

## 3.0 ALTERNATIVES AND CUMULATIVE PROJECTS

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1 The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires the California State Lands  
2 Commission (CSLC), as the CEQA Lead Agency, to analyze (1) alternatives to a  
3 proposed project that could feasibly achieve the objectives of the project while  
4 substantially reducing significant environmental effects and (2) cumulative impacts. This  
5 section describes the alternatives considered for the Amorco Marine Oil Terminal Lease  
6 Consideration Project (Project) and evaluates their environmental impacts in comparison  
7 to those from the proposed Project. The section concludes with an analysis of potential  
8 cumulative impacts, or “two or more individual effects which, when considered together,  
9 are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental effects” (State  
10 CEQA Guidelines § 15355).

### 11 3.1 SELECTION OF ALTERNATIVES

#### 12 3.1.1 Alternatives and Screening Development

13 An important aspect of the environmental review process is the identification and  
14 assessment of reasonable alternatives that have the potential to avoid or reduce the  
15 significant impacts of a proposed project to allow for a comparative analysis for  
16 consideration by decision-makers. The State CEQA Guidelines provide the following  
17 guidance for evaluating alternatives in Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs).

18 An EIR need not consider every conceivable alternative to a project. Rather, it must  
19 consider a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives that will foster informed  
20 decision-making and public participation. An EIR is not required to consider alternatives  
21 which are infeasible. (§ 15126.6, subd. (a).)

22 • The discussion of alternatives shall focus on alternatives to the project or its  
23 location which are capable of avoiding or substantially lessening any significant  
24 effects of the project, even if these alternatives would impede to some degree the  
25 attainment of the project objectives, or would be more costly. (§ 15126.6, subd.  
26 (b).)

27 • In selecting a range of potential reasonable alternatives to the proposed project,  
28 the Lead Agency shall include those that could feasibly accomplish most of the  
29 basic objectives of the project and could avoid or substantially lessen one or more  
30 of the significant effects. Among the factors that a Lead Agency may use to  
31 eliminate alternatives from detailed consideration are: (i) failure to meet most of  
32 the basic project objectives, (ii) infeasibility, or (iii) inability to avoid significant  
33 environmental impacts. (§ 15126.6, subd. (c).)

34 • The EIR shall include sufficient information about each alternative to allow  
35 meaningful evaluation, analysis, and comparison with the proposed project. If an  
36 alternative would cause one or more significant effects in addition to those that

1 would be caused by the project as proposed, the significant effects of the  
2 alternative shall be discussed, but in less detail than the significant effects of the  
3 project as proposed. (§ 15126.6, subd. (d).)

4 CEQA also requires an EIR to evaluate a “no project” alternative. The purpose of  
5 describing and analyzing a no project alternative is to allow decision-makers to compare  
6 the impacts of approving the proposed project with the impacts of not approving the  
7 project. The analysis of the no project alternative must discuss the existing conditions at  
8 the time the Notice of Preparation is published, as well as what would be reasonably  
9 expected to occur in the foreseeable future if the project were not approved.

### 10 **3.1.2 Alternatives Screening Method**

11 Alternatives to the proposed Project were selected based on input from the EIR study  
12 team, the Applicant (Tesoro Refining and Marketing Company LLC [Tesoro]), and the  
13 public and local and State jurisdictions during scoping and agency consultations. The  
14 alternatives screening process consisted of three steps:

15 **Step 1:** Define the alternatives to allow comparative evaluation.

16 **Step 2:** Evaluate each alternative in in the context of the following criteria:

- 17 • the extent to which the alternative would accomplish most of the basic goals and  
18 objectives of the Project;
- 19 • the extent to which the alternative would avoid or lessen one or more of the  
20 identified significant environmental effects of the Project;
- 21 • the potential feasibility of the alternative, taking into account site suitability,  
22 economic viability, availability of infrastructure, general plan consistency, and  
23 consistency with other applicable plans and regulatory limitations; and
- 24 • the requirement of the State CEQA Guidelines to consider a “no project” alternative  
25 and to identify, under specific criteria, an “environmentally superior” alternative in  
26 addition to the “no project” alternative. (State CEQA Guidelines § 15126.6, subd.  
27 (e).)

28 **Step 3:** Determine suitability of the proposed alternative for full analysis in the EIR. If the  
29 alternative is unsuitable, eliminate it, with appropriate justification, from further  
30 consideration. Feasible alternatives that did not clearly offer the potential to reduce  
31 significant environmental impacts and infeasible alternatives were removed from further  
32 analysis. In the final phase of the screening analysis, the environmental advantages and  
33 disadvantages of the remaining alternatives were carefully weighed with respect to  
34 potential for overall environmental advantage, technical feasibility, and consistency with  
35 the Project and public objectives.

1 If an alternative clearly does not provide any environmental advantages as compared to  
2 the proposed Project, it is eliminated from further consideration. At the screening stage,  
3 it is not possible to evaluate potential impacts of the alternatives or the proposed Project  
4 with absolute certainty. However, it is possible to identify elements of the proposed  
5 Project that are likely to be the sources of impact. A preliminary assessment of potential  
6 significant effects of the proposed Project resulted in identification of the following  
7 environmental resource areas for which potential Project-related impacts may occur:

- Operational Safety/Risk of Accidents
- Biological Resources
- Water Quality
- Air Quality
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Geology, Sediments, and Seismicity
- Cultural Resources
- Land Use/Recreation (oil spill impacts)
- Noise
- Land-based Transportation
- Visual Resources, Light and Glare
- Commercial and Sport Fisheries
- Integrity of Amorco Terminal
- Environmental Justice

8 For the screening analysis, the technical and regulatory feasibility of various potential  
9 alternatives was assessed at a general level. Specific feasibility analyses are not needed  
10 for this purpose. The assessment of feasibility was directed toward reverse reason, that  
11 is, an attempt was made to identify anything about the alternative that would be infeasible  
12 on technical or regulatory grounds. CEQA does not require elimination of a potential  
13 alternative based on cost of construction and operation/maintenance. For the proposed  
14 Project, those issues relate to:

- engineering feasibility and feasibility of implementation;
- reasonableness when compared to other alternatives under consideration; and
- adequacy of the alternative to meet the Project's purpose and need.

