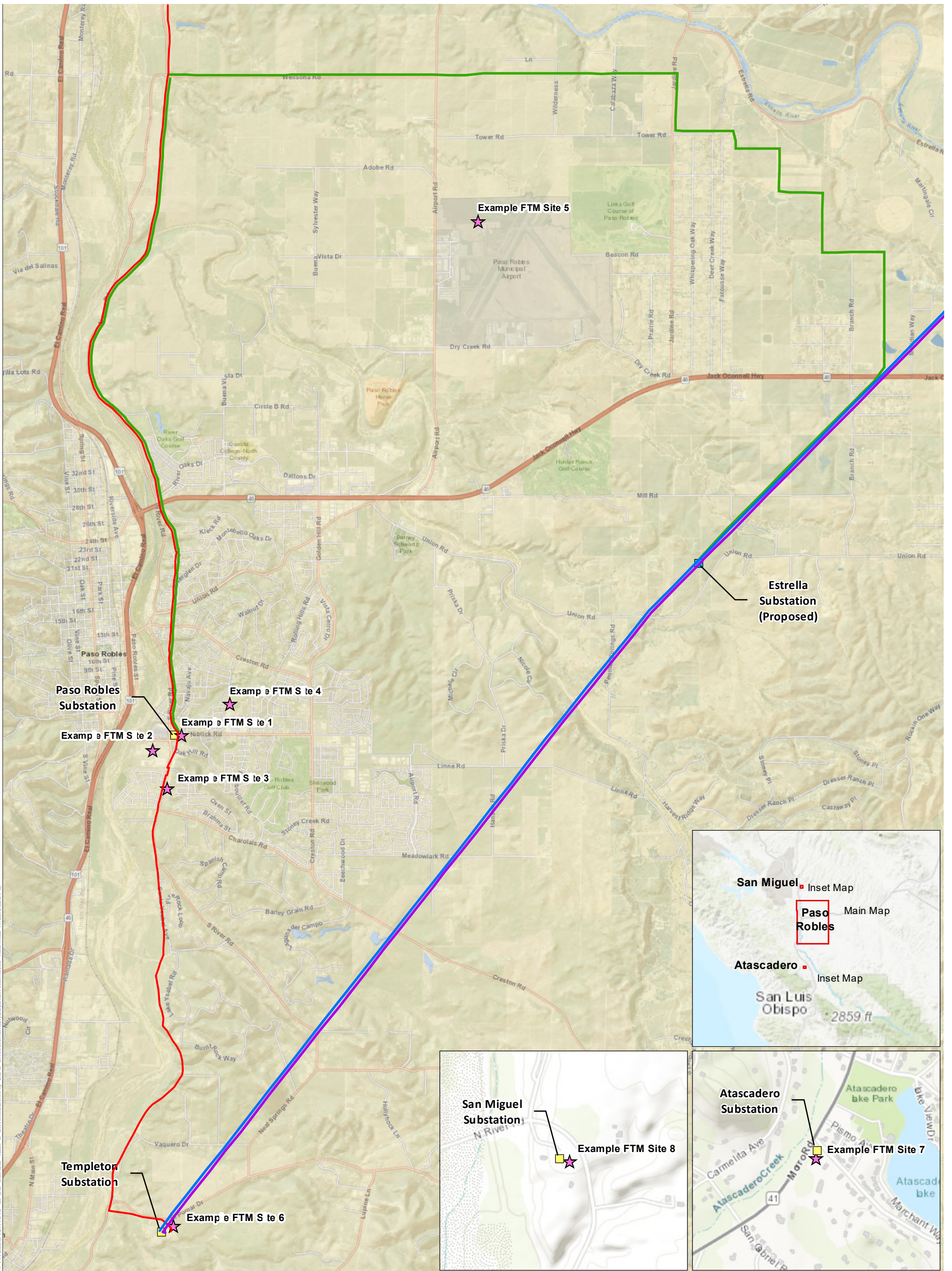
distribution components) or through implementation of one or more of the battery storage alternatives (Alternative BS-2 and BS-3).

The environmental analysis revealed a number of environmental tradeoffs involved with all of the alternatives or alternative combinations and the Proposed Project. The No Project Alternative is not considered environmentally superior because it would leave the Paso Robles 70 kV system vulnerable to the Category B contingencies described in Section “Proposed Project Background, Purpose and Objectives,” which could lead to load shedding and blackouts. If this were to occur during a wildfire, for example, it could hinder emergency response and evacuation procedures, and cause other adverse effects.

