

1 **3.3.10 Mineral Resources**

X. MINERAL RESOURCES: Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2 **3.3.10.1 Environmental Setting**

3 The onshore portion of the project area lies within the southern portion of the Coast  
 4 Ranges Geomorphic Province, which is characterized by northwest-trending mountains  
 5 and valleys composed of Mesozoic and Cenozoic marine and terrestrial sedimentary  
 6 deposits underlain by Franciscan formation metamorphic rocks and/or granitic rocks of  
 7 the Salinian Block. The Coast Ranges Geomorphic Province is bounded by the offshore  
 8 Santa Maria Basin to the west. Within the Coast Range Geomorphic Province, the  
 9 project area is within the South Coastal Santa Lucia Range that is delineated by the  
 10 Nacimiento Fault and the Pacific Ocean (Miles and Goudey 1997). Onshore and  
 11 adjacent lands contain ragged seacliffs with examples of varying erosion and exposure  
 12 of the Miguelito member of the Pismo Formation. These lands are composed of  
 13 repetitive beds of diatomite or clayey porcellanite, diatomaceous mudstone, dolomite  
 14 and chert (California Department of Parks & Recreation 2006).

15 No mineral resource development operations occur on or near the proposed onshore or  
 16 offshore Project areas. The Project area is within an existing MPA that precludes any  
 17 mineral development or other similar activities without prior authorization from the  
 18 CFGC.

19 **3.3.10.2 Regulatory Setting**

20 **Federal.** There are no federal regulations related to mineral resources relevant to the  
 21 Project.

22 **State.**

23 **Marine Life Protection Act of 1999 (MLPA).** As noted above, the Project area is within  
 24 an existing MPA that precludes any mineral development or other similar activities  
 25 without prior authorization from the CFGC.

26 **Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA).** The CGS, formerly the  
 27 California Division of Mines and Geology, classifies the regional significance of mineral  
 28 resources in accordance with SMARA and assists in the designation of lands containing  
 29 significant aggregate resources. Mineral Resource Zones (MRZs) have been  
 30 designated to indicate the significance of mineral deposits. The MRZ categories follow:

- 1 • *MRZ-1:* Areas where adequate information indicates that no significant mineral  
2 deposits are present or where it is judged that little likelihood exists for their  
3 presence.
- 4 • *MRZ-2:* Areas where adequate information indicates significant mineral deposits  
5 are present, or where it is judged that a high likelihood exists for their presence.
- 6 • *MRZ-3:* Areas containing mineral deposits the significance of which cannot be  
7 evaluated from available data.
- 8 • *MRZ-4:* Areas where available information is inadequate for assignment to any  
9 other MRZ.

10 **Local.** The San Luis Obispo County Local Coastal Plan designates areas containing  
11 mineral resources with the zoning overlays EX (Energy or Extractive Resource Area) or  
12 EX1 (Extractive Resource Area). The Project area is located within an area designated  
13 by the County as EX.

#### 14 3.3.10.3 Impact Analysis

15 **a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be**  
16 **of value to the region and the residents of the state?**

17 See response below.

18 **b) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be**  
19 **of value to the region and the residents of the state?**

20 The Project area has an EX zoning overlay designation. The EX designation refers to  
21 the ongoing energy production at DCCP. This zoning overlay designation does not refer  
22 to a resource extraction (e.g., mining) operation. There are no known mineral extraction  
23 operations onsite or on adjacent lands; therefore, no impact would occur. All proposed  
24 project activities are consistent with the EX land use designation.

#### 25 3.3.10.4 Mitigation and Residual Impacts

26 **Mitigation.** The proposed project would have no impact on mineral resources and no  
27 mitigation is required.

28 **Residual Impacts.** The proposed project would have no impact on mineral resources,  
29 no mitigation is required, and no residual impacts would occur.