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5.6 Socioeconomics

This section describes the effects of the Vaca Dixon Power Center Project (Project) on socioeconomic resources. The analysis is based on the Socioeconomic Technical Report prepared by ECOnorthwest, available in Appendix Q. Section 5.6.1 describes the existing regional conditions, including population and housing, income and unemployment, city and county fiscal resources, public services, and utilities. Section 5.6.2 provides an overview of the regulatory setting related to socioeconomics. Section 5.6.3 identifies potential socioeconomic impacts that may result from Project construction and operation (including maintenance), as well as mitigation measures that should be considered during Project construction and operation. Section 5.6.4 discusses cumulative impacts. Section 5.6.5 presents laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS) applicable to socioeconomics and the Project. Section 5.6.6 identifies regulatory agency contacts and Section 5.6.7 includes a description of the necessary permits to construct and operate the Project. Section 5.6.8 provides a list of references used in the preparation of this section.

5.6.1 Environmental Setting

The Project Site is located in the City of Vacaville and unincorporated Solano County. Solano County borders Sacramento County to the northeast, Yolo County to the north, and Contra Costa County to the south. For the evaluation of social and economic impacts associated with the Project, the region of influence includes Solano County and its four neighboring counties: Contra Costa, Napa, Yolo, and Sacramento. Collectively, these five counties are referred to as the 'Socioeconomics Study Area', as shown in Figure 5.6-1. The following subsections provide an overview of the existing environmental setting for socioeconomic resources within the Socioeconomics Study Area.

5.6.1.1 Population and Community Character

Solano County is situated in California's Central Valley, roughly halfway between San Francisco and Sacramento. The County is best known for its farms, vineyards, and waterfront district. It is also home to Travis Air Force Base, one of the largest air force bases in California. The County serves seven cities along with several unincorporated communities. As of 2022, the population in Solano County was 451,000, making it the 19th most populous county in the state. The County seat is Fairfield, and the largest city is Vallejo, with a population of approximately 125,100 (Appendix Q).

From 2010 to 2020, Solano County's population grew on average 0.93 percent annually. From 2020 to 2022, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the County's population experienced a negative average annual growth rate (AAGR) of -0.3 percent. Population projections from the California Department of Finance indicate an Average Annual Growth Rate (AAGR) of approximately 0.4 percent between 2023 and 2060, higher than the statewide projected AAGR of 0.04 percent for the same period. Table 5.6-1 includes the populations of major cities within the five-county Socioeconomics Study Area and their distances from the Project Site. Sacramento is the largest city in the area, with a population of 523,600 in 2022 (Appendix Q). The BESS Project area is located within the City of Vacaville, and the gen-tie facilities extend into unincorporated Solano County to the north. Table 5.6-2 presents population estimates and AAGRs for Solano County, surrounding counties, and the State of California.

Figure 5.6-1 Project Site and Socioeconomics Study Area

Source: Appendix Q

Table 5.6-1 Socioeconomics Study Area Population and Distance from Project Site

Community	Population (2022)	Approximate Distance from Project Site (Miles)
Solano County		
Vallejo	125,132	23
Fairfield	119,420	7
Vacaville	101,631	0
Suisun City	29,350	15
Napa County		
Napa	79,233	25
American Canyon	21,669	25
St. Helena	5,426	48
Calistoga	5,191	57
Yolo County		
Davis	67,203	16
Woodland	61,227	23
West Sacramento	54,163	25
University of California- Davis	8,229	15
Contra Costa County		
Concord	125,007	37
Richmond	115,619	39
Antioch	115,016	49
San Ramon	86,119	53
Sacramento County		
Sacramento	523,600	29
Elk Grove	176,105	40
Arden-Arcade	96,076	37
Citrus Heights	87,127	43
Total Population	**3,547,379**	

Source: Appendix Q

Table 5.6-2 Socioeconomics Study Area and State-Wide Population Trends and Projections, 2010-2060

	Solano County		Napa County		Yolo County		Contra Costa County		Sacramento County		California	
Year	Population	AAGR*	Population	AAGR*	Population	AAGR*	Population	AAGR	Population	AAGR	Population	AAGR*
2010	413,344	-	136,484	-	200,849	-	1,049,025	-	1,418,788	-	37,253,956	-
2020	453,491	0.93%	138,019	0.11%	216,403	0.75%	1,165,927	1.06%	1,585,055	1.11%	39,358,223	0.60%
2022	450,995	-0.28%	137,384	-0.23%	217,141	0.17%	1,162,648	-0.14%	1,579,211	-0.18%	39,356,104	-0.23%
2030	451,280	0.01%	132,087	-0.49%	230,484	0.75%	1,171,945	0.10%	1,611,309	0.25%	39,430,871	0.02%
2040	476,163	0.54%	131,600	-0.04%	240,261	0.42%	1,274,708	0.84%	1,708,461	0.59%	40,106,449	0.17%
2050	494,487	0.38%	128,515	-0.24%	243,409	0.13%	1,361,137	0.66%	1,782,519	0.43%	40,049,519	-0.01%
2060	512,165	0.35%	125,545	-0.23%	243,410	0.00%	1,444,900	0.60%	1,844,098	0.34%	39,508,492	-0.14%

*Average Annual Growth Rate

Source: Appendix Q

Racial and ethnic diversity is prevalent throughout the Socioeconomics Study Area. Table 5.6-3 includes the demographic composition for the five counties and the State. The population is predominantly white in the Socioeconomics Study Area, comprising 35 to 50 percent of county populations, compared to 35 percent statewide. The Socioeconomics Study Area exhibits less ethnic diversity than the State, with Hispanic or Latino individuals (of any race) comprising of 24 to 35 percent of the population, compared to approximately 40 percent statewide. Black or African American individuals represent between 2 and 13 percent of county populations, compared to six percent statewide. Asian individuals account for 8 to 18 percent of the population across the Socioeconomics Study Area, closely aligning with the statewide average of 15 percent. Individuals identifying as Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Native American, or Alaska Native make up between 0 and 1 percent of the population in both the Socioeconomics Study Area and the State (Appendix Q).

Table 5.6-3 Socioeconomics Study Area and State-Wide Race and Ethnicity (2022)

	Solano County	Napa County	Yolo County	Contra Costa County	Sacramento County	California
Total Population	450,995	137,384	217,141	1,162,648	1,579,211	39,356,104
White alone	35%	50%	44%	41%	42%	35%
Hispanic (any race)	28%	35%	32%	26%	24%	40%
Asian alone	15%	8%	14%	18%	17%	15%
Black or African American	13%	2%	2%	8%	9%	5%
Two or more races	6%	4%	5%	5%	6%	4%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Some other race alone	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Source: Appendix Q

5.6.1.2 Economy and Employment

Solano County is located along Interstate 80 (I-80) and is home to Travis Air Force Base, a significant employer in the region (Appendix Q). Solano County is recognized for its robust manufacturing sector and hosts businesses known for advanced manufacturing capabilities, as well as for their presence in the food and beverage and biotechnology industries.

Historically, the Solano County economy relied on agriculture and related industries. Today, agriculture accounts for 1 percent of total employment in the County (See Table 5.6-4), contributing $465.24 million in agricultural products to the local economy. The Solano County economy has diversified significantly, with Healthcare and Social Assistance, Accommodation and Food Services, and Retail Trade emerging as the leading employment sectors (Appendix Q).

The City of Vacaville, located adjacent to the Project Site, has faced challenges in attracting new businesses in recent years. One contributing factor is PG&E's limited capacity to accommodate increased electricity load demand. The City of Vacaville's Economic Development Department has identified biomanufacturing and advanced manufacturing as key industries for regional expansion, but growth in these industries is hindered due to electrical service limitations (Appendix Q).