18 Those alternatives that were found to be technically feasible and consistent with the  
19 Applicant's objectives were reviewed to determine if the alternative had the potential to  
20 reduce the environmental impacts of the proposed Project.

21 Table 3-1 summarizes the evaluation and selection of potential alternatives to be  
22 addressed in this EIR. Those listed in the first column have been eliminated from further  
23 consideration (see rationale in Section 3.2, Alternatives Eliminated from Full  
24 Consideration), and those in the second column are described in Section 3.3, Alternatives  
25 Evaluated in this EIR, and evaluated in detail in Section 4.0, Environmental Impact  
26 Analysis.

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**Table 3-1: Summary of Alternative Screening Results**

<b>Alternatives Eliminated from Consideration</b>	<b>Alternatives Evaluated in this EIR</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidation Terminal</li> <li>• Deep-water Port Consolidation</li> <li>• Limitations of Terminal for Emergency Product Transfer Use Only</li> <li>• Alternative Lease Term with Phase Out</li> <li>• Trucking-Only Alternative</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Project</li> <li>• Restricted Lease taking Amorco Out of Service for Oil Transport</li> </ul>

2 This EIR alternatives analysis includes alternatives that potentially would result in greater  
3 environmental impacts to some issue areas, or would transfer a similar level of  
4 environmental impacts to other existing marine terminal facilities, as compared with the  
5 proposed Project. These alternatives are included for analysis to demonstrate that,  
6 regardless of lease renewal, similar levels of impacts may occur in meeting the refining  
7 needs of the San Francisco Bay Area (Bay Area) region by increased activities at other  
8 Bay Area marine oil terminals and associated refineries.

### 9 **3.2 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM FULL** 10 **CONSIDERATION**

#### 11 **3.2.1 Consolidation Terminal**

12 A potential alternative to the proposed future use of the Amorco Terminal is a consolidated  
13 marine oil terminal where petroleum and product are offloaded and onloaded at a central  
14 facility and delivered to and from refineries, storage terminals, and other facilities in the  
15 Carquinez Strait and east Bay Area via smaller marine vessels or pipelines. The Draft  
16 EIR/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the San Francisco to Stockton Phase III  
17 (John F. Baldwin) Navigation Channel Project (USACE 1997) presented the Richmond  
18 Marine-Link Pipeline System (RMLPS) as an alternative to channel deepening and  
19 continued dredging within San Pablo Bay and Carquinez Strait. This RMLPS proposal  
20 was withdrawn by its proponent, Wickland Pipelines LLC, in February 1999, due to a lack  
21 of potential user participation.

22 The RMLPS was proposed as a consolidated facility. The pipeline systems associated  
23 with the RMLPS were intended to provide flexibility in the areas of cargo handling and  
24 transportation cost control, reduce vessel-to-vessel lightering of crude oil at Anchorage  
25 9, and reduce tanker traffic in the greater San Francisco Bay and Carquinez Strait. This  
26 would have been possible because the pipeline system would have allowed tankers of up  
27 to 300,000 dead weight, long tons to proceed at high tide (when ships drafting 48 to 49  
28 feet can pass through the 45-foot-deep channel to Richmond) to the new RMLPS marine  
29 terminal and off-load in the natural 53- to 55-foot depths of the berth at a new deep-water  
30 wharf.

1 The west end of the RMLPS pipeline would have commenced within the Richmond city  
2 limits at a new deep-water wharf to be constructed at Point Molate, north of the Chevron  
3 Richmond Long Wharf. The pipeline would have connected to a new tank farm on the  
4 San Pablo peninsula, either at Point San Pablo or Point Orient, and continued along the  
5 shorelines of San Pablo Bay and Carquinez Strait, terminating in Pittsburg at the existing  
6 Pacific Gas and Electric Company power plant.

7 As compared to use of other existing Bay Area marine oil terminals for replacement of the  
8 Amorco Terminal, the RMLPS consolidated terminal, as a new facility, would have  
9 generated a greater number of environmental impacts in the Point Molate area. In  
10 comparison with the alternatives, potential impacts would be transferred from Amorco to  
11 that new location. Also, with both the RMLPS and Long Wharf operating in proximity to  
12 each other, consideration would need to have been given to the potential for increased  
13 risk of vessel collisions. Because the RMLPS is no longer a viable option for a new Bay  
14 Area terminal, and because there is a potential for a greater risk of significant  
15 environmental impacts, the RMLPS consolidated terminal has been eliminated from  
16 further consideration as a viable alternative.

### 17 **3.2.2 Deep-water Port Consolidation**

18 The concept of an offshore port located outside of San Francisco Bay was also  
19 considered. This would involve development of a port several miles off the California  
20 coastline to minimize the potential for spills that would impact San Francisco Bay  
21 shorelines, and to reduce the number of tankers entering United States ports and related  
22 risks of environmental damage. One such offshore terminal, the Louisiana Offshore Oil  
23 Port, operates in deep water 18 miles offshore. This facility became operational in 1982  
24 (U.S. Department of Interior 1990). The port consists of three single-point mooring buoys  
25 used for the offloading of crude tankers and a marine terminal consisting of a two-level  
26 pumping platform and a three-level control platform.

27 While such concepts appear to have potential to reduce near-shore tanker accidents,  
28 significant questions remain unanswered as to the environmental and economic benefits  
29 of these facilities off the coast of California. As such, this concept was eliminated from  
30 further analysis as an alternative in this EIR.

