

12.4 ERRATA TO THE DRAFT SUBSEQUENT EIR

Text changes are intended to clarify or correct information in the Draft Subsequent EIR (DSEIR), as initiated by the Lead Agency or due to environmental points raised in the comment letters. Should a response to a comment require revisions to the DSEIR, these are presented in a box, with added text indicated by <u>underlining</u> and deleted text indicated by <u>strike through</u>, as shown in the following example.

Deleted DEIR text Added text

Revisions to the DSEIR text are presented below according to EIR section, page, and, where appropriate, paragraph.

SECTION 1.0, EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

All revisions to the DSEIR presented below will be revised also in the Executive Summary.

SECTION 2.0, INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

DSEIR Page 2-1 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The key Project facilities are: Extraction Well; Advanced Water Treatment Plant (AWTP); Recharge Injection Well (RIW-1); Evaporation Pond and Evaporators; Lagoon Surface Discharge; Monitoring Wells; and Pipelines (five interconnecting). In addition, implementation of Project modifications (including mitigation measures (Project modifications) would modify some of the Project operations, including the following: evaporation pond decommissioning and repurposing; mechanical spray evaporator removal; offsite RO concentrate disposal; surface water treatment; and modified surface discharge. For more detailed information regarding the facility and operations; refer to Section 3.0, Project Description.





DSEIR Page 2-12 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

North Coast Area Plan. The NCAP was adopted by the SLO County Board of Supervisors on September 22, 1980 (Resolution 80-350) and subsequently revised on August 24, 2008. The NCAP constitutes the County's General Plan Land Use and Circulation Elements for the NC Planning Area. The NCAP is one part of the Land Use and Circulation Elements for the North Coast Planning Area (other parts include the Coastal Framework for Planning, Coastal Plan Policies, and Official Maps). Any development in the North Coast Planning Area must comply with each of these documents, as well as the other SLO County General Plan Elements. The NCAP describes County land use policies for the NC Planning Area, including regulations, which are also adopted as part of the Land Use Ordinances and Local Coastal Program. The NCAP allocates land use throughout the planning area by land use categories, which determine the varieties of land use that may be established on a parcel of land, as well as defining their allowable density and intensity. The NCAP is referenced for baseline data and RNC standards throughout this EIR.

SECTION 3.0, PROJECT DESCRIPTION

DSEIR Page 3-16 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Despite this history and related need to promptly address the area's water shortage emergency, and despite the CEQA exemption under which the Project was constructed and operates, as a good environmental steward, the CCSD has prepared this SEIR. The CCSD believes that transitioning from an emergency facility to a sustainable water facility offers numerous benefits to the Cambria community. The CCSD also intends to adopt further mitigation measures, including those concerning evaporation pond operations—decommissioning, RO concentrate disposal, and surface discharge, which will be identified through this environmental analysis. By the issuance of an R-CDP, the CCSD intends to use the SWF to its fullest benefit, which would include operating the SWF to avoid a future Stage 3 Water Shortage Emergency Condition by providing long-term drought protection and seasonally augmenting Cambria's potable water supply, as well as providing a more water efficient means to control the late dryseason hydraulic gradient between the CCSD's San Simeon Creek aquifer's potable well field and percolation pond areas.

MITIGATION MEASURES <u>AND</u> (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

Through the environmental analysis contained in this SEIR, and as a result of further input from regulatory agencies and the local community, various mitigation measures have been identified to avoid/reduce environmental impacts resulting from SWF operations. These



mitigation measures, which generally involve the evaporation pond decommissioning, RO concentrate disposal, and surface discharge. Various additional Project modifications have been identified, which generally involve evaporation pond repurposing and surface water treatment. These Project modifications are described in detail in Section 3.5.2, Project Characteristics – Mitigation Measures and Project Modifications, below.

DSEIR Page 3-24 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

LAND USE DESIGNATIONS

The Project site is located in the North Coast (NC) Planning Area, within the Rural North Coast (RNC) community. The NC Planning Area is addressed in the NCAP, which constitutes the County's General Plan Land Use and Circulation Elements for the NC Planning Area. The NC Planning Area is entirely within California's Coastal Zone. The NCAP is one part of the Land Use and Circulation Elements for the North Coast Planning Area (other parts include the Coastal Framework for Planning, Coastal Plan Policies, and Official Maps). Any development in the NC Planning Area must comply with each of these documents, as well as the other SLO County General Plan Elements. The Coastal Zone North Coast Planning Area Rural Land Use Category Map¹ separates the NC Planning Area into land use categories, which define regulations for land uses, density, and intensity of use. As shown on the Land Use Category Map, the Project site is designated Agriculture. The Coastal Zone North Coast Planning Area Rural Combining Designation Map² assigns Combining Designations to NC areas containing hazards, sensitive resource areas, environmentally sensitive habitat areas, historic and archaeologically sensitive areas, and public facilities. As shown on the Combining Designation Map, portions of the Project site are assigned the following Combining Designations:

DSEIR Page 3-25 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Through the environmental analysis contained in this SEIR, various mitigation measures have been identified to avoid/reduce environmental impacts resulting from SWF operations. These operational mitigation measures, which generally involve evaporation pond repurposing decommissioning, mechanical spray evaporator removal, offsite RO concentrate disposal, surface water treatment, and modified surface discharge to San Simeon Creek, are described in detail in the <u>Mitigation Measures and Project Modifications</u> Section below.

¹ County of San Luis Obispo Website, http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/zoning/Map_Image_ Download_Center/Land_Use_Maps.htm, Accessed May 4, 2015.

² Ibid.





As discussed in Section 3.6, Project Phasing and Construction Activities, Project construction began in May 2014 and was substantially completed by November 2014. Production of advanced treated water began on January 20, 2015. The SWF has operated intermittently, since January 2015. As previously noted, various operational mitigation measures have been identified to avoid/reduce environmental impacts resulting from SWF operations. Compliance with these operational mitigation measures would necessitate modifications to the SWF, including the evaporation pond, mechanical spray evaporators, and surface discharge to San Simeon Creek. Therefore, for purposes of this Project description and the analysis contained in this SEIR, the "Sustainable Water Facility" involves the built and operational Project components, whereas the "Mitigation Measures and Project modifications" involve proposed Project components, including modifications to Project components required for compliance with evaporation pond and lagoon surface discharge operations-related mitigation measures, and modifications to Project components involving evaporation pond repurposing and surface water treatment.

DSEIR Page 3-28 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The source water for the Project, which is pumped from existing Well 9P7, is comprised of a blend of native basin groundwater, deep aquifer brackish groundwater, and percolated secondary effluent from the CCSD's WWTP. The <u>deep aquifer</u> brackish groundwater is comprised of diluted seawater (that occurs from the subterranean dispersion of salts from a deeper saltwater wedge into an overlying freshwater interface zone) <u>and</u> creek underflow, and percolated treated wastewater effluent. The degree to which this groundwater source is impaired depends on the ultimate contribution of secondary effluent in the extracted water and the level of treatment achieved for this water through soil aquifer treatment and aquifer travel time. The potentially impaired groundwater is extracted from the San Simeon Creek Groundwater Basin, treated, and then reinjected further upstream at the existing CCSD potable well field, thus providing additional potable water supply to the Cambria community. With the system in operation, the water elevation at the potable well field is maintained higher than the secondary effluent mound, and higher than that of seawater. This serves to prevent seawater from moving inland to the potable well field.

DSEIR Page 3-33 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The AWTP's feed water flow rate is 629 gpm during the six months. Assuming all process associated losses and an approximate 100 gpm flow of filtrate product water (as deemed necessary by the Project's Adaptive Management Plan (AMP) (see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) to recharge San Simeon Creek Lagoon, the AWTP's daily average product water flow rate is

452 gpm, producing water during six dry season months. Thus, 452 gpm of advanced treated water is pumped to RIW-1, located a minimum of two months travel time from existing potable production Wells SS-1 and SS-2. A total of 400 gpm maximum extraction from existing Wells SS-1 and SS-2 (or a combination of both) can occur during Project operations. The Project's net potable water production is approximately 300 gpm, or approximately 250 acre-feet over an assumed six-month dry season. The CCSD may also adjust the project's operational period according to need based on the amount and timing of seasonal rainfall, and the groundwater levels within the lower San Simeon aquifer.

DSEIR Page 3-34 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The Project includes a design element that provides non-chlorinated MF effluent, which can be mixed and augmented with de-chlorinated and oxygenated product water immediately upstream of the upper San Simeon Creek lagoon (hereinafter referred to as the Project's "lagoon water" supply design feature). The lagoon water is discharged from the AWTP to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon area to maintain surface water levels, while also benefiting existing fresh water conditions. A discharge flow of up to 100 gpm is provided (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7), with the water quality identical to the source water quality for the AWTP, as presented previously in Table 3-2 above. A summary of water quality for the lagoon discharge is included in Table 3-4 above.

DSEIR Page 3-51 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

As discussed above, various operational mitigation measures have been identified to avoid/reduce environmental impacts resulting from SWF operations. Specifically, these include Mitigation Measures AES-2 and BIO-3; refer to Section 5.1, Aesthetics, and Section 5.3, Biological Resources. The operational mitigation measures, which generally involve evaporation pond repurposing decommissioning, mechanical spray evaporator removal, offsite RO concentrate disposal, surface water treatment, and modified surface discharge, are illustrated on Exhibit 3-12, Mitigation Measures and Project Modifications, and described below. The Project modifications, which generally involve evaporation pond repurposing and surface water treatment, are also illustrated on Exhibit 3-12, and described below. The following description of the Project modifications is based upon the Cambria Sustainable Water Facility – Descriptions for Phased Mitigation Measure on Converting Evaporation Pond to Water Storage and Associated Modifications³ (CDM TM) (CDM Smith, June 30, 2016), in consultation with the CCSD.

³ The CDM TM is available for review on the CCSD's website at www.cambriacsd.org/cm/Home.html.





Currently, the AWTP RO concentrate is contained in the evaporation pond, where evaporation is aided with five mechanical spray evaporators. The RO concentrate disposal pipeline connects the AWTP to the evaporation pond. The mitigation measures (Project modifications involve decommissioning the evaporation pond and discharging the AWTP RO concentrate to four (4) Baker above-ground tanks (approximately 60,000 gallons total volume) for storage prior to offsite disposal (instead of discharging to the evaporation pond). The five mechanical spray evaporators along with their enclosures would be removed. The Project modifications also involve evaporation pond would be repurposing, as a potable raw water supply storage basin, and the RO concentrate disposal pipeline would be repurposing, as a potable water pipeline. A surface water transfer pump station would be installed to pump water from the basin to the surface water treatment plant (SWTP). Controls would be installed to maintain/monitor basin water levels. Five interconnecting new pipelines would be constructed, including the filtrate water pipeline extension to San Simeon Creek.

DSEIR Page 3-53 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

3.5.2.1 <u>EVAPORATION POND DECOMISSIONING AND REPURPOSING (EVAPORATION POND REPURPOSING POTABLE RAW WATER SUPPLY STORAGE BASIN)</u>

EVAPORATION POND DECOMISSIONING

The evaporation pond has approximately 3.0 acres of surface area and 21.4 AF (or 6.96 MG) of usable storage capacity. In compliance with Mitigation Measure AES-2, the evaporation pond would be repurposed/ modified to serve as a raw potable water supply storage basin (i.e., prior to surface water treatment)decommissioned, as follows:

- The RO concentrate would be <u>vacuumed out of the evaporation pond via Vactor (a registered name) or similar truck for hauling and pumped out of the evaporation pond and the residual slurry would be hauled away for disposal at an appropriate Class II waste disposal facility. The evaporation pond liner would be cleaned using high pressure hoses to sluice the RO concentrate <u>residuals</u> to the pond's lowest spot. The rinse water would similarly be hauled away for offsite disposal.</u>
- The submersible evaporator pumps along with pontoons would be removed. This would include removal of the pump extraction cable, which is strung above the evaporation pond.
- The mechanical spray evaporators, appurtenances (electrical wiring and control panels), and sound enclosures would be removed.



EVAPORATION POND REPURPOSING

After the evaporation pond is decommissioned, it would be repurposed and modified to serve as a raw water storage basin. The raw water storage basin would store water prior to surface water treatment.

DSEIR Page 3-63 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

3.5.2.3 MODIFIED SWF OPERATIONS

It is anticipated that the SWF would run for 24 hours per day seven days per week (24/7), during the driest time of the year (approximately six months). When the Project operates 24/7 during the driest time of year, the estimated RO concentrate volume would be approximately 57,600 gpd. However, it is unlikely that the Project would require 24/7 operation for extended periods throughout the year. Average operation would likely be 9 hours per day four days per week 12 months weeks per year. Under this scenario, the estimated RO concentrate volume would be approximately 21,600 gpd.

<u>Table 3-20</u>, <u>Conveyance Pipeline Schedule – Project Modifications</u> on DSEIR page 3-63 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Table 3-20 Conveyance Pipeline Schedule – Project Modifications

Pipe	Size (Inches)	Length (Linear Feet) Above Grade	Length (Linear Feet) Below Grade
Potable Water Pipeline #1 (CCSD Water Supply Pipeline to Potable Raw Water Supply Storage Basin)	8		200
Potable Water Pipeline #2 (SWTP to CCSD Water Supply Pipeline)	8		1,700
Surface Water Pipeline (from SS-1 to SWTP)	8		3,400
RO Concentrate Disposal Pipeline (AWTP to Baker above- ground tanks)	4		200
Filtrate Water Pipeline (Extension from discharge structure to San Simeon Creek Bank)	4	300	
Subtotal		300	5,500
TOTAL		5,800	





DSEIR Page 3-64 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

3.5.2.5 BAKER ABOVE-GROUND TANKS

The four Baker above-ground RO concentrate storage tanks would be located immediately east of the AWTP. Each Baker above-ground tank would be approximately 8 feet by 46.5 feet, and approximately 13 feet in height. Each would be double-walled, with a capacity of up to 17,640 gallons (approximately 60,000 gallons in total volume). The RO concentrate pipeline would connect from the third stage RO unit to the Baker above-ground tanks, with a four inch diameter fused polyethylene pipe double contained in a ten-inch diameter fused polyethylene pipeline.

DSEIR Page 3-64 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

It is anticipated that the SWF would run for 24 hours per day seven days per week (24/7), during the driest time of the year (approximately six months). Under this scenario, ten truck trips per day (limited to operating within the SWF site between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM) would be needed to haul the RO concentrate to Kettleman Hills, assuming a 6,000 gallon truck would be used. However, it is unlikely that the Project would require 24/7 operation for extended periods throughout the year. Average operations would likely be nine hours per day four days per week 12months weeks per year. Under this scenario, four truck trips per day would be needed to haul the RO concentrate to Kettleman Hills.

DSEIR Page 3-68 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

As discussed above, as part of its decommissioning, the evaporation pond would be emptied of—the RO concentrate would be vacuumed out of the evaporation pond and .—The RO concentrate and the residual slurry would be transported for disposal at an appropriate Class II waste disposal facility. For purposes of conducting a conservative analysis of the Project's potential environmental impacts (i.e., traffic and mobile source emissions, etc.) associated with emptying the evaporation pond, this SEIR assumes the following: the evaporation pond would be full (6.96 mg); 6,000 gallon capacity trucks would be used; 1,160 truck trips would be required over 80 days; the residual RO concentrate would be transported to a disposal site, such as the Kettleman Hills Hazardous Waste Facility (Kettleman Hills), which is located approximately 85 miles from the Project site. This SEIR assumes this is a one-time event and the number of truck trips required to empty the evaporation pond would vary depending on the volume of RO concentrate present when pond decommissioning begins. Construction

phasing is structured such that either the evaporation pond would be empty or the proposed Baker above-ground RO concentrate storage tanks would be online when pond decommissioning begins. The evaporation pond liner would be cleaned using high pressure hoses to sluice the RO concentrate to the pond's lowest spot. The dirty water would similarly be transported for offsite disposal. For purposes of conducting a conservative analysis of the Project's potential environmental impacts (i.e., mobile emissions, transportation, etc.), associated with emptying the evaporation pond, this SEIR assumes the following: the evaporation pond would be full (6.96 mg); 6,000 gallon capacity trucks would be used; 1,160 truck trips would be required over 80 days; the residual RO concentrate would be transported to a disposal site, such as the Kettleman Hills Hazardous Waste Facility (Kettleman Hills), which is located approximately 85 miles from the Project site.

DSEIR Page 3-70 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Other public agencies whose approval may be required include the following:

- San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (Rule 202 Permits);
- Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (CCRWQCB);
- Surface Water Discharges and Title 27 Evaporation Pond Compliance;
- CCRWQCB, Division of Drinking Water;
- Title 22 –Indirect Potable Reuse of Recycled Water compliance;
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife;
- California Department of Parks and Recreation;
- California Coastal Commission: and
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;
- <u>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and</u>
- National Marine Fisheries Service.

SECTION 5.0, ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

DSEIR Page 5-2 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4, Consideration and Discussion of Mitigation Measures Proposed to Minimize Significant Effects, specifies that "an EIR shall describe feasible measures which could minimize significant adverse impacts." It further notes that "if a mitigation measure would cause one or more significant effects in addition to those that would be caused by the project as proposed, the effects of the mitigation measure shall be discussed but in less detail than the significant effects of the project as proposed." Various mitigation measures have been





identified to avoid/reduce environmental impacts resulting from SWF operations. These mitigation measures, which generally involve evaporation pond repurposing decommissioning, mechanical spray evaporator removal, offsite RO concentrate disposal, surface water treatment, and modified surface discharge to San Simeon Creek. Additionally, various Project modifications have been identified, which generally involve evaporation pond repurposing and surface water treatment. These mitigation measures and modifications are described in detail in Section 3.5.2, Project Characteristics – Mitigation Measures and Project Modifications. Therefore, in compliance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4 requirements, the environmental effects of the mitigation measure are also discussed in this SEIR.

For purposes of analysis contained in this SEIR, the "Sustainable Water Facility" "SWF" involves the built and operational Project components, whereas the "Mitigation Measures and Project modifications" involve proposed Project components, including modifications to Project components required for compliance with evaporation pond and lagoon surface discharge operations-related mitigation measures, and modifications to Project components involving evaporation pond repurposing and surface water treatment.

SECTION 5.1, AESTHETICS

DSEIR Page 5.1-14 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

As discussed in detail in <u>Section 5.0</u>, <u>Environmental Analysis</u>, for purposes of the following impact analyses, "Sustainable Water Facility" (SWF) involves the built and operational Project components, whereas "Mitigation Measures <u>and</u> (Project modifications)" involve proposed Project modifications <u>in including those required for</u> compliance <u>with</u> various SWF mitigation measures.

DSEIR Page 5.1-15 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

DSEIR Page 5.1-16 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

AES-1 Prior to commencement of construction activities for the Mitigation Measures (Project modifications) AES-2 and BIO-3, the CCSD shall confirm that the plans and specifications stipulate that, Project construction shall implement standard practices





to minimize potential adverse impacts to the site's visual character, including the following:

- Construction staging areas shall be located as far as practicable from sensitive receptors; and
- Construction areas shall receive appropriate routine maintenance to minimize unnecessary debris piles.

DSEIR Page 5.1-18 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

In order to ensure that significant impacts regarding the degradation of character/quality do not result, Mitigation Measure AES-2, which requires removal of the mechanical spray evaporators and their enclosures, is recommended. Because removal of the mechanical equipment would make operating the SWF infeasible, the proposed Project modifications described within Mitigation Measure AES-2 also includes offsite RO concentrate disposal and repurposing the evaporation pond decommissioning to a potable water supply storage basin. With implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-2, impacts concerning the degradation of character/quality, as a result of the evaporators/enclosures, would be avoided, as these features would no longer be present/visible. The SWF is further subject to compliance with CZLUO standards, which influence the site's visual character and enhance visual compatibility, as discussed below.

DSEIR Page 5.1-20 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

Implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-2 would result in Project modifications, which require the construction of additional on site facilities; see Section 3.5.2, Project Characteristics Mitigation Measures (Project Modifications). These Project modifications, which generally evaporation involve repurposing decommissioning, mechanical pond evaporator/enclosure removal, offsite RO concentrate disposal, surface water treatment, and modified surface discharge. Proposed Project modifications also involve construction of additional on-site facilities, which generally involve evaporation pond repurposing and a surface water treatment plant (SWTP). These Project modifications are discussed in Section 3.5.2, Project Characteristics - Mitigation Measures and Project Modifications, and illustrated on Exhibit 3-12, Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications). Visible features associated with the Project modifications would include the <u>decommissioned then</u> repurposed evaporation pond





(to potable raw water supply storage basin), a SWTP (sited adjacent and immediately east of the AWTP), and Baker above-ground tanks (each tank would be approximately 8 feet by 46.5 feet, and approximately 13 feet in height). The mechanical spray evaporators/enclosures would no longer be visible, since they would be removed. Additionally, the articulating concrete block (ACB) lining (or similar erosion prevention measure) that would be installed at the San Simeon Creek channel bank could also be visible. ACB would allow for the continued growth of riparian vegetation, further protecting the channel from any potential erosion.

DSEIR Page 5.1-22 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

AES-2 Within one year of completion of the SEIR process and completion of all necessary regulatory agency permits, the CCSD shall remove the five mechanical spray evaporators along with their enclosures and decommission The evaporation pond shall be repurposed as a potable water supply storage basin. The AWTP RO concentrate shall be discharged to four (4) Baker above-ground tanks for storage prior to offsite disposal, instead of the evaporation pond. Until emptied, the decommissioned pond shall be covered by a net that: is designed and constructed such that it is not hazardous to avian species, as verified by a USFWS-approved Biologist; floats on the RO concentrate; is colored treated such that it blends into the surrounding area, as recommended by a licensed Landscape Architect and the County; and is anchored to withstand high wind conditions (such as those brought on by winter storms).

AES-3 Within one year of completion of the SEIR process and completion of all necessary regulatory agency permits, the CCSD shall color treat the Advanced Water Treatment Plant (AWTP), where reasonable, such that the facilities blend into the surrounding area. Color treatments shall be recommended by a licensed Landscape Architect and by the County. Prior to installation of the Surface Water Treatment Plant (SWTP), it shall be color treated, where reasonable, consistent with the AWTP.

DSEIR Page 5.1-24 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

Implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-2 would result in Project modifications that require the construction of additional on site facilities in order to involve evaporation pond decommissioning and accommodate removal of the evaporators/enclosures. Project modifications also involve construction of additional on-site facilities that involve evaporation

<u>pond repurposing and a SWTP.</u> Visible features associated with the Project modifications would include the <u>potable raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin, <u>a the SWTP</u> (sited near the AWTP), and <u>Baker above-ground</u> tanks. The mechanical spray evaporators/enclosures would no longer be visible, since they would be removed. Additionally, the ACB lining that would be installed at the San Simeon Creek channel bank could also be visible.

OPEN AREAS (SCENIC VISTAS)

The open area visual resources contribute to the scenic vistas that are present in the Project area. Notable Project components, including the SWTP, potable <u>raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin, and <u>Baker above-ground</u> tanks, would not impact scenic views of ridgelines, coastal beaches, or the Pacific Ocean. The proposed ACB would not impact views of naturally vegetated open space within the San Simeon Creek corridor, since it would installed at the creek bank and the existing riparian vegetation would buffer views. Additionally, the proposed ACB would allow for the continued growth of riparian vegetation, which would minimize visual impacts. The Project modifications would be sited within the scenic vistas afforded from the San Simeon Trail and the San Simeon Campground. The Project modification's effects on the surrounding scenic vistas are further discussed below.

DSEIR Page 5.1-25 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

From the South (San Simeon Trail and Washburn Primitive Campground). As noted above, recreational users along the trail experience middle-ground views of the Project site, which is located approximately 1,200 feet to the north. The Project modifications (the SWTP and potable raw water supply storage basin) would be intermittently visible from portions of the San Simeon Trail; see Exhibit 5.1-3, *Views from Washburn Primitive Campground*. The Monterey pine which grow along the ridgeline would buffer the campers' southerly views of the SWTP and potable raw water storage supply basin (the AWTP is approximately 2,100 feet from the Washburn Primitive campground sites). Mitigation Measure AES-3 requires that the SWTP be color-treated such that it blends in with the surrounding landscape. With implementation of AES-3, the SWTP would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard. Views of the potable raw water supply storage basin would also be afforded from this vantage point. However, the potable raw water supply storage basin is located greater than 1,600 feet away; see Exhibit 5.1-3. Further, the potable raw water supply storage basin would operate in place of the evaporation pond, which was sited in the same location and footprint as the Van Gordon Reservoir. The potable raw water supply storage basin would not be dissimilar to the evaporation pond or original Van Gordon Reservoir. Therefore, the potable raw water supply storage basin would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard. Implementation of the Project modifications may result in disturbance of onsite





vegetation, which also contributed to this scenic vista. Mitigation Measure AES-4 requires that all areas where native vegetation would be removed and where water facilities would not be located, be re-vegetated with indigenous plants. With implementation of Mitigation Measures AES-3 and AES-4, the Project modifications would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard.

From the West (San Simeon Creek Campground). As noted above, campers experience views of the Project site in the foreground (Van Gordon Reservoir) and middle-ground, and agricultural and natural lands in the background. The Project modifications (i.e., potable raw water supply storage basin) would be visible from the campground; see Exhibit 5.1-2. However, the potable raw water supply storage basin would operate in place of the evaporation pond, which was sited in the same location and footprint as the Van Gordon Reservoir. The potable raw water supply storage basin would not be dissimilar to the evaporation pond or original reservoir. Therefore, the potable raw water supply storage basin would not result in a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard.

DSEIR Page 5.1-27 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

DSEIR Page 5.1-28 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

The Project modifications would not require nighttime construction and construction equipment would not create a substantial source of daytime light or glare. Introduced operational lighting features associated with the Project modifications would include security lighting necessary for the new SWTP and Baker above-ground tanks (sited near the AWTP). As with the SWF, only the nominal amount of lighting necessary to achieve essential security illumination is proposed. The Project modifications would also be subject to compliance with CZLUO Section 23.04.320 (Outdoor Lights).