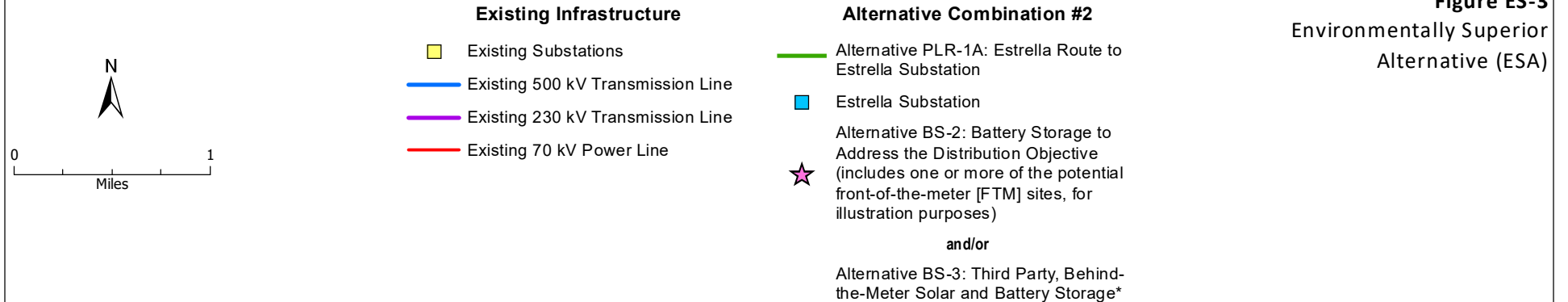
Taking into account all of the relevant factors, Alternative Combination #2 (which would include Estrella Substation, Alternative PLR-1A, Alternative BS-2, and Alternative BS-3) offers the most advantages from an environmental perspective. Specifically, this combination would route the new 70 kV power line north of the City of Paso Robles through a more rural, agricultural area of San Luis Obispo County. Thus, it would reduce the significant aesthetic impacts of the Proposed Project’s 70 kV power line. In particular, the Alternative PLR-1A route would avoid the impacts on the Golden Hill Road area, including the Cava Robles RV Resort, San Antonio Winery, and residents at the Circle B Homeowners’ Association. Although the northern Alternative PLR-1A route is longer (6.5 miles longer) than the Proposed Project’s 70 kV power line route, resulting in an increase in some construction-related effects, it would avoid the sensitive habitat (i.e., blue oak woodland) located along and north of Golden Hill Road, including the area where there is a known golden eagle nest nearby.

Depending on the specific sizes of FTM BESSs under Alternative BS-2 (this would be determined by future load growth in the Paso Robles area), utilizing FTM battery storage to address future distribution demand would likely reduce environmental impacts overall compared to buildout of the reasonably foreseeable distribution components. Even better from an environmental perspective would be to pursue BTM resources adoption under Alternative BS-3. Considering that these smaller-scale facilities would be placed largely within or on existing buildings, they would likely have relatively minimal environmental impacts overall.

Overall, Alternative Combination #2 is considered the most advantageous option and is identified as the Environmental Superior Alternative for this Draft EIR. The components included in the Draft EIR’s Environmentally Superior Alternative are shown in Figure ES-3.



Source: ESRI 2018, PG&E 2019, SCWA 2017



**Figure ES-3**  
Environmentally Superior Alternative (ESA)



\*Alternative BS-3 will be available throughout the Proposed Project area. Because it is unknown which specific customers will opt into the BTM resources program, the specific locations of activities under Alternative BS-3 are unknown at this time.

Estrella Substation and Paso Robles Area Reinforcement Project

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**Table ES-1. Summary of Impacts, Applicant Proposed Measures, and Mitigation Measures for the Proposed Project**

Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
<b><i>Aesthetics</i></b>		
Impact AES-1: Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista.	None	LTS
Impact AES-2: Substantial damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway.	None	LTS
Impact AES-3: In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings (public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality.	APM AES-1: Substation Hardscaping MM AES-1: Use Landscaping, Design and Architectural Elements to Complement the Surrounding Visual Landscape	SU
Impact AES-4: Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.	APM AES-2: Light and Glare Reduction MM AES-1: Use Landscaping, Design and Architectural Elements to Complement the Surrounding Visual Landscape	LSM
<b><i>Agriculture and Forestry Resources</i></b>		
Impact AG-1: Conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural use.	APM AG-1: Coordinate with Landowners, Farmers, and Ranchers Regarding Construction Activities MM AG-1: Provide Compensation for Loss of Agricultural Land	SU