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) provides data on county level employment. In 2023, total employment across the Socioeconomics Study Area – including employment in the private sector and local, state, and federal sectors – was approximately 1,406,300. Health and Social Assistance accounted for 21 percent of total employment across the Socioeconomics Study Area. In Napa County, manufacturing is the leading employment sector, also representing 21 percent of total employment. In Yolo County, Contra Costa County, and Sacramento County, the Healthcare and Social Assistance industry is the largest employment sector. Table 5.6-4 displays the distribution of employment by industry for each county in the Socioeconomics Study Area, as well as the distribution in the Socioeconomics Study Area and state-wide.

Table 5.6-4 Socioeconomics Study Area and State-Wide Employment Distribution by Industry

Industry	Solano County	Napa County	Yolo County	Contra Costa County	Sacramento County	Study Area Total	California
Health Care and Social Assistance	20.8%	15.0%	9.5%	20.5%	18.1%	18.1%	15.8%
Public Administration	7.2%	4.2%	7.2%	3.8%	17.0%	11.1%	4.8%
Retail Trade	12.8%	7.7%	7.4%	11.2%	8.7%	9.6%	9.0%
Accommodation and Food Services	9.8%	15.2%	8.3%	9.1%	8.2%	9.0%	9.4%
Educational Services	7.6%	5.2%	21.1%	8.4%	7.0%	8.4%	8.3%
Construction	8.4%	5.6%	4.8%	7.6%	6.2%	6.7%	5.1%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	3.0%	2.8%	4.2%	6.7%	6.3%	5.7%	7.9%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	4.4%	5.0%	3.5%	6.4%	5.8%	5.6%	6.2%
Manufacturing	7.9%	18.7%	6.5%	3.8%	3.3%	5.0%	7.4%
Transportation and Warehousing	3.7%	3.0%	10.0%	3.2%	3.8%	4.1%	4.8%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	3.2%	2.6%	2.2%	3.6%	3.4%	3.3%	3.2%
Finance and Insurance	2.0%	1.5%	-	4.4%	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1.8%	1.4%	1.1%	2.0%	1.6%	1.7%	2.2%
Wholesale Trade	2.9%	1.8%	0.0%	-	2.5%	1.7%	3.7%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1.3%	1.1%	1.5%	2.0%	1.5%	1.6%	1.7%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	-	-	1.0%	1.6%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	1.1%	7.8%	4.6%	-	-	1.2%	2.3%
Information	-	-	-	1.6%	1.0%	1.1%	3.2%
Total, All Industries	**35,982,308**	**139,892**	**79,504**	**109,038**	**369,261**	**708,758**	**1,406,453**

Source: Appendix Q

As shown in Table 5.6-5, below, in 2022, personal income and gross domestic product (GDP) in the Socioeconomics Study Area totaled approximately $259.6 billion and $231.1 billion, respectively. Solano County contributed approximately $26.1 billion in personal income and $28.8 billion in GDP. Of the five counties in the Socioeconomics Study Area, Sacramento County accounts for the highest share of employment and GDP and Contra Costa County accounts for the highest share of personal income (Appendix Q).

Table 5.6-5 Socioeconomics Study Area and State-Wide Employment, Personal Income, and GDP (thousands of dollars) (2022)

County/State	Employment	Personal Income	GDP
Solano County	139,892	$26,149,679	$28,736,277
Napa County	79,504	$11,665,710	$11,316,575
Yolo County	109,038	$14,277,264	$15,675,696
Contra Costa County	369,261	$109,965,993	$76,340,778
Sacramento County	708,758	$97,517,936	$98,990,166
Socioeconomics Study Area Total	**1,406,453**	**$259,576,582**	**$231,059,492**
California	35,982,308	$3,006,647,281	$3,167,460,825

Source: Appendix Q

Household Economic Status and Employment

Several indicators of household economic well-being are displayed in Table 5.6-6. These indicators, derived from the U.S. BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program, include the unemployment rate, unemployment, and employment in each local economy. The LAUS program measures the supply of labor, including the total population who is working or seeking work, while the QCEW program measures the demand for labor, focusing on jobs that employers have filled and reported to unemployment insurance programs. The significant differences in scope, coverage, and perspective lead to variations in their employment estimates. Based on the LAUS program methodology, in 2023, the unemployment rate in each county included in the Socioeconomics Study Area was lower than the statewide rate of 4.8 percent (Appendix Q).

Table 5.6-6 Unemployment Rate, Total Employment, and Total Unemployment

County/State	Unemployment Rate	Employment	Unemployment
Solano County	4.7%	193,619	9,444
Napa County	3.5%	69,429	2,544
Yolo County	4.7%	104,602	5,151
Contra Costa County	4.1%	527,843	22,767
Sacramento County	4.4%	698,518	32,528
Socioeconomics Study Area Total	**4.3%**	**1,594,011**	**72,434**
California	4.8%	18,388,329	919,958

Source: Appendix Q

In 2022, all counties in the Socioeconomics Study Area had a lower percentage of population living below the poverty level than the state average, except Yolo County, as shown in Table 5.6-7. Median household income (MHI) in 2022 was higher than the state average in every county in the Socioeconomics Study Area except Sacramento and Yolo counties. In Solano County, the MHI was slightly above $97,000.

Table 5.6-7 Socioeconomics Study Area and State-Wide Median Household Income and Poverty Rate (2022)

County/State	Median Household Income	Percent of Population with Income Below Poverty Level
Solano County	$97,037	5.7%
Napa County	$105,809	5.3%
Yolo County	$85,097	9.3%
Contra Costa County	$120,020	6.2%
Sacramento County	$84,010	8.0%
Socioeconomics Study Area Total	**$97,313**	**6.9%**
California	$91,905	8.5%