New daytime glare sources for the potable <u>raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin would be as described above for the evaporation pond. The <u>potable raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin would operate in place of the evaporation pond, which was sited in the same location and footprint as the Van Gordon Reservoir. Although, the <u>potable raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin would not be dissimilar to the evaporation pond it would be filled with <u>potable raw</u> water the majority

of the time. Any potential glare would appear similar in character to the surrounding agricultural uses in the area, which also use ponds and daytime irrigation. Thus, impacts in this regard would be less than significant.

SECTION 5.2, AIR QUALITY

DSEIR Page 5.2-13 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

As discussed in detail in <u>Section 5.0</u>, <u>Environmental Analysis</u>, for purposes of the following impact analyses, "Sustainable Water Facility" (SWF) involves the built and operational Project components, whereas "Mitigation Measures <u>and</u> (Project modifications)" involve proposed Project modifications <u>including those required for</u> compliance various SWF mitigation measures.

DSEIR Page 5.2-14 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

General SWF construction activities include clearing, grading (nominal), excavating, trenching, pipe installation, placement of backfill, and installation of other limited equipment/ improvements on structural footings and concrete housekeeping pads. The SWF required a minimal amount of earthmoving activities for the installation of the pipelines and water facilities. Installation of the leachate collection and removal system (LCRS), and the vadose zone monitoring system at the evaporation pond required minimal grading, while the installation of the impermeable liner required removal of the pond's vegetation. Along the evaporation pond's southern berm, an existing spillway was demolished to provide a uniform slope elevation around the pond. Minimal excavation was necessary for the Advanced Water Treatment Plant (AWTP), since it is housed within pre-fabricated containers. Of the approximately 4,630 LF of pipeline, the majority (4,150 LF) was installed above grade. The below grade pipelines (480 LF) were installed using both trenching and horizontal directional drilling methods. Approximately 50 cubic yards (CY) of cut and 50 CY of fill were generated during construction of the wells and AWTP, and approximately 200 CY of cut and 200 CY of fill were generated during pipeline installation. Refer also to Section 3.5.2, Project Characteristics - Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications).





DSEIR Page 5.2-17 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

The proposed mitigation measures (Project modifications) would require construction-related activities to decommission the evaporation pond and spray evaporator system, dispose of residual RO concentrate from the evaporation pond, repurpose the evaporation pond, and construct the SWTP and conveyance pipelines. Specifically, construction activities for the Project modifications would include trenching, minor grading (nominal), pipeline installation, and decommissioning the evaporation pond. Construction activities for the mitigation measures (Project modifications) would require minimal earthmoving activities and SWTP equipment installation, and the evaporation pond would be decommissioned, emptied, and repurposed as a potable raw water supply storage basin. As such, the primary sources of construction air emissions would result from trenching approximately 5,700 LF for new conveyance pipelines, and 2,350 mobile trucks trips from decommissioning and emptying the evaporation pond (2,320 round trips from evaporation pond RO concentrate (residual) disposal and 30 trips from decommissioning the spray evaporators). Stationary or mobile powered construction equipment would include hauling trucks (evaporation pond RO concentrate disposal), excavators, and backhoes.

The analysis of daily construction emissions has been prepared utilizing CalEEMod. Refer to <u>Appendix D</u> for the CalEEMod modeling outputs and results. <u>Table 5.2-5</u>, <u>Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications) Construction Air Emissions</u>, provides estimates of the construction-related emissions that would occur during construction of the proposed Project <u>mitigation measures modifications</u>.

Total Daily Construction Emissions

In accordance with the SLOAPCD Guidelines, CalEEMod was utilized to model construction emissions for ROG, NOx, and PM10. <u>Table 5.2-5</u> indicates that construction-related emissions from the <u>mitigation measures</u> (Project modifications) would not exceed the SLOAPCD Tier 1 or Tier 2 thresholds. It is noted that although the construction-related emissions from the Project modifications would not exceed SLOAPCD thresholds, construction activities would still be required to comply with SLOAPCD Rules 202, 401, and 402 (see Mitigation Measure AQ-1). Therefore, construction-related air quality impacts associated with the <u>mitigation measures</u> (Project modifications) would be less than significant for all criteria pollutants.

Table 5.2-5

<u>Mitigation Measures (Project Modifications)</u> Construction Air Emissions



DSEIR Page 5.2-21 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

Energy Consumption and Mobile Emissions

As discussed above, power for the AWTP is obtained from a PG&E supplied pad mount transformer with an estimated capacity of 750 Kilovolt-ampere (kVA) at 480/277 volts, and the service is 1,200 amp. This transformer currently supplies power to the AWTP, which would continue to be operated. Therefore, a new power supply would be required for the SWTP.

The SWTP's power demand is estimated to be 700 kVA. Power for the SWTP would be obtained from a new PG&E supplied pad mount transformer. The estimated capacity of the transformer would be 750 kVA at 480/277 volts. To serve the SWTP, the contractor (in cooperation with PG&E) would install a transformer pad, secondary conductors, transformer, and meters for a 1,200 amp service. The overhead power lines and poles at the site would have adequate capacity to supply the additional transformer for the SWTP. It is noted that these facilities are not considered onsite sources of air pollutants, as they would be electrically powered.

Additionally, the RO concentrate discharged into the four Baker above-ground tanks at the SWTP would be hauled off-site daily to the Kettleman Hills Hazardous Waste Facility (Kettleman) for treatment and disposal, located approximately 85 miles northeast of the Project site. This would result in as many as eight round trips per day to Kettleman. As such, the majority of operational air emissions associated with the SWTP would come from mobile emissions. No additional employees beyond those identified above for the SWF would be required to operate the SWTP.

Table 5.2-7, Total Operational Air Emissions with Mitigation Measures (Project Modifications), provides estimates of the operational emissions from the proposed mitigation measures (Project modifications), which include SWTP energy consumption emissions and RO concentrate disposal hauling/mobile (truck trip) emissions. Table 5.2-7 also shows the total operational air emissions generated by the Project, which includes the AWTP energy consumption (see Table 5.2-6) emissions plus the SWTP energy consumption and RO concentrate disposal hauling/mobile (truck trip) emissions. It is noted, the evaporator system energy consumption operational emissions would not occur, since the evaporators would be decommissioned, as part of the Project modifications. As presented in Table 5.2-7, the Project's total operational emissions (SWF plus the mitigation measures (Project modifications)) would not exceed SLOAPCD thresholds. Therefore, the combined total Project operations would result in less than significant impacts concerning operational air emissions. Should any backup generators be utilized for the Project modifications, they would





be subject to compliance with SLOAPCD Rule 431, which addresses stationary internal combustion engines.

<u>Table 5.2-7</u>, <u>Total Operational Air Emissions with Mitigation Measures (Project Modifications)</u> on DSEIR page 5.2-7 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Table 5.2-7
Total Operational Air Emissions
With Mitigation Measures <u>and</u> (Project Modifications)

	Pollutant ¹			
Emissions Source	ROG + NO _X (lbs/day)	Diesel Particulate Matter (lbs/day)	Fugitive Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀) (lbs/day) ²	
AWTP Energy Consumption	0.20	0.06	0.00	
SWTP Energy Consumption	0.99	0.32	0.00	
RO Concentrate Disposal Hauling/Mobile Emissions	21.60	0.55	0.00	
Total Project Emissions ³	22.80	0.93	0.00	
SLOAPCD Threshold	25	1.25	25	
Is Threshold Exceeded?	No	No	No	

ROG = reactive organic gas PM_{10} = fine particulate matter (up to 10 microns in diameter) NO_X = nitrogen oxides NO_X = nitrogen oxides

DSEIR Page 5.2-21 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

Additionally, the RO concentrate discharged into the four Baker above-ground tanks at the SWTP would be hauled off-site daily to the Kettleman Hills Hazardous Waste Facility (Kettleman) for treatment and disposal, located approximately 85 miles northeast of the Project site. This would result in as many as eight round trips per day to Kettleman. As such, the majority of operational air emissions associated with the SWTP would come from mobile emissions. No additional employees beyond those identified above for the SWF would be required to operate the SWTP.

Criteria emissions based on emissions factors from the EPA eGrid Database and the California Energy Commission, Reference Appendices for the 2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings, revised June 2009.

^{2.} Fugitive dust emissions would be negligible since the majority of the access road would be paved and the number of trucks per day is relatively low

As a result of the proposed mitigation measures <u>and</u> (Project modifications), the spray evaporator system would be decommissioned. Therefore, operational emissions from energy consumption associated with the spray evaporator system are excluded from Project emissions.

DSEIR Page 5.2-23 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

Construction activities associated with the mitigation measures (Project modifications) would generate airborne odors from the operation of construction vehicles (i.e., diesel exhaust). However, as discussed above, construction-related odors are typically from localized sources and do not emanate far from the source. Thus, construction activities associated with the Project modifications would not create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people.

Given the nature and scope of the proposed mitigation measures (Project modifications), the proposed pipelines, Baker above-ground tanks, pumps, etc., would not generate any odors. The RO concentrate discharge from the AWTP would be contained within four Baker above-ground tanks, and would be hauled offsite daily for disposal. As such, <u>SWF</u> operations at the SWF would not generate any odorous emissions affecting a substantial number of people.

DSEIR Page 5.2-25 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

DSEIR Page 5.2-26 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

The Project modifications would result in construction-related emissions from stationary and mobile equipment, typical of infrastructure projects. As discussed in Impact Statement 5.2-2 above, construction-related emissions from the mitigation measures (Project modifications) would be below applicable SLOAPCD thresholds. The Project modifications would not involve amendments to the County's General Plan or conflict with the CAP assumptions regarding growth and long-term air quality. Additionally, the Project's total operational emissions (SWF plus the mitigation measures (Project modifications)) would not exceed SLOAPCD thresholds. Therefore, due to the Project's nature and scope, the Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the CAP and a less than significant impact will occur in this regard.





DSEIR Page 5.2-26 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

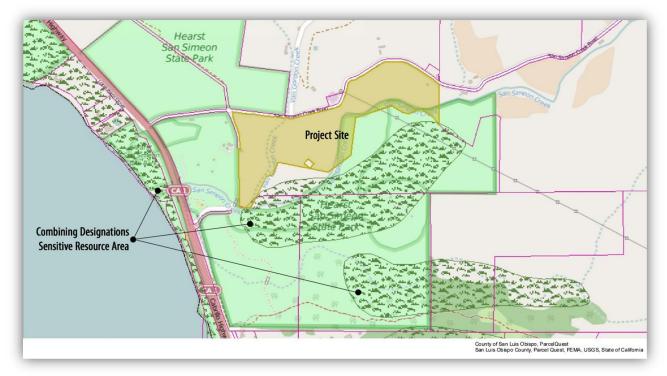
Impact Analysis: For purposes of <u>cultural resource</u> <u>the air quality</u> analysis, cumulative impacts are considered for related projects proposed throughout the North Coast Planning Area, and according to the WMP; see <u>Section 4.0</u>, <u>Basis of Cumulative Analysis</u>. Cumulative projects would have the potential to affect air quality.

SECTION 5.3, BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

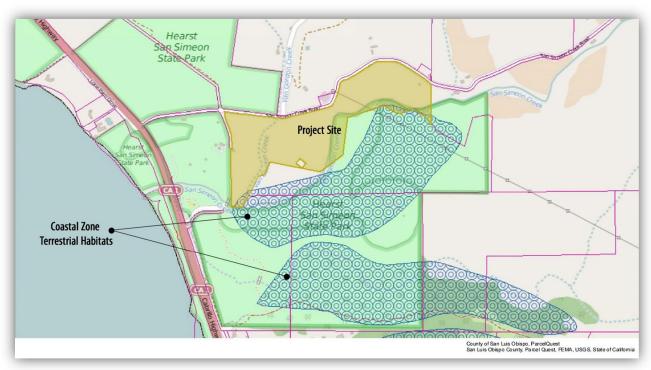
DSEIR Page 5.3-22 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

South-central California Coast steelhead Critical Habitat is located within the Estero Bay Hydrologic Unit and includes an approximately 5.5-mile stretch of San Simeon Creek beginning downstream of the North Fork/South Fork San Simeon Creek convergence and ending at the ocean. The lower reaches of San Simeon Creek flow intermittently, and are dry during the summer dry season, except for the lower San Simeon Creek Lagoon, which may have some hydraulic connectivity with the groundwater table where surface water occurs in the vicinity of the Hearst San Simeon State Park (State Park) San Simeon Creek Campground and San Simeon State Beach area. Past study of the area by the U.S. Geological Survey has found that the lower reaches of the creek flow subterranean during the dry season due to natural dry season water level decline (i.e., decline without any pumping occurring). Upper reaches of San Simeon Creek do have some perennial flow occurring, but these reaches are about three miles further up gradient from the Project site, at a higher elevation, and are beyond any area that may be influenced by the Project. Therefore, the primary reach of concern that could be indirectly affected by Project implementation is the lower reach area, which would include the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. This 5.5-mile stretch of San Simeon Creek includes water of sufficient quantity and quality to support steelhead, as well as habitat specifically suitable to support freshwater spawning sites (PCE 1), freshwater rearing sites with adequate forage and refuge opportunities to support juvenile growth (PCE 2), unobstructed freshwater migration corridors with adequate refugia to support upstream and downstream movement (PCE 3), and an unobstructed estuary (seasonally) with adequate forage and refuge opportunities to support juvenile and adult transitions between saltwater and freshwater habitats (PCE 4).

Page 5.3-37, Permit View Combining Designation – SRA Map, has been revised to include labels, as follows:



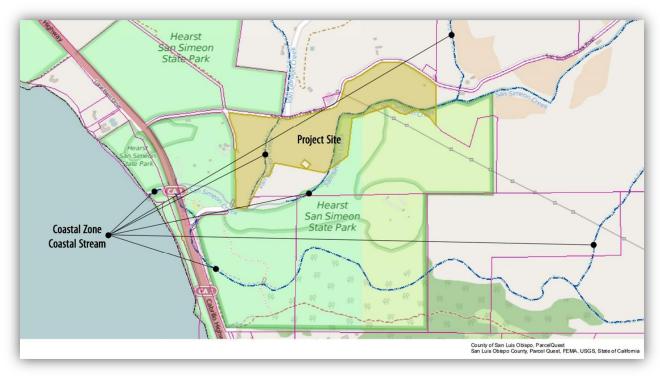
Page 5.3-37, Permit View Coastal Zone – Terrestrial Habitat Map, has been revised to include labels, as follows:



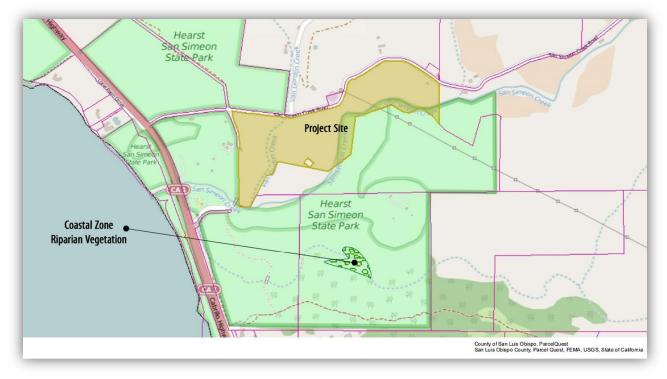




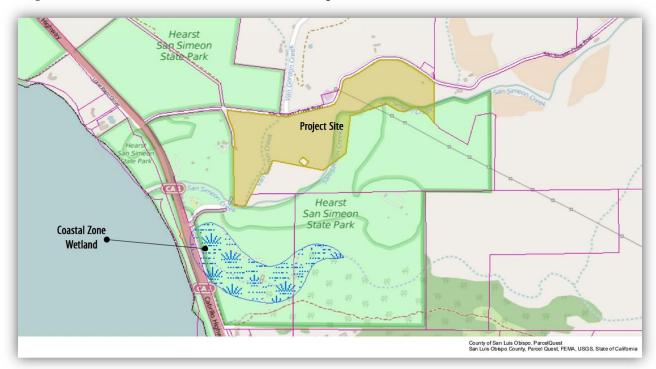
Page 5.3-38, Permit View Coastal Zone – Coastal Creeks Map, has been revised to include labels, as follows:



Page 5.3-39, Permit View Coastal Zone – Riparian Vegetation Map, has been revised to include labels, as follows:



Page 5.3-39, Permit Coastal Zone – Wetland Map, has been revised to include labels, as follows:



DSEIR Page 5.3-51 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

5.3.5 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

As discussed in detail in <u>Section 5.0</u>, <u>Environmental Analysis</u>, for purposes of the following impact analyses, "Sustainable Water Facility" (SWF) involves the built and operational Project components, whereas "Mitigation Measures (<u>and</u> Project modifications)" involve proposed Project modifications in<u>cluding those required for</u> compliance various SWF mitigation measures.

DSEIR Page 5.3-53 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)





DSEIR Page 5.3-53 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

- <u>SWF</u>: Non-chlorinated microfilter effluent, or a combination of de-chlorinated and oxygenated RO product water and microfilter effluent (a Project Design Feature (PDF) hereinafter referenced as "lagoon water") is provided by the Project when the facility is operated during dry weather conditions and there is no flow occurring in the creek. The Project's lagoon water is provided as a surface discharge immediately upstream from the upper San Simeon Creek Lagoon. An above-ground pipeline is used to deliver approximately 100 gallons per minute (gpm) of lagoon MF filtrate water (as deemed necessary by the Project's Adaptive Management Plan (AMP); see Mitigation Measure BIO-7), from the Advanced Water Treatment Plant (AWTP) to a surface discharge structure; see Exhibit 3-11. The discharge structure, which is located just north of the San Simeon Creek treeline, dissipates velocity to create a sheet flow of mitigation MF filtrate water, prior to entering immediately upstream from the upper San Simeon Creek Lagoon. As discussed below, Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires that the filtrate pipeline be extended to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank.
- <u>Project Modifications</u>: As noted above, <u>approximately</u> 100 gpm of <u>lagoon water MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) is <u>delivered for surface</u> discharged immediately upstream from the upper San Simeon Creek Lagoon. To avoid biasing Well 16D1 water quality samples (as requested by the RWQCB) and more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon, the Project modifications involve placing the surface discharge point further south and closer into the San Simeon Creek bank; see *SWF Direct and Indirect Project Impacts* Section and Mitigation Measure BIO-3 below. At the discharge point, articulating concrete block (ACB) (Armorflex or similar) lining (approximately 87 SF) is proposed to protect the San Simeon Creek channel banks from erosion. Armorflex allows for the continued growth of riparian vegetation, further protecting the channel from any potential erosion. Implementation of BMPs would avoid/reduce any sedimentation within the water bodies.</u>

DSEIR Page 5.3-54 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

Indirect operational impacts to tidewater goby could occur as the result of pumping 629 gpm of groundwater upstream of San Simeon Creek Lagoon at Well 9P7, which is located at the CCSD's treated wastewater effluent percolation ponds. If the SWF were to lower the lagoon water level during its dry period operation, it could result in a premature sandbar closure at San Simeon Creek Lagoon. This could reduce the amount of habitat for tidewater goby found



in the lagoon. Unexpected habitat loss <u>from groundwater drawdown</u> could result in decreased food and shelter for tidewater gobies, resulting in increased competition for resources not just between tidewater gobies, but between gobies and other fish species that may be present in the lagoon. Adverse effects to tidewater goby could result in a take of this listed species; any such take would require either exemption from the prohibition against take or take authorization. However, the SWF returns 100 gpm to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon and 452 gpm are reinjected into the San Simeon Creek aquifer further up gradient at the well field (a minor flow of 37 gpm of MF backwash water enters one of the percolation ponds and 39 gpm of RO concentrate is discharged in the evaporation pond). However, San Simeon Creek Lagoon would continue to provide tidewater goby a persistent, shallow lagoon containing soft substrate suitable for the construction of burrows for reproduction (PCE 1a) that also has submerged and emergent aquatic vegetation that provides protection from predators and high flow events (PCE 1b). The SWF includes a Project design feature that provides approximately 100 gpm of riparian water flow to the head of the San Simeon Creek Lagoon, which would maintain lagoon water levels. The SWF is also limited in how it operates in order to maintain a 60-day underground travel time between the re-injection well and existing CCSD potable wells (Wells SS1 and SS2). To maintain this minimum travel time, the maximum Well SS1 and Well SS2 extraction rates cannot exceed 400 gpm collectively. Additionally, detailed hydraulic modeling found that approximately 40 percent of the water re-injected by the SWF stays within the aguifer and either returns to the subterranean creek channel or recycles back to extraction Well 9P7. Other SWF sidestreams include approximately 39 gpm of RO concentrate and membrane cleaning waste that is diverted to the evaporation pond or will otherwise enter above-ground storage tanks for offsite disposal (as part of a proposed Project modifications). Certain minor Project sidestreams (e.g., approximately 37 gpm of automatic strainer backwash and MF backwash) re-enter the groundwater basin through an existing percolation pond. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires that the filtrate pipeline be extended to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank to more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon, while also addressing its potential interference with water samples pulled from existing monitoring well 16D1. The GMR (see Appendix E1) included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that the 100 gpm of mitigation MF filtrate water to the lagoon while the SWF is operating would maintain water levels in the lagoon, thereby avoiding potential impacts to the lagoon habitat; refer to Impact 5.5-3. Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, flows of 50 gpm, which would be one-half of the proposed 100 gpm mitigation flow, would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. The Technical Memorandum (see Appendix E6) also included simulations under extreme drought conditions, comparing the zero (0) gpm, 50 gpm, and 100 gpm mitigation flow to conditions without the SWF. During the first year of simulated drought, the 100 gpm mitigation flow would maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. During the second year of simulated drought, both the 50 gpm and 100 gpm mitigation flows would result in higher lagoon levels than conditions without the SWF. Under extreme drought conditions without the SWF, the CCSD well field would not be capable of producing the





permitted quantities, while under conditions with the SWF, production at permitted rates could continue. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, the 100 gpm mitigation flow to the lagoon while the SWF is operating would maintain water levels in the lagoon. Notwithstanding, Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an Adaptive Management Program (AMP) for long-term SWF operations. The AMP is intended to monitor and protect the lagoon, creek, and riparian habitats and, by extension, protect the species that inhabit them (including the tidewater goby). The AMP's primary goal is to monitor the response of the lagoon, creeks, and riparian habitats to SWF operations. Monitoring is required as part of the AMP to ensure that creek and lagoon levels are maintained during SWF operations. It is noted, while a perennial section of San Simeon Creek is known to be present upstream of the confluence with Steiner Creek, San Simeon Creek's lower reaches are intermittent and are generally only inundated from late fall to late spring or early summer, which would likely coincide with periods when the SWF would not operate. The U.S. Geological Survey has found that the lower reaches of the creek (such as traverse the Project site) flow subterranean during the dry season due to natural dry-season water level decline (i.e., decline without any pumping occurring). Thus, the creek would normally not be inundated during the six dry months of the year when the SWF would operate, discharging 100 gpm of lagoon MF filtrate water. With implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-7, the lagoon and creek habitats would be protected, and by extension, the tidewater goby that inhabit them, as well. With mitigation, impacts to tide water goby would be reduced to less than significant.

DSEIR Page 5.3-56 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

Project Modifications Direct and Indirect Impacts. The proposed Project modifications involve removing the surface discharge structure and extending the filtrate pipeline to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank. As discussed above, these Project modifications were recommended as Mitigation Measure BIO-3, in order to avoid biasing Well 16D1 water quality samples (as requested by the RWQCB) and more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon. At the relocated discharge point, ACB) (Armorflex) lining (approximately 87 SF) is proposed to protect the San Simeon Creek channel bank from erosion. Armorflex would allow for the continued growth of riparian vegetation, further protecting the channel from any potential erosion due to the 4-inch diameter lagoon water discharge. Direct impacts to tidewater goby are expected to be negligible during construction, since they would be limited to the ACB lining at the lagoon discharge structure of the San Simeon Creek channel banks. Specifically, construction-related direct impacts would involve making the area immediately surrounding the discharge temporarily uninhabitable by goby, if present in this area.

However, direct impacts to tidewater goby are not expected during construction with the specified mitigation measures implemented, including installing an ACB lining at the lagoon discharge structure at the San Simeon Creek channel banks. Pre-construction surveys to ensure absence/flushing of individuals from the impact area, and the placement of exclusionary barriers to prevent these species from entering areas where conditions are less habitable, would further minimize impacts to tidewater goby. Construction-related noise impacts at the creek are expected to be negligible, since they would be short-term and on the surface, out of the water. No nighttime construction activities are proposed; therefore, no light/glare impacts would occur.

DSEIR Page 5.3-57 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

Mitigation Measure BIO-5 requires that during construction/ground disturbing activities, all refueling, maintenance, and staging of equipment and vehicles must be at least 100 feet from riparian habitat or water bodies; see in Exhibit 3-15, Measures and (Project Modifications)) Construction Laydown/Staging Areas. The CRLF monitor would be present to ensure contamination of habitat does not occur during Project modifications construction. Prior to commencement of grading/construction activities, a plan is required to ensure prompt and effective response to any accidental spills, in the event they occurred. Mitigation Measure BIO-6, requires that BMPs be implemented to minimize sediment from entering nearby water bodies. Compliance with Mitigation Measures BIO-4 through BIO-6 would further avoid/lessen potential impacts to tidewater gobies. Construction-related impacts to surface water quality (including impacts to beneficial uses of receiving waters) from the Project modifications would be less than significant following compliance with the NPDES, BCO, and CZLUO requirements.

DSEIR Page 5.3-57 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

• <u>SWF</u>: The RO concentrate disposal and filtrate pipelines both cross under Van Gordon Creek. However, horizontal directional drilling construction was used to install these pipeline reaches under Van Gordon Creek without disturbing the ground surface. This pipeline installation was coordinated with the biological monitor with entrance and exit pits located outside of the tree drip line. Thus, Van Gordon Creek was avoided. As discussed above, <u>approximately</u> 100 gpm of <u>MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7)</u> is pumped during dry weather conditions for surface discharge to the upstream end of the San Simeon Creek Lagoon.





