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Appendix 3.13A

Scenic Resources within 5 mi

Appendix 3.13A. Scenic Resources Within 5 Miles of the Project Site

Scenic Resource	Description (approximate distance from Project site)
Water Bodies	
1. Lake Palmdale	Lake Palmdale is a human-made reservoir used for municipal water storage by Palmdale Water District. Fishing at the lake is allowed for members of the Palmdale Fin and Club (OEHHA 2020). It is located approximately 4 miles from the Project site; unauthorized access to the lake and trail around the lake's perimeter is controlled via a chain-link fence. Views from the lake to the Project site are not available due to distance and intervening mountainous topography. Thus, the Project will not interfere with any existing public views of or from Lake Palmdale.
2. Una Lake	Una Lake is a natural sag pond (i.e., a natural, shallow, and elongated pool of water forming in a depression along an active fault line) situated along the San Andreas Fault and serves as wildlife habitat (Southern California Regional Rocks and Roads 2025). Una Lake is located approximately 4.3 miles northeast of the Project site; it has formalized/authorized public access or public amenities (access appears to be available via dirt roads accessible off Sierra Highway). Views from the lake to the Project site are not available due to distance and intervening mountainous topography. Thus, the Project will not interfere with any existing public views of or from Una Lake.
3. Santa Clara River	Santa Clara River is a natural river and an ecological corridor that flows through northern Los Angeles County. At its nearest point, it is located approximately 1.5 miles to the southwest of the Project site near the confluence of Carson Mesa Road and Aliso Canyon Road. While there are no known public facilities or amenities associated with the segments of Santa Clara River nearest to the Project site, various dirt roads/areas of linear disturbance occur throughout and near the river corridor and suggests public use occurs. Views to the proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) facility and substation will not be available due to distance and intervening vegetation and topography; however, distant and partial views to select poles supporting the Southern Gen-Tie route may be available.
4. Governor Edmund G Brown California Aqueduct	Governor Edmund G Brown California Aqueduct (California Aqueduct) is a engineered water system that is a part of the State Water Project, which transports water across California. It is located approximately 2.5 miles northwest of the Project site; public access to the aqueduct is restricted through the presence of a continuous chain-link fence that parallels the waterway. The California Aqueduct provides no public recreational opportunities and is fenced off from the public.
Scenic Drives (County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning 2025)	
1. Angeles Forest Highway	Angeles Forest Highway runs through Angeles National Forest and provides access to surrounding recreational areas. In the Project area, the highway descends from mountainous terrain to the southeast of the Project site, paralleling the existing Southern California Edison (SCE) Vincent Substation site, and provides access to local roads, Sierra Highway, and State Route (SR) 14. At its closest point, it is located approximately 1 mile to the southeast of the Project's substation site and approximately 0.25 miles from the Project's proposed gen-tie interconnection to the SCE Vincent Substation. Brief and narrow views to the Project's substation site may be available from short, discontinuous segments of the road. New gen-tie poles near the SCE Vincent Substation will be visible to motorists near the existing substation.