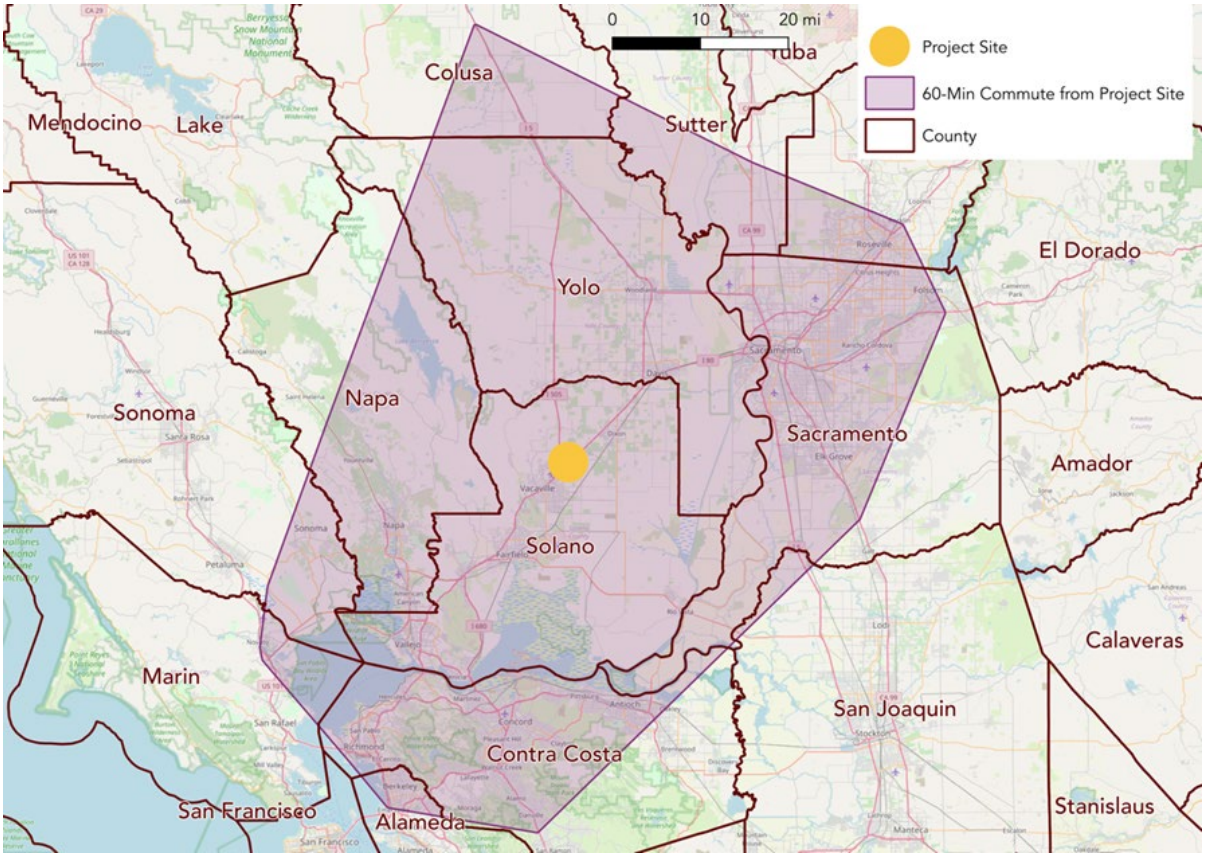
Source: Appendix Q

Regional Workforce Availability

Typically, construction workers routinely commute relatively longer distances to work than workers in many other occupations. Thus, the relevant labor market for quantifying potential local workforce supply for the Project extends beyond Solano County. Commuting patterns of the typical workers needed for the Project reveal the regional labor market from which workers would be supplied. To estimate willingness to travel for workers who live in the surrounding region, the average drive time to work for the types of workers for which demand would be greatest are computed, including construction laborers, electricians, and construction equipment operators. Approximately 62 percent of workers in these occupations travel less than 60 minutes to their job site with over a third of workers travelling 60 minutes or more to their job site (Appendix Q).

The data suggests that defining a labor market geography with a typical drive time of approximately 60 minutes to the Project Site is not unreasonable in this region for the types of workers that the Project would employ. Though dependent on local traffic conditions at time of travel, this drive time equates to a distance of up to roughly 70 miles and encompasses all of Solano County and parts of the other Socioeconomics Study Area counties plus parts of Colusa, Sutter, Placer, Alameda, Marin, and Sonoma counties. The geographic extent of the local labor market based on the approximate 60-minute drive time is presented in Figure 5.6-2.

Figure 5.6-2 Geographic Extent of Local Labor Market



Source: Appendix Q

The majority of workers commuting to job sites within Solano County come from within the County itself as well as Sacramento, Conta Costa, Napa, Yolo, and Alameda counties, with additional workers commuting from a multitude of other counties (Appendix Q). The commuting patterns of existing Solano County workers underscores the willingness of workers to commute long distances to job sites in Solano County.

The number of individuals in specific occupations in each County in the Socioeconomics Study Area is included in Table 5.6-8. Three geographies are presented, including Vallejo-Fairfield Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), Sacramento-Roseville-Arden-Arcade MSA, and Napa MSA. Vallejo-Fairfield MSA contains Solano County, Sacramento-Roseville-Arden-Arcade MSA contains Sacramento and Yolo County, and Napa MSA contains Napa County. As shown, the occupations with the fewest regional workers include surveyors, paving operators, and power line installers. The occupations with the most regional workers include secretaries and administrative assistants, as well as construction laborers.

Table 5.6-8 Employment by Occupation and Region, Bureau of Labor Statistics (2023)

		W&S Employment			
SOC Code	Occupation Title	Vallejo-Fairfield MSA	Sacramento-Roseville-Arden-Arcade MSA	Napa MSA	Total
11-9021	Construction Management	380	2,420	130	2,930
17-1022	Surveyors	40	330	0	370
17-2051	Civil Engineers	300	4,750	130	5,180
19-5011	Health and Safety Specialists	120	790	50	960
43-6014	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	1,290	9,720	660	11,670
47-1011	Craft Supervision	1,080	5,570	370	7,020
47-2051	Concrete Finishers	330	2,660	190	3,180
47-2061	Construction Laborers	1,170	7,170	660	9,000
47-2071	Paving Operators	30	150	0	180
47-2073	Construction Equipment Operators	460	150	160	770
47-2111	Electricians	660	5,550	270	6,480
47-2221	Iron Workers	430	530	0	960
47-4011	Construction Inspector/Engineers	270	910	40	1,220
49-9051	Power Line Installers	360	810	0	1,170
Total		**6,920**	**41,510**	**2,660**	**51,090**

Source: Appendix Q

5.6.1.3 Regional Housing Availability

Local housing is generally concentrated in densely populated regions of the Socioeconomics Study Area. This is true of rental housing and hotels/motels, two of the housing types evaluated in this section. RV parks, the third housing type considered, are more dispersed throughout the area. Where possible, this review of housing supply focuses on an area within a 70-mile radius of the Project Site.

Rental Housing

In the absence of housing data exclusive to a 70-mile radius of the Project Site, Table 5.6-9 summarizes the regional rental housing stock and estimated vacant rental units within Solano County and the Socioeconomics Study Area. Rental housing includes houses, apartments, mobile homes, groups of rooms, and single rooms meant for occupancy (Appendix Q). This category of housing excludes dormitories, transient quarters like hotels and motels, or RVs. The five-county Socioeconomics Study Area includes approximately 1.3 million total housing units that are either occupied or vacant, with the largest share concentrated in Sacramento County. Approximately 38 percent of the total permanent housing stock in the Socioeconomics Study Area is rental housing. This proportion is slightly below the statewide average of 44.4 percent (Appendix Q). There are approximately 16,600 vacant rental units in the Socioeconomics Study Area, representing roughly 3 percent of total rental units. Overall, rental vacancy rates remain low, ranging from 0.5 percent to 10 percent across the Socioeconomics Study Area (Appendix Q).

Within the Socioeconomics Study Area, Napa County has the lowest number of vacant rental units at 890, while Sacramento County has the highest number of vacant rental units at approximately 8,300. Solano County contains approximately 162,500 total housing units, 37 percent of which are rental units (see Table 5.6-9). The rental share is higher in certain communities within the County, including Vallejo (41 percent) and Fairfield (40 percent). The rental vacancy rate is approximately 3 percent, indicating that there are approximately 1,800 vacant rental units in Solano County.