DSEIR Page 5.3-58 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

Indirect operational impacts could occur, particularly if reductions in the water table result in earlier-than-average seasonal drops in creek surface water. Adult steelhead typically migrate from the ocean into coastal streams between December and May, according to weather patterns and stream flow. On the other hand, smolts typically migrate downstream to lagoons and eventually the ocean between March and June, although low stream flows can block smolts from reaching their destinations. Reduced water in the lower reaches of San Simeon Creek could lead to earlier-than-usual sandbar closures in San Simeon Creek Lagoon, affecting the ability of smolts to migrate to the ocean and prematurely altering the lagoon/estuary temporal interchange. This may result in smolts becoming stranded in San Simeon Creek Lagoon and spending an extra year in the lagoon instead of at sea. Stranded smolts would suffer from increased competition in the lagoon habitat, particularly as upstream areas within San Simeon Creek dry up and leave only an isolated portion of the creek and lagoon. Adverse effects to steelhead could result in a take of this listed species; any such take would require either exemption from the prohibition against take or take authorization. However, the SWF Project design feature returns approximately 100 gpm of MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon and approximately 452 gpm are re-injected into the San Simeon Creek aquifer further up-gradient at the well field. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires that the filtrate pipeline be extended to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank to more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon, as discussed above. The GMR included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that while the SWF is operating, the Project design feature's approximate 100 gpm of mitigation MF filtrate product water would maintain water levels in the lagoon, thereby avoiding potential impacts to steelhead habitat; refer to see Impact 5.5-3. Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, flows of 50 gpm, which would be one-half of the proposed 100 gpm mitigation flow, would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, while the SWF is operating, the Project design feature's approximate 100 gpm mitigation of filtrate product water flow to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon would maintain water levels in the lagoon. Notwithstanding, Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an AMP for long-term SWF operations. Monitoring would be required as part of the AMP to ensure that creek/lagoon levels are maintained during SWF operations. With implementation of the AMP (Mitigation Measure BIO-7), the lagoon and creek habitats would be protected, and by extension, the steelhead that may inhabit them, as well. Additionally, Mitigation Measure BIO-15 requires that the CCSD continue with its existing efforts to monitor the creek habitat adjacent to, and downstream from the Project area, as required by the AMP, and specifies provisions, in the event migrating steelhead reappear within the San Simeon Creek. It is noted, San Simeon Creek's lower reaches are intermittent and are generally only inundated from late fall to late spring or early summer, which would



likely coincide with periods when the SWF would not operate. The U.S. Geological Survey has found that the lower reaches of the creek (such as traverse the Project site) flow subterranean during the dry season due to natural dry-season water level decline (i.e., decline without any pumping occurring). Thus, the creek would normally not be inundated during the six dry months of the year when the SWF would operate, discharging 100 gpm of mitigation MF filtrate water. Therefore, with mitigation, impacts to steelhead would be reduced to less than significant.

DSEIR Page 5.3-59 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

DSEIR Page 5.3-60 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

South-Central California Steelhead Recovery Plan

The South-Central California Steelhead Recovery Plan (Recovery Plan) (NMFS 2013) identifies the San Simeon Creek steelhead population as one of the Core 1, or highest priority, populations of this subspecies for recovery. As stated in the Recovery Plan, groundwater extraction is one of the current threats to the stream and riparian corridor. <u>Further, according to the Recovery Plan, the following constitute the "Critical Recovery Actions" for steelhead in San Simeon Creek:</u>

Develop and implement operating criteria to ensure the pattern and magnitude of groundwater extractions and water releases, including bypass flows around diversions, provide the essential habitat functions to support the life history and habitat requirements of adult and juvenile steelhead. Remove or modify instream fish passage impediments to allow steelhead natural rates of migration to upstream spawning and rearing habitats, and passage of smolts and kelts downstream to the estuary and ocean. Manage instream mining to minimize impacts to migration, spawning and rearing habitat. Identify, protect, and where necessary, restore estuarine rearing habitat, including management of artificial sandbar breeching at the river's mouth, and upstream freshwater spawning and rearing habitats.

SUSTAINABLE WATER FACILITY

SWF operations, without the project's lagoon water supply design feature and mitigation, could affect several of the Critical Recovery Actions listed in the Steelhead Recovery Plan: the ability to develop and implement operating criteria for groundwater extractions and water





releases; the ability to provide essential habitat functions for adult and juvenile steelhead; and the ability to protect estuarine rearing habitat. Without mitigation, Project implementation could negatively affect all three of the Critical Recovery Actions, which are all ultimately related to groundwater/surface water availability. Project implementation would involve groundwater extractions during the SWF's operating period which, without mitigation, could adversely affect essential habitat functions supporting adult and juvenile steelhead including spawning and rearing, the availability of forage and refugia within San Simeon Creek. Reductions in adequate forage and refuge sites within the creek could have both short- and long-term effects on the local steelhead population in San Simeon Creek, resulting not only in increased competition for resources but also increased competition for water. Similarly, groundwater extractions could lower water levels in San Simeon Creek Lagoon, which provides estuarine habitat when the sandbar is breached; however, the sandbar has not been breached for several years, likely due to the drought conditions. Adverse impacts to the lagoon/estuarine habitat could affect the ability of steelhead smolt, to continually grow, and mature before swimming out to sea, or contrarily affect the ability of steelhead adults to replenish and rest after leaving the ocean and before swimming upstream to spawning habitat. Instream fish passage impediments and instream mining are not present in the creek within or adjacent to the Project site, and would not be affected by Project implementation. The amount of surface water MF filtrate flow that is returned to San Simeon Creek Lagoon would be a minimum of approximately 100 gpm, but this would be adaptable, up to 150 gpm through the AMP as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires that the 4-inch diameter lagoon water pipeline be extended to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank to more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon. As discussed above, the GMR and Technical Memorandum (SEIR Appendices E1 and E6) included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that, while the SWF is operating, the Project design feature's 100 gpm of filtrate product water flow discharged to the lagoon would maintain water levels in the lagoon, thereby avoiding potential impacts to steelhead habitat. Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, flows of 50 gpm, which would be one-half of the proposed 100 gpm mitigation flow, would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, while the SWF is operating, the Project design feature's approximate 100 gpm filtrate product water mitigation flow to the lagoon would maintain water levels in the lagoon. Mitigation Measure BIO-7 (Adaptive Management Plan), requires that the CCSD implement an AMP entailing long-term monitoring. The AMP requires monitoring of groundwater levels, surface water levels/flows, in-stream and riparian habitat, and presence of listed species, including steelhead. Implementation of the AMP is intended to avoid or reduce adverse impacts to steelhead, wherein if adverse effects to surface water, habitat, and/or species are detected as a result of AMP monitoring actions, the SWF would be required to shut down and consult with regulatory agencies to determine the best actions to take.

The Recovery Plan also notes the current loss of 50 percent of the estuary, but also states that this loss is due to earlier development of San Simeon State Park and its associated recreational facilities, as well as the placement of the park's vehicle and pedestrian bridge overcrossings. The SWF would not result in permanent losses of estuarine habitat, as it proposes no new development within the estuary. Based on detailed hydrogeological modeling (GMR), while the SWF is operating, the Project design feature's approximate groundwater reinjection and 100 gpm of mitigation filtrate product water discharge to the San Simeon Creek Llagoon would maintain water levels in the lagoon, thereby avoiding potential impacts to the lagoon habitat. Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions while the SWF is operating, flows of 50 gpm, which would be one-half of the proposed 100 gpm mitigation flow, would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, while the SWF is operating, the Project design feature's approximate 100 gpm mitigation filtrate product water flow to the lagoon would maintain water levels in the lagoon. The lagoon/estuary would be expected to be generally subject to its annual cycles, which are also influenced by weather. Thus, impacts would be less than significant in this regard.

DSEIR Page 5.3-61 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

DSEIR Page 5.3-61 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

• <u>SWF</u>: Most of the CRLF habitat areas would be avoided during SWF construction. The RO concentrate disposal and filtrate pipelines both cross under Van Gordon Creek. However, horizontal directional drilling construction was used to install these pipeline reaches under Van Gordon Creek without disturbing the ground surface. This pipeline installation was coordinated with the biological monitor. Thus, Van Gordon Creek is avoided. The vast majority (approximately 90 percent) of the conveyance piping was installed above grade to minimize ground disturbance. No SWF improvements are proposed within the percolation ponds. As discussed above, <u>the Project design feature's approximately</u> 100 gpm of <u>mitigation MF filtrate</u> water (<u>filtrate</u>) (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) is pumped during dry weather conditions for surface discharge at the upstream end of the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. BMPs would be used as necessary to avoid or reduce any sedimentation within the water bodies.





The RO concentrate evaporation pond holds water, and thus, could attract the CRLF. To prevent CRLF from access to the evaporation pond, a frog-exclusion fence was installed along the evaporation pond's perimeter.⁴ The fence is constructed of rigid high-density polyethylene (HDPE) matrix, is approximately four feet high, and includes a climber barrier with climber barrier bracket. The fence was selected following its initial suggestion by a USF&WL representative during an August 27, 2014 joint agency project review meeting at the Santa Cruz offices of the California Coastal Commission. Subsequently, the CDM Project Management team researched and located a frog fence material that was accepted by USF&WL (ERTEC E-Fence), which was ultimately installed around the entire evaporation pond perimeter. The frog exclusion fence included an integral climber barrier and HDPE matrix to prevent CRLF from being trapped within the fence.

• <u>Project Modifications</u>: No Project modifications are proposed within Van Gordon Creek or the percolation ponds. The proposed Project modifications include repurposing the evaporation pond <u>decommissioning and repurposing</u> (i.e., <u>to a Potable raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin), offsite disposal of the RO concentrate, and a containerized SWTP and <u>Baker above-ground</u> tanks (sited adjacent and immediately east of the AWTP). The mechanical spray evaporators/enclosures would be removed. Five new pipelines would be constructed (including the lagoon water filtrate pipeline extension).

As previously discussed, a PDF to provide 100 gpm of lagoon water, which is pumped proposes that approximately 100 gpm of MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) is surface discharged during dry weather conditions for surface discharge at the upstream end of the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. The proposed Project modifications also involve removing the existing surface discharge structure and extending the lagoon water filtrate pipeline to relocate the discharge point further south to the northern bank of the San Simeon Creek (Mitigation Measure BIO-3), where ACB lining (or similar erosion prevention measure) is proposed to protect the San Simeon Creek channel banks from erosion. The 4-inch diameter lagoon water filtrate pipeline extension would be laid on top of the ground surface, and routed/placed by hand to avoid impacts to the habitat. BMPs would be used as necessary to avoid or reduce any sedimentation within the water bodies.

Mitigation Measure AES-2 requires removal of the mechanical spray evaporators and their enclosures, and evaporation pond decommissioning. As a result, tThe Project modifications also include offsite RO concentrate disposal and repurposing the evaporation pond as a potable raw water supply storage basin. The RO concentrate would be discharged to Baker above-ground tanks for storage prior to offsite disposal, instead of the evaporation pond. Thus, the evaporation pond would no longer be used

⁴ Specifically, the ERTEC E-Fence, which is accepted by the USFWS for CRLF exclusion, was installed; file:///F:/ERTEC%20E-Fence%20brochure.pdf.

to store RO concentrate and the repurposed evaporation pond (the <u>potable raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin) would be filled with untreated (raw) <u>potable</u> water. No changes to the frog-exclusion fence are proposed, as part of the Project modifications. The fence's integral climber barrier and HDPE matrix would remain to prevent CRLF from being trapped within the fence.

DSEIR Page 5.3-63 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

Although the waste stream constituents are considered non-hazardous (see Section 8.0, Effects Found Not To Be Significant), CRLF could be attracted to the evaporation pond due to the presence of standing water and adversely impacted by the RO concentrate's hypersalinity. The SWF employs deterrent and exclusion methods to prohibit CRLF entry into the evaporation pond area. The four-foot high CRLF exclusion fence installed along the evaporation pond's perimeter prevents CRLF, as well as various other terrestrial wildlife, from entry into the evaporation pond area. Additionally, the climber barrier and HDPE matrix prevent CRLF from being trapped within the fence. Further, Mitigation Measure AES-2 requires removal of the mechanical spray evaporators and their enclosures, and as a result, the RO concentrate would be disposed of offsite; see Project Modifications discussion that follows. Given that the exclusionary fence would prohibit CRLF entry to the evaporation pond, and since the evaporation pond would no longer be used to store RO concentrate, but rather would be repurposed as a potable raw water supply storage basin, the SWF would result in less than significant impacts in this regard.

Indirect operational impacts could occur, particularly if reductions in the water table result in earlier-than-average seasonal drops in creek surface water. In San Simeon Creek, because CRLF can breed as late as late April, early drops in water levels could possibly affect the ability of CRLF eggs to hatch. CRLF typically attaches its eggs to floating vegetation or vegetation rooted in the creek substrate; drops in the water level could cause egg masses to desiccate. Tadpoles in turn could be lost if the creek dries too quickly, or increased competition for food from fish (such as stranded smolts) could result in tadpoles being subjected to increased predation. Project implementation could also have related impacts on California red-legged frog designated Critical Habitat. The area surrounding the Project site, including San Simeon Creek, San Simeon Creek Lagoon, Van Gordon Creek, and other upland areas, provides aquatic habitat that is suitable for both breeding (PCE 1) and non-breeding (PCE 2) by California redlegged frog, as well as upland habitat that could be used for foraging (PCE 3) and dispersal (PCE 4). Groundwater extraction may result in surface water drawdowns that could adversely modify Critical Habitat to by reducing water levels and affecting the availability of breeding areas, PCE 1. This could cause the frogs to concentrate into smaller areas during the breeding season, or cause them to leave the creek and look for breeding or non-breeding habitat elsewhere. Non-breeding habitat and upland habitat are unlikely to be adversely modified.





Adverse effects to steelhead <u>California red-legged frog</u> could result in a take of this listed species; any such take would require either exemption from the prohibition against take or take authorization. However, the SWF returns approximately 100 gpm (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) of filtrate product water to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon and approximately 452 gpm are re-injected into the San Simeon Creek aquifer further up-gradient at the well field. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires that the filtrate pipeline be extended to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank to more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon. The GMR and San Simeon Creek Flows Technical Memorandum (Appendices E-1 and E-6) included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that, when the SWF is operating, the 100 gpm of sidestream MF filtrate flow being provided mitigation water to the lagoon would maintain lagoon water levels, thereby avoiding potential impacts to the CRLF habitat. Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, flows of 50 gpm, which would be one-half of the proposed 100 gpm mitigation flow to the lagoon, would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF, while the SWF is operating. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, the Project's design feature of providing approximately 100 gpm of mitigation flow to the lagoon while the SWF is operating and Mitigation Measure BIO-7 would maintain water levels in the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. Notwithstanding, monitoring would be required as part of the AMP (Mitigation Measure BIO-7) to ensure that creek/lagoon levels are maintained during SWF operations. With implementation of the AMP (Mitigation Measure BIO-7), the lagoon, creek, and riparian habitats would be protected, and by extension, the CRLF that inhabit them, as well. The U.S. Geological Survey has found that the lower reaches of the creek (such as traverse the Project site) flow subterranean during the dry season due to natural dry-season water level decline (i.e., decline without any pumping occurring). Thus, the creek would normally not be inundated during the six dry months of the year when the SWF would operate, discharging 100 gpm of mitigation MF filtrate water. With mitigation, impacts to CRLF would be reduced to less than significant.

DSEIR Page 5.3-65 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

DSEIR Page 5.3-65 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

Project modifications include offsite RO concentrate disposal and repurposing the evaporation pond as a potable water supply storage basin. The RO concentrate would be discharged to Baker above-ground tanks for storage prior to offsite disposal, instead of the evaporation pond.



Thus, the evaporation pond would no longer be used to store RO concentrate and the repurposed pond (i.e., the potable raw water supply storage basin) would be filled with potable water. CRLF could still be attracted to the potable raw water supply storage basin due to the presence of standing water. The four-foot high CRLF exclusion fence that exists along the evaporation pond's perimeter would be retained to prohibit CRLF, as well as various other terrestrial wildlife, from entry into the potable raw water supply storage basin. The fence's integral climber barrier and HDPE matrix would be retained to prevent the CRLF from being trapped within the fence. Given that the exclusionary fence would prohibit the CRLF from entry to the potable raw water supply storage basin, and since the evaporation pond would no longer be used to store RO concentrate, but rather would be repurposed as a potable raw water supply storage basin, the Project modifications would result in less than significant impacts in this regard.

DSEIR Page 5.3-67 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

Indirect impacts to these non-listed special-status wildlife species would primarily be related to habitat degradation as a result of groundwater pumping. If excessive groundwater withdrawal results in degradation of the in-stream or surrounding riparian vegetation, including trees, it may result in decreased habitat quality for nesting birds or roosting bats. Drops in the water level in Van Gordon Creek, San Simeon Creek, or San Simeon Creek Lagoon may result in small reductions of available habitat for aquatic herpetofauna, but would not be expected to result in breeding failure or death. However, the SWF Project design feature returns approximately 100 gpm of MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) is as surface discharged to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon and approximately 452 gpm are re-injected into the San Simeon Creek aquifer further up-gradient at the well field. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires that the filtrate pipeline be extended to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank to more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon, as discussed above. The GMR included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that <u>Project design feature's approximate</u> the 100 gpm of <u>filtrate product mitigation</u> water <u>flow</u> would maintain water levels in the lagoon, thereby avoiding potential impacts to steelhead habitat; refer to see Impact 5.5-3. Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, while the SWF is operating, flows of 50 gpm, which would be onehalf of the proposed-100 gpm of MF filtrate mitigation flow, would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, while the SWF is operating, the Project design feature's approximate 100 gpm <u>filtrate product water</u> <u>mitigation</u> flow to the <u>San Simeon Creek L</u>lagoon would maintain water levels in the lagoon. Notwithstanding, Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an AMP for long-term SWF operations. Monitoring would be required as part of the AMP to ensure that creek/lagoon levels are maintained during SWF operations. The





U.S. Geological Survey has found that the lower reaches of the creek (such as traverse the Project site) flow subterranean during the dry season due to natural dry-season water level decline (i.e., decline without any pumping occurring). Thus, the creek would normally not be inundated during the six dry months of the year when the SWF would operate, discharging 100 gpm of mitigation MF filtrate water. With implementation of the AMP (Mitigation Measure BIO-7), the lagoon and creek habitats would be protected, and by extension, the non-listed special-status wildlife species that inhabit them, as well. The SWF is also subject to compliance with Mitigation Measure BIO-6, Mitigation Measure BIO-16, and Mitigation Measure BIO-17. With implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-6, BIO-7m BIO-16, and BIO-17, impacts to special-status wildlife species would be reduced to less than significant.

DSEIR Page 5.3-68 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

DSEIR Page 5.3-70 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

- Adaptive Management Plan. The CCSD shall develop and implement an Adaptive Management Program (AMP) for post construction operations upon commencement of SWF operations. The AMP shall be incorporated while the SWF is operating and indefinitely until the SWF is no longer in use or until deemed no longer necessary by applicable regulatory agencies. The AMP is intended to monitor and protect the lagoon, creek, and riparian habitats adjacent to the Project site and, by extension, protect the species that inhabit it. The AMP's primary goal shall be to monitor the response of the lagoon, creeks, and riparian habitats to SWF operations. This shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - Regular monitoring of groundwater levels, surface water levels, surface water flow, in-stream and riparian habitat extent and health, available instream and fish habitat, and water quality;
 - Surveys for tidewater goby, steelhead, CRLF, western pond turtle, and/or two-striped garter snake a minimum of two times per year to measure population levels over time; and
 - Monitoring of riparian vegetation in the water bodies and in their upland extents.



Based on the results of the biological monitoring and any noted adverse changes in these habitats, SWF operations shall be adjusted such that the amount of treated water that is injected or discharged back into the system, is either increased or decreased to restore affected habitat features. It is expected that the minimum amount of approximately 100 gpm of water would be returned at any one time would be 100 gpm.

DSEIR Page 5.3-71 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

BIO-13 <u>Water Impoundment</u>. Unless approved by the USFWS, or otherwise mitigated by the frog-exclusion fence currently installed around the evaporation pond perimeter, water shall not be impounded in a manner that may attract CRLF. (<u>E-CDP Condition 21</u>)

DSEIR Page 5.3-72 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

BIO-15 Groundwater Pumping – Biological Monitoring. Ongoing dDuring SWF operations, the CCSD shall continue with its existing efforts to monitor the creek habitat adjacent to, and downstream from the Project area, as required by the AMP. Should migrating steelhead reappear within the San Simeon Creek while the SWF in in operation, the CCSD shall implement efforts to avoid potentially impacting their movement prior to the creek naturally running dry and flowing as subsurface flow during the dry season. Such efforts may include alternating the use of production wells between the San Simeon and Santa Rosa aquifers, discussing possible curtailments and/or coordination to pumping regimes being practiced by/with other riparian irrigators during such migration periods, invoking conservation/demand management measures, as well as operating the SWF to provide its lagoon water discharge.

DSEIR Page 5.3-74 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

SUSTAINABLE WATER FACILITY MITIGATION MEASURES AND PROJECT MODIFICATIONS





DSEIR Page 5.3-76 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

BIO-19 The CCSD shall minimize to the extent possible the disturbance and removal of riparian vegetation in the vicinity of San Simeon Creek Lagoon during the construction and placement of the mitigation MF filtrate water pipeline. All efforts shall be made to avoid creating a permanent pathway through the vegetation while constructing the pipeline. The pipeline shall in addition contain an adequate velocity dissipation mechanism to avoid creating any scour or deterioration of the upland habitat.

DSEIR Page 5.3-77 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

Avoidance and Minimization Efforts.

- <u>SWF</u>: The RO concentrate disposal and filtrate pipelines both cross under Van Gordon Creek where wetlands and jurisdictional waters are present. However, horizontal directional drilling construction was used to install these pipeline reaches under Van Gordon Creek without disturbing the ground surface. This pipeline installation was coordinated with the biological monitor with entrance and exit pits located outside of the tree drip line. Thus, Van Gordon Creek and associated riparian vegetation are avoided. As discussed above, <u>approximately</u> 100 gpm of <u>mitigation water is pumped during dry weather conditions for surface discharge to the upstream end of the San Simeon Creek Lagoon MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) is surface discharged to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. San Simeon Creek and associated riparian vegetation were also avoided during construction. BMPs would be used as necessary to avoid or reduce any sedimentation within the water bodies.</u>
- <u>Project Modifications</u>: None of the Project modifications would traverse Van Gordon Creek riparian habitat. As discussed above, <u>approximately</u> 100 gpm of <u>mitigation water</u> is <u>pumped during dry weather conditions for surface discharge to the upstream end of the San Simeon Creek Lagoon MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) is surface discharged to the San Simeon Creek <u>Lagoon</u>. The Project modifications propose to extend the filtrate pipeline to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank to more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon. This pipeline, which would traverse the riparian vegetation extending to the San Simeon Creek bank, would be constructed above-ground to ensure impacts to riparian vegetation are minimized</u>. Vegetation disturbance would be limited to the



minimum amount necessary to extend the pipeline to the creek bank. The filtrate pipeline would be routed/placed by hand to protect the riparian habitat. At the discharge point at the San Simeon Creek bank, ACB lining is proposed to protect the San Simeon Creek channel banks from erosion. BMPs would be used as necessary to avoid or reduce any sedimentation within the water bodies.

DSEIR Page 5.3-80 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

SUSTAINABLE WATER FACILITY - CONCLUSION

Potentially significant indirect impacts could occur as a result of SWF implementation and groundwater loss. The GMR included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that the 100 gpm of mitigation MF filtrate water while the SWF is operating would maintain water levels in the lagoon, thereby avoiding potential impacts on wetland habitat. Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, flows of 50 gpm, which would be one-half of the proposed 100 gpm mitigation flow, would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, the 100 gpm mitigation flow to the lagoon while the SWF is operating would maintain water levels in the lagoon. Notwithstanding, Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an AMP for long-term SWF operations. The AMP is intended to monitor and protect the creeks, lagoon, and onsite habitats. The AMP's primary goal is to monitor the response of the lagoon, creeks, and riparian habitats to SWF operations. With implementation of the AMP (Mitigation Measure BIO-7), the wetland habitats would be protected.

DSEIR Page 5.3-81 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

DSEIR Page 5.3-83 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

<u>Project Modifications</u>: As discussed above, <u>approximately the Project's</u> 100 gpm-lagoon water is provided during dry weather conditions for surface discharge to the upstream end of the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. <u>of MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) is surface discharged to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon.</u> The Project modifications involve placing the surface discharge point





further south to the San Simeon Creek bank, resulting in construction within the San Simeon Creek corridor. A 4-inch diameter lagoon water pipeline extension would traverse the corridor's riparian vegetation to the northern bank of the San Simeon Creek. This pipeline would be constructed above-ground to ensure impacts to the corridor are minimized. At the discharge point, ACB lining is proposed to protect the San Simeon Creek channel bank from erosion. The lagoon water filtrate pipeline would be routed/placed by hand to protect the habitat. Vegetation disturbance would be limited to the minimum amount necessary to extend the pipeline to the creek bank and construct the discharge structure.

SUSTAINABLE WATER FACILITY

<u>SWF Direct and Indirect Impacts</u>. Movements of terrestrial and avian species could be affected and deterred by active construction. However, the movement corridors are not expected to be directly impacted, since no SWF improvement is proposed in the creek corridors.