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2. Mt. Emma Road	Mt. Emma Road is a rural access road that extends east from Angeles Forest Highway to Palmdale and cuts through mountainous terrain, including lands within the Angeles National Forest and San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. Its intersection with Angeles Forest Highway is located approximately 3.4 miles to the southeast of the Project site. Views to the Project site are not available from Mt. Emma Road due to surrounding topography and vegetation that fully blocks the Project site.
3. Cheesboro Road	Cheeseboro Road is a rural road serving local traffic and providing access to nearby residential properties. It is located south of SR-138 in the Palmdale area and approximately 5 miles to the northeast of the SCE Vincent Substation. Views to the Project site are not available from Cheeseboro Road due to surrounding topography and vegetation that fully blocks the Project site from view of motorists.
4. Soledad Canyon Road	Soledad Canyon Road is a two-lane road that connects Santa Clarita to Acton and Palmdale. The primary uses of this road are a commuting route (the alignment roughly parallels the SR-14 alignment) and local access route. The road bisects the proposed BESS facility sites and parallels the Project's substation site. Clear, albeit brief, experienced views to perimeter elements of the BESS facility (i.e., fencing and landscaping) will be available, and clear views to the substation will be available to passing motorists on Soledad Canyon Road. Views to gen-tie poles of the Northern and Southern Gen-Tie Routes will also be available from this road.
5, Aliso Canyon Road	Aliso Canyon Road is a rural road that runs through Aliso Canyon, providing access to agricultural lands and nearby residences. At its intersection with Carson Mesa Road, Aliso Canyon Road is located approximately 1 miles southeast of the Project site. Views to the proposed BESS facility and substation will not be available due to distance and intervening vegetation and topography; however, distant and partial views to select poles supporting the Southern Gen-Tie Route may be available to southbound motorists along a short segment of the road near Carson Mesa Road.
6. Barrel Springs Road	Barrel Springs Road is located in southwestern Palmdale, links Cheeseboro Road with Pearblossom Highway, and provides access to local hiking trails. It is located approximately 4 miles to the northeast of the SCE Vincent Substation. Views to the Project site are not available from Barrel Springs Road due to surrounding topography and vegetation that fully blocks the Project site from view.
7. Antelope Valley Highway (SR-14)	Antelope Valley Highway (also known as SR-14) is a major north–south freeway connecting Los Angeles to Antelope Valley. At its nearest point, it is located within 400 feet of the proposed BESS facility and substation sites. Views to project components will be available over an approximate 0.75-mile-long segment of eastbound SR-14 and an approximate 1.5-mile-long segment of westbound SR-14.
Existing Trail	
1. Acton Agua Dulce Library Trail	The Acton Agua Dulce Library Trail is short, 360-foot-long trail along the west and south perimeter of the Acton Agua Dulce Library. The trail is located approximately 2.8 miles northwest of the Project site. Views to the Project site from the trail are not available due to the presence of intervening vegetation and topography.

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Scenic Resource	Description (approximate distance from Project site)
2. Acton Community Trail	The Acton Community Trail 360 feet in length and is located along the northern and western perimeter of Acton Hardware (i.e., along Crown Valley Road and Cory Avenue). The trail is located approximately 2.85 miles southwest of the Project site, and views to Project components will not be available from this community trail.
3. Arrastre Canyon Trail	The Arrastre Canyon Trail is located approximately 4.6 miles to the southeast of the Project site and is primarily used for hiking and nature observation. No views from the trail to the Project site are available due to intervening topography.
4. Barrel Springs Trail	Located north of the California Aqueduct and Lake Palmdale, the Barrel Springs Trail is 1.5 miles long and connects Pearblossom Highway and Barrel Springs Road. The trail is primarily used for hiking, biking, and horseback riding, with a formal staging area established near the easterly terminus of the trail off Barrel Springs Road. This trail is located approximately 3.7 miles to the north of the SCE Vincent Substation. No views from the trail to the Project site are available due to distance and intervening topography.
5. Darrel Readmond Extension Trail	The Barrel Springs Trail is a short, 200-foot-long trail segment located along Crown Valley Road and the eastern perimeter of the Acton Market Country Store. It is located approximately 3 miles southeast of the Project site. No views from the trail to the Project site are available due to distance and intervening vegetation and topography
6. Darrel Readmond Trail	The Darrel Readmond Trail is 0.22 miles long and is located along the eastern and southern perimeter of Acton County Park (paralleling Crown Valley Road and Syracuse Avenue). This trail is located approximately 3 miles to the west of the Project site. No views from the trail to the Project site are available due to distance and intervening vegetation and topography.
7. Palmdale Hills Trail	The Palmdale Hills Trail is 1.4 miles long and is located in the foothills south of Palmdale and the California Aqueduct. The trail, which crosses under SR-14 via an undercrossing, is primarily used for hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding. The Palmdale Tail is located 3.4 miles to the northeast of the Project site. No views from the trail to the Project site are available due to distance and intervening vegetation and topography.
8. Santiago 4x4 OHV Trail	The Santiago 4x4 OHV Trail is located approximately 4 miles southeast of the Project site. As mapped and despite being named a 4x4 OHV Trail, the trail is aligned along an intermittent stream within a narrow canyon. Due to surrounding canyon walls, no views from the trail to the Project site are available.
9. Telephone Road Parallel Trail	The Telephone Road Parallel Trail is a short ridgeline trail that runs parallel to the existing Telephone Road Trail and Telephone Road. Managed by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, the trail is located approximately 4.8 miles northwest of the Project site. Due to its elevated nature, distant views from this remote and assumed lightly used trail to the Project site may be available.
10. Telephone Road Trail	The Telephone Road Trail is 1.5 miles long and is primarily used for hiking. It is located approximately 4.8 miles northwest of the Project site. Due to its elevated nature, distant views from this remote and assumed lightly used trail to the Project site may be available.