### 31 **3.2.3 Limitations of Amorco Terminal for Emergency Product Transfer Use Only**

32 For consideration of emergency use only, the Amorco Terminal would not be used for  
33 day-to-day operations, but would be retained in a state of readiness with all equipment  
34 operational. Under emergency conditions, use of the Amorco Terminal would be restricted  
35 for use by any tanker or barge that would require unloading of its contents. While reduced  
36 use of the Amorco Terminal would decrease the risk of spills, it would not necessarily  
37 cause a proportionate decrease in vessel calls or throughput. The Amorco Terminal would  
38 still present a continuous potential for a pipeline spill release. In addition, the method used  
39 to replace the throughput (pipelines with connections to other terminals) could shift the

1 risk to other terminals. It would also be difficult to maintain the existing level of training  
2 and experience of personnel now working at the Amorco Terminal, as well as raise  
3 questions as to who would maintain and operate such a facility. It is unlikely that the  
4 Amorco Terminal would be able to operate efficiently or economically, nor would there be  
5 any environmental benefit gained by limiting usage only to emergency oil transfer use;  
6 therefore, this alternative has been eliminated from further consideration as a viable  
7 alternative.

#### 8 **3.2.4 Alternative Lease Term with Phase Out**

9 An alternative lease option would involve granting a shorter-term lease to Tesoro, in the  
10 event that Tesoro would phase out its operation of the Amorco Terminal. The alternatives  
11 considered in this document are designed to focus on avoiding or substantially lessening  
12 significant effects of the Project, but to still meet Project objectives that allow the Golden  
13 Eagle Refinery (Refinery) to continue to operate. With a phase-out of operations of the  
14 Amorco Terminal, Tesoro would be required to find another means of receiving crude to  
15 maintain Refinery operations. This is similar to the No Project Alternative, except that  
16 Tesoro would be granted a specific phase-out period and conditions under lease, rather  
17 than having no lease (as with the No Project Alternative). The terms under which the  
18 CSLC would implement a phase-out of operations would need to be specifically  
19 developed for this facility; as such, discussion of a short-term lease is not considered  
20 further in this document.

#### 21 **3.2.5 Trucking-only Alternative**

22 This alternative would involve using only trucks to import product to the Refinery. A  
23 minimal number of trucks currently deliver materials to the Amorco Refinery. However,  
24 the additional number of trucks likely needed under this Alternative would require  
25 construction of additional roadways and roadway improvements for transfer of product to  
26 the Refinery. Amorco Terminal throughput has ranged from to 16.9 to 26.8 million barrels  
27 per year (bpy) (between 46,301 and 73,425 barrels per day [bpd]) over the past 5 years.  
28 Since the average truck carries approximately 200 barrels per tandem tanker truck, as  
29 many as 367 tandem tanker trucks per day or approximately 134,000 trucks per year  
30 would be required to make up the difference in product for the Refinery without the  
31 Amorco Terminal. The installation of additional access gates and parking capacity to allow  
32 appropriate entering and exiting of the facility would be required. In addition, pumps and  
33 piping to transfer the contents of trucks would be needed. Due to the number of truck  
34 trips, this alternative is not economically practical, would exceed the capacity of the local  
35 roadway systems, have significant air quality impacts, and create a significant safety risk.  
36 As a result, this alternative was eliminated from further consideration.

### 1 3.3 ALTERNATIVES EVALUATED IN THIS EIR

#### 2 3.3.1 No Project

3 Under the No Project Alternative, Tesoro's Amorco Terminal lease would not be renewed  
4 and the existing Amorco Terminal would be subsequently decommissioned with its  
5 components abandoned in place, removed, or a combination thereof. The  
6 decommissioning of the Amorco Terminal would be governed by an Abandonment and  
7 Restoration Plan, and an Abandonment Agreement, both of which would require CSLC  
8 review and approval. Decommissioning of the Amorco Terminal would include, but not be  
9 limited to, the following actions:

- 10 • magnetic survey of seafloor, multi-beam survey and/or side-scan sonar;
- 11 • abandon and/or remove all Amorco Terminal components above and below the  
12 seafloor, including pipelines;
- 13 • site Clean-up Verification using such means as side-scan sonar, remotely  
14 operated vehicles and video, and;
- 15 • completion of a Phase 1 Site Assessment (and more detailed assessment if  
16 needed). Based on the results, a Site Closure Plan would be prepared for approval  
17 by appropriate agencies.

18 Under the No Project Alternative, Tesoro might pursue transitioning the Avon Marine Oil  
19 Terminal (currently an export-only terminal) to absorb import operations from the Amorco  
20 Terminal, thereby increasing the throughput at the Avon Marine Oil Terminal to the  
21 Refinery to meet regional refining demands. Tesoro's Avon Marine Oil Terminal would  
22 only be capable of operating as both an import and export facility if the wharf was  
23 substantially upgraded and expanded to meet the current combined throughput capacities  
24 for both terminals. An additional CEQA evaluation would be required to analyze the  
25 impacts from expanding import/export operations at the Avon Terminal to accommodate  
26 Amorco Terminal's importing capacity.

27 In addition, Tesoro may consider alternative means of traditional crude oil transportation  
28 such as a pipeline and/or rail transportation to absorb import operations from the Amorco  
29 Terminal. Sources may include land-based transportation such as rail cars and trucks,  
30 and/or pipeline connections to other Bay Area terminals, or a combination thereof.  
31 Pipeline delivery may require construction of new pipelines and/or the purchase of  
32 existing pipeline capacity from other local petroleum refinery competitors. While the CSLC  
33 may have no jurisdiction over any of these land-based forms of transportation (except for  
34 pipeline or road- and railway construction underneath and/or across waterbodies under  
35 CSLC jurisdiction), construction and operation of facilities would be subject to substantial  
36 environmental review and permitting by other local and state agencies.