San Simeon Creek, San Simeon Creek Lagoon, and Van Gordon Creek could experience indirect SWF-related effects, as a result of drawdown in the water table. If the depth of the water table has a strong correlation with the amount of surface water available in these water bodies, it may result in early seasonal cuts in aboveground water supplies. This would in turn degrade the quality of the movement corridor and potentially render it unusable by animals that are strictly confined to aquatic movement (e.g., fish). Thus, impacts to movement corridors would be significant unless mitigated. However, the SWF returns approximately 100 gpm of MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon and 452 gpm are re-injected into the San Simeon Creek aquifer further up-gradient at the well field. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires that the lagoon water filtrate pipeline be extended to relocate the discharge point further south to the northern San Simeon Creek bank to more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon. The GMR included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that the 100 gpm of mitigation MF filtrate water to the lagoon while the SWF is operating would maintain water levels in the lagoon. Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, flows of 50 gpm, which would be one-half of the proposed 100 gpm mitigation flow, would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, the 100 gpm mitigation flow to the lagoon while the SWF is operating would maintain water levels in the lagoon. Notwithstanding, Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an AMP for long-term SWF operations. Monitoring would be required as part of the AMP to ensure that creek/lagoon levels are maintained during SWF operations. The U.S. Geological Survey has found that the lower reaches of the creek (such as traverse the Project site) flow subterranean during the dry season due to natural dry-season water level decline (i.e., decline without any pumping occurring). Thus, the creek would

normally not be inundated during the six dry months of the year when the SWF would operate, discharging 100 gpm of mitigation MF filtrate water. With implementation of the AMP (Mitigation Measure BIO-7), the lagoon and creek habitats would be protected, and by extension, the wildlife movement corridors, as well. To further minimize impacts to the movement corridors, the SWF is subject to compliance with Mitigation Measures BIO-4 (E-CDP Condition 16), BIO-5 (E-CDP Condition 17), BIO-6 (E-CDP Condition 20), and BIO-8 (E-CDP Condition 12), as described above. Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an AMP, which is intended to monitor and protect the creeks, lagoon, and onsite habitats. The AMP's primary goal is to monitor the response of the lagoon, creeks, and riparian habitats to SWF operations. Mitigation Measure BIO-18 requires that the lagoon discharge structure be designed to avoid impacts to riparian habitat to the greatest extent feasible. Finally, Mitigation Measure BIO-19 requires that the CCSD minimize the disturbance and removal of riparian vegetation, to the extent possible. Pursuant to the MBTA and FGC, the SWF is subject to compliance with Mitigation Measure BIO-16, which requires that a preconstruction nesting bird clearance survey be conducted in all work areas and all areas within 500 feet of the general construction zone.

DSEIR Page 5.3-85 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

Given that the Hazing Study's recommended strategy (fencing and netting) was being questioned as to its long-term capability to withstand high wind conditions, such as those brought on by winter storms, as well as having potential visual impacts, further mitigation was recommended. Mitigation Measure AES-2 requires removal of the mechanical spray evaporators and their enclosures. As a result, the Project modifications include offsite RO concentrate disposal and repurposing the evaporation pond as a potable raw water supply storage basin. The RO concentrate would be discharged to Baker above-ground tanks for storage prior to offsite disposal, instead of the evaporation pond. Thus, the evaporation pond would no longer be used to store RO concentrate and the repurposed pond (i.e., the potable raw water supply storage basin) would be filled with raw potable water. No changes to the frog-exclusion fence are proposed, as part of the Project modifications. The fence's integral climber barrier and HDPE matrix would remain to prevent CRLF from being trapped within the fence. Therefore, the evaporation pond-related impacts to wildlife movement (terrestrial and avian) would be reduced to less than significant, with mitigation incorporated.

DSEIR Page 5.3-86 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)





Project Modifications Direct and Indirect Impacts. Movements of terrestrial and avian species could be affected and deterred by active construction of Project modifications. However, the movement corridors are not expected to be directly affected by Project modifications. The Project modifications involve placing the surface discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank, resulting in construction within the San Simeon Creek corridor. A pipeline would traverse the corridor's riparian vegetation extending to the San Simeon Creek bank. The filtrate pipeline would be routed/placed by hand to protect the riparian habitat. This pipeline would be constructed above-ground to ensure impacts to the corridor are minimized. Vegetation disturbance would be limited to the minimum amount necessary to extend the pipeline to the creek bank and construct the discharge structure. Compliance with construction-related measures/standards before/during the Project modifications construction phase would be required, including Mitigation Measures BIO-4, BIO-5, BIO-6, BIO-8, and BIO-16. Impacts would be reduced to less than significant following compliance with the recommended mitigation.

Project modifications include offsite RO concentrate disposal and repurposing the evaporation pond as a potable <u>raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin. The RO concentrate would be discharged to <u>Baker above-ground</u> tanks for storage prior to offsite disposal, instead of the evaporation pond. Thus, the evaporation pond would no longer be used to store RO concentrate and the repurposed pond (i.e., the <u>potable raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin) would be filled with untreated (raw) <u>potable</u> water. Terrestrial and avian species could still be attracted to the <u>potable raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin due to the presence of standing water. The four-foot high CRLF exclusion fence that exists along the evaporation pond's perimeter would be retained to prohibit wildlife entry into the <u>potable raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin. Additionally, the fence's integral climber barrier and HDPE matrix would be retained. Given that the exclusionary fence would prohibit wildlife from entry to the <u>potable raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin, and since the evaporation pond would no longer be used to store RO concentrate, but rather would be repurposed as a <u>potable raw</u> water <u>supply</u> storage basin, the Project modifications would result in less than significant impacts in this regard.

DSEIR Page 5.3-89 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

CZLUO Section 23.07.170.e.2 (Development in ESHA to Avoid a Taking)

As discussed above, indirect operational impacts to tidewater goby, steelhead, and CRLF could occur as the result of Well 9P7 pumping groundwater in the vicinity of the percolation ponds, which is upstream from the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. To avoid these impacts, the Project included a PDF to provide that approximately 100 gpm of lagoon water during dry weather conditions for surface discharge at immediately upstream from the upper San Simeon Creek lagoon MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure

BIO-7) is surface discharged to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. This PDF includes an aboveground 4-inhe inch diameter lagoon water pipeline, which discharges into a surface discharge structure located just north of the San Simeon Creek treeline to create a sheet flow of mitigation MF filtrate water, prior to entering upstream of the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. The Project modifications involve extending the lagoon water filtrate pipeline to relocate the discharge point further south to the northern San Simeon Creek bank (Mitigation Measure BIO-3). The 4-inch diameter lagoon water pipeline extension would be routed/placed by hand to protect the riparian habitat. The proposed discharge at the creek bank would provide more efficient delivery of water to San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels in the lagoon. Thus, Project modifications' lagoon water filtrate pipeline and discharge structure, are proposed within and adjacent to (within 100 feet of the boundary of) an ESHA to minimize impacts to tidewater goby, steelhead, and CRLF (which constitute a take). Pursuant to CZLUO Section 23.07.170.e.2, development within an ESHA shall be: the least necessary to avoid take; avoided to the maximum extent feasible; and fully mitigated. The lagoon water filtrate pipeline alignment was determined based on the shortest distance between the SWF treatment facility and discharge point that avoided impacting sensitive resource areas to the maximum extent practicable, and avoided the existing cultural resources, as discussed in detail in Section 5.4, <u>Cultural Resources</u>. The majority (85 percent) of this 1,000-foot pipeline was installed above grade to minimize disturbance. The remaining 150 feet were installed using horizontal directional drilling construction without disturbing the ground surface. Therefore, impacts to tidewater goby, steelhead, and CRLF were avoided to the maximum extent feasible. Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-2 through BIO-6, and BIO-8 through BIO-19-19, would reduce potential impacts to tidewater gobies, steelhead, and CRLF to less than significant and ensure compliance with CZLUO Section 23.07.170.e.2.

CZLUO Section 23.07.170.e.3 (Steelhead Stream Protection: Net Loss Stream Diversions Prohibited)

CZLUO Section 23.07.170.e.3 states that diversions of surface and subsurface water will not be allowed if they will result in a significant adverse impact on steelhead runs. This Section applies to water supply wells that tap the subflow and similar water supply facilities that could significantly harm steelhead runs. Exceptions may be considered only where the impact cannot be avoided, is fully mitigated, and no significant disruption would result. The SWF is extracting groundwater from the groundwater basin below the wastewater effluent percolation ponds. The brackish water source is a combination of San Simeon Creek underflow, percolated treated wastewater effluent, and diluted seawater from a deep, saltwater wedge area. Specifically, the SWF pumps 629 gpm of groundwater upstream of San Simeon Creek Lagoon, of which: 452 gpm are re-injected into the San Simeon Creek aquifer further up-gradient at the well field; 37 gpm of MF backwash are discharged at a percolation pond; and 39 gpm of RO concentrate are discharged at the evaporation pond. Additionally, the SWF returns approximately 100 gpm of MF filtrate (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. Specifically, the Project's PDF





includes lagoon water (non-chlorinated microfilter effluent, or a combination of microfilter effluent with de-chlorinated and oxygenated RO product water), which is pumped during dry weather conditions for surface discharge upstream of San Simeon Creek Lagoon. An above-ground pipeline is used to deliver the lagoon water from the AWTP to a surface discharge structure. The discharge structure creates a sheet flow of water, prior to entering upstream of the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. The lagoon water filtrate pipeline extension and surface discharge involve extending the 4-inch diameter filtrate pipeline to relocate the discharge point further south to the northern San Simeon Creek bank. The proposed discharge at the creek bank would provide more efficient delivery of water to San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels in the lagoon, while also avoiding existing monitoring well 16D1.

As discussed under Impact 5.3-1 above, indirect operational impacts could occur, particularly if reductions in the water table result in earlier-than-average seasonal drops in creek surface water. However, the SWF returns approximately 100 gpm of MF filtrate (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon and 452 gpm are re-injected into the San Simeon Creek aquifer further up-gradient at the well field. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires that the filtrate pipeline be extended to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank to more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon. The GMR included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that the 100 gpm of mitigation MF <u>filtrate</u> water while the SWF is operating would maintain water levels in the lagoon, thereby avoiding potential impacts to the lagoon habitat; refer to Impact 5.5-3. Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, flows of 50 gpm, which would be one-half of the proposed 100 gpm mitigation flow, would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, the 100 gpm mitigation flow to the lagoon while the SWF is operating would maintain water levels in the lagoon. Notwithstanding, Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an AMP for long-term SWF operations. The AMP is intended to monitor and protect the lagoon, creek, and riparian habitats and, by extension, protect the species that inhabit them, including steelhead. The AMP's primary goal is to monitor the response of the lagoon, creeks, and riparian habitats to SWF operations. Monitoring is required as part of the AMP to ensure that creek and lagoon levels are maintained during SWF operations. With implementation of the AMP (Mitigation Measure BIO-7), the water levels would be maintained, lagoon and creek habitats would be protected, and by extension, any steelhead (and any tidewater gobies) that may inhabit them. Monitoring of groundwater and surface water, as well as additional hydrologic modeling, is required to track changes in groundwater, surface waters, and instream and riparian habitats to remove remaining uncertainty and fully understand the SWF's potential impacts. The AMP approach is implemented to provide the needed data and an oversight of uncertain effects of the SWF's pumping, and would alert the CCSD of the need to adjust SWF operations, depending on stream conditions to avoid potential adverse impacts to aquatic species, including steelhead. Adjustments could include alternating the use of production wells between the San Simeon



and Santa Rosa aquifers, curtailments and/or coordination to pumping regimes being practiced by/with other riparian irrigators during such migration periods, invoking conservation/demand management measures, as well as operating the SWF to provide its lagoon water discharge.

DSEIR Page 5.3-91 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

CZLUO Section 23.07.170.e.4.iv (Interference with Fish Migration)

CZLUO Section 23.07.170.e.4.iv prohibits any development activity that would raise overall stream temperatures to unfavorable levels, or that would interfere with normal fish migration and movement within the stream. As stated above, with implementation of the AMP, the SWF is not anticipated to result in decreased water levels in San Simeon Creek and, when applicable, Van Gordon Creek. Implementation of the AMP would ensure that SWF operations would not result in decreased water levels regularly, seasonally, or during particularly dry periods, thus, ensuring that increased water temperatures due to decreased water levels, as well as restrictions on fish migration and movement, would not occur. The GMR included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that the Project's PDF of providing 100 gpm of lagoon water while the SWF is operating would maintain water levels in the lagoon, thereby avoiding potential impacts to the lagoon habitat; refer to Impact 5.5-3. Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, flows of 50 gpm, which would be one-half of the proposed 100 gpm MF filtrate mitigation flow, would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, the Project's PDF of providing 100 gpm of lagoon water while the SWF is operating would maintain water levels in the lagoon. Notwithstanding, Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an AMP, which involves gathering additional hydrologic information to demonstrate that stream temperatures are maintained at favorable levels and that no interference with normal fish migration or movement within San Simeon Creek or Van Gordon Creek and ensure compliance with CZLUO Section 23.07.170.e.4.

DSEIR Page 5.3-93 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

The Project is subject to compliance with CZLUO Section 23.07.174, which is intended to preserve and protect these resources. According to CZLUO Section 23.07.174.b, alteration of stream channels are limited to necessary water supply projects and construction of improvements to fish and wildlife habitat (as well as flood control projects). The SWF pumps approximately 100 gpm of de chlorinated/oxygenated product water (MF filtrate) flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7 during dry weather





conditions for surface discharge upstream of San Simeon Creek Lagoon. The proposed Project modification surface discharge structure, which involves a discharge point at the San Simeon Creek bank, requires streambed alteration. This surface discharge structure involves both a water supply project and construction of improvements to fish and wildlife habitat and thus, would be a permitted alteration. The CZLUO further notes that alteration of stream channels are limited to necessary water supply projects, "provided that quantity and quality of water from streams shall be maintained at levels necessary to sustain functional capacity of streams, wetlands, estuaries and lakes." As discussed above, Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an AMP, which is intended to monitor and protect the creeks and lagoon, as well as the riparian habitats. Thus, in compliance with CZLUO Section 23.07.174.b, BIO-7 would ensure the functional capacity of San Simeon and Van Gordon Creeks, and the San Simeon Creek Lagoon.

SECTION 5.4, CULTURAL RESOURCES

DSEIR Page 5.4-25 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

5.4.5 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

As discussed in detail in <u>Section 5.0</u>, <u>Environmental Analysis</u>, for purposes of the following impact analyses, "Sustainable Water Facility" (SWF) involves the built and operational Project components, whereas "Mitigation Measures (<u>and</u> Project modifications)" involve proposed Project modifications <u>including those required for</u> compliance <u>with</u> various SWF mitigation measures.

DSEIR Page 5.4-27 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

<u>MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)</u>

The Project modifications would require limited grading, trenching, and excavation for the surface water treatment plant (SWTP) and associated tanks/pumps in addition to various pipelines, including the 8-inch potable water pipeline, 8-inch surface water pipeline, 4-inch diameter filtrate pipeline extension to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon, and 4-inch pipeline to the proposed Baker above-ground tanks. A total of 5,400 linear feet (LF) of new pipeline would be implemented through trenching activities, as part of the Project modifications. Trenches would

⁵ A "necessary" water project is a project that is essential to protecting and/or maintaining public drinking water supplies (CZLUO Section 23.07.174.b(1)).





be approximately two feet wide and five feet deep. The 4-inch filtrate pipeline extension to San Simeon Creek Lagoon would be an aboveground pipeline, and no excavation would be required.

The SWTP would be housed in a container approximately 8.5 feet by 53 feet, and would require minimal grading/excavation for placement.

An analysis of potential impacts related to the Project modifications is provided below, based upon the resources identified above.

<u>CA-SLO-187</u>. No facilities associated with the Project modifications are proposed within the boundaries of CA-SLO-187, and no impacts to this resource would occur.

<u>CA-SLO-221/H</u>. The 8-inch potable water pipeline is proposed within CA-SLO-221/H boundaries, and the SWTP and 4-inch pipeline to the <u>Baker above-ground</u> tanks are adjacent to the CA-SLO-221/H boundary. Therefore, construction of these Project modifications could adversely impact this resource.

<u>CA-SLO-378</u>. No facilities associated with the Project modifications are proposed within the boundaries of CA-SLO-378, and no impacts to this resource would occur.

<u>CA-SLO-1373</u>. The SWTP, 8-inch surface water pipeline, 8-inch potable water pipeline, and 4-inch pipeline to the <u>Baker above-ground</u> tanks are within CA-SLO-1373 boundaries. Therefore, construction of Project modifications could adversely impact CA-SLO-1373.

<u>CA-SLO-1374</u>. No Project modifications are proposed within the boundaries of CA-SLO-1374. Therefore, the construction of Project modifications would not impact CA-SLO-1374.

DSEIR Page 5.4-30 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

<u>MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)</u>

DSEIR Page 5.4-32 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

<u>MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)</u>



SECTION 5.5, HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

DSEIR Page 5.5-1 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

- NPDES General Permit, Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Stormwater Runoff Associated with Construction Activities, Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ, as amended by 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012-0006-DWQ (CCRWQCB).
- Waste Discharge Requirements National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality, Order No. R3-2011-0223, NPDES No. CAG993001 (CCRWQCB).
- Waste Discharge Requirements, Order No. R3-2014-0047 (CCRWQCB).
- Waste Discharge Requirements, Order No. 010-100, modified November 14, 2014 (CCRWQCB).
- Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Recycling Requirements, Order No. R3-2014-0050 (CCRWQCB).
- Cambria Emergency Water Supply Project San Simeon Creek Basin Groundwater Modeling Report (GMR) (CDM Smith, May 2014) (see <u>Appendix E1</u>, <u>Biological Resources Reports</u>).
- *Technical Memorandum San Simeon Creek Flows* (CDM Smith, October 16, 2015) (see <u>Appendix E6</u>).

DSEIR Page 5.5-9 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

A seiche is an earthquake or slide-induced wave that can be generated in an enclosed body of water of any size from swimming pool, to a harbor, or lake. Given that the nearest large, enclosed open body of water is Lake Nacimiento, located approximately 12 miles northeast of the Project site, beyond the Santa Lucia Mountain Range, the potential for the Project site to be affected by seiching associated with Lake Nacimiento is nonexistent. Additionally, given that the onsite creeks are not inundated during the six dry months of the year, and given seiche is not considered a significant risk in San Luis Obispo County since County reservoirs are not considered large enough, the potential for the Project site to be affected by seiching associated with onsite streams is not significant.

DSEIR Page 5.5-15 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The quality of the State's waters can be affected by many sources that come in different forms and amounts. For regulatory purposes, these sources are categorized by whether they are planned, easily-identified "end-of-pipe" waste discharges from a single, discrete source such

as constructed conveyance systems (known as "point source discharges"), or from planned or unplanned discharges from more diffuse runoff that covers a wide area (known as "nonpoint source discharges"). The waste can be in liquid or solid form, and can be in small to very large volumes. The RWQCB regulates discharges to surface water, such as rivers and the ocean through the NPDES Permit Program, and discharges to groundwaters (discharges to land) through the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) program. Through the NPDES Permit Program, the RWQCB regulates waste discharges to both surface waters, such as rivers and the ocean, and groundwaters (via discharge to land). The type of permits issued by the RWQCBs to control these various sources of pollutants depends on the type/category of waste, where the waste is discharged, and State and federal laws and regulations.

DSEIR Page 5.5-20 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Refer to <u>Appendix C</u>, <u>E-CDP Conditions of Approval</u>, for a list of E-CDP Conditions. E-CDP Conditions 6 and 20 are applicable to hydrology and water quality.

<u>County of San Luis Obispo Tsunami Emergency Response Plan</u>

The Emergency Response Plan (ERP) is primarily intended to establish and define emergency management procedures, organizational response, and coordination related to receipt of a Tsunami Information Statement, Watch, Advisory or Warning or an actual tsunami along the San Luis Obispo County coastline.

Emergency management in the County is implemented through the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). NIMS provides a comprehensive, national approach to incident management that is applicable at all jurisdictional levels. The County uses SEMS, as part of its emergency management and response operations.

According to the ERP, the potential tsunami hazard for the County's coastal areas is greatest for those communities or portions thereof located below the estimated elevations for the 100-to 500-year events, that is, below elevation 50 feet above mean sea level (amsl). Coastal land uses most vulnerable to tsunamis hazards are those located near mouths of streams that drain into the Pacific Ocean, such as San Simeon Creek, among other factors.

The ERP includes maps to illustrate the potential tsunami run-up along the County's coast. These maps use the 50 feet amsl topographic elevation as a working maximum height potential for tsunami incident. According to the ERP Southern San Simeon Inundation Map, portions of the Project site are located within the Tsunami Inundation Area and the Tsunami Plan Evacuation Area.





DSEIR Page 5.5-23 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

5.5.5 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

As discussed in detail in <u>Section 5.0</u>, <u>Environmental Analysis</u>, for purposes of the following impact analyses, "Sustainable Water Facility" (SWF) involves the built and operational Project components, whereas "Mitigation Measures (<u>and</u> Project modifications)" involve proposed Project modifications <u>including those required for</u> compliance various SWF mitigation measures.

DSEIR Page 5.5-26 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

<u>MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)</u>

The Mitigation Measures (Project modifications) involve decommissioning and construction of various water facilities, as described in Section 3.5.2. These Project modifications would disturb one or more acres of soil and, thus, are required to obtain coverage under the General Construction Permit. Construction of the Project modifications would involve activities subject to this Permit including clearing, grading, and ground disturbances, which could result in short-term water quality impacts. A Notice of Intent and SWPPP must be prepared and submitted to the SWRCB demonstrating compliance with the General Construction Permit.

DSEIR Page 5.5-27 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

SUSTAINABLE WATER FACILITY

The SWF transfers extracted groundwater to the AWTP, which treats brackish water to produce potable water. The treated AWTP product water is re-introduced/pumped for injection into the groundwater basin. The RO concentrate is disposed for evaporation in the evaporation pond and the MF backwash is discharged to the existing percolation ponds. As detailed in Table 3-3, AWTP Process Design Flows, the SWF specifically includes the following activities that involve discharges to groundwater and land: reinjects 452 gpm into San Simeon Creek aquifer further up gradient at the well field; returns 100 gpm to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon; discharges 39 gpm of RO concentrate to the evaporation pond; and discharges 37 gpm of MF backwash to the percolation ponds.





- <u>452 gpm of advanced treated water (RO permeate and UV feed flow) is re-injected into the San Simeon Creek aquifer further up-gradient at the well field; returns</u>
- Approximately 100 gpm of MF filtrate flow (as deemed necessary by the Project's Adaptive Management Plan (AMP) (see Mitigation Measure BIO-7-reinjects-) is surface discharged to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon;⁶
- 39 gpm of RO concentrate and membrane cleaning waste is discharged to the evaporation pond; and discharges
- 37 gpm of automatic strainer backwash and MF backwash is discharged to the a percolation pond, which flows back into the groundwater aquifer.

As previously noted, the SWF transfers extracted groundwater to the AWTP, which treats brackish water to produce potable water. To meet California Department of Public Health (DPH) and CCRWQCB regulations, the treated AWTP product water is re-introduced/pumped for injection into the groundwater basin. MF filtrate water, which could potentially be augmented with de-chlorinated/oxygenated product water (filtrate), is pumped during dry weather conditions for surface discharge habitat enhancement in the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. An above-ground pipeline delivers approximately 100 gpm of water MF filtrate (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-7) from the AWTP to a surface discharge structure; see Exhibit 3-5. The discharge structure, which is located just north of the San Simeon Creek tree line, dissipates velocity, in order to create a sheet flow of mitigation water, prior to entering upstream of the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. The RO concentrate from the AWTP is disposed for evaporation in the Van Gordon Reservoir, an existing storage pond that was rehabilitated/modified into an evaporation pond to meet State Title 27 requirements. The CCRWQCB classifies the RO concentrate as a Special Waste and prohibits its discharge to Waters of the State in excess of background levels. The evaporation pond is lined with an impermeable liner system with leak detection to contain the RO concentrate and protect the underlying soil and groundwater. The RO concentrate evaporation is aided with five mechanical spray evaporators.

DSEIR Page 5.5-32 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

It is noted that with implementation of the recommended Mitigation Measure AES-2, the mechanical spray evaporators would be removed and the evaporation pond would be

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⁶ As discussed in DSEIR Section 5.5 and specified in DSEIR BIO-7, based on the results of the biological monitoring and any noted adverse changes in these habitats, SWF operations would be adjusted such that the amount of MF filtrate product water re-injected into the system, is either increased or decreased to restore affected habitat features. It is expected that the MF filtrate product water re-injected at any time would be approximately 100 gpm.





repurposed to storing raw (untreated) potable water <u>decommissioned</u>. Therefore, with implementation of AES-2, the potential for RO concentrate drift would no longer occur. This is because the AES-2 Project modifications would allow RO concentrate to be stored in on-site <u>Baker Tanks</u> <u>above-ground tanks</u> for periodic off-site disposal. With implementation of these Project modifications, the Project would be required to amend Order No. R3-01-11), as discussed in Mitigation Measures <u>and</u> (Project modifications) below.

DSEIR Page 5.5-33 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

The Project modifications involve discharging the AWTP RO concentrate to Baker aboveground tanks for storage prior to offsite disposal, instead of the evaporation pond. The mechanical spray evaporators would be removed. The evaporation pond would be decommissioned and repurposed as a potable raw water supply storage basin. The source water for the potable <u>raw</u> water supply storage basin would be potable water from the CCSD groundwater pumps. The potable raw water supply storage basin would be seasonally filled during the wet season when there is adequate flow occurring in the local creeks. The potable <u>raw</u> water supply storage basin's water quality would generally be similar to the Well SS-1 and Well SS-2 water quality. However, because the potable raw water supply storage basin would be uncovered, water quality could potentially degrade due to various sources of contamination, including bird and animal waste, algal growth, insects and fish, and airborne deposition. Because open storage would diminish water quality, a containerized surface water treatment plant (SWTP) would ensure water quality criteria are met. modifications would not include activities that involve discharges to groundwater or land, with the exception of the lagoon surface discharge extension.

DSEIR Page 5.5-34 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The lagoon surface discharge extension would be required to file an Amendment to the Region-wide General NPDES Permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality (General Permit). The <u>Project design feature's approximate</u> 100 gpm <u>discharge filtrate product water flow</u> to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon (as deemed necessary by the <u>Project's Adaptive Management Plan, see Mitigation Measure BIO-7)</u> would remain the same as the Project, although the location of the discharge point would be relocated further south to the northern San Simeon Creek bank. <u>Moving the discharge point to anywhere impinging upon, or below the ordinary high water mark, would require a 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, a 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers,</u>



and a Streambed Alteration Agreement from the CDFW; see also Mitigation Measure BIO-18. The proposed discharge at the creek bank would provide more efficient delivery of water into San Simeon Creek to maintain <u>lagoon</u> water levels, while also avoiding the potential favoring of water quality samples taken from nearby monitoring well 16D1 due to the lagoon water discharge's high quality. At the revised discharge point, articulating concrete block (ACB) (Armorflex) lining is proposed to protect the northern San Simeon Creek channel bank from erosion. Armorflex allows for the continued growth of riparian vegetation, further protecting the channel from any potential erosion.