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Scenic Resource	Description (approximate distance from Project site)
11. Vasquez Loop Trail	The Vasquez Loop Trail is approximately 0.4 miles in length and parallels segments of Edison Road and Katrina Street. Located in a residential neighborhood, the trail is primarily used for hiking, biking, and horseback riding. The trail is located approximately 1.7 miles to the northwest of the Project site. No views from the trail to the Project site are available due intervening topography.
12. FS 4N24.2 (Closed)	As this trail is currently closed, no public access or views are assumed for purpose of this analysis.
13. FS 4233 (Closed)	As this trail is currently closed, no public access or views are assumed for purpose of this analysis.
14. FS 5N01 (Closed)	As this trail is currently closed, no public access or views are assumed for purpose of this analysis.
15. FS 4N24.1 (Closed)	As this trail is currently closed, no public access or views are assumed for purpose of this analysis.
16. FS 4N20A0 (Closed)	As this trail is currently closed, no public access or views are assumed for purpose of this analysis.
17. SCAG Regional Bikeway	The SCAG Regional Bikeway is a network of proposed and existing bikeways that include Class I, Class II, and Class III bicycle facilities. Portions of the bikeway are located within 5 miles of the Project site. The nearest mapped segments of the regional bikeway are within Palmdale; no views from the system to the Project site are available due to intervening development and topography.
18. Little Rock Station	Little Rock Station is a short (200-foot-long) trail on U.S. Forest Service lands located just off Cheeseboro Road near an entrance gate that restricts access to Little Rock Reservoir. It is located approximately 4 miles east of the Project site, and due to intervening topography, no views from the trail to the Project site are available.
19. FS Road 4425 (Closed)	As this trail is currently closed, no public access or views are assumed for purpose of this analysis.
20. FS 4N23 (Closed)	As this trail is currently closed, no public access or views are assumed for purpose of this analysis.
21. Bonneville Power & Light Road	Bonneville Power & Light Road are maintained, utility access roads traversing U.S. Forest Service lands that are associated with power transmission infrastructure located in the mountains to the southwest of the Project site. It is located 3 miles southwest of the Project site. No views from the trail to the Project site are available due intervening topography.
22. FS 4N20B0 (Closed)	As this trail is currently closed, no public access or views are assumed for purpose of this analysis.
23. Little Rock Canyon Road	Little Rock Canyon Road is a rural road that provides access to the Little Rock Canyon area (and Little Rock Reservoir) and is used for residential and recreational purposes. It is located over 5 miles east of the Project site. No views from the trail/road to the Project site are available due intervening topography.
24. Edison Road	Edison Road is a mostly ridge-lined trail that provides alternative connection between Castro Motorway and Backbone Trail-Upper Solstice Canyon Trail. According to LA County mapping, the trail is only accessible via closed segments of U.S. Forest Service trails, and as such, public access to or public views from the trail are not assumed to be available under current conditions. The trail is located approximately 4 miles south of the Project site.

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Scenic Resource	Description (approximate distance from Project site)
25, Santiago Truck Trail (Closed)	Santiago Truck Trail was primarily used for hiking and biking. It is located approximately 4.5 miles southwest of the Project site. As this trail is currently closed, no public access or views are assumed for purpose of this analysis.

References

County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2025. GIS-NET Public – Planning and Zoning Information for Unincorporated L.A. County. Scenic Drives (Antelope Valley) layer. Accessed June 6, 2025. https://rpgis.isd.lacounty.gov/Html5Viewer/index.html?viewer=GISNET_Public.GIS-NET_Public.

OEHHA (Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment). 2020. "Information about Eating Fish from Lake Palmdale (Los Angeles County)."April 2020. Accessed June 6, 2025. https://oehha.ca.gov/sites/default/files/media/downloads/advisories/palmdalefact042820.pdf.

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