1 Land-based alternatives to the use of marine tankers at the Amorco Terminal include  
2 pipelines, railcars and trucks. There are two rail lines into the Refinery, which are currently  
3 used for shipment via railcar. If developed as part of the No Project Alternative, rail lines  
4 and associated handling facilities would require additional construction. As shown in  
5 Table 2-2 in Section 2.0, Project Description, the Amorco Terminal throughput has ranged  
6 from to 16.9 to 26.8 million bpy (between 46,301 and 73,425 bpd) over the past 5 years.  
7 Since the average railcar holds approximately 700 barrels, up to approximately 105 rail  
8 cars per day would be required to make up the difference without the Amorco Terminal  
9 (assuming no other non-marine sources were used in combination with rail  
10 transportation). Additional pumps and piping to transfer the contents of these railcars  
11 would also need to be installed. Note that the required number of railcars would need to  
12 be adjusted dynamically as Refinery throughput varies. This alternative would entail  
13 construction of additional rail and rail handling facilities at the Refinery associated with  
14 regional demand increases. Additional labor effort and logistics would likely be required  
15 for the unloading of fuel from individual railcars; as such, Tesoro would likely use rail  
16 transportation in combination with truck and pipeline delivery to meet existing regional  
17 refining demands.

18 The Refinery can also currently ship refined (lighter) products, such as gasoline  
19 components or intermediates, via pipeline to the Plains All America Martinez Terminal  
20 (Plains Terminal). There may be some ability to increase storage capacity at the Plains  
21 Terminal for eventual transfer of product to the Refinery. Currently, the Plains Terminal  
22 Pipeline can transfer a maximum of 10,000 barrels per hour (bph) (240,000 bpd) of light  
23 crude oil products. If used for heavier, more viscous, crude oil products (as would be  
24 needed for the No Project Alternative), capacity would need to be reduced. In addition,  
25 Tesoro currently uses a nearby Kinder Morgan Pipeline in which it leases capacity for  
26 transfers from other Bay Area refineries. As a partial solution, if the Amorco Terminal was  
27 decommissioned, the Refinery may be able to increase use of this pipeline, expand  
28 existing storage capacity at other refineries, or increase pipeline capacity.<sup>1</sup> Currently, the  
29 maximum transfer capacities of the Kinder Morgan Pipeline on the north and south ends  
30 of the Amorco Terminal are 4,000 bph (96,000 bpd) and 5,000 bph (120,000 bpd),  
31 respectively. However, again, these lines are currently used for transferring lighter crude  
32 oil products and would likely require a reduction in capacity to pump and transfer heavier  
33 crude oils to the Refinery. Pipeline transfer rates would have to meet a capacity of 3,750  
34 bph (90,000 bpd) to meet existing regional refining demands.

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<sup>1</sup> According to Tesoro Refining and Marketing Company LLC, there are currently no known domestic or international crude oil sources that are currently accessible by pipeline for Tesoro's Refinery. This premises that replacement of regional demand from land-based sources via pipeline would still require the use of waterborne crude oils, but would be transported to the Refinery via pipeline from other marine oil terminals. Therefore, the No Project Alternative assumes that impacts associated with the transport of oil would be removed from the local setting, but may not be removed from the regional setting.

1 Construction of new or modified pipelines and additional storage tanks would be required  
2 to meet regional refining demands for the Refinery by pipeline delivery. Pipelines capable  
3 of handling this capacity may be viable from an environmental perspective. However, prior  
4 to construction and use of any new pipelines, lengthy and complex regulatory processes,  
5 land availability evaluations, and acquisition of easements or rights-of-way would be  
6 required. In general, any modifications to other Bay Area marine oil terminals would  
7 require substantial environmental review and local permitting. Since specific  
8 modifications are assumed on a general basis, brief analyses are presented in Section  
9 4.0 of this EIR.

10 For the purposes of this EIR, it is assumed that the No Project Alternative would result in  
11 a decommissioning schedule for the Amorco Terminal. The potential implementation of  
12 one or more future crude oil or product transportation alternatives to the Golden Eagle  
13 Refinery would be the subject of a subsequent application to other agencies having  
14 jurisdiction pertinent to the proposed alternative. Decommissioning, abandonment, and/or  
15 deconstruction of the Amorco Terminal or any other proposed reuse of the Amorco  
16 Terminal would require a separate CEQA review by the CSLC. Since details associated  
17 with decommissioning, abandonment, and/or deconstruction would need to be developed  
18 if they were to occur, for the purposes of this EIR, impacts are discussed herein only  
19 generally.

### 20 **3.3.2 Restricted Lease Taking Amorco Terminal Out of Service for Oil Transport**

21 Under this alternative, Tesoro's Amorco Terminal lease would be renewed with  
22 modification to restrict its allowed use such that the existing Terminal would be left in  
23 place, taken out of service and placed into caretaker status for any petroleum product  
24 transfer, and not decommissioned or demolished. No environmental impacts would be  
25 associated with these activities. Because the structure of the terminal would remain in  
26 place, Tesoro would retain the option to apply to bring it back into service for oil transport  
27 at some time in the future, should the need arise. Any future change in use of the Amorco  
28 Terminal would require a lease action and potential separate CEQA review by the CSLC.  
29 Alternative uses for the Amorco Terminal could include:

- 30 • use of the Amorco Terminal as a staging area for dredging operations,  
31 maintenance and upgrades to other terminals, or training exercises;
- 32 • the option for Tesoro to bring the Amorco Terminal back into service as a fully  
33 operational petroleum product transfer facility, or;
- 34 • sale of the Amorco Terminal to another entity for the above, or for other uses.

35 As with the No Project Alternative, Tesoro might absorb import operations from the  
36 Amorco Terminal by transitioning the Avon Marine Oil Terminal to import and export  
37 operations or consider alternative means of traditional crude oil transportation such as a  
38 pipeline and/or rail transportation, or use some combination of the these sources.

1 **3.3.3 Environmentally Superior Alternative (Summary)**

2 State CEQA Guidelines section 15126.6, subdivision (e)(2) states:

3 *The "no project" analysis shall discuss the existing conditions at the time the notice*  
4 *of preparation is published, or if no notice of preparation is published, at the time*  
5 *environmental analysis is commenced, as well as what would be reasonably*  
6 *expected to occur in the foreseeable future if the project were not approved, based*  
7 *on current plans and consistent with available infrastructure and community*  
8 *services. If the environmentally superior alternative is the "no project" alternative,*  
9 *the EIR shall also identify an environmentally superior alternative among the other*  
10 *alternatives."* (Emphasis added.)