DSEIR Page 5.5-34 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation is required. See Mitigation Measures BIO-7 and BIO-18.

DSEIR Page 5.5-36 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

As detailed in <u>Table 3-3</u>, <u>AWTP Process Design Flows</u>, the SWF proposes to withdraw up to 629 gpm of water through existing Well 9P7. Reinjection of up to 452 gpm of highly treated water for indirect potable reuse after appropriate residence time in the aquifer and gradient control occurs at the SWF's recharge well, while up to approximately 100 gpm <u>(as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP, see Mitigation Measure BIO-7)</u> is discharged to San Simeon Creek to support the fresh water lagoon. Therefore, the SWF would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies and, given the area's drought history and its impacts, would instead work toward alleviating an existing problem.

DSEIR Page 5.5-38 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

<u>MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)</u>

The Project modifications which generally involve evaporation pond decommissioning and repurposing, mechanical spray evaporator/enclosure removal, offsite RO concentrate disposal, surface water treatment, and modified surface discharge are illustrated on; see Exhibit 3-12, Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications). Repurposing the evaporation pond to store raw (untreated) potable water (i.e., potable raw water supply storage basin) provides further reliability to the supply system, while also addressing potential biological impacts from the evaporation pond operations. This repurposing indirectly provides greater protection of the





existing groundwater supply by allowing CCSD operators to alternate the source of supply among the two aquifer well fields, the SWF, and the stored raw water. Such resting and alternating of supply sources aids in well recovery, maintaining groundwater basin storage, and in meeting unplanned conditions, such as the loss of a well due to mechanical failure or other causes. The potable raw water supply storage basin is also proposed as an open, uncovered pond to allow for its potential use as a fire fighting helicopter fill station, should it ever be needed in response to a local wildfire. Having such a quiescent fill source would be beneficial, particularly when there are high surf conditions that make using ocean water unsafe. Repurposing the evaporation pond as a potable <u>raw</u> water supply storage basin requires SWTP to meet required water quality criteria. The repurposed evaporation pond would hold approximately 6 to 7 million gallons for potential emergency use, as well as for augmenting the existing groundwater supply sources during the dry season. It would be replenished by the San Simeon Well Field pumps during the wet season and to maintain its readiness during the summer season (e.g., periodic, minimal pumping, to offset evaporative loss). These Project modifications would not include activities that involve discharges to groundwater. Thus, no impacts to groundwater would result due to Project modifications.

DSEIR Page 5.5-41 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

These Project modifications, which generally involve evaporation pond <u>decommissioning and</u> repurposing, removal of the mechanical spray evaporators/ enclosures, offsite RO concentrate disposal, surface water treatment, and modified lagoon water surface discharge are illustrated on; see <u>Exhibit 3-12</u>, <u>Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications)</u>. These Project modifications would not include activities that involve discharges to land, with the exception of the modified surface discharge.

The modified surface discharge would be required to file an Amendment to the Region-wide General NPDES Permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality (General Permit). The proposed approximately 100 gpm discharge to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon (as deemed necessary by the Project's AMP; see Mitigation Measure BIO-2) would remain the same, although the location of the discharge point would be relocated further south to the San Simeon Creek bank. Moving the discharge point to anywhere impinging upon, or below the ordinary high water mark, would require a 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, a 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, and a Streambed Alteration Agreement from the CDFW; see also to Mitigation Measure BIO-18. The proposed discharge at the creek bank would provide more efficient delivery of water to San Simeon Creek, in order to maintain water levels in the lagoon for the purposes of maintaining biological resources, as discussed in Impact Statement 5.3, Biological Resources. At the discharge point,

Armorflex lining is proposed to protect the San Simeon Creek channel banks from erosion. Armorflex allows for the continued growth of riparian vegetation, further protecting the channel from any potential erosion. With implementation of an Amendment to the General Permit, this Project modification would not result in substantial erosion or siltation during operations. The Project modifications would not result in substantial increases in the rate or amount of surface run-off and would not exceed the capacity of the existing or planned stormwater drainage systems such that additional sources of polluted runoff would occur. Less than significant impacts would result in this regard.

DSEIR Page 5.5-42 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

SUSTAINABLE WATER FACILITY

Portions of the Project site are situated within a 100-year flood plain and designated as FH Combining Designation. The proposed aboveground improvements that are located within the 100-year flood zone and Flood Hazard combining designation are: the surface discharge structure; RIW, MW-4, and portions of the product water pipeline. No other permanent aboveground SWF facilities are located within the 100-year flood zone. Due to the nature and scale of the improvements located within the 100-year flood zone, none would affect the creeks' hydrologic/hydraulic characteristics or result in the modification of the existing regulatory floodway, the effective Base Flood Elevations (BFEs), or the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Therefore, none of these improvements would impede or redirect flows, such that they would cause flooding downstream. The evaporation pond and AWTP are located outside of the 100year flood zone. Further, the AWTP would not be required to continue functioning and provide services after a flood event, since it is needed and would operate only during dry conditions, when flooding would not occur. The improvements located within the 100-year flood zone, as well as the SWF, were specifically designed to be protected from flooding or washout from a 100-year flood event. These facilities located within the 100-year flood zone, as well as the SWF, were specifically designed to be protected from flooding or washout from a 100-year flood event. Further, the SWF is not subject to the CZLUO Sections 23.07.064 through 23.07.066 standards, per CZLUO Section 23.07.062. As required by CZLUO Section 23.07.062, construction activities did not occur between October 15 and April 15. Further, during construction of underground SWF features located within the 100-year flood zone, the SWF complied with E-CDP Condition 6, pertaining to development in floodplains. As part of this condition, all SWF-related development within the 100-year floodplain, including water delivery pipes, were identified. As the facilities within the 100-year flood zone were designed to be protected from flooding or washout during the 100-year flood event, the SWF results in a less than significant impact involving the placement of structures within a flood hazard area, since flows are not impeded or redirected as a result of the SWF.





DSEIR Page 5.5-43 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

The Project modifications would not include the construction of structures within the 100-year flood zone, with the exception of the modified surface discharge extension. This structure would include Armorflex lining along the San Simeon Creek channel banks to protect the slopes from erosion. The Armorflex would allow for the continued growth of riparian vegetation, further protecting the channel from any potential erosion. These Project modifications are not anticipated to result in the impediment or redirecting of flood flows during the 100 year storm event. Due to the nature and scale of the surface discharge extension proposed within the 100-year flood zone, this improvement would not affect the creeks' hydrologic/hydraulic characteristics or result in the modification of the existing regulatory floodway, the effective BFEs, or the SFHA. Therefore, the surface discharge extension would not impede or redirect flows, such that it would cause flooding downstream during the 100-year storm event. Further, the surface discharge extension would not be required to continue functioning after a flood event, since it would be needed and would operate only during conditions, when flooding would not occur.

These Project modifications located within the 100-year FH overlay would be subject to CZLUO Sections 23.07.064 through 23.07.066 standards, per CZLUO Section 23.07.062. As required by CZLUO Section 23.07.062, construction activities would not occur between October 15 and April 15.

DSEIR Page 5.5-44 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

A seiche is an earthquake or slide-induced wave that can be generated in an enclosed body of water of any size from swimming pool, to a harbor, or lake. Given that the nearest large, enclosed open body of water is Lake Nacimiento, located approximately 12 miles northeast of the Project site, beyond the Santa Lucia Mountain Range, the potential for seiching associated with Lake Nacimiento is nonexistent. Additionally, given that the onsite creeks are not inundated during the six dry months of the year, and given seiche is not considered a significant risk in San Luis Obispo County since County reservoirs are not considered large enough and there is none located in the Project vicinity, the potential for the Project site to be affected by seiching associated with onsite streams is not significant.⁷ It is noted that the SWF includes an evaporation pond. However, the evaporation pond is not large enough to cause

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⁷ County of San Luis Obispo Website, San Luis Obispo County General Plan Safety Element, http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Assets/PL/Elements/Safety+Element.pdf, Accessed April 19, 2017.



inundation to off-site properties as a result of a seiche. <u>Therefore, less than significant impacts concerning seiche are anticipated.</u>

Due to its location, the Project site has the potential to be exposed to mudflow (i.e., mudslide, debris flow) and tsunami inundation. However, the SWF water facilities do not include habitable structures, or people residing at the Project site. Thus, less than significant impacts result involving the risk associated with tsunami inundation or mudflow are anticipated.

As discussed above, portions of the Project site are located within the Tsunami Inundation Area and the Tsunami Plan Evacuation Area, according to the ERP Southern San Simeon Inundation Map. The effects of a tsunami can range from little to heavy damage. Water storage and delivery infrastructure such as is proposed by the Project could be impacted, potentially impacting the ability to extinguish fires and availability of potable water for consumption. However, the AWTP and RO concentrate evaporation pond are located outside of the Tsunami Inundation Area; see ERP Southern San Simeon Inundation Map. As discussed above, portions of the Project site are located within the Tsunami Inundation Area and the Tsunami Plan Evacuation Area, according to the ERP Southern San Simeon Inundation Map. The effects of a tsunami can range from little to heavy damage. Water storage and delivery infrastructure such as is proposed by the Project could be impacted, potentially impacting the ability to extinguish fires and availability of potable water for consumption. However, the AWTP and RO concentrate evaporation pond are located outside of the Tsunami Inundation Area; see ERP Southern San Simeon Inundation Map.⁸ Management of a tsunami incident pursuant to ERP specifications, which include implementation and compliance with the NIMS and SEMS, would ensure potential impacts associated with inundation by tsunami are less than significant.

MITIGATION MEASURES (AND PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

Similar to the SWF, Project modifications would not include habitable structures, or people residing at the Project site. Thus, less than significant impacts would result involving the risk associated with tsunami inundation or-mudflow. As discussed above, portions of the Project site are located within the Tsunami Inundation Area and the Tsunami Plan Evacuation Area, according to the ERP Southern San Simeon Inundation Map. However, the SWTP, RO concentrate storage tanks, and treated water transfer tank and pump station are proposed outside of the Tsunami Inundation Area; see ERP Southern San Simeon Inundation Map.⁹ The lagoon surface discharge structure would be the only Project component within the Tsunami Inundation Area and would be designed such that it can be flooded. Therefore, the impacts from this particular component being flooded would be less than significant. As with the SWF, management of a tsunami incident pursuant to ERP specifications would ensure potential impacts associated with inundation by tsunami are less than significant.



SECTION 5.6, LAND USE AND LCP COMPLIANCE

DSEIR Page 5.6-4 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

LOCAL

County of San Luis Obispo General Plan Land Use and Combining Designations

The Project site is located in the North Coast (NC) Planning Area, within the Rural North Coast (RNC) community. The NC Planning Area is addressed in the North Coast Area Plan (NCAP). , which constitutes the County's General Plan Land Use and Circulation Elements for the NC Planning Area. The NC Planning Area is entirely within California's Coastal Zone. The NCAP is one part of the Land Use and Circulation Elements for the North Coast Planning Area (other parts include the Coastal Framework for Planning, Coastal Plan Policies, and Official Maps). Any development within the NC Planning Area must comply with each of these documents, as well as other SLO County General Plan Elements. The Coastal Zone North Coast Planning Area Rural Land Use Category Map¹⁰ separates the NC Planning Area into land use categories, which define regulations for land uses, density, and intensity of use. As shown on the Land Use Category Map, the Project site is designated Agriculture. The Coastal Zone North Coast Planning Area Rural Combining Designation Map¹¹ assigns Combining Designations to NC areas containing hazards, sensitive resource areas, environmentally sensitive habitat areas, historic and archaeologically sensitive areas, and public facilities. As shown on the Combining Designation Map, portions of the Project site are assigned the following Combining Designations:

DSEIR page 5.6-7 and 5.6-8 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Policy 28 <u>Buffer Zone for Riparian Habitats</u>. In rural areas (outside the USL) a buffer setback zone of 100 feet shall be established between any new development (including new agricultural development) and the upland edge of riparian habitats. In urban areas this minimum standard shall be 50 feet except where a lesser buffer is specifically permitted. The buffer zone shall be maintained in natural condition along the

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⁸ County of San Luis Obispo Website, San Luis Obispo County General Plan Safety Element, http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Assets/PL/Elements/Safety+Element.pdf, Accessed April 19, 2017.

⁹ Ibid

¹⁰ County of San Luis Obispo Website, http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/zoning/Map_Image_Download_Center/Land_Use_Maps.htm, Accessed February 23, 2015.

¹¹ Ibid.

periphery of all streams. Permitted uses within the buffer strip shall be limited to passive recreational, educational, or existing nonstructural agricultural developments in accordance with adopted best management practices. Other uses that may be found appropriate are limited to utility lines, pipelines, drainage and flood control facilities, bridges and road approaches to bridges to cross a stream and roads when it can be demonstrated that: 1) alternative routes are infeasible or more environmentally damaging and 2) adverse environmental effects are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible. Lesser setbacks on existing parcels may be permitted if application of the minimum setback standard would render the parcel physically unusable for the principal permitted use. In allowing a reduction in the minimum setbacks, they shall be reduced only to the point at which a principal permitted use (as modified as much as is practical from a design standpoint) can be accommodated.

AGRICULTURE

The Coastal Act also requires protection non-prime agricultural land wherever feasible (30242). To achieve these goals, the Coastal Act requires each local government to address protection of agricultural areas through the designation of appropriate land uses and management techniques in the Local Coastal Program. The following agriculture-related LCP policy is relevant to the Project:

Policy 3 Non-Agricultural Uses. In agriculturally designated areas, all non-agricultural development which is proposed to supplement the agricultural use permitted in areas designated as agriculture shall be compatible with preserving a maximum amount of agricultural use. When continued agricultural use is not feasible without some supplemental use, priority shall be given to commercial recreation and low intensity visitor-serving uses allowed in Policy 1.

Non-agricultural developments shall meet the following requirements:

- a. No development is permitted on prime agricultural land. Development shall be permitted on non-prime land if it can be demonstrated that all agriculturally unsuitable land on the parcel has been developed or has been determined to be undevelopable.
- b. <u>Continued or renewed agricultural use is not feasible as determined through economic studies of existing and potential agricultural use without the proposed supplemental use.</u>
- c. The proposed use will allow for and support the continued use of the site as a productive agricultural unit and would preserve all prime agricultural lands.



- d. The proposed use will result in no adverse effect upon the continuance or establishment of agricultural uses on the remainder of the site or nearby and surrounding properties.
- e. <u>Clearly defined buffer areas are provided between agricultural and non-agricultural uses.</u>
- f. Adequate water resources are available to maintain habitat values and serve both the proposed development and existing and proposed agricultural operations.
- g. Permitted development shall provide water and sanitary facilities on-site and no extension of urban sewer and water services shall be permitted, other than reclaimed water for agricultural enhancement.
- h. The development proposal does not require a land division and includes a means of securing the remainder of the parcel(s) in agricultural use through agricultural easements. As a condition of approval of non-agricultural development, the county shall require the applicant to assure that the remainder of the parcel(s) be retained in agriculture and, if appropriate, open space use by the following methods:
 - Agricultural Easement. The applicant shall grant an easement to the
 county over all agricultural land shown on the site plan. This
 easement shall remain in effect for the life of the non-agricultural use
 and shall limit the use of the land covered by the easement to
 agriculture, non-residential use customarily accessory to agriculture,
 farm labor housing and a single-family home accessory to the
 agricultural use.
 - Open Space Easement. The applicant shall grant an open space easement to the county over all lands shown on the site plans as land unsuitable for agriculture, not a part of the approved development or determined to be undevelopable. The open space easement shall remain in effect for the life of the non-agricultural use and shall limit the use of the land to non-structural, open space uses.

[THIS POLICY SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED PURSUANT TO CZLUO SECTION 23.04.050.]



DSEIR Page 5.6-11 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

- (4) Required findings: Supplemental non-agricultural uses may be established only if the following findings are made by the applicable approval body:
 - (i) For prime soils, it has been demonstrated that no alternative project site exists except on prime soils;
 - (ii) The least amount of prime soils possible will be converted; and
 - (iii) The proposed use will not conflict with surrounding agricultural lands and uses.
- (5) Application content. In addition to the information required for a land use permit application by CZLUO Sections 23.02.033 et seq., the application for a supplemental non-agricultural use shall also include the following:
 - (i) The site layout plan shall identify all portions of the site that are undevelopable, that are not suitable for agriculture, or that are intended to be used for agricultural purposes.
 - (ii) <u>Documentation which demonstrates that revenues to affected local governments as a result of the project will equal the public costs of providing and/or maintaining roads, water, sewer, fire and police protection to serve the project.</u>
 - (iii) Documentation which demonstrates that the proposed project is designed and sited to protect habitat values and to be compatible with the rural character of the surrounding area.
 - (iv) <u>Proposed provisions for public coastal access consistent with Local Coastal Plan policies for lateral and vertical access in agricultural areas, if the site is located between the first public road and the ocean.</u>
- (6) Site design and development standards. A land use permit for a supplemental non-agricultural use shall not be approved unless the proposed project will satisfy all the following requirements:
 - (i) Project location. The project shall be designed so that no development occurs on prime agricultural soils, except where it is demonstrated that all agriculturally unsuitable land on the site has been developed or cannot be used because of terrain constraints.
 - (ii) <u>Limitation on project area. The total area of the site allocated for supplemental non-agricultural uses shall not exceed two percent of the gross site area.</u>





- (iii) Priority for agricultural use. The primary use of the site shall be the continuing, renewed or expanded production of food and fiber. The proposed supplemental use shall support, not interfere with, and be economically necessary to the primary use of the site as a productive agricultural unit.
- (iv) <u>Prevention of land use conflicts. The proposed use shall be designed to provide buffer areas between on- and off-site agricultural and non-agricultural uses to minimize land use conflicts.</u>
- (v) On-site water resources. Adequate water resources shall be available to the site, to maintain habitat values and serve both the proposed development and existing and proposed agricultural operations.
- (vi) <u>Urban services prohibited. No extension of urban sewer and water services shall be permitted to support on-site agricultural operations or other uses, except for reclaimed wastewater that may be used for agricultural enhancement.</u>
- (vii) Land division prohibited. The project shall not require land division.
- (7) Guarantee of continuing agricultural or open space use. As a condition of approval of a supplemental non-agricultural use, the applicant shall insure that the remainder of the parcel(s) be retained in agriculture, and if appropriate, open space use by the following methods:
 - (i) Agricultural Easement. The applicant shall grant an easement to the county over all agricultural land shown on the site plan. Such easement shall remain in effect for the life of the non-agricultural use and shall limit the use of the land covered by the easement to agriculture, non-residential use customarily accessory to agriculture, farm labor housing, and a single-family dwelling accessory to the agricultural use.
 - (ii) Open space easement. The applicant shall grant an open space easement to the county over all lands shown on the site plan as land unsuitable for agriculture, not a part of the approved development or determined to be undevelopable. The open space easement shall remain in effect for the life of the non-agricultural use and shall limit the use of the land to non-structural, open space uses.
 - (iii) <u>Procedures for agricultural or open space easements. Any easement required by this section shall be reviewed as set forth in CZLUO Section 23.04.420g(4).</u>



DSEIR Page 5.6-15 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

5.6.5 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

As discussed in detail in <u>Section 5.0</u>, <u>Environmental Analysis</u>, for purposes of the following impact analyses, "Sustainable Water Facility" (SWF) involves the built and operational Project components, whereas "Mitigation Measures (<u>and</u> Project modifications)" involve proposed Project modifications in <u>including those required for compliance with</u> various SWF mitigation measures.

DSEIR Page 5.6-16 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Coastal Act Policy

<u>Table 5.6-3</u>, <u>LCP Consistency Analysis</u>, provides an analysis of the SWF and Mitigation Measures' (Project modifications) consistency with the relevant LCP policies identified in <u>Table 5.6-1</u>. As demonstrated in <u>Table 5.6-3</u>, the SWF and Mitigation Measures <u>and</u> (Project modifications) are consistent with the relevant LCP policies. Because the SWF and Mitigation Measures <u>and</u> (Project modifications) would be consistent with the LCP policies, which have been adopted to address the Coastal Act policies (refer to <u>Table 5.6-1</u>), they would inherently comply with the Coastal Act.

<u>Table 5.6-1</u>, <u>Coastal Act and Local Coastal Plan Consistency</u> on DSEIR page 5.6-18 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Land Resources	
§30241 Prime Agricultural Land; Maintenance In	LCP 38: Non-Agricultural Uses. In agriculturally designated
Agricultural Production: The maximum amount of prime	areas, all non-agricultural development which is proposed to
agricultural land shall be maintained in agricultural production	supplement the agricultural use permitted in areas
to assure the protection of the areas' agricultural economy, and	designated as agriculture shall be compatible with
conflicts shall be minimized between agricultural and urban land	preserving a maximum amount of agricultural use. When
uses through all of the following:	continued agricultural use is not feasible without some
	supplemental use, priority shall be given to commercial
a) By establishing stable boundaries separating urban and	recreation and low intensity visitor-serving uses allowed in
rural areas, including, where necessary, clearly defined	Policy 1.
buffer areas to minimize conflicts between agricultural and	
urban land uses.	Non-agricultural developments shall meet the following
b) By limiting conversions of agricultural lands around the	requirements:
periphery of urban areas to the lands where the viability of	
existing agricultural use is already severely limited by	a. No development is permitted on prime agricultural land.
conflicts with urban uses or where the conversion of the	Development shall be permitted on non-prime land if it
lands would complete a logical and viable neighborhood	can be demonstrated that all agriculturally unsuitable

LCP Policy





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	Coastal Act Policy		LCP Policy
c) d) e)	and contribute to the establishment of a stable limit to urban development. By permitting the conversion of agricultural land surrounded by urban uses where the conversion of the land would be consistent with Coastal Act §30250. By developing available lands not suited for agriculture prior to the conversion of agricultural lands. By assuring that public service and facility expansions and nonagricultural development do not impair agricultural viability, either through increased assessment costs or degraded air and water quality. By assuring that all divisions of prime agricultural lands, except those conversions approved pursuant to subdivision (b), and all development adjacent to prime agricultural lands shall not diminish the productivity of such prime agricultural lands.	c. d. e. f. h.	land on the parcel has been developed or has been determined to be undevelopable. Continued or renewed agricultural use is not feasible as determined through economic studies of existing and potential agricultural use without the proposed supplemental use. The proposed use will allow for and support the continued use of the site as a productive agricultural unit and would preserve all prime agricultural lands. The proposed use will result in no adverse effect upon the continuance or establishment of agricultural uses on the remainder of the site or nearby and surrounding properties. Clearly defined buffer areas are provided between agricultural and non-agricultural uses. Adequate water resources are available to maintain habitat values and serve both the proposed development and existing and proposed agricultural operations. Permitted development shall provide water and sanitary facilities on-site and no extension of urban sewer and water services shall be permitted, other than reclaimed water for agricultural enhancement. The development proposal does not require a land division and includes a means of securing the remainder of the parcel(s) in agricultural use through agricultural easements. As a condition of approval of non-agricultural easements. As a condition of approval of non-agricultural development, the county shall require the applicant to assure that the remainder of the parcel(s) be retained in agriculture and, if appropriate, open space use by the following methods: • Agricultural Easement. The applicant shall grant an easement to the county over all agricultural use and shall limit the use of the land covered by the easement to agriculture, non-residential use customarily accessory to agriculture, farm labor housing and a single-family home accessory to the agricultural use. • Open Space Easement. The applicant shall grant an open space easement to the county over all lands shown on the site plans as land unsuitable for agriculture, not a part of the approved development or determined to
			agricultural use and shall limit the use of the land to

non-structural, open space uses.

DSEIR page 5.6-21 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

<u>SUSTAINABLE WATER FACILITY AND MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)</u>

The Project site is located in the NC Planning Area, within the RNC community. The NC Planning Area is addressed in the NCAP, which constitutes the County's General Plan Land Use and Circulation Elements for the NC Planning Area. NCAP Chapter 7 contains Planning Area Standards for the NC Planning Area that are mandatory requirements for development. Planning Area Standards apply to the planning and development of new land uses, and must be satisfied before a new land use permit is approved. Table 5.6-2, NCAP Consistency Analysis, analyzes the SWF and Mitigation Measures and (Project modifications) consistency with the relevant Land Use Standards. As indicated in Table 5.6-2, the SWF and Mitigation Measures and (Project modifications) are compliant with the NCAP Land Use Standards adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. A less than significant impact would occur in this regard.

