

1     **3.18 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

2     The lead agency shall find that a project may have a significant effect on the  
 3     environment and thereby require an EIR to be prepared for the project where there is  
 4     substantial evidence, in light of the whole record, that any of the following conditions  
 5     may occur. Where prior to commencement of the environmental analysis a project  
 6     proponent agrees to MMs or project modifications that would avoid any significant effect  
 7     on the environment or would mitigate the significant environmental effect, a lead agency  
 8     need not prepare an EIR solely because without mitigation the environmental effects  
 9     would have been significant (per State CEQA Guidelines, § 15065).

MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE -	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of past, present and probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10    **3.18.1 Impact Analysis**

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

17    **Less than Significant with Mitigation.** As described in Section 3.4, Biological  
 18    Resources, with the implementation of MMs, the proposed Project would not result in

1 significant impacts to sensitive marine resources and would not have a significant effect  
2 on listed species or habitat used by those species. Sensitive habitats located within the  
3 Project area include wetlands, nesting and foraging areas, sensitive species habitat and  
4 other potential habitat areas. Organisms that could be potentially affected by the  
5 decommissioning and removal activities include California black rail, Swainson's Hawk,  
6 Western pond turtle, giant garter snake, Delta smelt, Steelhead, Chinook salmon, green  
7 sturgeon, longfin smelt, Sacramento splittail, Sacramento Perch, and sensitive plant  
8 species. However, impacts to these species would be sufficiently mitigated through the  
9 implementation of MMs and would not result in a significant impact. Therefore, the  
10 Project would not result in significant impacts related to habitat reduction, fish or wildlife  
11 populations, or the range of sensitive species.

12 As described in Section 3.5, Cultural Resources, the proposed Project would not result  
13 in significant impacts to any known cultural resources and the potential for the Project to  
14 encounter previously undetected resources is remote.

15 With implementation of the Project MMs, impacts associated with the proposed Project  
16 would be less than significant.

17 ***b) Does the project have impacts that would be individually limited, but***  
18 ***cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the***  
19 ***incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with***  
20 ***the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects***  
21 ***of probable future projects.)***

22 **Less than Significant Impact.** Project-related impacts would result from the  
23 decommissioning and removal of the three pipelines and appurtenant facilities. Due to  
24 the short-term duration and effects of removal, the Project would not result in impacts  
25 that are cumulatively considerable.

26 ***c) Does the project have environmental effects that would cause substantial***  
27 ***adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?***

28 **Less than Significant with Mitigation.** Following implementation of proposed MMs,  
29 the Project would not result in significant air quality, noise, hazards or other  
30 environmental impacts to residents of the Project area.