11 The EIR's Environmentally Superior Alternative is discussed in Section 5.0, Other  
12 Required CEQA Sections, after the analyses of potential significant environmental effects  
13 associated with the proposed Project have been addressed (see Sections 4.0 through  
14 4.12).

15 **3.4 CUMULATIVE RELATED PROJECTS**

16 This discussion provides a listing and map identifying other related past, present, and  
17 future projects near the location of the proposed Project and alternatives. State CEQA  
18 Guidelines section 15355 requires that an EIR consider cumulative impacts of a project  
19 when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable, as identified in section  
20 15065, subdivision (c). Where a lead agency is examining a project with an incremental  
21 effect that is not "cumulatively considerable," a lead agency need not consider that effect  
22 significant, but shall briefly describe its basis for concluding that the incremental effect is  
23 not cumulatively considerable. As defined in State CEQA Guidelines section 15355, a  
24 cumulative impact consists of an impact that is created as a result of the combination of  
25 the project evaluated in the EIR together with other projects causing related impacts. An  
26 EIR should not discuss impacts that do not result in part from the project evaluated in the  
27 EIR.

28 **3.4.1 Boundary of Cumulative Projects Study Area**

29 The study area for the proposed Project includes the San Francisco Bay to San Pablo  
30 Bay regions, Carquinez Strait, and the outer coast of California (see Section 1.0,  
31 Introduction). Because the geographical region that could be affected by the Project is  
32 the same, the cumulative projects study area coincides with the Project study area, and  
33 is comprised of the following components presented in Section 3.4.2:

- 34
- foreseeable projects in the general vicinity of the Amorco Terminal; and
  - projects in or near the shipping lanes used by other carriers for transport of petroleum or other goods and materials within the Carquinez Strait, San Pablo Bay, and San Francisco Bay.
- 35  
36  
37

1 Most vessel traffic in the study area is not the responsibility of Tesoro. However, these  
2 vessels could have an accidental spill/release of oil in the San Francisco Bay, San Pablo  
3 Bay, or outer coast en route to the Amorco Terminal. A general overview of cumulative  
4 impacts is presented in Sections 4.1 through 4.10, including a description of the existing  
5 environment and impact analysis within each environmental discipline. A description of  
6 the regional characteristics of transport in the San Francisco Bay and San Pablo Bay  
7 regions and outer coast is presented in Section 3.4.3.

## 8 **3.4.2 Description of Cumulative Impacts**

### 9 **Projects in Vicinity**

#### 10 Shell Martinez Marine Oil Terminal (Shell Terminal)

11 The Shell Terminal has operated at its current location offshore of the city of Martinez,  
12 Contra Costa County, since 1915. The Shell Terminal is a tanker and barge petroleum  
13 loading/unloading facility used to receive raw materials for the Shell Martinez Refinery  
14 and for exports of its refined products. In 2011, the CSLC, as CEQA lead agency, certified  
15 a Final EIR (State Clearinghouse [SCH] No. 2004072114) in conjunction with its approval  
16 of a new 30-year lease of approximately 20 acres of California sovereign land on which  
17 the Shell Terminal is located.

18 The Shell Terminal falls under the Marine Oil Terminal Engineering and Maintenance  
19 Standards (MOTEMS), which are codified in the California Code of Regulations, Title  
20 24, Chapter 31F – Marine Oil Terminals (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 24, § 3101F et seq.).  
21 MOTEMS requires that all marine oil terminals be audited and inspected every 3 years to  
22 determine compliance with the most recent standards. As a result of the inspections and  
23 audits, deficiencies that require repair, rehabilitation or retrofit are identified and plans  
24 prepared, required permits are obtained, and corrections are implemented. Shell  
25 completed an initial audit in 2008 and a subsequent audit in 2011. As a result of these  
26 audits, several deficiencies were identified requiring repair, rehabilitation, or retrofit. Many  
27 of these deficiencies have been completed. Projects remaining to be addressed include  
28 an ongoing project to perform minor seismic upgrades to some pile-to-pile cap  
29 connections on the timber approach trestle and two long-term capital projects in the  
30 planning and design phase that involve a seismic upgrade of the loading platforms and  
31 an increase in fender systems at the main berths.

32 The Shell Terminal docking facility has four berths—Berths #1 and #2 located on the north  
33 side (channel side) and Berths #3 and #4 south side (inland side). The north side of the  
34 Shell Terminal normally maintains a minimum draft of 38 feet Mean Lower Low Water  
35 (MLLW), and has not been historically dredged. The southern berths are normally used  
36 for barges and are not currently in use due to the accumulation of silt. These berths were  
37 dredged to -20 feet MLLW in 1989 and Shell currently has no plans for dredging them.

1 Should dredging be required during the lease period, Shell would pursue the appropriate  
2 plans and permits.

3 Martinez Marina

4 The Martinez Marina and Yacht Club are located immediately west of the Amorco  
5 Terminal. The Martinez Marina has been in operation since the 1950s. In 1993, the city  
6 of Martinez adopted a Marina Master Plan that called for upgrades including: installation  
7 of a new boat launch ramp; deepening of existing water channels for boats; and  
8 installation of a new bait shop, additional boat storage, and a new waterfront restaurant.  
9 Marina progress to date includes: removal of the old ferry pier, construction of Ferry Point  
10 Plaza, installation of the new boat launch, initial dredging of the marina entrance, and  
11 removal of underground storage tanks. The next phase will include more dredging, break-  
12 water wall repair, and entrance reconfiguration. This is a multi-phase project that will take  
13 place over the next several years and is contingent upon the availability of public and  
14 private funding. In addition, the Yacht Club offers a variety of amenities and services to  
15 its members, including a store, kitchen, outdoor seating and barbeque area, showers,  
16 dance floor, bar, television and wireless internet media, and views of the Carquinez Strait.

