

1 **3.2 AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES**

| AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES⁷ - Would the Project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Natural Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Pub. Resources Code, § 12220, subd. (g)), timberland (as defined by Pub. Resources Code, § 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Gov. Code, § 51104, subd. (g))? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

2 **3.2.1 Environmental Setting**

3 The onshore portion of the Project site is located within the EPS, which began operation
 4 in the City of Carlsbad in 1954. The area currently includes residential and industrial
 5 uses. No agricultural or forest resources are present in the Project area.

⁷ In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the State’s inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

1 **3.2.2 Regulatory Setting**

2 3.2.2.1 Federal and State

3 Federal and State laws and regulations pertaining to this issue area and relevant to the
4 Project are identified in Table 3.2-1.

Table 3.2-1. Laws, Regulations, and Policies (Agriculture/Forest Resources)

| | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| CA | Williamson Act (Gov. Code, §§ 51200-51207) | This Act enables local governments to enter into contracts with private landowners to restrict specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use, and provides landowners with lower property tax assessments in return. Local government planning departments are responsible for the enrollment of land into Williamson Act contracts. Generally, any commercial agricultural use would be permitted within any agricultural preserve. In addition, local governments may identify compatible uses permitted with a use permit. |
| CA | Coastal Act Chapter 3 policies (see also Table 1-2) | Coastal Act policies applicable to this issue area are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 30241 (Prime agricultural land; maintenance in agricultural production); • Section 30241.5 (Agricultural land; determination of viability of uses; economic feasibility evaluation); • Section 30242 (Lands suitable for agricultural use; conversion); and • Section 30243 (Productivity of soils and timberlands; conversions). |

5 3.2.2.2 Local

6 There are no local goals, policies, and/or regulations applicable to this issue area for the
7 Project due to its location and the nature of the activity.

8 **3.2.3 Impact Analysis**

9 **a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide**
10 **Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the**
11 **Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Natural Resources**
12 **Agency, to non-agricultural use?**

13 **No Impact.** There are no current or planned agricultural uses at the Project site.
14 Therefore, the Project would have no impact on Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or
15 Farmland of Statewide Importance.

16 **b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?**

17 **No Impact.** There are no agricultural resources present at the Project site. Therefore,
18 the Project would not conflict with existing zoning for agriculture or occur on lands
19 operated under a Williamson Act contract with any local governments for the purpose of
20 restricting specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use.

1 **c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined**
2 **in Pub. Resources Code, § 12220, subd. (g)), timberland (as defined by Pub.**
3 **Resources Code, § 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined**
4 **by Gov. Code, § 51104, subd. (g))?**

5 **No Impact.** There are no forest lands or timberlands located in the vicinity of the Project
6 site. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning
7 of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production.

8 **d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**

9 **No Impact.** There are no forest lands or timberlands located in the vicinity of the Project
10 site. Therefore, the Project would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of
11 forest land to non-forest use.

12 **e) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which due to their location**
13 **or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or**
14 **conversion of forest land into non-forest use?**

15 **No Impact.** There is no farm land or forest land located in the vicinity of the Project site.
16 Therefore, the Project would not alter the existing environment such that farmland or
17 forest land would be converted to non-agricultural or non-forest uses.

18 **3.2.4 Mitigation Summary**

19 The Project would not result in significant impacts to agriculture and forest resources;
20 therefore, no mitigation is required.