Table 5.6-9 Regional Rental Housing Stock

City/County	Total Housing Units (Occupied or Vacant)	Rental Housing as % of Housing	Rental Vacancy Rate	Vacant Rental Units
Solano County	**162,513**	**37%**	**3%**	**1,804**
Vallejo	46,253	41%	4%	745
Fairfield	39,346	40%	2%	359
Vacaville	35,518	34%	3%	324
Benicia	11,341	30%	5%	174
Napa County	**55,588**	**35%**	**5%**	**890**
Napa	31,666	41%	4%	557
Calistoga	2,330	37%	10%	81
St. Helena	2,963	32%	7%	69
Yountville	1,824	34%	6%	36
Yolo County	**80,533**	**48%**	**3%**	**1,232**
Davis	27,427	58%	4%	604
West Sacramento	19,968	42%	6%	504
Woodland	21,622	44%	0.5%	47
Esparto	1,278	27%	8%	26
Contra Costa County	**424,057**	**33%**	**3%**	**4,312**
Richmond	41,566	48%	3%	640
Antioch	37,408	39%	3%	403
San Ramon	30,271	29%	4%	359
Concord	46,745	39%	2%	345
Sacramento County	**588,894**	**42%**	**3%**	**8,349**
Sacramento	206,808	49%	4%	3,772
Arden-Arcade	40,713	55%	4%	830
Carmichael	33,321	47%	5$	767
Citrus Heights	34,419	40%	4%	512
Socioeconomics Study Area Total	**1,311,585**	**38%**	**3%**	**16,587**

Source: Appendix Q

The California Housing Partnership's 2023 Affordable Housing Needs Report for Solano County indicates that the County has 15,650 low-income renter households that lack access to affordable housing. To afford the County's average monthly rent of $1,888, potential tenants would need to earn $36.31 per hour, approximately 2.3 times the state minimum wage. State and federal funding for housing production and preservation in Solano County is currently $84 million, marking a 21

percent decrease from 2022. Approximately 79 percent of extremely low-income (ELI) households in the County spend more than half of their income on housing, compared to zero percent of moderate-income households (Appendix Q). The shortage of affordable rental housing in and around the Project Site may present a challenge for non-local construction workers relocating to the area.

Hotels/Motel Lodging

The area immediately surrounding the Project Site has no significant hotel or motel lodging market. However, the hotel market within the Socioeconomics Study Area is dominated by economy lodging. In addition, the market includes upper midscale and upscale categories. Currently, there are 247 operating hotels with approximately 16,800 rooms in the market. Six new hotels under construction are expected to add 672 rooms (Appendix Q).

Over the past 12 months, the market has had approximately 16,800 available rooms, of which nearly 10,300 were sold. The occupancy ran at 61.1 percent, and the average daily room rate, excluding taxes and additional fees, was $213.68. Since 2011, lodging demand has grown at a logarithmic rate of 0.7 percent annually, while supply has increased at a rate of 1.0 percent per year. Room rates have risen at a pace 1.3 percent faster than inflation.

Natural Occupancy Rate

Current market conditions are not predictive of future conditions. When analyzing hotel markets more than a year or two into the future, it is necessary to determine the occupancy rate at which long-run supply and demand are in balance. This rate, known as the natural occupancy rate, is calculated by economists using a regression analysis of historical data (Appendix Q).

The market in the Socioeconomics Study Area is mildly seasonal. Historically, hotel occupancy has averaged below 60 percent in December and January, between 60 and 70 percent in November and from February through April, and over 70 percent from June through October. Peak occupancy typically occurs in February and March.

The estimated natural occupancy rate for the area is 68.4 percent. The average occupancy rate over the past 12 months is 61.1 percent, slightly below the natural rate, indicating the market is generally in equilibrium with a modest undersupply of available rooms. An additional 1,791 rooms would bring the market into balance, representing a little more than a 10 percent increase in supply. The market in the Socioeconomics Study Area has between approximately 2,900 and 9,600 daily room vacancies (Appendix Q). It is a common practice for large construction projects in sparsely populated areas to negotiate with local economy hotels to provide temporary housing for construction workers. Many of the vacancies are in economy hotels that would be amenable to contracting to provide temporary worker housing.

RV Parks

RV sites with full hookups and dump station access are a viable housing option for construction workers due to their convenience and affordability. Full hookups provide access to water, electricity, and sewage, while dump stations help maintain a hygienic environment by offering a convenient means of waste disposal. Many non-local construction workers travel with RVs to stay near job sites.

Twenty (20) RV parks exist within a 70-mile radius of the Project Site , encompassing approximately 1,600 RV sites. Of these sites, approximately 32 percent, or 495 sites, are situated within a 30-mile commute, while approximately 68 percent, or 1,061 sites, are situated within a 30- to 70-mile

commute. Of the RV parks with publicly available fee information, monthly rates range from $599 to $2,016. Approximately 95% of the RV parks included in this analysis offer full hookups, and approximately 60 percent report having dump stations. Some parks do not explicitly list these amenities on their websites, though they may still provide them. Limited-stay RV Parks were excluded from this inventory. Occupancy rates at RV parks that responded to inquiries ranged from 25 to 100 percent in the Winter and 80 to 100 percent in the Summer (Appendix Q). Assuming an average annual occupancy rate of 76 percent, an estimated 376 RV sites would be available in the region throughout the year.

Summary of Available Housing Supply

The supply of available housing within a one-hour commute of the Project Site is shown in Table 5.6-10. Collectively, the Socioeconomics Study Area includes an estimated 16,587 vacant rental units, 6,830 available hotel/motel rooms, and 1,556 vacant RV sites, totaling approximately 25,000 vacant dwelling units.

Table 5.6-10 Summary of Available Housing Supply in Annual Units

Location	Vacant Rental Housing Units	Vacant Hotel/ Motel Rooms	Vacant RV Sites	Total Vacant Housing Units[3]
Solano County	1,804	1,870	467	4,141
Napa County	890	1,782	30	2,702
Yolo County	1,232	1,359	165	2,756
Contra Costa County	4,312	1,327	114	5,753
Sacramento County	8,349	190	535	9,075
Other Counties[1]	N/A	302	245	547
Total	**16,587**	**6,830**	**1,556**	**24,973**

[1] These counties include a small area within a 60-minute drive time to the Project area and are thereby included in the housing supply analysis for RV sites.

[2] All values rounded.

Source: Appendix Q

5.6.1.4 Solano County Fiscal Resources

County Revenues

Solano County's primary source of operational funding is the County General Fund. Additional funding sources include Special Revenue Funds, Capital Project Funds, Debt Service Funds, Enterprise Funds, and Internal Service Funds. In fiscal year (FY) 2023-2024, the leading financing sources for the General Fund were Taxes (67 percent) and Charges for Services (18.3 percent) (Table 5.6-11). Total financing for the General Fund during this period amounted to approximately $343.4 million (Appendix Q).

Table 5.6-11 Solano County General Fund Sources (FY 2023-2024)

Financing Source Classification	2023-2024 Adopted	Share of Total Financing
Taxes	$229,994,000	67.0%
Licenses, Fees, and Permits	$9,355,619	2.7%
Fines, Forfeitures, and Penalties	$1,142,000	0.3%
Revenue from Use of Money/Prop	$3,394,993	1.0%
Intergovernmental Revenue State	$7,047,875	2.1%
Intergovernmental Revenue Federal	$6,400	0.0%
Other Intergovernmental Revenue	$2,926,566	0.9%
Charges for Services	$62,747,092	18.3%
Misc Revenue	$3,256,781	0.9%
Other Financing Sources	$5,130,522	1.5%
From Reserve	$18,391,950	5.4%
Total Financing Sources	**$343,393,798**	**100%**

Source: Appendix Q

Total General Fund spending in the same FY 2023-2024 amounted to approximately $393.9 million, resulting in a deficit of approximately $50.4 million. The largest categories of appropriations were Other Financing Uses (60.1 percent) and Salaries and Employee Benefits (19 percent), as shown in Table 5.6-12. The General Fund Spending Plan provides further detail on funding appropriations. Public Protection received the largest share of appropriations at 55 percent, followed by General Government at 22 percent and Health and Social Services at 13 percent (Appendix Q).