17 San Francisco Bay to Stockton Phase III – John F. Baldwin Navigation Channel Project

18 This project involves the assessment of the feasibility of deepening a 65-mile-long, 35-  
19 foot-deep draft navigation channel, extending from the San Francisco Bay entrance to the  
20 Port of Stockton (through San Francisco, Marin, Contra Costa, Solano, Sacramento, and  
21 San Joaquin counties). In July 2002, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and  
22 Port of Stockton executed a Pre-construction, Engineering and Design (PED) Agreement,  
23 initiating the first phase of the channel-deepening assessment, which focused on potential  
24 saltwater-intrusion issues and project economics. As a result of this first phase, the Port  
25 of Stockton and USACE found sufficient evidence to support the continuation of the study  
26 and the initiation of a General Reevaluation Report, and executed a revised PED  
27 Agreement in April 2004.

28 A Draft Supplemental EIS/Subsequent EIR for the Sacramento River Deepwater Shipping  
29 Channel, Contra Costa, Solano, and Yolo Counties, California, February 2011 (CEQ  
30 20110055) was prepared by the USACE. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
31 (USEPA) had some comments primarily related to the use and disposal of the generated  
32 dredge spoils from the project and water quality impacts. The Central Valley Regional  
33 Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) has placed severe restrictions on all dredging  
34 activities occurring within the Delta; restrictions that, if unchanged, will make the project  
35 very difficult to construct, including required operations and maintenance on the existing  
36 channel.

1 San Francisco Water Emergency Transit Authority (WETA) Ferry Expansion (Antioch to  
2 San Francisco)

3 The WETA was established by Senate Bill (SB) 976 to replace the existing Water Transit  
4 Authority. SB 1093 was later passed to further detail the mandate of WETA. WETA is  
5 tasked to provide emergency response during times of disaster by providing improved  
6 infrastructure through the use of water-based response. WETA's main priorities were the  
7 creation of an Emergency Water Transportation System Management Plan for the Bay  
8 Area. Part of its focus is on developing a more comprehensive ferry system, which  
9 includes adding 7 new routes and up to 31 new ferries. One of the new routes will go  
10 between San Francisco, Martinez, and Antioch (refer to Figure 2-1 in Section 2.0, Project  
11 Description).

12 Plains All American (Plains) Martinez Marine Oil Terminal 20-year Lease

13 The Plains Martinez Marine Oil Terminal is a 225-acre site located at 2801 Waterfront  
14 Road in the city of Martinez near the south shore of the Carquinez Strait. Originally, Urich  
15 Oil leased the parcel location in 1973 and operations began in 1974. Since 1974 the lease  
16 has been amended several times as ownership has changed. Most recently, the terminal  
17 was acquired by Plains. In 2005, the CSLC, as CEQA lead agency, certified a Final EIR  
18 (SCH No. 2001042022) in conjunction with its approval of a new 20-year lease of  
19 approximately 5 acres of California sovereign land on which the Terminal is located. The  
20 Plains Terminal's upland property contains storage tanks, an inactive truck loading rack,  
21 inactive rail spur, pumps and associated pipelines, vapor collection and combustion  
22 systems, and an office building. The wharf is a single-vessel docking facility with  
23 associated pumps, pipelines, electrical utilities, and other mechanical equipment. Cargo  
24 pumps for vessel unloading are located in the upland portion of the facility, about 1 mile  
25 from the wharf (CSLC 2011a).

26 Tesoro Avon Marine Terminal

27 Tesoro is seeking approval for a new 30-year lease from the CSLC for its existing Avon  
28 Marine Oil Terminal operations located approximately 2 miles east of the Amorco  
29 Terminal (refer to Item 13 on Figure 2-1). In addition to seeking a new lease, Tesoro must  
30 conduct substantial maintenance work for the existing terminal to meet MOTEMS.

31 Military Ocean Terminal Concord (MOTCO)

32 MOTCO, which is located approximately 4.5 miles east of the Amorco Terminal (refer to  
33 Item 14 on Figure 2-1), was formerly a part of the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach  
34 Detachment Concord. Prior to that, it was known as Concord Naval Weapons Station.  
35 MOTCO consists of an approximately 115-acre inland area and an approximately 6,526-  
36 acre tidal area, which includes 2,045 acres of offshore islands. The inland area is within  
37 the boundaries of the city of Concord and neighbors the unincorporated community of

1 Clyde. The tidal area is part of unincorporated Contra Costa County and adjacent to the  
2 city of Pittsburg and the unincorporated community of Bay Point. Five of MOTCO's seven  
3 offshore islands are located within Solano County. The inland and tidal areas are  
4 connected by a stretch of Port Chicago Highway. The tidal area contains approximately  
5 5 miles of shoreline and facilities for reception, staging, and loading of ammunition;  
6 railroad and truck classification yards; and three ocean terminal piers. Its purpose is to  
7 allow the Department of Defense operations plan for the Pacific Rim.

8 MOTCO operates three ocean terminal piers and a U.S. Army-owned rail system that  
9 connects with two major public rail lines. The long-term vision for MOTCO is to transform  
10 the facility into a versatile, modern, and efficient seaport capable of receiving, staging,  
11 and onward-moving of ammunition and general cargo as necessary to meet Department  
12 of Defense requirements.

### 13 San Francisco Bay and Delta Sand Mining Project

14 In 2005, the CSLC, as CEQA lead agency, certified a Final EIR (SCH No. 2007072036)  
15 in conjunction with its renewal of existing 10-year sand-mining leases for construction-  
16 grade sands from three main areas, including the Central Bay Lease, located primarily  
17 west of Angel Island and Alcatraz Island; the Suisun Bay/Delta Lease, located north of  
18 Bay Point and extending east toward Antioch; and the Middle Ground Shoal Lease,  
19 located offshore of the former Concord Naval Weapons Station. Sands are mined using  
20 a trailing-arm hydraulic suction dredge and barge. Sands are then typically transported  
21 and offloaded at one of several sites located throughout San Francisco Bay, San Pablo  
22 Bay, and the Delta. A total of up to approximately 2 million cubic yards (Mcy) of sand are  
23 proposed to be mined each year.