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
	MM AG-2: Restore Agricultural Land Temporarily Impacted by Construction Activities	
Impact AG-2: Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or Williamson Act contract.	MM AG-1: Provide Compensation for Loss of Agricultural Land MM AG-2: Restore Agricultural Land Temporarily Impacted by Construction Activities	SU
Impact AG-3: Involve other changes in the existing environment that, because of their location or nature, could result in a conversion of Farmland to a nonagricultural use.	None	LTS
<b>Air Quality</b>		
Impact AQ-1: Potential to conflict with or obstruct implementation of the SLOCAPCD air quality plan.	None	LTS
Impact AQ-2: <u>Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard</u> <del>Potential to violate ROG, NO<sub>x</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub> significance thresholds and contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation.</del>	APM AIR-1: Minimize ROG, NO <sub>x</sub> , and PM Combustion APM AIR-2: Air Quality Best Available Control Technology for Construction Equipment APM AIR-3: Minimize Fugitive Dust MM AQ-1: Prepare a Construction Activity Management Plan for <del>Approval</del> <u>Review</u> by SLOCAPCD and <u>Final Approval</u> by CPUC	SU
Impact AQ-3: Potential to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.	<u>APM AIR-1: Minimize ROG, NO<sub>x</sub>, and PM Combustion</u> <u>APM AIR-2: Air Quality Best Available Control Technology for Construction Equipment</u>	<del>LTS</del> <u>SU</u>

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
	<u>APM AIR-3: Minimize Fugitive Dust</u> <u>MM AQ-1: Prepare a Construction Activity Management Plan for Review by SLOCAPCD and Final Approval by CPUC</u> <u>MM AQ-2: Prepare a Valley Fever Management Plan for Review by CDPH and San Luis Obispo Department of Public Health and Final Approval by CPUC</u>	None
Impact AQ-4: Potential to create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people.	None	LTS
<b>Biological Resources</b>		
Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS.	APM AIR-3: Minimize Fugitive Dust APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response APM HYDRO-1: Avoidance of Sensitive Aquatic Features APM GEN-1: Prepare and Implement a Worker Environmental Awareness Program APM BIO-1: Conduct Pre-Construction Survey(s) for Special-Status Species and Sensitive Resource Areas APM BIO-2: Avoid Impacts on Nesting Birds APM BIO-3: Biological Monitoring APM BIO-4: Special-Status Species Protection APM BIO-5: Dead or Injured Special-Status Wildlife	LSM

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
	APM AES-2: Light and Glare Reduction MM BIO-1: Actions to Further Avoid and Minimize Impacts to Special-Status Species MM BIO-2: Compensate for Impacts to Special-Status Plant Species MM BIO-3: Minimize Impacts to Raptors and Other Avian Life from Transmission and Power Line Facilities	
Impact BIO-2: Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by CDFW or USFWS.	APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response APM HYDRO-1: Avoidance of Sensitive Aquatic Features MM BIO-4: Develop and Implement a Restoration Plan for Blue Oak Woodland Habitat	LSM
Impact BIO-3: Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.	APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response APM HYDRO-1: Avoidance of Sensitive Aquatic Features APM GEN-1: Prepare and Implement a Worker Environmental Awareness Program APM AIR-3: Minimize Fugitive Dust MM BIO-1: Actions to Further Avoid and Minimize Impacts to Special-Status Species	LSM

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
<p>Impact BIO-4: Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.</p>	<p>APM BIO-1: Conduct Pre-Construction Survey(s) for Special-Status Species and Sensitive Resource Areas</p> <p>MM BIO-1: Actions to Further Avoid and Minimize Impacts to Special-Status Species</p>	<p>LTM</p>
<p>Impact BIO-5: Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.</p>	<p>APM AIR-3: Minimize Fugitive Dust</p> <p>APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response</p> <p>APM HYDRO-1: Avoidance of Sensitive Aquatic Features</p> <p>APM GEN-1: Prepare and Implement a Worker Environmental Awareness Program</p> <p>APM BIO-1: Conduct Pre-Construction Survey(s) for Special-Status Species and Sensitive Resource Areas</p> <p>APM BIO-2: Avoid Impacts on Nesting Birds</p> <p>APM BIO-3: Biological Monitoring</p> <p>APM BIO-4: Special-Status Species Protection</p> <p>APM BIO-5: Dead or Injured Special-Status Wildlife</p> <p>APM AES-2: Light and Glare Reduction</p> <p>MM BIO-1: Actions to Further Avoid and Minimize Impacts to Special-Status Species</p> <p>MM BIO-4: Develop and Implement a Restoration Plan for Blue Oak Woodland Habitat</p>	<p>LSM</p>

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
<b>Cultural Resources</b>		
Impact CR-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical and/or archaeological resource as defined in section 15064.5.	APM CUL-1: Retain a Qualified Cultural Principal Investigator APM CUL-2: Avoidance APM CUL-3: Inadvertent Discoveries APM CUL-5: Tribal Construction Monitoring APM CUL-6: Archaeological Construction Monitoring APM GEN-1: Prepare and Implement a Worker Environmental Awareness Program MM CR-1: CPUC Enhancements to APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-5, and CUL-6	LSM
Impact CR-2: Disturb human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries.	APM CUL-4: Discovery of Human Remains MM CR-2: Comply with the Legal Requirements of PRC 5097.98	LSM
<b>Energy</b>		
Impact ENR-1: Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation.	APM AIR-1: Minimize ROG, NOx, and PM Combustion APM AIR-2: Air Quality Best Available Control Technology for Construction Equipment. APM AIR-3: Minimize Fugitive Dust	LTS