Table 5.6-12 Solano County General Fund Uses (FY 2023-2024)

General Fund Appropriation Classification	2023-2024 Adopted	Share of Total Appropriations
Salaries and Employee Benefits	$74,726,829	19.0%
Services and Supplies	$38,968,576	9.9%
Other Charges	$13,569,761	3.4%
F/A Equipment	$74,951	0.0%
Leases	$272,899	0.1%
Other Financing Uses	$236,584,177	60.1%
Contingencies and Reserves	$29,662,317	7.5%
Total Appropriations	**$393,859,510**	**100%**

Source: Appendix Q

Property Tax

Property taxes in Solano County are determined based on assessed values established by the County Assessor. In California, the annual property tax rate is set at 1 percent of assessed values. These taxes are an important source of local government revenue throughout the County. In FY 2023-2024, the Property Assessment Roll – which reflects property ownership in Solano County as of January 1st, 2023 – was $70.29 billion, a 5.3 percent increase from the prior year. This marked the twelfth consecutive year of growth in assessed values since 2011. The residential real estate market experienced steady growth over the past year (from January 1, 2021, to January 1, 2022), with new

construction further contributing to the County's property tax base. Property tax revenues are distributed among various local agencies and represent a major source of discretionary revenue for schools, special districts, cities, and counties (Appendix Q).

Sales Tax

Retailers operating within California are required to register with the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) and remit the state's sales tax, which applies to all retail transactions involving the sale of goods and merchandise, except for those specifically exempted by law (California Department of Tax & Fee Administration [a] n.d.). In Solano County, the sales tax rate is 7.375 percent. However, six jurisdictions within the County impose additional local rates, resulting in total sales tax rates ranging from 8.125 percent to 9.25 percent as shown in Table 5.6-13 (Appendix Q).

Table 5.6-13 Sales and Use Tax Rates by County and Jurisdiction (2024)

County/Jurisdiction	Sales and Use Tax Rate
Solano County	**7.375%**
City of Benicia	8.375%
City of Fairfield	8.375%
City of Rio Vista	8.125%
Suisun City	8.375%
City of Vacaville	8.125%
City of Vallejo	9.250%

Source: Appendix Q

Solano County's FY 2023-2024 budget includes line-item revenues associated with the state sales tax 1991 realignment, the Measure B Library sales tax, and other miscellaneous taxable sales. State sales tax revenues from the 1991 Realignment funds are a dedicated portion of state sales tax revenues intended to support local health and social services programs. These funds are allocated annually and reserved specifically for county-operated Health and Social Services (Appendix Q).

Solano County Library services and programs are partially funded by a 1/8-of-a-penny sales tax known as Measure B, originally approved by voters in 1997. The tax was extended in 2012 through Measure L and currently accounts for approximately 21 percent of library funding, according to the Solano County Library FY 2023-2024 annual report (Appendix Q).

Lodging Taxes

The Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) is charged to visitors who occupy a living space or establishment (i.e., hotel, motel, inn) for 30 days or less. In Solano County, TOT is administered and collected by the Solano County Treasurer-Tax Collector-County Clerk's Office. As of 2024, the TOT rate is 5 percent of rent, where "rent" is the amount charged by an establishment for occupancy, whether paid in money, goods, labor, or other forms of payment. Revenues from TOT were estimated at $125,000 in FY 2023-2024 (Appendix Q).

School District Impact Fee

Education Code Section 17620(a)(1) authorizes any school district to levy a fee, charge, dedication, or other requirement on construction projects within the boundaries of the district to fund the construction or reconstruction of school facilities. State and local agencies are precluded from imposing additional fees or payment requirements on development projects to mitigate possible enrollment impacts on schools. The one-time school development fee is currently at $0.84 per square foot for all categories of commercial or industrial development, based on chargeable covered and enclosed space (Appendix Q).

5.6.1.5 Vacaville Fiscal Resources

City Revenues

Most services in Vacaville are funded through revenue from the City's General Fund. This includes police and fire services, street maintenance, parks and recreation, and administrative functions. Revenue from taxes accounts for the largest share of the General Fund Account. Other funding sources include intergovernmental revenues, departmental fees and charges, transfers in, and other unspecified revenues. Revenues in the 2024-2025 FY are projected to amount to approximately $149,993,000 (Appendix Q). Table 5.6-14 shows Vacaville's expected EOY General Fund sources and revenues for the 2024-2025 FY.

Table 5.6-14 Vacaville General Fund Sources, (FY 2024-2025)

General Fund Revenue Account	2024-2025 Projected EOY	Share of Total Financing
Property Tax	$42,031,000	28.0%
Sales Tax	$31,217,000	20.8%
Measure M	$24,894,000	16.6%
Other taxes	$25,570,000	17.0%
Intergovernmental	$2,925,000	2.0%
Departmental fees and charges	$13,043,000	8.7%
Other revenues	$1,943,000	1.3%
Transfers in	$8,370,000	5.6%
Total Financing Sources	**$149,993,000**	**100%**

Source: Appendix Q

Property Tax

In California, the annual property tax rate is set at 1 percent of assessed values. The majority of property tax revenue is allocated to the State and County. Currently, Vacaville receives approximately 18 percent of property tax revenue. Growth in assessed value is limited to the lesser of 2 percent or consumer price index. Upon transfer of property ownership or upon the construction of a new property, properties are reappraised at current full market value. The City's net taxable property value, including redevelopment project areas, totals $17.5 billion for the 2024-2025 tax year - an increase of $1 billion, or 6.1 percent, compared to the previous year. Revenue from property taxes accounts for approximately $42.0 million in general fund revenue (Appendix Q).

Sales and Use Tax

As of July 2025, the sales tax rate in Vacaville is 8.125 percent. This includes the state rate of 5.5 percent, the City's rate of 1.75 percent (which includes the 0.75 percent Measure M rate), the Proposition 172 public safety rate of 0.5 percent, the Transportation Development Act rate of 0.25 percent, and the Solano County Library rate of 0.125 percent. Vacaville has the second lowest sales tax rate in Solano County. Sales and use tax revenue, including Measure M, is the General Fund's largest revenue source, totaling $50.8 million for FY 2024-2025 and accounting for 36 percent of total General Fund revenues (Appendix Q).

Other Revenue Sources

In addition to the tax revenue sources detailed above, the City of Vacaville's General Fund is supported by a variety of other revenue sources. Franchise fees from companies like PG&E, Recology, Comcast, and AT&T are projected to have generated approximately $5.6 million (3.9 percent of revenues) by the end of FY 2024-2025. The voter-approved Paramedic Tax, dedicated to emergency medical and ambulance services, is expected to yield $6.9 million (5.0 percent). Two excise taxes—Measure I, which supports cultural, recreational, and street services, and Measure G, applied to utility operations—are projected to generate $2.9 million (2.0 percent) and $6.3 million (4.4 percent), respectively. Additional smaller tax sources, including the Transient Occupancy Tax, Business License Tax, and Public Safety Sales Tax, together account for 2.5 percent of revenues. Intergovernmental funds from state, federal, and local sources are expected to total $2 million (1 percent). Departmental fees and charges, including recreation, emergency medical services (EMS), and inspection fees, are projected at $12.8 million (9.0 percent). Other revenue sources, such as investment earnings and lease income, contribute $1.4 million (1 percent), with a decrease expected due to reduced interest income. Finally, operating transfers from other City funds, including public safety districts, are projected to reach $10.1 million, a 25.6 percent increase largely driven by the addition of Lagoon Valley CFD funds (Appendix Q).

5.6.1.6 Public Services and Facilities

Public services and facilities addressed in this section include law enforcement, fire protection, emergency response, medical facilities, school districts, parks and recreation facilities, libraries, and other assessment districts.