### 24 **Projects In or Near Bay Area Shipping Lanes**

#### 25 Long-term Management Strategy (LTMS) Program

26 The LTMS program is designed to provide a regional plan for the disposal of dredged  
27 material from the San Francisco Bay over the next 50 years. The LTMS program began  
28 in January 1990 as a federal/State partnership among the four agencies that have  
29 regulatory authority for dredged material in the San Francisco Bay: the USACE, USEPA,  
30 San Francisco Bay RWQCB, and San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development  
31 Commission. These four lead agencies share responsibility for managing the various  
32 components of the LTMS. The LTMS Final EIR/EIS indicates that approximately 6 Mcy  
33 of sediments must be dredged and disposed each year from shipping channels and  
34 related navigational facilities in the Bay Area. The estimated total volume of dredged  
35 material that would require disposal over the 50-year LTMS planning horizon is  
36 approximately 300 Mcy. The policy alternatives involve different volumes of dredged  
37 sediment being disposed at in-Bay, ocean, and upland/wetland reuse sites. Under current  
38 regulatory conditions, 80 percent or more of the dredged material would continue to be

1 disposed at designated sites in the Bay, with only a small percentage of material disposed  
2 outside the estuary at the new offshore ocean site or used in “beneficial reuse”  
3 applications, such as wetlands restoration.

#### 4 Delta Dredged Sediment LTMS Program

5 In late 2004, local sponsors of Delta dredging projects and the USACE met to explore the  
6 feasibility of developing an LTMS for dredging and dredged materials placement or reuse  
7 in the Delta. A similar process was used to successfully develop a collaborative,  
8 coordinated approach to dredging and sediment management in San Francisco Bay. In  
9 2007 the USACE, California Bay-Delta Authority, USEPA, California Department of Water  
10 Resources (DWR), State Water Resources Control Board, Delta Protection Commission,  
11 and Central Valley RWQCB signed the charter to develop and implement a long-term  
12 plan.

13 The Delta is the source of California’s two largest water-distribution systems: The Central  
14 Valley Water Project, operated by the United States Bureau of Reclamation, and the State  
15 Water Project operated by the DWR. Maintaining high-quality water in the Delta is critical  
16 for drinking-water supplies, agricultural irrigation, and ecosystem function. The  
17 Sacramento and San Joaquin river channels also provide important shipping access to  
18 the ports of Sacramento and Stockton.

19 In recent years, conflicts about levee rehabilitation, dredging, and placement of dredged  
20 sediments have been increasing. There is an ongoing need to dredge Delta channels for  
21 navigation, water conveyance, flood control, and levee maintenance. At the same time,  
22 there are increasing regulatory concerns about the potential impacts to water quality and  
23 the ecosystem from levee work, dredging activities, and dredge materials placement and  
24 reuse. In the last several years, agencies, political leaders, and the public have become  
25 increasingly concerned about the urgent need for levee rehabilitation in the Delta. One  
26 possible contributor to Delta levee rehabilitation is sediment management and reuse from  
27 dredging activities. At the same time, the Delta environment is showing signs of major  
28 stress and dysfunction, as evidenced by the rapid decline of pelagic species in recent  
29 years. Concerns about the complex and sensitive environment in the Delta have resulted  
30 in stringent regulatory requirements for dredging and sediment reuse and placement in  
31 the Delta. These two apparently conflicting objectives, protection of the Delta environment  
32 and increased dredging and sediment reuse and placement, highlight the need for better  
33 coordination and management of Delta dredging and sediment management and reuse  
34 requirements.

#### 35 Chevron Richmond Refinery Long Wharf Terminal

36 In 2007, the CSLC, as CEQA lead agency, certified a Final EIR (SCH No. 98112080) and  
37 approved a 30-year lease for the Chevron Richmond Long Wharf Marine Terminal (refer  
38 to Item 5 on Figure 2-1). The project was to maintain the current operation and viability of

1 the Chevron Richmond Refinery by continuing current Chevron Richmond Long Wharf  
2 Marine Terminal operations through which the Chevron Richmond Refinery both receives  
3 its raw materials and exports its refined products. The Chevron Richmond Refinery uses  
4 the Richmond Long Wharf to receive all its crude oil, and some intermediate feed and  
5 blending stocks from across the Richmond Long Wharf. In addition, the Chevron  
6 Richmond Refinery uses the Richmond Long Wharf to ship products and intermediate  
7 stocks to domestic and foreign markets.

8 The Richmond Long Wharf was originally constructed in 1902 as a wooden structure  
9 supported on timber piles, but was modified in 1946 with the construction of a concrete  
10 wharf and causeway structure supported on deeper, concrete piles. Three buildings and  
11 a concrete-repaired Richmond Long Wharf were also built in 1946. In 1974, the Richmond  
12 Long Wharf was modified to accommodate larger vessels: Berth # 1 was expanded and  
13 Berth #4 was extensively modified. Over the years, improvements have continued.  
14 Recent improvements include a southern capstan platform added to Berth #4 in 1986, a  
15 breasting dolphin at Berth #3 in 1990, and a voice-communication system installed in  
16 1991. In 2000, a major structural upgrade program was completed that will enable the  
17 structure to withstand a 475-year return period seismic event resulting in minor, repairable  
18 damage with no oil spills. In November 2004, the Richmond Long Wharf completed a  
19 comprehensive electrical infrastructure upgrade project.