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
	MM AQ-1: Prepare a Construction Activity Management Plan for <del>Approval</del> <u>Review</u> by SLOCAPCD and <u>Final Approval</u> by CPUC (not required to reduce significant impacts to energy)	
Impact ENR-2: Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.	None	LTS
<b><i>Geology, Soils, and Seismicity</i></b>		
Impact GEO-1: Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death associated with rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking, seismic-related ground failure, or landslides:		
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault	None	NI
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking	None	NI
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction	None	NI
iv. Landslides	None	NI
Impact GEO-2: Result in substantial erosion or loss of topsoil.	APM AIR-3: Minimize Fugitive Dust	LTS
Impact GEO-3: Be located on a geologic unit that is unstable or that may become unstable as a result of the	APM GEO 1: Soft or Loose Soils	LSM

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse.	MM GEO-1: Implement Recommendations in the Project Geotechnical Investigation Reports	
Impact GEO-4: Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Figure 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property.	MM GEO-1: Implement Recommendations in the Project Geotechnical Investigation Reports	LSM
Impact GEO-5: Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for disposal of wastewater.	None	NI
Impact GEO-6: Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.	APM GEN-1: Prepare and Implement a Worker Environmental Awareness Program APM PALEO-1: Retain a Qualified Paleontological Principal Investigator APM PALEO-2: Inadvertent Discoveries APM PALEO-3: Paleontological Construction Monitoring APM PALEO-4: Fossil Recovery	LTS
<b><i>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</i></b>		
Impact GHG-1: Generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment.	APM AIR-1: Minimize ROG, NO <sub>x</sub> , and PM Combustion APM GHG-1: Minimize Operational SF <sub>6</sub> Emissions	LTS

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
Impact GHG-2: Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing emissions of GHGs.	None	LTS
<b><i>Hazards and Hazardous Materials</i></b>		
Impact HAZ-1: Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.	APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response	LTS
Impact HAZ-2: Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment.	APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response	LTS
Impact HAZ-3: Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous material, substances, or wastes within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school.	None	NI
Impact HAZ-4: Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to California Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.	APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response	LTS
Impact HAZ-5: For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport,	None	LTS

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area.		
Impact HAZ-6: Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.	MM TR-1: Construction Traffic Control Plan	LSM
Impact HAZ-7: Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires.	None	LTS
<b>Hydrology and Water Quality</b>		
Impact HYD/WQ-1: Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality.	APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response APM HYDRO-1: Avoidance of Sensitive Aquatic Features	LTS
Impact HYD/WQ- 2: Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin.	None	LTS
Impact HYD/WQ-3: Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:		

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site	None	LTS
ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite	None	LTS
iii. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff	APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response	LTS
iv. Impede or redirect flood flows	None	LTS
Impact HYD/WQ-4: Risk release of pollutants due to project inundation in flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones.	APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response	LTS
Impact HYD/WQ-5: Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.	APM HAZ-1: Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response APM HYDRO-1: Avoidance of Sensitive Aquatic Features	LTS
<b><i>Land Use and Planning</i></b>		
Impact LU-1: Physically divide an established community.	MM TR-1: Construction Traffic Control Plan (not required to reduce significant land use impacts)	LTS
Impact LU-2: Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation	None	LTS

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.		
<b>Mineral Resources</b>		
Impact MR-1: Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the State.	None	LTS
Impact MR-2: Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan.	None	NI
<b>Noise and Vibration</b>		
Impact NOISE-1: Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in a local general plan or noise ordinance or in the applicable standards of other agencies.	APM NOI-1: Construction Schedule Limits APM AG-1: Coordinate with Landowners, Farmers, and Ranchers Regarding Construction Activities APM NOI-2: Noise Minimization MM NOI-1: General Construction Noise MM NOI-2: Minimize Noise Impacts from Helicopters	SU
Impact NOISE-2: Generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels.	None	LTS
Impact NOISE-3: For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan area, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a	None	LTS

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
public airport or public-use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?		
<b><i>Population and Housing</i></b>		
Impact POP-1: Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure).	None	LTS
Impact POP-2: Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.	None	LTS
<b><i>Public Services</i></b>		
Impact PUB-1: Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for:		
a. Fire protection	None	LTS
b. Police protection	MM TR-1: Construction Traffic Control Plan	LSM

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Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
c. Schools	None	LTS
d. Parks	None	LTS
e. Others	None	LTS
<b>Recreation</b>		
Impact REC-1: Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated.	None	LTS
Impact REC-2: Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical impact on the environment.	None	NI
<b>Transportation</b>		
Impact TR-1: Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities.	MM TR-1: Construction Traffic Control Plan	LSM
Impact TR-2: Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, Subdivision (b).	None	LTS
Impact TR-3: Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment).	MM TR-1: Construction Traffic Control Plan	LSM