Law Enforcement

The Project Site is located within the jurisdiction of the Vacaville Police Department (VVPD) with gen-tie lines extending into unincorporated Solano County in the jurisdiction of the Solano County Sheriff's Office. VVPD serves the community of Vacaville through patrol and detective services. The department includes a youth services division, a special weapons and tactics team, K-9 units, a community resource unit, and other special units. As of 2021, the Vacaville Police Department employed 167 full-time employees, including sworn positions, professional support staff, civilian volunteers, reserve officers and cadets.

The Solano County Sheriff's Office serves the entire County in collaboration with the law enforcement agencies of its seven cities, including the Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun, Vacaville, and Vallejo Police Departments.

Although the Project Site falls primarily within the jurisdiction of the Vacaville Police Department, the gen-tie lines extend into areas served by the Solano County Sheriff's Office. As such, reviewing countywide crime patterns and emergency response times provides context for understanding broader public safety conditions in the region. According to the Solano County Sheriff's Office Crime Graphic, common crimes in the last five years in the vicinity of the Project Site have included assault, burglary, stolen vehicles, larceny, and theft. In the last five years, there have been 93 calls for service within a one-mile radius of the Project Site (Appendix Q).

Between 2017 and 2024, the police dispatch processing time for 911 calls was just 62 seconds in unincorporated areas of Solano County. The police dispatch time in Vallejo for the same period was 84 minutes (Appendix Q). In response to a chronic and significant police staffing shortage in the Vallejo Police Department, California Senate approved SB 1379 (2024) by allowing retired officers to work above the previous 960-hour annual maximum, up to full-time for the Solano County Sheriff's Office, thereby allowing the Solano County Sheriff Department to have the deputies needed to respond to emergency calls in Vallejo (Appendix Q).

Fire Protection and Emergency Response

The Project Site is located within the Vacaville Fire Department service area with Project gen-tie lines in the jurisdiction of the Dixon Fire Department and Dixon Fire Protection District (DFPD). The Vacaville Fire Department serves the City of Vacaville, responding to all 9-1-1 calls relating to fires, medical emergencies, hazardous materials release, and other situations requiring specialized rescue services. Emergency response is deployed from six fire stations. The operations division consists of 91 employees working over three operational "shifts," each commanded by a battalion chief. The operations division consists of 91 employees (Appendix Q). The Dixon Fire Department, working under contract and partnership with DFPD, operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, serving a combined population of nearly 25,000 residents. This combination department is staffed by 21 career personnel and 3 volunteer/reserve members, working on a 48/96-hour rotation schedule. The DFPD responded to 2,970 calls for service in 2023. Funding for the department is primarily through property tax revenue, which makes up roughly 90 percent of funding sources (Appendix Q).

Vacaville Fire Department's calls for service have increased by approximately 23 percent since 2020. The majority of calls pertain to rescue/EMS (74.05 percent), followed by good intent calls (10.54 percent), service calls (8.76 percent), false alarm calls (3.96 percent), and fire-related calls (1.71 percent). The remaining share of call types includes severe weather or natural disaster calls, special incident calls, and rupture/overhead (no fire) calls (Appendix Q).

On average, it takes approximately one minute and 18 seconds for service providers to be enroute once notified of a need for service. Travel time averages around six minutes and two seconds, and average unit commitment is approximately 28 minutes and 14 seconds (Appendix Q). Although it is anticipated that the Vacaville Fire Department would respond to all fire-related emergencies within their jurisdiction, they do have a mutual aid agreement in place with the Dixon Fire Protection District. This agreement ensures coordinated response in areas where jurisdictions overlap. The most recent data available on EMS and ambulance providers in Solano County is presented in Table 5.6-15.

The DFPD service area covers approximately 320 square miles. The DFPD has an agreement with the City of Vacaville for automatic aid in certain parts of the district, including the location of the gen-tie lines. Due to proximity and jurisdiction, the Vacaville Fire Department would be anticipated to arrive first in case of an emergency at the BESS Project Area or gen-tie lines (Appendix Q).

EMS Services

The Solano County Office of Emergency Services (OES) serves as the primary coordination agency for managing emergencies and disasters impacting residents, public infrastructure, and government operations within the Solano County Operational Area. This area encompasses the entire county, including its cities, towns, and special districts. Solano County OES is responsible for ensuring effective planning, coordination, response support, and communication among all agencies involved in large-scale emergencies and disasters. It collaborates closely with various government jurisdictions within the county, as well as with law enforcement, fire services, emergency medical services, state and federal agencies, utilities, private sector entities, and volunteer organizations to deliver a unified disaster response (Appendix Q). The most recent data available on EMS and Ambulance providers in Solano County is presented in Table 5.6-15.

The Vacaville Fire Department also provides emergency medical services to the city. These services include emergency ambulance transportation services and ambulance transport services to state prisons. Emergency medical services are classified into two service types: Basic Life Support and Advanced Life Support[1] (Appendix Q). The emergency response time goal is to be on the scene within seven minutes or less 90 percent of the time.

Table 5.6-15 EMS and Ambulance Providers in Solano County

Providers	Availability	Transport Provider	Advanced, Basic, or Limited Advance Support	Number of Ground/ Air Vehicles in Fleet
Medic Ambulance	24 hours	Yes	ALS, BLS	45
Cordelia Fire Protection District	24 hours	No	ALS, BLS	0
Dixon Fire Department	24 hours	No	ALS	0
Fairfield Fire Department	24 hours	No	ALS, BLS	0
Benicia Fire Department	24 hours	No	ALS	0
Suisun Fire Protection District	24 hours	No	BLS	0
Vacaville Fire Department	24 hours	Yes	ALS	6
Vacaville Fire Protection District	24 hours	No	BLS	0

Source: Appendix Q
Note: ALS= Advanced Life Support, BLS = Basic Life Support, and LALS =Limited Advanced Life Support

Medical Centers

The City of Sacramento's UC Davis Medical Center is the only Level I trauma center servicing adults in the Socioeconomics Study Area. It is among the largest and highest-ranked hospitals in the State, with a capacity of 656 beds and the ability to accommodate more than 900,000 annual visits. On average, the emergency department treats over 200 patients per day. The facility is located approximately 34 miles from the Project Site. Closer medical facilities include Vacaville Medical Center (Level II trauma), NorthBay Medical Center (Level II trauma), NorthBay Health VacaValley Hospital (trauma level unknown), and the David Grant Medical Center (Level III trauma), located on Travis Air Force Base. A Level I pediatric trauma is located approximately 52 miles from the Project Site. All medical centers in the vicinity and their distance to the Project Site are included in Table 5.6-16.

[1] Basic Life Support (BLS) consists of non-invasive emergency care such as CPR and oxygen administration; Advanced Life Support (ALS) includes advanced procedures such as intravenous medication and airway management; Limited Advanced Support (LAS) provides a subset of Advanced Life Support interventions, typically excluding invasive airway management or certain medications.

