

1                   **SECTION 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AND CHECKLIST**

2 This Initial Study (IS) has been completed for the proposed Project in accordance with  
3 CEQA. The IS identifies site-specific conditions and impacts, evaluates their potential  
4 significance, and discusses ways to avoid or lessen impacts that are potentially  
5 significant. The information, analysis and conclusions included in this IS provide the  
6 basis for determining the appropriate document needed to comply with CEQA. For the  
7 Project, based on the analysis and information contained herein, the CSLC has found  
8 that the IS shows that there is substantial evidence that the project may have a  
9 significant effect on the environment but revisions to the Project would avoid the effects  
10 or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effect on the environment  
11 would occur. As a result, the CSLC has concluded that this MND is the appropriate  
12 CEQA document for the Project.

13 **3.1 Environmental Factors Potentially Affected**

14 The evaluation of environmental impacts provided in Section 3.3 of this MND is based,  
15 in part, on the environmental impact thresholds provided by State CEQA Guidelines  
16 Appendix G. An impact assessment matrix is provided as part of the evaluation for each  
17 environmental issue area. The column headings for each impact assessment matrix are  
18 defined below.

- 19       • **Potentially Significant Impact.** This column has been checked if there is  
20       substantial evidence that a Project-related environmental effect may be  
21       significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impacts” a Project  
22       Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared.
- 23       • **Less than Significant with Mitigation.** This column has been checked when  
24       the Project may result in a significant environmental impact, but the incorporation  
25       of identified project-specific mitigation measures into the Project will reduce the  
26       identified effect(s) to a less than significant level.
- 27       • **Less than Significant Impact.** This column has been checked when the Project  
28       would not result in any significant effects. The Project’s impact is less than  
29       significant even without the incorporation of a project-specific mitigation measure.
- 30       • **No Impact.** This column has been checked when the Project would not result in  
31       any impact in the category or the category does not apply.

32 Descriptions and analyses of project-specific and cumulative impacts that could result  
33 from the implementation of the Project are provided in Section 3.3 of this IS. A summary  
34 of the environmental impact analysis conclusions is provided in the table below: if  
35 evaluation of potential environmental impacts determined that the Project would not  
36 result in an impact regarding a specific environmental issue area, that issue area is  
37 denoted with an “NI” (no impact); environmental issue areas denoted by an “LS” were  
38 determined to have a less than significant impact; and issue areas denoted with an “M”

- 1 have impacts that can be feasibly reduced to a less than significant level with the  
 2 implementation of mitigation measures identified by this IS.
- 3 The Project would not result in any “Potentially Significant Impacts” that cannot be  
 4 reduced to a less than significant level. Table 3.1-1 lists each environmental issue  
 5 discussed in this document and the level of impact the Project is expected to have on  
 6 each.

7 **Table 3.1-1. Environmental Issues and Potential Impacts**

No Impact (NI)	Less than Significant Impact (LS)	Less than Significant with Mitigation (M)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aesthetics</li> <li>• Agriculture and Forestry Resources</li> <li>• Mineral Resources</li> <li>• Population and Housing</li> <li>• Recreation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural Resources</li> <li>• Hazards and Hazardous Materials</li> <li>• Geology/Soils</li> <li>• Hydrology/Water Quality</li> <li>• Land Use/Planning</li> <li>• Noise</li> <li>• Public Services</li> <li>• Transportation/Traffic</li> <li>• Utilities/Service Systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Emissions</li> <li>• Biological Resources</li> <li>• Commercial and Recreational Fisheries</li> </ul>

8 **3.2 Agency Determination**

Based on the environmental impact analysis provided by this Initial Study:

- I find that the proposed project WOULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made that will avoid or reduce any potential significant effects to a less than significant level. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT will be prepared.

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Signature

March 16, 2012  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Cy R. Oggins, Chief  
 Division of Environmental Planning and Management  
California State Lands Commission  
 Printed Name/Title