<u>Table 5.6-2</u>, <u>NCAP Consistency Analysis</u> on DSEIR page 5.6-21 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Table 5.6-2 NCAP Consistency Analysis

Standard #	Standard	Determination of Consistency
Site Design and	d Building Construction	
AW-6	Primary site selection for new development shall be locations not visible from Highway 1 as follows: a. Sites shall be selected where hills and slopes would shield development unless no alternative location exists of the new development provides visitor-serving facilities. b. New development shall be located so that no portion of a structure extends above the horizon line of ridgelines as seen from Highway 1.	Sustainable Water Facility Consistent: As discussed in Section 5.1, Aesthetics, the mechanical spray evaporators/sound enclosures are visible from SR-1 (Highway 1), although briefly. Standard AW-6 requires that sites be selected where hills and slopes would shield development "unless no alternative location exists." The evaporators/enclosures were sited atop the berm, in order to "reuse" the Van Gordon Reservoir and ensure the necessary RO concentrate evaporation is achieved. There was no feasible, alternative, non-visible location for siting the evaporators/enclosures. Although, the evaporators/enclosures have been color-treated, such that they blend in with the surrounding landscape, they are visible from SR-1. Mitigation Measure AES-2 requires that the evaporators/enclosures be removed, thus, avoiding the view impact. Therefore, with implementation of AES-2, the SWF would avoid visual impacts associated with SR-1. Thus, the SWF would be consistent with AW-6.
		Mitigation Measures and {Project Modifications} Consistent: As discussed above, Mitigation Measure AES-2 requires that the evaporators/enclosures be removed, thus, avoiding the view impacts associated with SR-1. Upon removal of the evaporators/enclosures, the Project modifications, including the





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		SWTP, would not be visible from SR-1 and would be consistent with
		AW-6.
Desalination	Standards	
CW-4D	Desalination facilities must:	Sustainable Water Facility and Mitigation Measures and (Project
		Modifications)
	1. Be public;	Consistent: The Project treats brackish groundwater at an inland
		location and does not involve a seawater desalination facility, which
	2. Avoid or fully mitigate any	was under consideration when the CW-4D was developed.
	adverse environmental impacts	Regardless, mitigation measures have been developed as part of this
	to coastal resources;	SEIR to minimize adverse environmental impacts to coastal resources. The Project is designed to be consistent with all LCP
	3. Be consistent with all LCP and	policies, Coastal Act policies, and NCAP standards. The SWF is
	Coastal Act policies, including	designed to minimize discharge of hazardous constituents into the
	those for concentrating	San Simeon Creek Lagoon, thereby limiting potential impacts to the
	development, supporting priority	ocean; see Section 5.5, Hydrology and Water Quality. The Project is
	coastal uses, and protecting	designed to provide a reliable water supply system that can
	significant scenic and habitat	accommodate the water demands for visitor serving demands and a
	resources;	maximum buildout within the existing CCSD service boundary at
	4. Be designed and sized based	4,650 existing and future (CCSD wait list) residential dwelling units, pursuant to the NCAP and mitigation set forth in the CCSD's certified
	upon adopted community	WMP PEIR; see Section 6.35, Growth-Inducing Impacts.
	planning documents, which may	This is a second to the second
	include General Plans, Urban	
	Water Management Plans,	
	Regional Water Supply Plans,	
	Local Coastal Programs, and	
	other approved plans that	
	integrate local or regional planning, growth, and water	
	supply/demand projections;	
	Supply/usinana projections,	
	5. Use technologies that are	
	energy-efficient. Estimates of the	
	projected annual energy use and	
	the environmental impacts that	
	will result from this energy production, and evidence of	
	production, and evidence of compliance with air pollution	
	control laws for emissions from	
	the electricity generation, shall be	
	submitted with permit	
	applications;	

DSEIR page 5.6-24 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

<u>SUSTAINABLE WATER FACILITY AND MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)</u>

DSEIR page 5.6-25 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

<u>Table 5.6-3</u>, <u>LCP Consistency Analysis</u>, provides an analysis of the SWF and Mitigation Measures (Project modifications') consistency with the relevant LCP policies pertaining to land use. Compliance with these LCP Policies would be achieved through compliance with the CZLUO, see also Impact 5.6-4, below. As indicated in <u>Table 5.6-3</u>, the SWF and Mitigation Measures <u>and</u> (Project modifications) would be consistent with applicable LCP policies.

<u>Table 5.6-3</u>, <u>LCP Consistency Analysis</u> on DSEIR page 5.6-25 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Policy #	Policy	Determination of Consistency
Sensitive Habit	tats	
LCP 1	Land Uses Within or Adjacent to Environmentally Sensitive Habitats. New development within or adjacent to locations of environmentally sensitive habitats (within 100 feet unless sites further removed would significantly disrupt the habitat) shall not significantly disrupt the resource. Within an existing resource, only those uses dependent on such resources shall be allowed within the area.	Sustainable Water Facility and Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications) Consistent: The SWF's product water, water filtrate, and RO concentrate disposal pipelines, and MW-4 are within 100 feet of an ESHA. The Project modifications, including potable water pipeline 2 and the surface water pipeline, as well as the filtrate pipeline extension and surface discharge would also be within 100 feet of an ESHA. As discussed in Section 5.3, Biological Resources, to minimize impacts to ESHA wetlands, streams, and riparian vegetation, the Project is subject to compliance with Mitigation Measures BIO-4, BIO-5, BIO-6, and BIO-8. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires that the filtrate pipeline be extended to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank to more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon. Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an AMP for long-term SWF operations. Mitigation Measure BIO-18 requires that the filtrate pipeline extension and surface discharge structure be designed to avoid impacts to riparian habitat to the greatest extent feasible, and that the CCSD comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations concerning impacts to riparian habitat, including CWA Sections 401 and 404, and/or California Fish and Wildlife Code Section 1602. Finally, Mitigation Measure BIO-19 requires that the CCSD minimize the disturbance and removal of riparian vegetation, to the extent possible. Thus, implementation of the identified Mitigation Measures would reduce impacts to ESHA to less than significant.





Policy #	Policy	Determination of Consistency
LCP 2	Permit Requirements. As a condition of permit approval, the applicant is required to demonstrate that there will be no significant impact on sensitive habitats and that proposed development or activities will be consistent with the biological continuance of the habitat. This shall include an evaluation of the site prepared by a qualified professional which provides: a) the maximum feasible mitigation measures (where appropriate), and b) a program for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of mitigation measures where appropriate.	The pipeline alignments were determined based on the shortest distance between the two points that avoided both the riparian tree line to the maximum extent practicable, and avoided the existing cultural resources, as discussed in detail in Section 5.4, Cultural Resources. The vast majority (approximately 90 percent) of the SWF conveyance piping was installed above grade to minimize disturbance. Additionally, horizontal directional drilling construction was used to install SWF pipeline reaches under Van Gordon Creek without disturbing the ground surface, with entrance and exit pits located outside of the tree drip line. Thus, the SWF was designed and located to avoid significant disruption degradation of ESHA. The Project modifications include five new pipelines. However, with implementation of the Mitigation Measures identified above, Project impacts to ESHA would be less than significant. Further, circumstances in which a development project would be allowable within an ESHA include essential incidental public services and utilities pursuant to ESHA Policy 13 and CZLUO Section 23.07.172.e. The SWF's product water, filtrate, and RO concentrate disposal pipelines, and MW-4 are allowable within the ESHA, since they involve water supply, an essential incidental public utility. Similarly, the Project modifications would also be allowed within the ESHA since they involve water supply. Thus, the Project is consistent with Policy LCP 1. Sustainable Water Facility Consistent: Refer to Response to Sensitive Habitats Policy LCP 1, above. Qualified professionals with Michael Baker International conducted an evaluation of the site, including preparation of the Cambria Emergency Water Supply Project Delineation of State and Federal Jurisdictional Waters (JD) and subsequent focused surveys (Appendix E, Biological Resources, sensitive habitats would be impacted by the SWF. In addition to compliance with regulatory requirements, mitigation measures have been identified in order to reduce potential impacts to less than signi



Policy#	Policy	Determination of Consistency
1 Oncy #	Folicy	is to monitor the response of the lagoon, creek, and riparian habitats to SWF operations. Based on the results of the biological monitoring and any noted adverse changes in these habitats, SWF operations would be adjusted such that the amount of treated water that is injected or discharged back into the system, is either increased or decreased to restore affected habitat features. Thus, the SWF is consistent with Policy LCP 2.
		Mitigation Measures and {Project Modifications} Consistent: Refer to Response to Sensitive Habitats Policy LCP 1, above. As discussed in Section 5.3, Biological Resources, the Project modifications involve a discharge point at the San Simeon Creek bank (Mitigation Measure BIO-3). Construction would occur within the terrestrial extent of the riparian vegetation. Vegetation disturbance would be limited to the minimum amount necessary to extend the pipeline to the creek bank and construct the discharge structure. The filtrate pipeline would be routed/placed by hand to protect the riparian habitat. Standard BMPs would be implemented to prevent sedimentation into the lagoon during this construction. Mitigation Measure BIO-18 requires that the lagoon surface discharge extension be designed to avoid impacts to riparian habitat to the greatest extent feasible, and that the CCSD comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations concerning impacts to riparian habitat, including Clean Water Act (CWA) Sections 401 and 404, and/or California Fish and Wildlife Code Section 1602. Finally, Mitigation Measure BIO-19 requires that the CCSD minimize the disturbance and removal of riparian vegetation, to the extent
		possible. Thus, the Project modifications are consistent with Policy LCP 2.
Wetlands	Adianast Davidson of B	Containable Water Factor
LCP 16	Adjacent Development. Development adjacent to coastal wetlands shall be sited and designed to prevent significant impacts to wetlands through noise, sediment or other disturbances. Development shall be located as far away from the wetland as feasible, consistent with other habitat values on the site.	Sustainable Water Facility Consistent: Refer to Response to Sensitive Habitats Policy LCP 1, above. As discussed in Section 5.3, Biological Resources, coastal streams, riparian areas, and wetlands, such as are present on the site, are ESHA, which are protected through compliance with CZLUO Sections 23.07.170, 23.07.172, and 23.07.174. The site contains one wetland (San Simeon Creek Lagoon). According to CZLUO, new development is required to be located a minimum of 100 feet from the upland extent of all wetlands. The SWF's product water, filtrate, and RO concentrate disposal pipelines, and MW-4 are within the wetland setback. However, permitted uses within wetland setbacks include utility lines/pipelines, provided it can be demonstrated that: alternative routes are infeasible/more environmentally damaging; and adverse environmental effects are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible. The SWF's product water, filtrate, and RO concentrate disposal pipelines, and MW-4 are limited to utility lines/pipelines, thus, are permitted within the required wetland setback. Further, compliance with construction-related measures/standards occurred before/during the SWF's construction phase. Mitigation Measures BIO-4 (E-CDP Condition 16), BIO-5 (E-CDP Condition 17), BIO-8 (E-CDP Condition 12), and BIO-6 (E-CDP Condition 20) were implemented during construction/ground disturbing activities. As discussed in Response to Policy LCP 1, the





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Policy #	Folicy	adverse environmental effects to wetlands are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible. The GMR included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that the 100 gpm of mitigation water would maintain water levels in the creeks/lagoon, thereby avoiding potential impacts to sensitive habitats (e.g., wetlands). Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, flows of 50 gpm (or one-half of the proposed 100 gpm mitigation flow) would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, the 100 gpm mitigation flow to the lagoon would maintain water levels in the lagoon, and by extension the sensitive habitats (e.g., wetlands). Also, the AMP, as described above in Response to Policy LCP 1 is proposed to avoid potential adverse impacts to riparian vegetation and wetlands. Further, as noted in Section 5.3, construction-related noise impacts at the lagoon are negligible, since they would be short-term and on the surface, out of the water and generally out of the immediate creek/lagoon's vicinity. Thus, the SWF would be consistent with LCP 16.
Coastal Stream	ns	Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications) Consistent: Refer to Response to Sensitive Habitats Policy LCP 1, above. As discussed in Section 5.3, Biological Resources, potentially significant indirect impacts could occur as a result of SWF implementation and groundwater loss. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires that the filtrate pipeline be extended to relocate the discharge point further south to the San Simeon Creek bank to more efficiently deliver surface water into San Simeon Creek to maintain water levels at San Simeon Creek Lagoon. Mitigation Measure BIO-18 requires that the surface discharge extension be designed to avoid impacts to riparian habitat to the greatest extent feasible, and that the CCSD comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations concerning impacts to riparian habitat, including CWA Sections 401 and 404, and/or California Fish and Wildlife Code Section 1602. Mitigation Measure BIO-19 requires that the CCSD minimize the disturbance and removal of riparian vegetation, to the extent possible. Overall, the Project modifications' direct impacts to wetlands and jurisdictional waters would be considered a significant impact unless mitigated. To minimize impacts to wetlands and jurisdictional waters, the Project modifications would be subject to compliance with Mitigation Measures BIO-4, BIO-5, BIO-6, and BIO-8, as described above. Further, construction-related noise impacts at the creek are expected to be negligible, since they would be short-term and on the surface, out of the water.
LCP 21	ns Development in or Adjacent to a	Sustainable Water Facility and Mitigation Measures and (Project
	Coastal Stream. Development adjacent to or within the watershed (that portion within the coastal zone) shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade the coastal habitat and shall be compatible with the continuance of such habitat areas. This shall include	Modifications) Consistent: Refer to Response to Sensitive Habitats Policy LCP 1, above. As discussed in Section 5.3, Biological Resources, the Project is subject to compliance with CZLUO Section 23.07.174, which implements LCP 21 and is intended to preserve and protect streams and riparian vegetation. According to CZLUO Section 23.07.174.b, alteration of stream channels are limited to necessary water supply projects and construction of improvements to fish and



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Policy #	evaluation of erosion and concerns.	runoff	wildlife habitat (as well as flood control projects). The proposed Project modification surface discharge structure, which involves a discharge point at the San Simeon Creek bank, requires streambed alteration. This surface discharge structure involves both a water supply project and construction of improvements to fish and wildlife habitat, thus, would be a permitted alteration. The CZLUO further notes that alteration of stream channels are limited to necessary water supply projects, "provided that quantity and quality of water from streams shall be maintained at levels necessary to sustain functional capacity of streams, wetlands, estuaries and lakes." The GMR included detailed hydrogeological modeling and found that the 100 gpm of mitigation water would likely maintain water levels in the creeks/lagoon, thereby avoiding potential impacts to sensitive habitats (e.g., wetlands). Further, the Technical Memorandum concluded that under normal climatic conditions, flows of 50 gpm (or one-half of the proposed 100 gpm mitigation flow) would be sufficient to maintain lagoon levels similar to conditions without the SWF. Based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, the 100 gpm mitigation flow to the lagoon would maintain water levels in the lagoon, and by extension the sensitive habitats (e.g., wetlands). Also, Mitigation Measure BIO-7 requires implementation of an AMP, which is intended to monitor and protect the creeks and lagoon, as well as the riparian habitats. Thus, in compliance with CZLUO Section 23.07.174.b, Mitigation Measure BIO-7 would ensure the functional capacity of San Simeon and Van Gordon Creeks, and the San Simeon Creek Lagoon. As discussed in Response to Sensitive Habitats Policy LCP 1, the SWF's product water, filtrate, and RO concentrate disposal pipelines, and MW-4, the Project modifications' potable water pipeline 2 and the surface water pipeline, and filtrate pipeline extension and surface discharge, as well as the construction laydown areas, are within the riparian setback. CZLUO S

 $^{^{12}\;}$ A "necessary" water project is a project that is essential to protecting and/or maintaining public drinking water supplies (CZLUO Section 23.07.174.b(1)).





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Policy #	Buffer Zone for Riparian Habitats. In rural areas (outside the USL) a buffer setback zone of 100 feet shall be established between any new development (including new agricultural development) and the upland edge of riparian habitats. In urban areas this minimum standard shall be 50 feet except where a lesser buffer is specifically permitted. The buffer zone shall be maintained in natural condition along the periphery of all streams. Permitted uses within the buffer strip shall be limited to passive recreational, educational, or existing nonstructural agricultural developments in accordance with adopted best management practices. Other uses that may be found appropriate are limited to utility lines, pipelines, drainage and flood control facilities, bridges and road approaches to bridges to cross a stream and roads when it can be demonstrated that: 1) alternative routes are infeasible or more environmentally damaging and 2) adverse environmental effects are	Impacts (including to ESHA), and avoid/minimize impacts to riparian habitat. Moreover, the pipeline alignments were determined based on the shortest distance between the two points that avoided both the riparian tree line to the maximum extent practicable, and avoided the existing cultural resources, as discussed in detail in Section 5.4, Cultural Resources. The vast majority (approximately 90 percent) of the SWF conveyance piping was installed above grade to minimize disturbance. Additionally, horizontal directional drilling construction was used to install SWF pipeline reaches under Van Gordon Creek without disturbing the ground surface, with entrance and exit pits located outside of the riparian tree drip line. Thus, the SWF was designed and located to avoid significant disruption to riparian areas. Options considered but rejected concerning locating pipelines in riparian areas involved use of traditional open trench drilling. However, this was considered invasive, and construction and horizontal directional drilling construction was used instead. As discussed in Response to Policy LCP 1, the adverse environmental effects to riparian vegetation are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible. Overall, the Project was designed and located in a manner which avoids any significant disruption or degradation of ESHA, including riparian habitat. Thus, the Project would be consistent with LCP 21. Sustainable Water Facility and Mitigation Measures (Project Modifications) Consistent: Refer to Response to Sensitive Habitats Policy LCP 1, above. As discussed in Section 5.3, Biological Resources, the SWF's product water, filtrate, and RO concentrate disposal pipelines, and MW-4, the Project modifications' potable water pipeline 2 and the surface water pipeline, and filtrate pipeline extension and surface disposal pipelines, provided it can be demonstrated that alternative routes are infeasible or more environmentally damaging; and adverse environmental effects are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible. The SWF's produ





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	application of the minimum setback standard would render the parcel physically unusable for the principal permitted use. In allowing a reduction in the minimum setbacks, they shall be reduced only to the point at which a principal permitted use (as modified as much as is practical from a design standpoint) can be accommodated.	reduced to less than significant following compliance with CZLUC Sections 23.07.170 and 23.07.174, and implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-2 through BIO-19. Thus the Project would comply with Policy LCP 28.	
Terrestrial Env			
LCP 29	Protection of Terrestrial Habitats. Designated plant and wildlife habitats are environmentally sensitive habitat areas and emphasis for protection should be placed on the entire ecological community. Only uses dependent on the resource shall be permitted within the identified sensitive habitat portion of the site.	Sustainable Water Facility and Mitigation Measures and {Project Modifications} Consistent: Refer to Response to Sensitive Habitats Policy LCP 1, above. As noted in Section 5.3, Biological Resources, terrestrial and marine habitat ESHA would not be impacted by the SWF and Mitigation Measures (Project modifications).	
	Development adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas and holdings of the State Department of Parks and Recreation shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts that would significantly degrade such areas and shall be compatible with the continuance of such habitat areas.		
Non-Agricultural Uses			
LCP 3	In agriculturally designated areas, all non-agricultural development which is proposed to supplement the agricultural use permitted in areas designated as agriculture shall be compatible with preserving a maximum amount of agricultural use. When continued agricultural use is not feasible without some supplemental use, priority shall be given to commercial recreation and low intensity visitor-serving uses allowed in Policy 1. Non-agricultural developments shall	Sustainable Water Facility, Mitigation Measures, and Project Modifications Consistent: Policy LCP 3 is implemented through compliance with CZLUO Section 23.04.050 (Non-Agricultural Uses in the Agriculture Land Use Category). The Project site is designated AG. This section establishes permit requirements and standards for non-agricultural uses in the AG category. The SWF and Project modifications would be required to comply with all applicable standards for non-agricultural uses in the AG category prior to approval and issuance of the R-CDP. Required Findings: As shown on the Permit View NRCS [Natural Resources Conservation Service] Farmland Classification Map (see Section 8.1, Agricultural and Forest Resources), the western portions of the Project site are designated "Prime"	
	i. No development is permitted on prime agricultural land. Development shall be permitted on non-prime land if it can be demonstrated that all agriculturally unsuitable land on the parcel has	Farmland if Irrigated" and a small segment along the northern boundary is designated "Farmland of Statewide Importance." As discussed in detail in Section 7.5, Alternatives Considered But Rejected), various alternatives (including alternative sites) were rejected due to greater environmental impacts, and time and location constraints, among other factors. Therefore, no feasible alternative Project site exists. The SWF Project repurposes various existing infrastructure, including the Van Gordon	





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	j. Continued or renewed agricultural use is not feasible as determined through economic studies of existing and potential agricultural use without the proposed supplemental use.	Reservoir, to facilitate its timely completion, minimize its footprint, minimize its potential impacts (including to ESHA), and convert the least amount of prime soils. Given the distance that exists between the Project components and the surrounding agricultural lands, the Project would not conflict with surrounding agricultural uses. Therefore, the Project satisfies the required findings. Site Design and Development Standards: Although Prime Farmland if Irrigated and Farmland of Statewide Importance are		
	k. The proposed use will allow for and support the continued use of the site as a productive agricultural unit and would preserve all prime agricultural lands.	present on the Project site, the Project's design locates Project components in previously disturbed areas to avoid/minimize impacts to biological and cultural resources, to the maximum extent practicable. The Project site involves two parcels of land (APNs 013-051-024 and 013-051-008) that total approximately 96 acres. The Van Gordon Reservoir is an existing use that was		
	I. The proposed use will result in no adverse effect upon the continuance or establishment of agricultural uses on the remainder of the site or nearby and surrounding properties.	repurposed for the SWF Project. Excluding the existing approximately 3.0-acre reservoir, the site area allocated to the Project components totals approximately 1.73 acres, which would be below the 2.0 percent (approximately 1.86 acres) site area limitation. The Project site is not currently used for agricultural production. The site has been in public utility use since 1979 when the CCSD constructed its San Simeon well field and treated wastewater effluent disposal system. Therefore, the Project		
	m. <u>Clearly defined buffer areas are</u> provided between agricultural and non-agricultural uses.	would not interfere with continuation of any agricultural activity. The SWF is buffered/separated from nearby agricultural uses by San Simeon/Monterey Creek Road and the AWTP is located approximately 0.45 mile from the nearest agricultural use.		
	n. Adequate water resources are available to maintain habitat values and serve both the proposed development and existing and proposed agricultural operations.	Further, as concluded in Sections 5.1 through 5.7, and Section 8.0, following compliance with the established regulatory framework and implementation of the specified mitigation measures, the Project would result in less than significant impacts concerning environmental factors that influence land use compatibility, including aesthetics, noise, and traffic, among others. Therefore, minimizes potential land use conflicts with		
	o. Permitted development shall provide water and sanitary facilities on-site and no extension of urban sewer and water services shall be permitted, other than reclaimed water for agricultural enhancement.	nearby agricultural and non-agricultural land uses. As discussed in detail in Section 5.3.5, Impacts and Mitigation Measures, based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, while the SWF is operating, the Project design feature's 100 gpm filtrate product water flow to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon would maintain lagoon water levels. Further, with implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-7, the lagoon and creek habitats would be protected, and by extension, the species that inhabit them.		
	p. The development proposal does not require a land division and includes a means of securing the remainder of the parcel(s) in agricultural use through agricultural easements. As a condition of approval of non-agricultural development, the county shall require the applicant to assure that the remainder of the parcel(s) be retained in agriculture	With mitigation, Project impacts to biological resources would be reduced to less than significant. Therefore, adequate water resources would be available to the Project site to maintain habitat values. As concluded under Impact 5.6-4, Compliance with the Coastal Zone Land Use Ordinance, the Project is an allowable use in the AG land use category. The Project site contains CCSD water facilities, thus, is consistent with the "Public Utility Facilities [J5]" land use definition. Per Coastal Zone Framework for Planning Table O, Public Utility Facilities on sites designated AG category are "S-13" status, indicating the land use is a special use, allowable subject to special		





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	and, if appropriate, open space use by the following methods: • Agricultural Easement. The applicant shall grant an easement to the county over all agricultural land shown on the site plan. This easement shall remain in effect for the life of the non-agricultural use and shall limit the use of the land covered by the easement to agriculture, non-residential use customarily accessory to agriculture, farm labor housing and a single-family home accessory to the agricultural use. Open Space Easement. The applicant shall grant an open space easement to the county over all lands shown on the site plans as land unsuitable for agriculture, not a part of	standards/processing requirements. The Project requires a Regular Coastal Development Permit (R-CDP). Therefore, the Project complies with the Site Design and Development Standards. • Guarantee of Continuing Agricultural or Open Space Use. The site has been in public utility use since 1979 when the CCSD constructed its San Simeon well field and treated wastewater effluent disposal system. No portion of the parcel is presently in agricultural use, or has been in agricultural use for at least 38 years. Therefore, there is no need to ensure that the remainder of the parcel(s) not occupied by the Project be retained in agriculture and the Project complies with the Guarantee of Continuing Agricultural or Open Space Use standard. Consistency with the applicable standards would be confirmed through the R-CDP application process.			
	the approved development or determined to be undevelopable. The open space easement shall remain in effect for the life of the non-agricultural use and shall limit the use of the land				
\(\frac{1}{2}\)	to non-structural, open space uses.				
Visual and Sce		0 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			
LCP 1	Protection of Visual and Scenic Resources. Unique and attractive features of the landscape, including but not limited to unusual landforms, scenic vistas and sensitive habitats are to be preserved protected, and in visually degraded areas restored where feasible.	Sustainable Water Facility Consistent: As discussed in Section 5.1, Aesthetics, views of naturally vegetated open space within the San Simeon Creek and Van Gordon Creek corridors are not disturbed by the SWF components. The AWTP was constructed on a site containing ruderal vegetation and the evaporation pond, which also contains ruderal vegetation, was sited in the same location and footprint occupied by the Van Gordon Reservoir. However, these Project components, as well as the mechanical spray evaporators, are within the scenic vistas afforded from the San Simeon Trail, Washburn Primitive Campground, and San Simeon Creek Campground.			
		The SWF components (i.e., AWTP, evaporation pond, and mechanical spray evaporators) are intermittently visible from portions of the San Simeon Trail. The Monterey pine which grow along the ridgeline buffer the campers' (Washburn Primitive Campground) southerly views of the SWF components. The lighter-colored AWTP contrasts with the surrounding open spaces depending upon the season of the year and varying natural background colors. Mitigation Measure AES-3 requires that the AWTP be color treated such that it more uniformly blends in with the surrounding landscape. With			





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		implementation of AES-3, the SWF would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard. Views of the evaporation pond and mechanical spray evaporators are also afforded from this vantage point. However, they are located more than 1,600 feet away from the Washburn Primitive Campground and are darker color such that they blend into their surroundings. The evaporation pond and mechanical spray evaporators would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard. However, it is noted that with implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-2, the mechanical spray evaporators with their enclosures would be removed, avoiding these view impacts, as these features would no longer be present/visible.		
		SWF implementation resulted in the disturbance of onsite vegetation, which also contributed to this scenic vista. Mitigation Measure AES-4 requires that all areas where native vegetation was removed and where water facilities were not located, be re-vegetated with indigenous plants. With implementation of AES-3 and AES-4, the SWF would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard.		
		Campers (San Simeon Creek Campground) experience views of the Project site in the foreground (Van Gordon Reservoir) and middle-ground, and agricultural and natural lands in the background. The SWF components (i.e., evaporation pond and evaporators/enclosures) are directly visible from a limited number of the lower campground sites. The evaporation pond would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista, since it was sited in the same location and footprint occupied by the Van Gordon Reservoir, and the evaporation pond is not dissimilar to the original Van Gordon Reservoir. Due to their proximity to the campground, the evaporators/enclosures would have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista unless mitigated. AES-2 would require removal of the evaporators/enclosures, which would avoid all visual impacts pertaining to these features. Further, AES-2 and AES-3 would ensure that the SWF components blend in with the surrounding area and that the area is re-vegetated with indigenous plants. With implementation of AES-2 through AES-4, the SWF would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard. Thus, the SWF would be consistent with Visual and Scenic Resources Policy LCP 1.		
		Mitigation Measures and {Project Modifications} Consistent: Implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-2 would result in Project modifications that require the construction of additional on-site facilities in order to accommodate removal of the spray evaporators. Visible features associated with the Project modifications would include the potable raw water supply storage basin, a SWTP (sited adjacent/east of the AWTP), and Baker aboveground tanks. The mechanical spray evaporators/enclosures would no longer be visible, since they would be removed. Additionally, the articulating concrete block (ACB) lining that would be installed at the		