20 Mare Island Reuse Project (formerly Naval Shipyard Mare Island)

21 Mare Island was the nation's first naval shipyard on the West Coast, established in 1854  
22 and ultimately closed in 1996. Mare Island is located on the western edge of the city of  
23 Vallejo in southwestern Solano County. Mare Island is approximately 3.5 miles long and  
24 1 mile wide, and occupies approximately 5,460 acres, of which 1,650 acres are developed  
25 uplands. Tidal and non-tidal wetlands comprise the remaining acreage. The Mare Island  
26 naval facility was transferred to the city of Vallejo in May 2002. Conversion of the Naval  
27 Shipyard Mare Island and related properties from military to civilian use continues under  
28 the direction of the city's economic development division. Today, the Island is home to  
29 more than 85 businesses, nearly 2,000 jobs, and approximately 3.5 million square feet  
30 (ft<sup>2</sup>) of occupied commercial space. Additionally, Touro University educates over 900 full-  
31 time students at its campus. Lennar Mare Island has entitlements for over 7 million ft<sup>2</sup> of  
32 industrial/office product (with a workable inventory of approximately 5.5 million ft<sup>2</sup>. Mare  
33 Island has approximately 960 buildings that comprise about 10.5 million ft<sup>2</sup> of industrial,  
34 office, residential, commercial, and recreational facilities.

### 3.4.3 Regional Characteristics of Crude/Product in the San Francisco Bay and Along Coastal Shipping Lanes off Northern California

Many types of marine vessels call at terminals in the greater Bay Area, including passenger vessels, cargo vessels, tankers, tow/tug vessels, dry cargo barges, and tank barges. The USACE, Marine Exchange, CSLC, and U.S. Coast Guard track vessel transits into the San Francisco Bay; however, data tracked are generally limited to inbound/arrival information from outside to inside the San Francisco Bay and do not include vessel transit information for transits originating in the San Francisco Bay.

Table 3-2 presents information on only inbound vessel transits through the Golden Gate during 2008 and 2011 from USACE data. The number of outbound transits would be expected to be the same. During 2008, 40,284 vessels transited to Bay Area harbors, and in 2011 the number increased to 169,953. In 2008, 3,285 vessels paid calls in the Carquinez Strait, and in 2011 the number increased to 3,435. The Carquinez Strait includes the general area of Tesoro's Amorco Terminal.

**Table 3-2: Inbound Vessel Traffic in San Francisco Bay (2008 and 2011)**

Location	Self-Propelled Vessels			Non-Self Propelled Vessels		Total Number of Vessels
	Dry Cargo	Tankers	Towboat	Dry Cargo	Tank Barge	
<b>2008</b>						
San Francisco Bay Entrance	2,561	810	286	19	320	<b>3,996</b>
San Francisco Harbor	9,564	409	1,434	481	358	<b>12,246</b>
Redwood City Harbor	36	0	165	15	0	<b>216</b>
Oakland Harbor	10,734	2	1,607	156	747	<b>13,246</b>
Richmond Harbor	113	431	4,847	143	1,092	<b>6,627</b>
San Pedro Bay and Mare Island Strait	382	268	9	2	7	<b>668</b>
Carquinez Strait	957	392	1,362	282	292	<b>3,285</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>24,347</b>	<b>2,312</b>	<b>12,110</b>	<b>1,098</b>	<b>2,816</b>	<b>40,284</b>
<b>2011</b>						
San Francisco Bay Entrance	2,658	757	284	9	257	<b>3,965</b>
San Francisco Harbor	45,282	3	937	152	67	<b>46,441</b>
Oakland Harbor	10,734	2	1,607	156	747	<b>13,246</b>
Redwood City Harbor	20	0	91	13	0	<b>124</b>
Richmond Harbor	91	410	4,353	44	1,126	<b>6,024</b>
San Pedro Bay and Mare Island Strait	10,062	375	1,074	383	236	<b>12,131</b>
Carquinez Strait	1,524	342	1,086	251	232	<b>3,435</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>70,371</b>	<b>10,532</b>	<b>35,271</b>	<b>7,223</b>	<b>12,316</b>	<b>169,953</b>

Sources: USACE 2008; USACE 2011

1 Of six anchorages located in the Bay, Anchorage 9, located south of the Bay Bridge  
 2 between San Francisco and Oakland, had the majority (439 of the total 612) of arrivals.  
 3 Some tankers bound for the Amorcó Terminal occasionally transfer oil, or conduct  
 4 lighterage operations, from one vessel to another at Anchorage 9, to reduce the draft of  
 5 the vessel prior to its destination.

6 Vessels entering and leaving the Golden Gate entrance to San Francisco Bay do so  
 7 through the Traffic Separation Scheme, which consists of a circular Precautionary Area  
 8 with three traffic lanes (northern, main or western, and southern) exiting the Precautionary  
 9 Area. A detailed description of the regulated navigation areas is included in Section 4.1,  
 10 Operational Safety/Risk of Accidents.

11 The CSLC Marine Facilities Division in Hercules also tracks ship and barge calls to those  
 12 marine oil terminals for which they have jurisdiction. Table 3-3 summarizes USACE and  
 13 CSLC data for 2008 and 2012. The 2012 data indicate a decrease of 18 vessels over  
 14 2008 in vessel traffic to Tesoro's Amorcó Wharf. The anticipated vessel traffic over a 30-  
 15 year lease term ranges from 50 to 200 vessels per year, as analyzed in this EIR.

16 **Table 3-3: Vessel Calls to Marine Oil Terminals in San Francisco Bay**  
 17 **(2008 and 2012)**

Marine Oil Terminals	Tankers 2008	Barges 2008	Total 2008	Tankers 2012	Barges 2012	Total 2012
Shell Martinez	67	130	197	69	96	165
Tesoro Amorcó	82	3	85	67	0	67
Tesoro Avon	30	80	110	51	25	76
Phillips 66 Rodeo	77	179	256	48	100	148
Plains All American Martinez	87	119	206	33	73	106
Shore Selby Terminal	34	24	58	50	24	74
Plains All American Richmond	10	333	343	15	307	322
Chevron Richmond Long Wharf	410	370	780	380	247	627
BP West Coast Richmond	22	8	30	24	11	35
BP Lubricants Richmond	0	12	12	0	11	11
Valero Benicia	134	22	156	116	91	207
IMTT Richmond	5	443	448	3	382	385
Phillips 66 Richmond	0	177	177	0	127	127
Kinder Morgan Richmond	5	0	5	13	0	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>2,301</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>1,543</b>	<b>2,429</b>