Table 5.6-16 Medical Centers

Hospital	Address	Distance from Project Site	Trauma Level	Beds
US Davis Medical Center	2315 Stockton Blvd Sacramento 95817	34 miles	Level I	656
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital - Oakland	747 52nd Street, Oakland 94609	52 miles	Level I (pediatric)	191
David Grant Medical Center	101 Bodin Circle Travis AFB 94535	12 miles	Level III	298
Kaiser Permanente – Vacaville Medical Center	1 Quality Drive, Vacaville 95688	14 miles	Level II	144
Kaiser Permanente – Vallejo Medical Center	975 Sereno Drive, Vallejo 94589	29 miles	N/A	267
NorthBay Medical Center	1200 B Gale Wilson Blvd Fairfield 94533	14 miles	Level II	154
Sutter Davis Hospital	2000 Sutter Place Davis 95616	18 miles	N/A	57
NorthBay Health VacaValley Hospital	1000 Nut Tree Road Vacaville 95687	5 miles	N/A	50

Source: Appendix Q

School Districts

The Solano County Office of Education serves seven school districts and nearly 60,000 students. The Project Site is located within Vacaville Unified School District, near the boundary with Dixon Unified School District. Enrollment data is provided for both school districts. Vacaville Unified School District operates 19 schools with a census-day enrollment of 13,253 students for the 2022-2023 school year. Dixon Unified School District includes eight schools with a census day enrollment of 3,468 students for the 2022-2023 school year (Appendix Q).

Current and projected enrollment by grade level grouping for Vacaville Unified School District is displayed in Table 5.6-17. Projected enrollment figures for Vacaville Unified School District are not available online. However, the district's 2023-2024 facilities plan indicates that enrollment is growing at approximately 0.8 percent per year (Appendix Q).

Current and projected enrollment figures by grade level for Dixon Unified School District are available through the District's most recent Long-Range Facilities Master Plan and shown in Table 5.6-18 (Appendix Q).

Table 5.6-17 Current and Projected Enrollment, Vacaville Unified School District (2022/23-2029/30)

Grade Level	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
Kindergarten	1,080	1,089	1,097	1,106	1,115	1,124	1,133	1,142
Grade 1	939	947	954	962	969	977	985	993
Grade 2	911	918	926	933	941	948	956	963
Grade 3	947	955	962	970	978	985	993	1,001
Grade 4	964	972	979	987	995	1,003	1,011	1,019
Grade 5	952	960	967	975	983	991	999	1,007
Grade 6	970	978	986	993	1,001	1,009	1,018	1,026
Grade 7	1,001	1,009	1,017	1,025	1,033	1,042	1,050	1,058
Grade 8	1,012	1,020	1,028	1,036	1,045	1,053	1,062	1,070
Grade 9	1,084	1,093	1,101	1,110	1,119	1,128	1,137	1,146
Grade 10	1,144	1,153	1,162	1,172	1,181	1,190	1,200	1,210
Grade 11	1,168	1,177	1,187	1,196	1,206	1,215	1,225	1,235
Grade 12	1,081	1,090	1,098	1,107	1,116	1,125	1,134	1,143
Total	13,253	13,359	13,466	13,574	13,682	13,792	13,902	14,013

Source: Appendix Q

Table 5.6-18 Current and Projected Enrollment, Dixon Unified School District (2022/23 – 2029/30)

Grade Level	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029	2029/2030
Kindergarten	211	241	258	298	292	288	284	280
Grade 1	216	177	195	192	212	208	206	205
Grade 2	205	221	183	199	196	217	215	212
Grade 3	201	211	228	189	206	203	224	221
Grade 4	208	205	215	231	192	209	208	227
Grade 5	208	209	206	215	231	192	211	208
Grade 6	206	214	214	211	222	240	201	218
Grade 7	216	216	225	225	223	233	252	211
Grade 8	195	222	222	231	232	230	240	258
Grade 9	251	242	271	270	279	280	278	287
Grade 10	258	255	246	274	275	283	285	281
Grade 11	300	251	248	239	270	271	279	279
Grade 12	266	296	244	240	231	265	266	273
SDC	69	73	71	71	74	76	76	77
Total	2,941	3,033	3,026	3,085	3,135	3,195	3,225	3,237

Source: Appendix Q

Parks and Recreation Facilities

There are no parks or recreational facilities in the Project area. The closest recreational area is Corderos Park which is approximately 1.5 miles east of the Project Site. The Project is not anticipated to impact use of parks or recreation facilities in Solano County.

Libraries

There are no libraries in the Project vicinity. The closest library is the Vacaville Cultural Center Library, which is approximately 7 miles southwest of the Project Site. The Project is not anticipated to impact service or use of libraries within Solano County.

5.6.1.7 Utilities

The Project Site is not served by natural gas or a wastewater system. Potable water service is available through a nearby and adjacent City of Vacaville-owned water main. Solid waste services in the area are provided by local disposal facilities.

Gas

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is the only provider of natural gas in Solano County. The Project would not require gas service; therefore, this utility is not assessed.

Water

The City of Vacaville Utilities Department operates the city's water treatment plant, reservoirs, wells, water distribution system, and booster pump station. On average, the City of Vacaville distributes approximately 15 million gallons of water per day or approximately 5.48 billion gallons of water annually. The Project Site is within the Vacaville service district. During construction, water would be obtained from an existing City of Vacaville fire hydrant located adjacent to the southwest corner of the BESS Project Area. Water during operation would be obtained by tapping an existing 12-inch diameter City water main that parallels the northern site boundary (Appendix Q).

Wastewater Discharge

The Project would not connect to a municipal wastewater system; therefore, this utility is not assessed.

Solid Waste

Solid waste and recycling programs in the City of Vacaville are administered by the Office of Environmental Sustainability and Energy. The Project Site is serviced by Recology Vacaville Solano trash collectors, which provides waste zero services to assist businesses in applying best management practices for the collection of compost, recycling, and landfill materials. Regional waste disposal services are available through two landfills: Recology Hay Road Landfill and Potrero Hills Landfill, 7.4 miles and 13.3 miles away respectively. The Potrero Hills Landfill offers non-hazardous solid waste disposal services. The Hay Road Landfill accepts a wide range of construction and demolition materials, including but not limited to concrete, debris, freon, appliances, white goods, metals, clean soil and dirt, wood, drywall, and organic material. Businesses may dispose of acceptable hazardous waste at the Recology Vacaville Solano facility by appointment only. The facility does not accept ammunition, appliances, asbestos, commercial chemicals, explosives, medical waste, medicine, radioactive materials, tires, or trash (Appendix Q).

5.6.2 Regulatory Setting

Federal, state, and local LORS related to socioeconomics were reviewed for applicability to the Project. These are detailed in Section 5.6.5, Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards.

5.6.3 Impact Analysis

The following subsections discuss the potential direct and indirect socioeconomic impacts from construction and operation (including maintenance) of the Project.

5.6.3.1 Methodology

ECOnorthwest prepared a Socioeconomic Technical Report (Appendix Q) for the Project in which they prepared a local worker availability analysis, conducted economic and employment impact modeling, and prepared an economy and employment impact analysis. ECOnorthwest's methodology is described below, as well as in Appendix Q. The results of the study informed this impact analysis.

Economic Impact Modeling

IMPLAN is a regional input-output (I/O) model widely used to assess the economic impacts of renewable energy developments and many other types of projects. The IMPLAN model divides the economy into 528 sectors, and models the linkages between the various sectors, including accounting for government and household spending. Using national industry and county-level economic data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Census, and other government sources, IMPLAN models how spending in one sector of the economy is spent and re-spent in other sectors of the economy. The linkages are modeled through I/O tables that account for all dollar flows between different sectors of the economy.

The economic relationships modeled by IMPLAN allow the user to estimate the overall change in the economy that would result from construction and operation of a proposed project. The dollars spent on a project's construction and operation are analyzed to determine the total economic impact within the selected geography (Solano County). The direct investments in a project's construction and operation trigger successive rounds of spending that result in a change in employment, labor income, and value added in the local economy. The summation of these impacts is referred to as the economic output.

