

1.21 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The following discussion evaluates the potential changes in impacts associated with mandatory findings of significance and the conclusions from the Proponent’s Environmental Assessment (PEA) with the incorporation of the Proposed Project’s design modifications as described in the redlined version of Chapter 3 – Project Description. The table below summarizes the impact determinations from the PEA and the impact determinations with the incorporation of the design modifications.

Would the project:	PEA Impact Determination	Impact Determination with Design Modifications
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	Less-than-Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant Impact
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	Less-than-Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant Impact
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	Less-than-Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant Impact

Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

Construction, Operations and Maintenance

LSPGC and PG&E Components

Less-than-Significant Impact. As discussed in Section 1.4 Biological Resources, impacts to existing habitats, wetlands, waterways, and plant and animal communities and species would continue to be less than significant with the design modifications to the LS Power Grid California, LLC (LSPGC) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) Proposed Project components. Impacts to historical resources would continue to be less than significant as discussed in Section 1.5 Cultural Resources. As a result, and consistent with the PEA, impacts would continue to be less than significant.

Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)

Construction, Operations and Maintenance

LSPGC and PG&E Components

Less-than-Significant Impact. The design modifications would not create a cumulatively considerable impact. The design modifications, with the exception of the proposed PG&E 500 Kilovolt (kV) Transposition Structures, would occur within the same general locations assessed in the PEA.

The following resources were reviewed for present and future projects within 1 mile of the proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures:

- Governor’s Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI) CEQAnet Web Portal,
- California Public Utilities Commission Current Project webpage,
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Project Portal,
- Solano County Planning Commission’s 2023 and 2024 meeting agendas, and
- Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development’s Major Project List.

Two future projects were identified in the vicinity of proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D and listed in Table 1: Planned Projects within 1 Mile of the Proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures.

Construction of proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D would occur for a limited duration and within work areas occupying a total of approximately 2 acres. Geophysical investigations for the Delta Conveyance Project, one of the two planned projects identified, would occur within 0.8 mile of proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D, and excavations would remain open for approximately 6 weeks before being restored (California Department of Water Resources [DWR] 2023). Therefore, it is unlikely that the timing of construction of proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D would overlap with the geophysical investigations for the Delta Conveyance Project. If the timing does overlap, the geophysical investigations and construction of proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D would overlap for approximately 6 weeks. Other infrastructure for the Delta Conveyance Project would be constructed over 1 mile from proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D. Construction of the Delta Bay Solar Canopy RV and Boat Storage Facility, the second of the two planned projects identified, would occur on a parcel approximately 0.4 mile northwest of proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D. As construction of proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D would temporarily impact approximately 2 acres and occur for a limited duration, it is unlikely that this design modification would contribute to a cumulative impact through combined impacts from construction of the approximately 16-acre Delta Bay Solar Canopy RV and Boat Storage Facility, which would be located approximately 0.4 mile northwest of proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D. Further, PG&E’s maintenance activities would not change in this area, and thus no additional impacts from maintenance activities are anticipated.

Table 1: Planned Projects within 1 Mile of the Proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structures

Project Name and Type	Project Description and Location	Proximity to the Proposed Project	Project Status	Anticipated Construction Schedule	Construction Overlap?
Delta Bay Solar Canopy RV and Boat Storage Facility	This project involves the construction of a solar-covered boat and recreational vehicle storage facility on approximately 16 acres southeast of the intersection of Bixler Road and State Route 4 in the census-designated place of Byron in Contra Costa County. The project includes six parking canopies, which would support 349,494 square feet of solar panel arrays, and the construction of a two-story office building.	Approximately 0.4 mile from proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D	Planned	Information Not Available	Potentially
Delta Conveyance Project	This project involves the construction of new water diversion and conveyance facilities in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, including a new pumping plant and aqueduct complex. Geophysical surveys requiring excavations would be completed in the census-designated place of Byron to study the West Tracy Fault.	Approximately 0.8 mile from proposed PG&E 500 kV Transposition Structure D	Planned	Information Not Available	Potentially

Source: California DWR 2023, LCI 2025.

As a result, and consistent with the PEA, cumulative impacts would continue to be less than significant.

Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Construction, Operations and Maintenance

LSPGC and PG&E Components

Less-than-Significant Impact. In general, impacts to human beings are associated with air quality, geologic hazards, hazards and hazardous materials, noise, and traffic safety impacts. As discussed in the updated impact analyses for the aforementioned resources, the impacts would continue to be less than significant. As a result, and consistent with the PEA, direct and indirect impacts to human beings would continue to be less than significant.

References

California DWR. 2023. Delta Conveyance Project Final Environmental Impact Report. Online. <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2020010227/6>. Site visited January 19, 2025.

Caltrans. 2025. District 4 Current Projects. Online. <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4-projects>. Site visited January 19, 2025.

Contra Costa Conservation and Development. 2025. Major Project List. Online. <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/4263/Major-Projects>. Site visited January 19, 2025.

LCI. 2025. Delta Bay Solar Canopy RV & Boat Storage Facility- County Fire CDLP22-02019. Online. <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2024010363/2>. Site visited January 19, 2025.

Solano County. 2025. Solano County Planning Commission Meetings. Online. https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/rm/boardscommissions/solano_county_planning_commission/agendas.asp. Site visited January 19, 2025.