Key: NI = No Impact; LTS = Less than Significant; LSM = Less than Significant with Mitigation; SU = Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
Impact TR-4: Result in inadequate emergency access or interfere with an adopted emergency evacuation plan.	MM TR-1: Construction Traffic Control Plan	LSM
<b><i>Tribal Cultural Resources</i></b>		
Impact TCR-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource.	APM CUL-1: Retain a Qualified Cultural Principal Investigator APM CUL-2: Avoidance APM CUL-3: Inadvertent Discoveries APM CUL-4: Discovery of Human Remains APM CUL-5: Tribal Construction Monitoring APM CUL-6: Archaeological Construction Monitoring APM GEN-1: Prepare and Implement a Worker Environmental Awareness Program MM CR-1: CPUC Enhancements to APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-5, and CUL-6 MM CR-2: Comply with the Legal Requirements of PRC 5097.98 MM TCR-1: Tribal Monitoring and Treatment of Tribal Cultural Resources	LSM
<b><i>Utilities and Service Systems</i></b>		
Impact UTL-1: Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural	None	LTS

Key: NI = No Impact; LTS = Less than Significant; LSM = Less than Significant with Mitigation; SU = Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects.		
Impact UTL-2: Have insufficient water supplies available to supply the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years.	None	LTS
Impact UTL-3: Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments.	None	LTS
Impact UTL-4: Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals.	None	LTS
Impact UTL-5: Failure to comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste.	None	LTS
<b>Wildfire</b>		
Impact WF-1: Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.	MM TR-1: Construction Traffic Control Plan	LSM

Key: NI = No Impact; LTS = Less than Significant; LSM = Less than Significant with Mitigation; SU = Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	APMs or MMs	Significance Determination
Impact WF-2: Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire.	None	LTS
Impact WF-3: Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment.	None	LTS
Impact WF-4: Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes.	None	LTS

Key: NI = No Impact; LTS = Less than Significant; LSM = Less than Significant with Mitigation; SU = Significant and Unavoidable

**Table ES-2. Summary of Impacts, Applicant-Proposed Measures, and Mitigation Measures for the Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components, Ultimate Substation Buildout, and Alternatives**

Impact	Level of Significance and Applicable APMs and MMs									
	Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components and Ultimate Substation Buildout	No Project Alternative	Alternative SS-1: Bonel Ranch Substation Site	Alternative PLR-1A: Estrella Route to Estrella Substation	Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch	Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding (Options 1 & 2)	Alternative SE-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion – 230/70 kV Substation	Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route	Alternative BS-2: Battery Storage to Address the Distribution Objective	Alternative BS-3: Behind-the-Meter Solar and Battery Storage
<b>Aesthetics</b>										
Impact AES-1: Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	SU (MM AES-1)	NC	NC
Impact AES-2: Substantial damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
Impact AES-3: In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings (public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality.	LTS	NI	LSM (MM AES-1)	LSM (MM AES-1)	LSM (MM AES-1)	LTS	LSM (MM AES-1)	SU (MM AES-1)	NC	NC
Impact AES-4: Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.	LTS (APM AES-1)	NI	LSM (APM AES-2) (MM AES-1)	LSM (APM AES-2) (MM AES-1)	LSM (APM AES-2) (MM AES-1)	LTS (APM AES-2)	LSM (APM AES-2) (MM AES-1)	LSM (APM AES-2) (MM AES-1)	NC	NC
<b>Agriculture and Forestry Resources</b>										
Impact AG-1: Conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural use.	LTS (APM AG-1)	NI	LTS (APM AG-1)	SU (APM AG-1) (MM AG-1, AG-2)	SU (APM AG-1) (MM AG-1, AG-2)	LTS (APM AG-1)	LTS (APM AG-1)	SU (APM AG-1) (MM AG-1, AG-2)	NC	NC
Impact AG-2: Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or Williamson Act contract.	LTS	NI	<del>LTS</del> (MM AG-1, AG-2)	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC

Impact	Level of Significance and Applicable APMs and MMs									
	Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components and Ultimate Substation Buildout	No Project Alternative	Alternative SS-1: Bonel Ranch Substation Site	Alternative PLR-1A: Estrella Route to Estrella Substation	Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch	Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding (Options 1 & 2)	Alternative SE-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion – 230/70 kV Substation	Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route	Alternative BS-2: Battery Storage to Address the Distribution Objective	Alternative BS-3: Behind-the-Meter Solar and Battery Storage
Impact AG-3: Involve other changes in the existing environment that, because of their location or nature, could result in a conversion of Farmland to a nonagricultural use.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
<b>Air Quality</b>										
Impact AQ-1: Potential to conflict with or obstruct implementation of the [air district] air quality plan.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
Impact AQ-2: <u>Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard</u> <del>Potential to violate [list AQ pollutants] significance thresholds and contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation.</del>	LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3)	NI	SU (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1)	SU (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1)	SU (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1)	SU (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1)	SU (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1)	SU (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1)	NC	NC
Impact AQ-3: Potential to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.	LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3)	NI	<del>SU</del> LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MMs AQ-1, AQ-2)	<del>SU</del> LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MMs AQ-1, AQ-2)	<del>SU</del> LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MMs AQ-1, AQ-2)	<del>SU</del> LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MMs AQ-1, AQ-2)	<del>SU</del> LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MMs AQ-1, AQ-2)	<del>SU</del> LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MMs AQ-1, AQ-2)	NC	NC
Impact AQ-4: Potential to create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC