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		San Simeon Creek channel bank could also be visible. As discussed in Section 5.1, Aesthetics, notable Project components, including the SWTP, repurposed evaporation pond (potable raw water supply storage basin), and Baker above-ground tanks, would not impact scenic views of ridgelines, coastal beaches, or the Pacific Ocean. The proposed ACB would not impact views of naturally vegetated open space within the San Simeon Creek corridor, since it would be installed at the creek bank and the existing riparian vegetation would buffer views. Additionally, the proposed ACB would allow for the continued growth of riparian vegetation, which would minimize visual impacts.
		The Project modifications (the SWTP and potable raw water supply storage basin) would be intermittently visible from portions of the San Simeon Trail. The Monterey pine which grow along the ridgeline would buffer the campers' (Washburn Primitive Campground) southerly views of the SWTP and potable raw water supply storage basin. Mitigation Measure AES-3 requires that the AWTP and SWTP be color treated such that it more uniformly blends in with the surrounding landscape. With implementation of AES-3, the SWTP would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard. Views of the potable raw water supply storage basin would also be afforded from this vantage point. However, the potable raw water supply storage basin feature is located more than 1,600 feet away. Further, the potable raw water supply storage basin would operate in place of the evaporation pond, which was sited in the same location and footprint as the Van Gordon Reservoir. The potable raw water supply storage basin would not be dissimilar to the evaporation pond or original Van Gordon Reservoir. Therefore, the potable raw water supply storage basin would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard.
		Implementation of the Project modifications may result in disturbance of onsite vegetation, which also contributed to this scenic vista. Mitigation Measure AES-4 requires that all areas where native vegetation would be removed and where water facilities would not be located, be re-vegetated with indigenous plants. With implementation of Mitigation Measures AES-3 and AES-4, the Project modifications would not have a substantial adverse effect on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard.
		The Project modifications (i.e., potable raw water supply storage basin) would be visible from the San Simeon Creek Campground; however, the potable raw water supply storage basin would operate in place of the evaporation pond, which was sited in the same location and footprint as the Van Gordon Reservoir. The potable raw water supply storage basin would not be dissimilar to the evaporation pond or original Van Gordon Reservoir. Therefore, the potable raw water supply storage basin would not result in a substantial adverse effect





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		on this scenic vista and a less than significant impact would occur in this regard. Thus, with implementation of the specified Mitigation Measures, the Project would be consistent with Visual and Scenic Resources Policy LCP 1.
LCP 2	Site Selection for New Development. Permitted development shall be sited so as to protect views to and along the ocean and scenic coastal areas. Wherever possible, site selection for new development is to emphasize locations not visible from major public view corridors. In particular, new development should utilize slope created "pockets" to shield development and minimize visual intrusion.	Sustainable Water Facility and Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications) Consistent: Refer to Response to Visual and Scenic Resources Policy LCP 1, above.
LCP 4	New Development in Rural Areas. New development shall be sited to minimize its visibility from public view corridors. Structures shall be designed (height, bulk, style) to be subordinate to, and blend with, the rural character of the area. New development which cannot be sited outside of public view corridors is to be screened utilizing native vegetation; however, such vegetation, when mature, must also be selected and sited in such a manner as to not obstruct major public views. New land divisions whose only building site would be on a highly visible slope or ridgetop shall be prohibited.	Sustainable Water Facility Consistent: Refer to Response to Visual and Scenic Resources Policy LCP 1, above. Further, as discussed in Section 5.1, Aesthetics, pursuant to Conservation and Open Space Element Table VR-2, there are no scenic corridors located within the Project site's viewshed, thus, the SWF would not be visible from any such corridor. Although, the evaporators/enclosures have been color-treated, such that they blend in with the surrounding landscape, they are sited atop the evaporation pond's manufactured berm, along its western boundary. Therefore, they appear more dominant in character compared to the existing water facilities, particularly for the San Simeon Campground to the west. Additionally, vegetation that had overgrown the Van Gordon Reservoir was replaced with RO concentrate. In order to ensure that significant impacts regarding the degradation of the character of the area do not result, implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-2, which requires removal of the evaporators/enclosures would be required. With implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-2, impacts pertaining to the degradation of character as a result of the evaporators/enclosures would be avoided, as these components would no longer be present/visible. The AWTP is sited in lower-lying elevation such that its features do not rise above the visible skyline, as seen from public vantage points. However, its features are lighter in color and contrast with the surrounding vegetation depending upon the season. Mitigation Measure AES-3 requires that the AWTP be color-treated such that it blends in better with the surrounding landscape or screened. With implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-3, impacts pertaining to



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		the degradation of character as a result of the AWTP would be reduced to less than significant. Further, in order to ensure that the existing character/quality is maintained, the SWF is required to comply with Mitigation Measure AES-4, which requires that all areas where native vegetation was removed and where water facilities were not located, be re-vegetated with indigenous plants to minimize changes in visual character. With implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-4, impacts pertaining to the degradation of character/quality as a result of the disturbance of onsite vegetation would be reduced to less than significant. Thus, the SWF would be consistent with LCP 4.
		Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications) Consistent: Implementation of Mitigation Measure AES-2 would result in Project modifications, which require the construction of additional on-site facilities. As discussed in Section 5.1, Aesthetics, visible features associated with the Project modifications would include the potable raw water supply storage basin, a SWTP (sited adjacent and immediately east of the AWTP), and Baker aboveground tanks (each tank would be approximately 8 feet by 46.5 feet, and approximately 13 feet in height). The mechanical spray evaporators/enclosures would no longer be visible, since they would be removed. Additionally, the ACB lining or similar erosion prevention measures that would be installed at the San Simeon Creek channel bank could also be visible. ACB would allow for the continued growth of riparian vegetation, further protecting the channel from any potential erosion.
		The Project modifications would appear generally similar in nature and character to the existing onsite water and wastewater facilities (that is pre-SWF construction), and the surrounding agricultural facilities, as well as the SWF. The Project modifications would not substantially change the Project site's character, such that it becomes visually incompatible or visually unexpected when viewed in the context of the existing CCSD public utility site and the SWF, following compliance with the recommended Mitigation Measures AES-3 and AES-4.
LCP 7	Preservation of Trees and Native Vegetation. The location and design of new development shall minimize the need for tree removal.	Thus, the Project modifications would be consistent with LCP 4. Sustainable Water Facility Consistent: As discussed in Section 5.1, Aesthetics, no trees were removed in association with SWF construction. Further, no Monterey pine trees were disturbed, as a result of any SWF improvements. SWF implementation did result in the disturbance of onsite vegetation, since it was obstructing improvements that could not be reasonably designed to avoid their removal; see Section 5.3, Biological Resources. The SWF is required to comply with Mitigation Measure AES-4, which requires that all areas where native vegetation was removed and where water facilities were not located, be re-vegetated with indigenous plants to minimize changes in visual character Thus, the SWF would be consistent with LCP 7.
		Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications)





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		Consistent: All Project modifications would be required to comply with Mitigation Measure AES-4, which requires all areas of the site where native vegetation is removed and where water facilities are not located, to be re-vegetated with indigenous plants to minimize changes in visual character. Thus, the Project modifications would be consistent with LCP 7.
Public Works F		
LCP 2	New or expanded public works facilities shall be designed to accommodate but not exceed the needs generated by projected development within the designated urban reserve lines. Other special contractual agreements to serve public facilities and public recreation areas beyond the urban reserve line may be found appropriate.	Sustainable Water Facility and Mitigation Measures and {Project Modifications} Consistent: The Project will not exceed the needs of projected development within the existing urban reserve line and as contracted (via an historic 1977 agreement) with the San Simeon Creek State Campground area.
Archaeology	11 1	
LCP 1	The county shall provide for the protection of both known and potential archaeological resources. All available measures, including purchase, tax relief, purchase of development rights, etc., shall be explored at the time of a development proposal to avoid development on important archaeological sites. Where these measures are not feasible and development will adversely affect identified archaeological or paleontological resources, adequate mitigation shall be required.	Sustainable Water Facility Consistent: As discussed in Section 5.4, Cultural Resources, SWF construction-related activities could adversely impact archaeological resources. However, the SWF would be subject to CZLUO Sections 23.05.140 and 23.07.104, and E-CDP Conditions 10 and 11 (Mitigation Measures CUL-1 and CUL-2, respectively), which address protection of archaeological resources. Additionally, prior to the start of construction, earthmoving personnel would receive cultural sensitivity training (see Mitigation Measure CUL-3) and a qualified archaeologist and Native American monitor would be present during construction (see Mitigation Measure CUL-4). Compliance with LCP Policies (implemented through CZLUO standards), and Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-4 would ensure Project impacts to archaeological resources are reduced to less than significant. Compliance with construction-related measures/standards occurred before/during the Project's SWF construction phase; refer to Section 5.4.
		Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications) Consistent: As discussed in Section 5.4, Cultural Resources, the Project modifications would require limited grading, trenching, and excavation for the SWTP and associated tanks/pumps in addition to numerous pipelines. A total of 5,400 linear feet of new pipeline would be implemented through trenching activities as part of the Project modifications. Trenching depths would be approximately two feet wide and five feet deep, which is similar to the construction specifications for trenched pipelines for the SWF. The Project modifications could adversely impact archaeological resources. Similar to construction of the SWF, Project modifications are subject to compliance with LCP Policies 3, 5, and 6 (implemented through compliance with CZLUO Sections 23.05.140 and 23.07.104), which address protection of archaeological resources. Additionally, compliance with recommended Mitigation Measures CUL-1 and CUL-2 would ensure impacts to archaeological resources associated



Policy #	Policy	Determination of Consistency		
		with the Project modifications are reduced to less than significant.		
		Thus, the Project modifications would be consistent with LCP 1.		
LCP 3	Development within an archaeological sensitive areas shall not occur until a preliminary site survey is conducted for the site, and if necessary, mitigation measures implemented.	Sustainable Water Facility Consistent: As discussed in Section 5.4, Cultural Resources, the Project site is considered an Archaeologically Sensitive Area. A preliminary survey of the Project site was conducted by a qualified archaeologist, as described in the Section 5.4. A mitigation plan was prepared by a qualified archaeologist; see Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-4. In compliance with CUL-3, earthmoving personnel received cultural and paleontological sensitivity training prior to SWF construction. In compliance with E-CDP Condition 10 (CUL-1) and CUL-4, an archaeological monitor and a Native American monitor were present onsite during all SWF ground disturbing activities whence monitoring for the presence of prehistoric and historic cultural resources took place; see CRMS Report in Appendix F. Prior to SWF construction the archaeological monitors performed surveys to identify archaeological deposits. The archaeological monitor observed all ground disturbing activities performed by tractor equipment and other vehicles, inspecting the soil and spoils piles for artifacts, ecofacts, and any other evidence of prehistoric or historic cultural resources. In addition, sidewalls were examined following soil and materials removal. The monitors performed regular site walks multiple times daily in search of cultural resources within the Project area, as new layers were continually being exposed. Also, in compliance with E-CDP Condition 11 (CUL-2) (and CZLUO Sections 23.05.140), when encountered, artifacts were mapped, photographed, and collected for reburial; see CRMS Report in Appendix F.		
LCP 5	Where substantial archaeological resources are found as a result of a preliminary site survey before construction, the county shall require a mitigation plan to protect the site. Some examples of specific mitigation techniques include:	Mitigation Measures and {Project Modifications} Consistent: As discussed above, a preliminary survey of the Project site was conducted by a qualified archaeologist, as described in the Section 5.4. Construction of Project modifications (grading, trenching, and excavations) could adversely impact archaeological resources. However, as described in the Section 5.4, the Project modifications are subject to compliance with LCP Policies 3, 5, and 6 (implemented through compliance with CZLUO Sections 23.05.140 and 23.07.104), which address protection of archaeological resources. Additionally, the Project modifications would be subject to compliance with Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-4. Compliance with LCP Policies (implemented through CZLUO standards) and Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-4 would ensure Project impacts to archaeological resources are reduced to less than significant. Sustainable Water Facility and Mitigation Measures and {Project Modifications} Consistent: Refer to Response to Archaeology Policies LCP 1 and LCP 3, above.		





Policy #	Policy	Determination of Consistency
	a. Project redesign could reduce adverse impacts of the project through relocation of open space, landscaping or parking facilities.	
	b. Preservation of an archaeological site can sometimes be accomplished by covering the site with a layer of fill sufficiently thick to insulate it from impact. This surface can then be used for building that does not require extensive foundations or removal of all topsoil.	
	c. When a project impact cannot be avoided, it may be necessary to conduct a salvage operation. This is usually a last resort alternative because excavation, even under the best conditions, is limited by time, costs and technology. Where the chosen mitigation measure necessitates removal of archaeological resources, the county shall require the evaluation and proper deposition of the findings based on consultation with a qualified archaeologist knowledgeable in the Chumash culture.	
	d. A qualified archaeologist knowledgeable in the Chumash culture may need to be on-site	



Policy #	Policy	Determination of Consistency
	during initial grading and utility trenching for projects within sensitive areas.	
LCP 6	Where substantial archaeological resources are discovered during construction of new development, or through non-permit related activities (such as repair and maintenance of public works projects) all activities shall cease until a qualified archaeologist knowledgeable in the Chumash culture can determine the significance of the resource and submit alternative mitigation measures.	Sustainable Water Facility and Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications) Consistent: Refer to Response to Archaeology Policy LCP 3, above.
Source: County of	of San Luis Obispo, Coastal Plan Policies, Rev	rised April 2007.

DSEIR Page 5.6-40 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

<u>SUSTAINABLE WATER FACILITY AND MITIGATION MEASURES AND {PROJECT MODIFICATIONS}</u>

DSEIR Page 5.6-41 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

CZLUO Section 23.04.050 (Non-Agricultural Uses in the Agriculture Land Use Category).

The Project site is designated AG. This section establishes permit requirements and standards for non-agricultural uses in the AG category. The SWF and Project modifications would be required to comply with all applicable standards for non-agricultural uses in the AG category prior to approval and issuance of the R-CDP.

Required Findings: As shown on the Permit View NRCS [Natural Resources Conservation Service] Farmland Classification Map (see Section 8.1, Agricultural and Forest Resources), the western portions of the Project site are designated "Prime Farmland if Irrigated" and a small segment along the northern boundary is designated "Farmland of Statewide Importance." As discussed in detail in Section 7.5, Alternatives Considered But Rejected), various alternatives (including alternative sites) were rejected due to greater environmental impacts, and time and location constraints, among other factors. Therefore, no feasible alternative Project site exists. The SWF Project repurposes various existing infrastructure, including the Van Gordon Reservoir, to facilitate its timely completion, minimize its footprint, minimize its potential impacts





(including to ESHA), and convert the least amount of prime soils. Given the distance that exists between the Project components and surrounding agricultural lands, the Project would not conflict with surrounding agricultural uses. Therefore, the Project satisfies the required findings.

Site Design and Development Standards: Although Prime Farmland if Irrigated and Farmland of Statewide Importance are present on the Project site, the Project's design locates Project components in previously disturbed areas to avoid/minimize impacts to biological and cultural resources, to the maximum extent practicable. The Project site involves two parcels of land (APNs 013-051-024 and 013-051-008) that total approximately 96 acres. The Van Gordon Reservoir is an existing use that was repurposed for the SWF Project. Excluding the existing approximately 3.0-acre reservoir, the Project site would total approximately 93 acres. The site area allocated to the Project components totals approximately 1.73 acres, which would be below the 2.0 percent (approximately 1.86 acres) site area limitation. The Project site is not currently used for agricultural production. The site has been in public utility use since 1979 when the CCSD constructed its San Simeon well field and treated wastewater effluent disposal system. Therefore, the Project would not interfere with continuation of any agricultural activity. The SWF is buffered/separated from nearby agricultural uses by San Simeon/Monterey Creek Road and the AWTP is located approximately 0.45 mile from the nearest agricultural use. Further, as concluded in Sections 5.1 through 5.7, and Section 8.0, following compliance with the established regulatory framework and implementation of the specified mitigation measures, the Project would result in less than significant impacts concerning environmental factors that influence land use compatibility, including aesthetics, noise, and traffic, among others. Therefore, minimizes potential land use conflicts with nearby agricultural and non-agricultural land uses. As discussed in detail in Section 5.3.5, Impacts and Mitigation Measures, based on the GMR's and Technical Memorandum's findings, while the SWF is operating, the Project design feature's 100 gpm filtrate product water flow to San Simeon Creek Lagoon would maintain lagoon water levels. Further, with implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-7, the lagoon and creek habitats would be protected, and by extension, the species that inhabit them. With mitigation, Project impacts to biological resources would be reduced to less than significant. Therefore, adequate water resources would be available to the Project site to maintain habitat values. As concluded under Impact 5.6-4, Compliance with the Coastal Zone Land Use Ordinance, the Project is an allowable use in the AG land use category. The Project site contains CCSD water facilities, thus, is consistent with the "Public Utility Facilities [[5]" land use definition. Per Coastal Zone Framework for Planning Table O, Public Utility Facilities on sites designated AG category are "S-13" status, indicating the land use is a special use, allowable subject to special standards/processing requirements. The Project requires a Regular Coastal Development Permit (R-CDP). Therefore, the Project complies with the Site Design and Development Standards.

• Guarantee of Continuing Agricultural or Open Space Use. The site has been in public utility use since 1979 when the CCSD constructed its San Simeon well field and treated wastewater effluent disposal system. No portion of the parcel is presently in agricultural use, or has been in agricultural use for at least 38 years. Therefore, there is no need to ensure that the remainder of the parcel(s) not occupied by the Project be retained in agriculture and the Project complies with the Guarantee of Continuing Agricultural or Open Space Use standard.

Consistency with the applicable requirements <u>standards</u> would be confirmed through the R-CDP application process.

DSEIR page 5.6-43 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

CZLUO Section 23.08.288 (Public Utility Facilities). The requirements of this section apply to Public Utility Facilities where designated as S-13 uses by Coastal Table "O." Public Utility Facilities (other than electric and communications transmission and natural gas regulation and distribution) require Development Plan approval pursuant to Section 23.02.034, Development Plan. According to CZLUO Section 23.08.288d, Limitation on Use, Sensitive Environmental Areas, uses shall not be allowed in sensitive areas such as on prime agricultural soils, sensitive resource areas, environmentally sensitive habitats, or hazard areas, unless a finding is made that there is no other feasible location on or off-site the property. As shown on the Permit View NRCS [Natural Resources Conservation Service] Farmland Classification Map (see Section 8.1, Agricultural and Forest Resources), the western portions of the Project site are designated "Prime Farmland if Irrigated" and a small segment along the northern boundary is designated "Farmland of Statewide Importance." As shown on the Combining Designation Map, portions of the Project site are assigned Environmentally Sensitive Habitat [Area] (ESHA), including Terrestrial Habitat (ESHA-TH) and Coastal Creeks (ESHA-CC). This ESHA-TH designation is associated with the Monterey pine forest that exists south of the Project site. The Project development footprint does not extend into this Monterey pine forest ESHA-TH. Therefore, no further analysis of this ESHA-TH is required. The ESHA-CC designation is associated with the San Simeon Creek, Van Gordon Creek, and San Simeon Creek Lagoon, which traverse the Project site. As discussed in Section 5.5.2, according to FEMA and as shown on Flood Insurance Rate Map Number 06079C0530G, portions of the Project site are located within Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) Zone A. Additionally, as shown on the Flood Hazard Overlay Map, figure, portions of the Project site are located within the FH Overlay. Potential impacts concerning placing a structure within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows are addressed under Impact 5.5-5. As discussed in detail in Section 7.5, Alternatives Considered But Rejected), various alternatives (including alternative sites) were rejected due to greater environmental impacts, and time and location constraints,





among other factors. Therefore, no feasible alternative Project site exists. The SWF Project repurposes various existing infrastructure, including the Van Gordon Reservoir, to facilitate its timely completion, minimize its footprint, minimize its potential impacts (including to ESHA), and convert the least amount of prime soils. Moreover, the pipeline alignments were determined based on the shortest distance between the two points that avoided ESHA and other sensitive biological resources to the maximum extent practicable, and avoided the existing cultural resources, as discussed in detail in Section 5.4, Cultural Resources. The vast majority (approximately 90 percent) of the SWF conveyance piping was installed above grade to minimize disturbance. Additionally, horizontal directional drilling construction was used to install SWF pipeline reaches under Van Gordon Creek without disturbing the ground surface, with entrance and exit pits located outside of the tree drip line. Thus, the SWF was designed and located to avoid significant disruption to prime soils and ESHAs. It is also noted that the CCSD acquired the underlying Bonomi Ranch property prior to original adoption of the CZLUO (March 1, 1988), and has been using the property for Public Facilities (PF) since 1979. This acquisition was predicated on the CCSD's use of the property for its Public Facilities, as opposed to agricultural uses. Consistency with the applicable requirements would be confirmed through the R-CDP application process.

SECTION 5.7, NOISE

DSEIR Page 5.7-14 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

As discussed in detail in <u>Section 5.0</u>, <u>Environmental Analysis</u>, for purposes of the following impact analyses, "Sustainable Water Facility" (SWF) involves the built and operational Project components, whereas "Mitigation Measures <u>(and Project modifications)</u>" involve proposed Project modifications <u>in including those required for compliance with various SWF mitigation measures</u>.

DSEIR Page 5.7-15 revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The SWF required general construction activities including clearing, grading (nominal), excavating, trenching, pipe installation, placement of backfill, and installation of other limited equipment/improvements on structural footings and concrete housekeeping pads. Installation of the leachate collection and removal system (LCRS), and the vadose zone monitoring system at the evaporation pond required minimal grading, while the installation of the impermeable liner required removal of the pond's vegetation. Along the evaporation pond's southern berm, an existing spillway was demolished to provide a uniform slope elevation around the pond. Minimal excavation was necessary for the AWTP, since it was housed within containers. Of



the approximately 4,630 LF of pipeline, 4,150 LF were installed above grade and 480 LF were installed below grade. The below grade pipelines were installed using both trenching and horizontal directional drilling methods. Refer also to <u>Section 3.5.2</u>, <u>Project Characteristics – Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications)</u>. Construction occurred over approximately six months.

DSEIR Page 5.7-17 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

General construction activities for the Project modifications would require trenching, pipe installation, grading (nominal), hauling, removal of spray evaporators, and installation of other improvements (pump installation, baker above-ground tanks installation, etc.). Of the approximately 5,800 LF of pipeline, 5,500 would be installed above grade and 300 LF would be installed below grade. The below grade pipelines would be installed using trenching methods. Refer also to Section 3.5.2, Project Characteristics – Mitigation Measures and (Project Modifications). Construction would occur over approximately 12 months; refer also to Section 3.5.2.

Construction noise associated with the mitigation measures (Project modifications) would typically be generated by on-site equipment (trenchers, backhoes, etc.), and mobile trips to and from the Project site (from construction workers, offsite RO concentrate disposal truck rips, etc.). It is noted that daily commuting of construction workers does not represent a substantial percentage of currently daily traffic volumes along access routes. As the Project modifications involve construction of water facilities, substantial soil hauling is not anticipated to occur along local roadways due to the minimal amount of earthmoving and grading activities. However, approximately 2,350 round truck trips would occur during evaporation pond decommissioning (RO concentrate offsite disposal) emptying and mechanical evaporator decommissioning. Truck noise levels depend on vehicle speed, load, terrain, and other factors. The effects of construction-related truck traffic would depend on the level of background noise already occurring at a particular receptor site. It is anticipated that construction truck traffic would access the Project site utilizing San Simeon Monterey Creek Road. The closest noisesensitive use to San Simeon Monterey Creek Road is the San Simeon Creek Campground located approximately 75 feet from the San Simeon Monterey Creek Road roadway centerline. However, once on the Project site, the trucks would utilize internal roadways that would be further away from the sensitive receptors. Construction-related truck trips would occur during the allowable hours for construction specified in CZLUO Section 23.06.042. These permitted hours of construction are specified in recognition that construction activities undertaken during daytime hours are typical and do not cause a significant disruption. Given the sporadic nature of noise levels generated during construction of Project modifications and following





compliance with CZLUO-specified time limits, construction-related noise impacts from the proposed mitigation measures (Project modifications) would be less than significant.

DSEIR Page 5.7-20 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

Construction-Related Impacts

As discussed above, construction vehicles traveling along San Simeon - Monterey Creek Road and Van Gordon Creek Road would be the closest construction activities that could potentially cause vibration impacts to the public recreation uses. As indicated in <u>Table 5.7-9</u>, based on the FTA data, vibration velocities associated with a loaded truck are 0.0015 inch-per-second PPV at 75 feet from the source of activity. With regard to the Project modifications, groundborne vibration would be generated primarily during grading and trenching activities on-site, and by off-site haul-truck travel. Therefore, as the vibration levels would be below the 0.20 inch-per-second PPV significance threshold, the Project modification's construction-related vibration impacts would be less than significant.

Operational Impacts

The Project modifications consist of evaporation pond repurposing (i.e., potable <u>raw</u> water supply storage basin) and offsite RO concentrate disposal (among other changes). The key SWTP unit processes equipment would be housed within a shipping container. No impact would occur in this regard. With regard to the Project modifications, groundborne vibration would be generated primarily during hauling RO concentrate for offsite disposal. RO concentrate disposal trucks traveling along San Simeon - Monterey Creek Road would be the closest operational activities that could potentially cause vibration impacts to the public recreation uses. As indicated in <u>Table 5.7-9</u>, based on the FTA data, vibration velocities associated with a loaded truck are 0.0015 inch-per-second PPV at 75 feet from the source of activity. Therefore, as the vibration levels would be below the 0.20 inch-per-second PPV significance threshold, the Project modification's operational vibration impacts would be less than significant.