Impact	Level of Significance and Applicable APMs and MMs									
	Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components and Ultimate Substation Buildout	No Project Alternative	Alternative SS-1: Bonel Ranch Substation Site	Alternative PLR-1A: Estrella Route to Estrella Substation	Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch	Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding (Options 1 & 2)	Alternative SE-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion – 230/70 kV Substation	Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route	Alternative BS-2: Battery Storage to Address the Distribution Objective	Alternative BS-3: Behind-the-Meter Solar and Battery Storage
<b>Biological Resources</b>										
Impact BIO-1: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS.	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AES-2, AIR-3, BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MMs BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, HYD/WQ-1)	NI	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AES-2, AIR-3, BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MMs BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3)	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AES-2, AIR-3, BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MMs BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3)	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AES-2, AIR-3, BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MMs BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3)	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AES-2, AIR-3, BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MMs BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3)	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AES-2, AIR-3, BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MMs BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3)	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AES-2, AIR-3, BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MMs BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3)	NC	NC
Impact BIO-2: Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by CDFW or USFWS.	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AIR-3) (MM BIO-1, HYD/WQ-1)	NI	LTS	LSM (MM BIO-4)	LSM (MM BIO-4)	LSM (MM BIO-4)	LTS	LSM (MM BIO-4)	NC	NC
Impact BIO-3: Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AIR-3) (MM BIO-1, HYD/WQ-1)	NI	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AIR-3) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AIR-3) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AIR-3) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AIR-3) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AIR-3) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APMs HYDRO-1, HAZ-1, GEN-1, AIR-3) (MM BIO-1)	NC	NC
Impact BIO-4: Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.	LSM (APM BIO-1) (MM BIO-1)	NI	LSM (APM BIO-1) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APM BIO-1) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APM BIO-1) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APM BIO-1) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APM BIO-1) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APM BIO-1) (MM BIO-1)	NC	NC



Impact	Level of Significance and Applicable APMs and MMs									
	Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components and Ultimate Substation Buildout	No Project Alternative	Alternative SS-1: Bonel Ranch Substation Site	Alternative PLR-1A: Estrella Route to Estrella Substation	Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch	Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding (Options 1 & 2)	Alternative SE-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion – 230/70 kV Substation	Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route	Alternative BS-2: Battery Storage to Address the Distribution Objective	Alternative BS-3: Behind-the-Meter Solar and Battery Storage
Impact BIO-5: Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.	LSM (APM BIO-1, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MM BIO-1)	NI	LSM (APM BIO-1, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APM BIO-1, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MM BIO-1, BIO-4)	LSM (APM BIO-1, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MM BIO-1, BIO-4)	LSM (APM BIO-1, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MM BIO-1, BIO-4)	LSM (APM BIO-1, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MM BIO-1)	LSM (APM BIO-1, BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5) (MM BIO-1, BIO-4)	NC	NC
<b>Cultural Resources</b>										
Impact CR-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical and/or archaeological resource as defined in section 15064.5.	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MM CR-1, CR-3)	NI	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MM CR-1, CR-3)	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MM CR-1, CR-3)	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MM CR-1, CR-3)	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MM CR-1)	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MM CR-1)	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MM CR-1)	NC	NC
Impact CR-2: Disturb human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries.	LSM (APM CUL-4) (MM CR-2)	NI	LSM (APM CUL-4) (MM CR-2)	LSM (APM CUL-4) (MM CR-2)	LSM (APM CUL-4) (MM CR-2)	LSM (APM CUL-4) (MM CR-2)	LSM (APM CUL-4) (MM CR-2)	LSM (APM CUL-4) (MM CR-2)	NC	NC
<b>Energy</b>										
Impact ENR-1: Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation.	LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1 [not necessary to reduce impacts])	NI	LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1 [not necessary to reduce impacts])	LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1 [not necessary to reduce impacts])	LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1 [not necessary to reduce impacts])	LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1 [not necessary to reduce impacts])	LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1 [not necessary to reduce impacts])	LTS (APMs AIR-1, AIR-2, AIR-3) (MM AQ-1 [not necessary to reduce impacts])	NC	NC
Impact ENR-2: Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC

Impact	Level of Significance and Applicable APMs and MMs									
	Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components and Ultimate Substation Buildout	No Project Alternative	Alternative SS-1: Bonel Ranch Substation Site	Alternative PLR-1A: Estrella Route to Estrella Substation	Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch	Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding (Options 1 & 2)	Alternative SE-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion – 230/70 kV Substation	Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route	Alternative BS-2: Battery Storage to Address the Distribution Objective	Alternative BS-3: Behind-the-Meter Solar and Battery Storage
<b>Geology, Soils, and Seismicity</b>										
Impact GEO-1: Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:										
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault	NI	NI	NI	LTS	LTS	Ni	Ni	Ni	NC	NC
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking	NI	NI	NI	LTS	LTS	NI	NI	NI	NC	NC
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction	NI	NI	NI	LTS	LTS	NI	NI	NI	NC	NC
iv. Landslides	NI	NI	NI	LTS	LTS	NI	NI	NI	NC	NC
Impact GEO-2: Result in substantial erosion or loss of topsoil.	LSM (APM AIR-3) (MM HYD/WQ-1)	NI	LTS (APM AIR-3)	LTS (APM AIR-3)	LTS (APM AIR-3)	LTS (APM AIR-3)	LTS (APM AIR-3)	LTS (APM AIR-3)	NC	NC
Impact GEO-3: Be located on a geologic unit that is unstable or that may become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse.	LTS (APM GEO-1)	NI	LTS (APM GEO-1)	LTS (APM GEO-1)	LTS (APM GEO-1)	LTS (APM GEO-1)	LTS (APM GEO-1)	LTS (APM GEO-1)	NC	NC
Impact GEO-4: Be located on expansive soil, creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property.	LTS (APM GEO-1)	NI	LTS (APM GEO-1)	LTS (APM GEO-1)	LTS (APM GEO-1)	LTS (APM GEO-1)	LTS (APM GEO-1)	LTS (APM GEO-1)	NC	NC
Impact GEO-5: Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for disposal of waste water.	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NC	NC

Impact	Level of Significance and Applicable APMs and MMs									
	Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components and Ultimate Substation Buildout	No Project Alternative	Alternative SS-1: Bonel Ranch Substation Site	Alternative PLR-1A: Estrella Route to Estrella Substation	Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch	Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding (Options 1 & 2)	Alternative SE-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion – 230/70 kV Substation	Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route	Alternative BS-2: Battery Storage to Address the Distribution Objective	Alternative BS-3: Behind-the-Meter Solar and Battery Storage
Impact GEO-6: Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.	LTS (APMs GEN-1, PALEO-1, PALEO-2, PALEO-3, PALEO-4)	NI	LSM (APMs GEN-1, PALEO-1, PALEO-2, PALEO-3, PALEO-4) (MM GEO-2)	LTS (APMs GEN-1, PALEO-1, PALEO-2, PALEO-3, PALEO-4)	LSM (APMs GEN-1, PALEO-1, PALEO-2, PALEO-3, PALEO-4) (MM GEO-2)	LTS (APMs GEN-1, PALEO-1, PALEO-2, PALEO-3, PALEO-4)	LTS (APMs GEN-1, PALEO-1, PALEO-2, PALEO-3, PALEO-4)	LTS (APMs GEN-1, PALEO-1, PALEO-2, PALEO-3, PALEO-4)	NC	NC
<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>										
Impact GHG-1: Generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment.	LTS (APM AIR-1, GHG-1)	NI	LTS (APM AIR-1, GHG-1)	LTS (APM AIR-1, GHG-1)	LTS (APM AIR-1, GHG-1)	LTS (APM AIR-1, GHG-1)	LTS (APM AIR-1, GHG-1)	LTS (APM AIR-1, GHG-1)	NC	NC
Impact GHG-2: Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing emissions of GHGs.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
<b>Hazards and Hazardous Materials</b>										
Impact HAZ-1: Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	NI	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	NC	NC
Impact HAZ-2: Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions.	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	NI	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	NC	NC
Impact HAZ-3: Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous material, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school.	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NC	NC
Impact HAZ-4: Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	NI	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	LTS (APM HAZ-1)	NC	NC

Impact	Level of Significance and Applicable APMs and MMs									
	Reasonably Foreseeable Distribution Components and Ultimate Substation Buildout	No Project Alternative	Alternative SS-1: Bonel Ranch Substation Site	Alternative PLR-1A: Estrella Route to Estrella Substation	Alternative PLR-1C: Estrella Route to Bonel Ranch	Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding (Options 1 & 2)	Alternative SE-1A: Templeton Substation Expansion – 230/70 kV Substation	Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route	Alternative BS-2: Battery Storage to Address the Distribution Objective	Alternative BS-3: Behind-the-Meter Solar and Battery Storage
Impact HAZ-5: For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NI	NI	NC	NC
Impact HAZ-6: Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.	LSM (MM TR-1)	SU	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	NC	NC
Impact HAZ-7: Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires.	LTS	NI	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LTS	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	NC	NC
<b>Hydrology and Water Quality</b>										
Impact HYD/WQ-1: Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality.	LSM (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1) (MM HYD/WQ-1)	NI	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	NC	NC
Impact HYD/WQ- 2: Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
Impact HYD/WQ-3: Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:										