DSEIR Page 5.7-24 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

Implementation of the proposed mitigation measures (Project modifications) would result in evaporation pond decommissioning and repurposing (i.e., potable raw water supply storage basin), mechanical spray evaporator removal, offsite RO concentrate disposal, surface water treatment, and modified surface discharge. As the spray evaporators would be removed from the site and the evaporation pond would be <u>decommissioned then</u> repurposed as a potable <u>raw</u> water supply storage basin, no operational noise would be generated from stationary equipment at the potable raw water supply storage basin. A surface water transfer pump station is proposed within the potable raw water supply storage basin; however, this pump would be submerged under water, thus, would not be audible. Stationary noise at the SWTP site would predominantly be generated by the SWTP MF system equipment, including an influent break tank, MF feed pumps, strainer, MF membrane skid, MF backwash tank, MF backwash pumps, MF clean-in-place (CIP) tank, MF CIP pump, compressed air system, and MF pretreatment and cleaning chemical feed system. However, the MF system equipment would be housed in a shipping container (similar to the operating equipment at the SWF). The noise generated by the SWTP would be similar to the noise levels in <u>Table 5.7-10</u>. The proposed SWTP equipment would adjoin the operating SWF facility to the east, and would operate simultaneously. Based on the noise levels in <u>Table 5.7-10</u>, the combined noise levels from the simultaneous operation of the SWF facility and proposed SWTP would be approximately 60.5 dBA at a distance of 30 feet. Noise levels at the nearest sensitive receptor (San Simeon Creek Campground located approximately 970 feet to the west) would be approximately 30.0 dBA, which is well below the CZLUO allowable noise standards. Therefore, the combined noise levels from the simultaneous operation of the SWF facility and proposed SWTP would result in a less than significant impact.

DSEIR Page 5.7-25 is revised in the FSEIR, as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

As a result of the Project modifications, a total of ten truck trips per day (limited to operating within the SWF site between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM) would be needed to transport the RO concentrate to Kettleman Hills for offsite disposal. However, ten daily truck trips would not represent a substantial percentage of current daily traffic volumes along access routes. Additionally, operating and maintaining the SWTP would require only two onsite staff. Combined, these would result in a total of approximately 24 daily round trips. Based on these estimated operational traffic volumes, mobile traffic patterns would remain similar to the current operating conditions along nearby roadways as a result of the mitigation measures





(Project modifications). Therefore, the SWF and Project modifications combined would result in a less than significant impact from mobile noise sources.

SECTION 6.0, OTHER CEQA CONSIDERATIONS

DSEIR Page 6-4 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Since adoption of the BRP and certification of the WMP PEIR, a substantial number of lots have been retired through a variety of methods. In accordance with PEIR Mitigation Measure PHG-2 (requiring progress reporting), the CCSD has continued to track and record merger activities from 2007 and into 2016. The Voluntary Merger Program has been monitored over that time period and information is available at the CCSD office and on the CCSD website. <u>Table 6-1</u>, <u>CCSD Lot Retirement Program at a Glance</u>, provides an overview of lot mergers and retirements through Summer 2016. <u>It is noted that while some property retirements were made pursuant to the BRP</u>, many others have been a result of efforts not related to the BRP.

DSEIR Page 6-19 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Power for the AWTP is obtained from a PG&E supplied pad mount transformer with an estimated capacity of 750 Kilovolt-ampere (kVA) at 480/277 volts, and the service is 1,200 amp. The SWTP's power demand is estimated to be 700 kVA. Power for the SWTP would also be obtained from a new PG&E supplied pad mount transformer. The estimated capacity of the transformer would be 750 kVA at 480/277 volts. The RO concentrate discharged into the four Baker above-ground tanks at the SWTP would be hauled off-site daily to the Kettleman Hills Hazardous Waste Facility (Kettleman Hills) for treatment and disposal, located approximately 85 miles northeast of the Project site. This would result in as many as eight round trips per day to Kettleman Hills.

SECTION 7.0, ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT

DSEIR Page 7-2 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The proposed Project objectives, as referenced in <u>Section 3.3</u>, <u>Project Purpose and Objectives</u>, are as follows:

- Provide a reliable water supply facility to serve existing development, which can be operated to maximize local water use efficiencies, address any current water shortages, and avoid future water shortages.
- Provide a reliable water supply, which would serve no more than 4,650 existing and future residential units (Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) wait list), pursuant to the NCAP and mitigation set forth in the CCSD's certified WMP PEIR.
- Provide a permanent water supply facility that can be operated to meet water demands during drought conditions and improve overall supply reliability.
- Safeguard Cambria against existing and future water shortages
- Provide for the indirect potable reuse of recycled water as part of the District's efforts towards implementing sustainable practices for resilience to climate change impacts.
- Augment Cambria's water supply during shortages by recharging the San Simeon well field aquifer.
- Prevent the migration of secondary wastewater effluent into the San Simeon well field production wells.
- Prevent seawater intrusion into the San Simeon well field production wells.
- Avoid potential ground subsidence.
- Maintain adequate groundwater levels at the San Simeon well field to ensure proper production well operations (no loss of suction).
- Improve water use efficiency by avoiding the need to periodically pump groundwater into the Van Gordon Creek to maintain a positive gradient between the up-gradient potable well field and the treated wastewater percolation ponds.
- Minimize the loss of fresh water to the ocean while also conserving the amount of freshwater remaining in aquifer storage <u>by avoiding the need to pump groundwater</u> (<u>particularly during the late dry season</u>), into the Van Gordon Creek to maintain a <u>positive gradient between the up-gradient potable well field and the treated wastewater</u> <u>percolation ponds</u>.
- Protect the down-gradient lagoon by the Project's design feature, which provides a surface water discharge into the lagoon when the facilities are in operation during the





dry summer season, when there is no surface flow into the lagoon.

- Reduce salts and nutrients from the lower San Simeon groundwater basin by processing the water through reverse osmosis and disposing of reverse osmosis (RO) concentrate, which would contain salts and nutrients.
- Respond in a timely and efficient manner by providing the existing Cambria community with an adequate and permanent water supply to meet drinking and sanitary needs.
- Reuse and repurpose existing CCSD infrastructure where feasible to minimize the Project's footprint and its potential impacts.
- Protect habitats for wildlife species by avoiding impacts to these resources, and protecting San Simeon Creek Lagoon during dry weather conditions.
- Making the most efficient use of the area's water supplies, including the IPR of water.
- Meeting all regulatory agency permitted conditions, including those of SLO County and the State Water Board.
- Improving the quality of life for local residents and business owners and operators, who often resort to extraordinary measures to obtain the necessary water supply, such as manually hauling water in buckets and other make shift containers. This practice includes efforts by the community's elderly, retired population, who are limited in their physical capabilities and subject to injury from such efforts.
- Enhancing local fire protection resources for residences and businesses, as well as the surrounding highly vulnerable forest.
- Repurpose the SWF's evaporation pond to address potential environmental impacts while also providing approximately 6 to 7 million gallons of raw potable water that could be used for supply (following surface water treatment), as well as for fire-fighting helicopters during a wildland fire.
- Minimizing economic hardship and losses to local residences and businesses, including tourism.

DSEIR Page 7-10 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

On a long-term operational basis, the SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would generally result in decreased impacts as compared to the Project Modifications. Under this Alternative, visible features such as the SWTP, Baker above-ground tanks, and articulating concrete block (ACB) lining (or similar erosion prevention measure) that would be installed at the San Simeon Creek channel bank would not be implemented. In addition, the security lighting necessary for safe operation of the Project Modifications would no longer be required under the SWF without Project Modifications Alternative, resulting in decreased light/glare impacts.

Although the SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would generally result in decreased impacts as compared to the Project Modifications, this SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would also not achieve environmental benefits associated with the SWF Project Modifications. Namely, the existing five mechanical spray evaporators (up to 12.6 feet in height) and associated three-sided sound enclosures would not be removed under this alternative. Thus, the impacts to views and visual character resulting from these components would continue. The nearby sensitive receptors (at San Simeon Creek Campground and Washburn Primitive Campground) would continue to experience views of the mechanical spray evaporators and sound enclosures. Additionally, motorists along State Route 1 (SR-1) would continue to experience views (although very briefly) of the mechanical spray evaporators and sound enclosures.

The SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would be environmentally inferior to the proposed Project Modifications regarding aesthetics. Although, the site's visual character would be further altered, the nearby sensitive receptors, as well as motorists along SR-1, would continue to experience views of the mechanical spray evaporators and sound enclosures. The aesthetic improvement created by removal of the evaporators/sound enclosures through repurposing of the and evaporation pond decommissioning would result in substantial benefits to the surrounding land uses. The SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would be environmentally superior to the proposed Project Modifications regarding light and glare, as new light sources would not be introduced.

DSEIR Page 7-11 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would be environmentally superior to the Project Modifications, since no disturbance to the site would occur, and no impacts to plants, wildlife, or sensitive habitats would occur. However, the SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would be environmentally inferior to the Project Modifications, since it would not





have the benefit of relocating the SWF lagoon water discharge, which would provide protection to the San Simeon Creek Lagoon during extended dry periods. The relocated discharge would more efficiently deliver surface water into the upper lagoon area to maintain water levels (resulting in beneficial biological impacts). In addition, the Project Modifications would include decommissioning and repurposing the existing evaporation pond and removal of the mechanical spray evaporators. This would result in additional biological benefits, since the existing evaporation pond operation (RO concentrate's hypersalinity) operation of the pond/evaporators results in potential impacts to avian and other wildlife species as a result of the evaporation pond operations (RO concentrate's hypersalinity). These potential hypersalinity impacts would no longer occur with implementation of the Project Modifications.

DSEIR Page 7-12 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Hydrology and Water Quality

The SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would not result in short-term impacts to water quality, since grading, excavation, and construction activities would not occur. The less than significant short-term water quality impacts that would occur with the Project Modifications would be avoided with this Alternative.

Implementation of the Project Modifications would slightly increase the rate and amount of stormwater runoff, and change its quality, by development of impervious surfaces and new water facilities. However, the Project modifications have the added benefit of repurposing the evaporation pond to potable raw water supply storage basin to further increase supply reliability. This repurposing indirectly provides greater protection of the existing groundwater supply by allowing CCSD water operators to alternate the source of supply among the two existing aquifer well fields, the SWF, as well as the stored raw water. Such resting and alternating of supply sources aids in well recovery, maintaining groundwater basin storage, and in meeting unplanned conditions, such as the loss of a well due to mechanical failure or other causes.

DSEIR Page 7-13 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The SWF Without Project Modifications Alternative would be environmentally inferior to the Project modifications. Although construction-related impacts and an increase in impervious area would not occur under the SWF Without Project Modifications Alternative, benefits related to improved groundwater conditions would not be realized. The Project modifications would make the most efficient use of the existing groundwater supplies and provide improved

operational reliability through evaporation pond repurposing (i.e., potable <u>raw</u> water supply storage basin), and also improve protection to the San Simeon Creek lagoon area during extended dry periods from its lagoon water supply element.

Land Use and LCP Compliance

The SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would not result in any potential conflicts with the California Coastal Act, North Coast Area Plan, or Coastal Zone Land Use Ordinance, which were determined to be less than significant with mitigation for the Project Modifications. The SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would therefore be environmentally superior to the Project Modifications regarding land use compatibility, since no new water facilities would be constructed.

Noise

A maximum of approximately 2,350 round truck trips would occur during evaporation pond decommissioning emptying (RO concentrate offsite disposal) and mechanical evaporator decommissioning. Construction noise associated with the Project Modifications would result in less than significant impacts. The Project Modifications' construction-related vibration impacts are also anticipated to be less than significant. Construction-related short-term noise impacts from stationary and mobile sources and vibration impacts would not occur with the SWF without Project Modifications Alternative. Therefore, the short-term construction-related noise and vibration impacts that would occur with the Project Modifications would be avoided with the SWF without Project Modifications Alternative.

DSEIR Page 7-14 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The SWF without Project Modifications Alternative would accomplish the majority of the Project objectives, as identified above. However, a number of beneficial environmental effects associated with implementation of the Project Modifications (e.g., improvements in the Project site's visual/aesthetic character, biological benefits at San Simeon Creek and Lagoon associated with <u>evaporation pond decommissioning and</u> placing the surface discharge point for San Simeon Creek further south, groundwater benefits from evaporation pond repurposing, and reductions in stationary noise associated with <u>the mechanical spray evaporator removal</u>) would not occur under the SWF without Project Modifications Alternative.





DSEIR Page 7-15 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

7.3 "RO CONCENTRATE OCEAN OUTFALL DISPOSAL" ALTERNATIVE

With implementation of the Project Modifications, RO concentrate would be stored in <u>Baker above-ground</u> tanks on-site and then transported by truck to Kettleman Hills. Under the RO Concentrate Ocean Outfall Disposal Alternative, RO concentrate would instead be transported by truck to a wastewater treatment plant, or similar facility, equipped with a permitted ocean outfall disposal system. The RO concentrate would be combined with the permitted facility's existing ocean outfall effluent before being discharged into the ocean.

DSEIR Page 7-17 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

However, the discharge of RO concentrate to the ocean through the Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Plant ocean outfall (as well as any of the other ocean outfalls identified above) would be subject to meeting permitted concentration and loading limitations, and additional study may be further required through its NPDES permit. Unlike RO concentrate from a seawater desalination facility, the salt concentration in the SWF's RO concentrate is much lower due to its source water being brackish water, as opposed to pure seawater. For example, the SWF's total dissolved solids concentration would be approximately 6,000 mg/l, while background seawater would be approximately 32,000 mg/l. Additionally, the introduction of RO concentrate would be further diluted by existing wastewater effluent currently being disposed of within the existing outfall. Further discussions with the outfall agency representatives would be needed to confirm whether the programs and permits in place could accept the SWF's RO concentrate without requiring further detailed studies and permitting. If such efforts were needed, the Kettleman Hills site would be used until such supporting studies and permitting were completed. A detailed analysis of marine biological impacts would be required prior to implementation of this Alternative, and such a discharge would be subject to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters in California Addressing Desalination Facility Intakes, Brine Discharges, and the Incorporation of Other Non-Substantive Changes (OPA). Permits from the SWRCB and California Coastal Commission would also be required for implementation of this Alternative. Additionally, if the discharge is proposed within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS), authorization would be required from the MBNMS along with appropriate NEPA review as needed. Subject to further analysis of impacts related to marine biological resources, the RO Concentrate Ocean Outfall Disposal Alternative would be considered environmentally inferior to the Project Modifications.

DSEIR Page 7-18 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Hydrology and Water Quality

Under the RO Concentrate Ocean Outfall Disposal Alternative, none of the facilities proposed as part of the Project Modifications would be altered. The only difference between this Alternative and the Project Modifications would be that the RO concentrate would be trucked to the Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Plant for disposal through the existing ocean outfall. There would be no changes to drainage or water quality conditions under this Alternative. The introduction of RO concentrate, while much more dilute than background seawater concentrations, as well as being further diluted by existing wastewater effluent, could potentially alter marine water quality. To minimize this potential impact, the discharge of RO concentrate to the ocean through the ocean outfall would be subject to meeting permitted concentration and loading limitations required of the agency's permitting program, and as may be further required through its NPDES permit and OPA compliance. Further discussions with the outfall agency representatives would be needed to confirm whether the programs and permits in place could accept the SWF's RO concentrate without requiring further detailed studies and permitting. If such efforts were needed, the Kettleman Hills site would be used until such supporting studies and permitting were completed. Additionally, if discharge is proposed within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS), authorization would be required from the MBNMS along with appropriate NEPA review as needed. Subject to further analysis of impacts related to hydrology and water quality, the RO Concentrate Ocean Outfall Disposal Alternative would be considered environmentally inferior to the Project Modifications.

SECTION 8.0, EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

DSEIR Page 8-1 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Detailed analyses and discussion of environmental topics found to be significant are provided within Section 5.0 of this SEIR. Section 5.0 also identifies impacts that are found to be less than significant. The following resources do not exist within the Project area and/or the Project is not considered to have the potential to cause a significant environmental impact. As such, detailed analyses of the environmental resources presented below were not included in this SEIR.

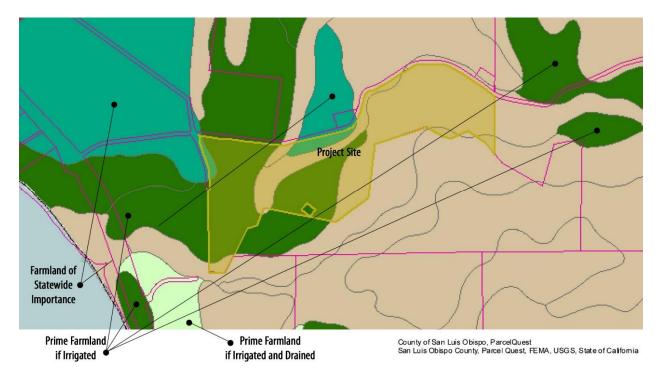
For purposes of the following impact analyses, "Sustainable Water Facility" (SWF) involves the built and operational Project components, whereas "Mitigation Measures and Project



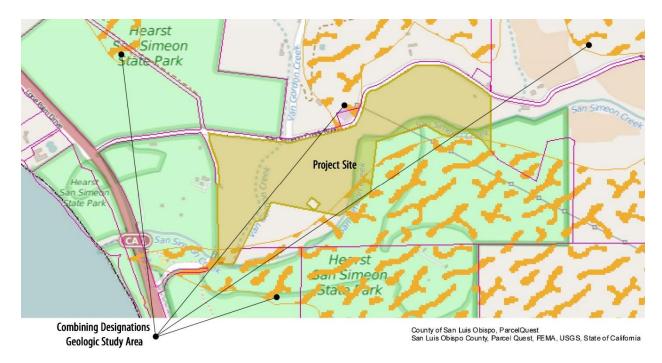


modifications" involve proposed Project modifications including those required for compliance with various SWF mitigation measures.

Page 8-2, Permit View NRCS [Natural Resources Conservation Service] Farmland Classification Map, has been revised to include labels, as follows:



Page 8-6, Permit View Combining Designation – Geologic Study Area Map, has been revised to include labels, as follows:



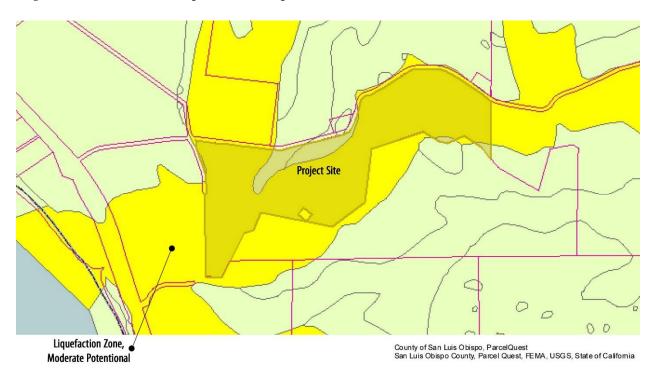
DSEIR Page 8-6 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

One Mitigation Measure (Project modification) <u>BIO-3</u>, the lagoon surface discharge extension, is proposed within the GSA designation. This proposed Project modification involves removing the existing discharge structure and extending the four-inch lagoon water filtrate pipeline to relocate the discharge point further south at the northern San Simeon Creek bank. As noted in Response 8.3.a.1 above, no Earthquake Fault Zone traverses the Project site. Additionally, the Project site does not contain coastal bluffs/cliffs. However, the north-central portion of the Project site has a high potential for landslide (the remainder, a low potential); see Response 8.3.a.4 below. Additionally, most of the Project site is classified as having a moderate potential for liquefaction; see Response 8.3.a.3 below.

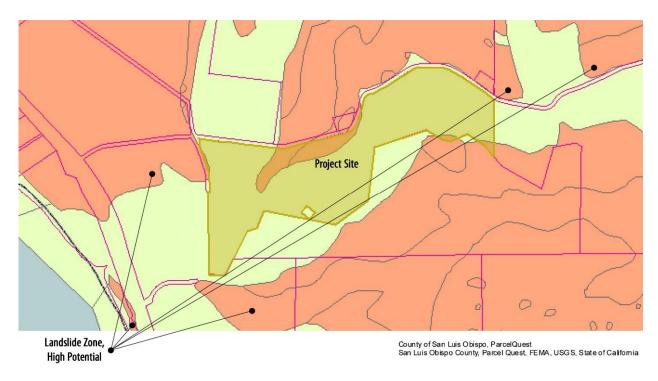




Page 8-8, Permit View – Liquefaction Map Zones, has been revised to include labels, as follows:



Page 8-10, Permit View – Environmental Landslide Map, has been revised to include labels, as follows:





DSEIR Page 8-16 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

The proposed mitigation measures (Project modifications) would require construction-related activities to decommission the spray evaporator system, dispose of RO concentrate from the evaporation pond (prior to conversion to a potable raw water supply storage basin), construct the SWTP, and construct the conveyance pipelines. The mitigation measures (Project modifications) also include energy emissions associated with operations of the SWTP. Table 8-2, Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions with Mitigation Measures (Project Modifications), provides the construction and operational emissions of the total Project (SWF plus the mitigation measures). (Project modifications (i.e., The operational emissions include energy consumption from SWTP operations, and truck trips from operational RO concentrate disposal). As indicated in Table 8-2, with the implementation of the Project modifications, the GHG emissions would total 909.93 MTCO2eq/yr, which is well below the 10,000 MTCO2eq/year screening threshold. Therefore, a less than significant impact would occur in this regard.

<u>Table 8-2</u>, <u>Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions With Mitigation Measures (Project Modifications)</u> on DSEIR page 8-16 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

Table 8-2
Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions With Mitigation Measures (Project Modifications)

	CO ₂ CH ₄		N ₂ O		Total	
Source	MT/yr	MT/yr	MTCO ₂ eq/yr ¹	MT/yr	MTCO₂eq/yr¹	MTCO₂eq/yr
Direct Emissions						
AWTP Construction ² (amortized over 25 years)	11.68	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	11.74
SWTP Construction ² (amortized over 25 years)	14.63	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	14.64
Operational RO concentrate Disposal/Hauling Mobile Emissions ³	439.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	439.39
Total Unmitigated Direct Emissions4	465.70	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00	465.77
Indirect Emissions ⁵						
 AWTP Energy 	74.97	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.21	75.26
SWTP Energy	367.44	0.02	0.42	0.00	1.04	368.90
Total Unmitigated Indirect Emissions ⁴	454.41	0.00	0.51	0.00	1.25	444.16
Total Unmitigated Emissions ⁴	909.93 MTCO ₂ eq/yr					
SLOAPCD Threshold	old 10,000 MTCO₂eq/yr					
Threshold Exceeded? No						

Notes:

- 1. Carbon dioxide equivalent values calculated using the United States Environmental Protection Agency Website, *Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator*, http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html, accessed July 12, 2016.
- Construction emissions were calculated using California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod). SWTP construction includes 2,350 total truck trips to dispose of the RO concentrate from the evaporation pond (prior to conversion to a potable raw water supply storage basin).
- Operational mobile source emissions were calculated with CARB EMFAC2014 and are based on eight heavy duty water truck round trips per day to dispose of the operational RO concentrate.
- 4. Totals may be slightly off due to rounding.





Project-related indirect emissions from energy consumption are based on emissions factors from CalEEMod. Refer to <u>Section 3.0</u>, <u>Project Description</u> for a detailed description of the electric load from the proposed equipment.

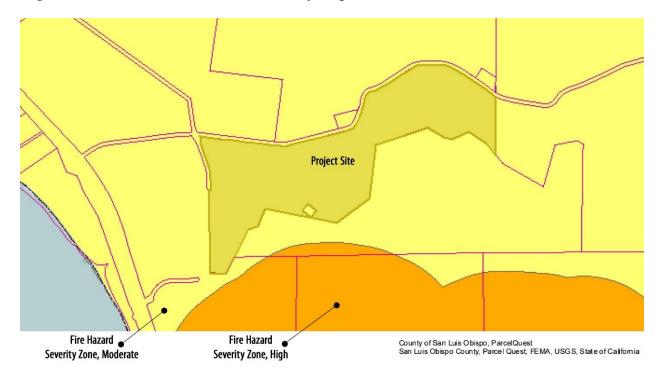
Refer to Appendix D, Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Data, for detailed model input/output data.

DSEIR Page 8-20 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

MITIGATION MEASURES AND (PROJECT MODIFICATIONS)

The proposed Mitigation Measures (Project modifications) would decommission the spray evaporator system evaporation pond and require additional hauling of RO concentrate materials to the Kettleman Hills Hazardous Waste Facility (Kettleman Facility) for treatment and disposal. Kettleman is a fully permitted 1,600 acre hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility operated by Waste Management, Inc.

Page 8-22, Permit View – Fire Hazard Severity Map, has been revised to include labels, as follows:



DSEIR Page 8-27 is revised in the FSEIR as follows:

As part of its repurposing to a potable water supply storage basin decommissioning, the evaporation pond would be emptied of the RO concentrate. The RO concentrate and the residual slurry would be transported for disposal at an appropriate Class II waste disposal facility. This is a one-time event and the number of truck trips required to empty the evaporation pond would vary depending on the volume of RO concentrate present when evaporation pond decommissioning begins. Construction phasing is structured such that either the evaporation pond would be empty or the proposed Baker above-ground tanks would be online when evaporation pond decommissioning begins. The dirty water would similarly be transported for offsite disposal. For purposes of conducting a conservative analysis of the potential traffic impacts associated with emptying the evaporation pond, this analysis assumes the following: the evaporation pond would be full (6.96 mg); 6,000 gallon capacity trucks would be used; 1,160 truck trips would be required over 60 days; the residual RO concentrate would be transported to a disposal site, such as Kettleman Hills, which is located approximately 85 miles from the Project site. In total, 2,350 round trucks trips from decommissioning the evaporation pond (2,320 round trips from evaporation pond RO concentrate disposal and 30 trips from decommissioning the spray evaporators). As these transport activities would occur over approximately 80 days, a total of 30 daily trips (approximately four per hour). Given these are a short-term impact, and since the trips would occur over approximately 80 days, the Project modifications construction traffic would not significantly impact intersections, streets, highways, freeways, mass transit, or CMP facilities.





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