Impact	Level of Significance and Applicable APMs and MMs									
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i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site	LSM (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1) (MM HYD/WQ-1)	NI	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	LTS (APMs HAZ-1, HYDRO-1)	NC	NC
ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
iii. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
iv. Impede or redirect flood flows	LTS	NI	NI	LTS	LTS	NI	NI	LTS	NC	NC
Impact HYD/WQ-4: Risk release of pollutants due to project inundation in flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones.	LTS	NI	NI	LTS	LTS	NI	NI	LTS	NC	NC
Impact HYD/WQ-5: Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
<b>Land Use and Planning</b>										
Impact LU-1: Physically divide an established community.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS (MM TR-1 [not necessary to reduce impacts])	LTS	LTS (MM TR-1 [not necessary to reduce impacts])	NC	NC
Impact LU-2: Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC

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<b>Mineral Resources</b>										
Impact MR-1: Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the State.	NI	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
Impact MR-2: Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan.	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NC	NC
<b>Noise and Vibration</b>										
Impact NOISE-1: Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in a local general plan or noise ordinance or in the applicable standards of other agencies.	LTS (APMs NOI-1, NOI-2, AG-1)	NI	SU (APMs NOI-1, NOI-2, AG-1) (MMs NOI-1, NOI-2)	SU (APMs NOI-1, NOI-2, AG-1) (MMs NOI-1, NOI-2)	SU (APMs NOI-1, NOI-2, AG-1) (MMs NOI-1, NOI-2)	SU (APMs NOI-1, NOI-2, AG-1) (MMs NOI-1, NOI-2)	LSM (APMs NOI-1, NOI-2, AG-1) (MMs NOI-1, NOI-2)	SU (APMs NOI-1, NOI-2, AG-1) (MMs NOI-1, NOI-2)	NC	NC
Impact NOISE-2: Generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
Impact NOISE-3: For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan area, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public-use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NI	NI	NC	NC
<b>Population and Housing</b>										
Impact POP-1: Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure).	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC

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Impact POP-2: Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.	NI	NI	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
<b>Public Services</b>										
Impact PUB-1: Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:										
a. Fire protection	LTS	NI	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LTS	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	NC	NC
b. Police protection	LSM (MM TR-1)	NI	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	NC	NC
c. Schools	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
d. Parks	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
e. Others	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
<b>Recreation</b>										
Impact REC-1: Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
Impact REC-2: Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical impact on the environment.	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI	NC	NC

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<b>Transportation</b>										
Impact TR-1: Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities.	LSM (MM TR-1)	NI	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	NC	NC
Impact TR-2: Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b).	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
Impact TR-3: Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment).	LSM (MM TR-1)	NI	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	NC	NC
Impact TR-4: Result in inadequate emergency access or interfere with an adopted emergency evacuation plan.	LSM (MM TR-1)	NI	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	NC	NC
<b>Tribal Cultural Resources</b>										
Impact TCR-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource.	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-4, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MMs CR-1, CR-2, CR-3, TCR-1)	NI	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-4, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MMs CR-1, CR-2, CR-3, TCR-1)	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-4, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MMs CR-1, CR-2, CR-3, TCR-1)	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-2, CUL-3, CUL-4, CUL-5, CUL-6, GEN-1) (MMs CR-1, CR-2, CR-3, TCR-1)	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-3, CUL-4, GEN-1) (MMs CR-1, CR-2, TCR-1)	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-3, CUL-4, GEN-1) (MMs CR-1, CR-2, TCR-1)	LSM (APMs CUL-1, CUL-3, CUL-4, GEN-1) (MMs CR-1, CR-2, TCR-1)	NC	NC
<b>Utilities and Service Systems</b>										
Impact UTL-1: Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC



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Impact UTL-2: Have insufficient water supplies to supply the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
Impact UTL-3: Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project’s projected demand in addition to the provider’s existing commitments.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
Impact UTL-4: Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
Impact UTL-5: Failure to comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste.	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	LTS	NC	NC
<b>Wildfire</b>										
Impact WF-1: Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.	LSM (MM TR-1)	SU	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	LTS (MM TR-1 [not necessary to reduce impacts])	LSM (MM TR-1)	LSM (MM TR-1)	NC	NC
Impact WF-2: Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire.	LTS	NI	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LTS	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	NC	NC

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Impact WF-3: Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment.	LTS	NI	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LTS	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	NC	NC
Impact WF-4: Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes.	LTS	NI	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LTS	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	LSM (MM HAZ-1)	NC	NC