Impact Types

Economic multipliers derived from the model are used to estimate total economic impacts. Total economic impacts consist of three components: direct, indirect, and induced impacts.

- **Direct impacts** consist of expenditures made specifically for a proposed project, such as construction labor and materials. These direct impacts generate economic activity elsewhere in the local economy through the multiplier effect, as initial changes in demand "ripple" through the local economy and generate indirect and induced impacts.
- **Indirect impacts** are generated by direct expenditures on goods and services from suppliers. Indirect effects are often referred to as "supply-chain" impacts because they involve interactions among businesses across different sectors.

- **Induced impacts** are generated by the spending of households associated either directly or indirectly with a proposed project. Workers employed during construction, for example, would use their income to purchase groceries and other household goods and services. Workers at businesses that supply materials to the Project during construction or operation would do the same. Induced effects are also referred to as "consumption-driven" impacts.

Impact Measures

Impacts are assessed using the following measures that are reported by the 2023 IMPLAN model:

- **Jobs** are measured as the average number of employees engaged in full- or part-time work. Model outputs are adjusted to full-time equivalents (FTEs) using coefficients provided by IMPLAN.[2]
- **Labor income** is expressed as the sum of employee compensation and proprietary income.
  - Employee compensation (wages) includes workers' wages and salaries, as well as other benefits such as health, disability, and life insurance; retirement payments; and non-cash compensation; expressed as total cost to the employer.
  - Proprietary income (business income) represents the payments received by business owners or self-employed workers.
- **Value added** represents the value of all final goods and services produced (i.e. the sum of intermediate stages of production). Value added is a subset of Output and accounts for the increase in value that the producer adds to the inputs because of the production process. Value added can be conceptualized as the impact to Gross Regional Product (GRP) for the Socioeconomics Study Area.
- **Output** is the total value of an industry's production and includes all components of the production function: labor income, taxes, profit, and intermediate inputs.

Input-output models are static models used to measure an economy's inputs and outputs based on data that represents the relationships within an economy at a specific point in time. This analysis uses data from the 2023 model year, which is the most recent year for which data is available. The model then estimates how specific changes in inputs to an economy result in changes throughout the economy. This approach—known as a "partial equilibrium analysis" works well when the modeled changes don't radically reshape the relationships within an economy or effect the fundamental characteristics of labor markets, prices, or property values.

Key Informational Interviews

ECOnorthwest conducted key informational interviews with local agency staff and other local officials to supplement publicly available information on the public utilities and services. The interviews contribute to an analysis of existing conditions and the potential impacts of the Project on demand for public services and costs of providing services. Interviews help to verify preliminary information collected about public services and create better understanding around how the Project may affect these resources in the future. ECOnorthwest requested interviews with local law enforcement, fire protection, EMS, water, and regional economic development. ECOnorthwest completed interviews with the Dixon Fire Protection District and Vacaville Economic Development Department. Section 5.6.6 lists the contacts consulted during key informant interviews.

[2] Each FTE job equates to one full-time job for one year or 2,080-hour units of labor. Part-time or temporary jobs constitute a fraction of a job.

5.6.3.2 Impact Evaluation Criteria

Potential socioeconomic impacts were evaluated using the criteria described in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Checklist (Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines). As it relates to socioeconomics, the CEQA Checklist asks, would the Project:

- Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure);
- Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere;
- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:
  - Fire protection;
  - Police protection;
  - Schools;
  - Parks; and/or
  - Other public facilities

In addition, impacts to socioeconomics were evaluated by asking, would the project:

- Have adverse impacts on overall employment in the region;
- Change the distribution of employment opportunities in the region so some workers may benefit while others may lose out;
- Reduce income for local businesses;
- Induce changes in fiscal resources for local governments that result in a reduction of service levels, budget cuts, or other fiscally destabilizing effect;
- Impose additional costs on utilities or change capacity or service levels for existing or future customers of gas, water, wastewater, or solid waste; or
- Change the character of nearby local communities or affect the ability of the local population to address its needs; or create a substantial change in community interaction patterns, social organization, social structure, or social institutions; substantial conflict with community attitudes, values or perception; or substantial inequalities in the distribution of the costs and benefits?

Impact SOC-1

Threshold:	Would the Project induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly?

Construction

No Impact. Construction of the Project would directly employ an estimated average of 46 monthly employees over the one-year Vaca Dixon 57 MWh BESS component construction timeline and 53

monthly employees over the one-year Arges 400 MWh BESS component timeline. Construction of the Project would require a peak labor demand (i.e., the maximum monthly labor demand for each occupation across the entire construction period) of 73 employees over the full construction timeline. There are just over 51,000 individuals employed in relevant occupations in the Socioeconomics Study Area. Therefore, a sufficient workforce is available in the Socioeconomics Study Area to meet Project workforce demand for relevant occupations (Appendix Q). Thus, it is anticipated that no workers would need to relocate to the Socioeconomics Study Area for construction of the Project. Therefore, no impact on Socioeconomics Study Area population is anticipated due to construction of the Project.

Operation

No Impact. Operation of the Project would require three employees over the anticipated operational life of the Project. The Project would most likely draw from the existing population of the Socioeconomics Study Area to employ this individual (Appendix Q). Thus, no population growth is anticipated due to operation of the Project.

Impact SOC-2

Threshold:	Would the Project displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

Construction

No Impact. Construction of the Project is not anticipated to increase temporary housing demand in the Socioeconomics Study Area since a sufficient workforce is available in the Socioeconomics Study Area to meet Project workforce demand (Appendix Q) and thus, workers would not be required to relocate to the Socioeconomics Study Area to meet Project construction demands. Therefore, there would be no impact on existing people or housing necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

Operation

No Impact. Housing demand in the Socioeconomics Study Area would not increase by any discernable amount during operation of the Project. Operation of the Project would employ a workforce of three employees, most likely drawing from the existing workforce of the Socioeconomics Study Area (Appendix Q). Therefore, there would be no impact on existing people or housing necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

Impact SOC-3

Threshold:	Would the Project have adverse impacts on overall employment in the region?

Construction

No Impact. As discussed under Impact SOC-1, above, construction of the Project would require 46 employees over the one-year Vaca Dixon 57 MWh BESS component construction timeline and 53 monthly employees over the one-year Arges 400 MWh BESS component timeline. Construction of the Project would require a peak labor demand (i.e., the maximum monthly labor demand for each occupation across the entire construction period) of 73 employees over the full construction

timeline. The workforce is anticipated to come from the local Socioeconomics Study Area, equating to 0.01 percent of existing Socioeconomics Study Area employment (Appendix Q). The current agricultural operation on the Project Site is associated with zero jobs, and therefore no adverse or offsetting impact to employment in the region is anticipated from developing the Project.

Additionally, construction of the Project would support a payroll of $6.9 million over the one-year Vaca Dixon 57 MWh BESS construction timeline and $30.5 million over the one-year Arges 400 MWh BESS timeline (Appendix Q). The construction of the Project would have a positive impact on overall employment in the region.

Operation

No Impact. As discussed under Impact SOC-1, above, operation of the Project would require three employees over the anticipated operational life of the Project. This represents less than 0.01 percent of existing Socioeconomics Study Area employment (Appendix Q). Operation of the Vaca Dixon 57 MWh BESS component would support an annual payroll of $125,000, and operation of the Arges 400 MWh BESS component would support an annual payroll of $260,000. Ongoing operation of the Project would displace 9.7 acres of agricultural production, which is associated with zero direct jobs. Operation of the Project would have a positive impact on overall employment in the region.

Threshold:	Would the Project reduce income for local businesses?

Overall Project

Less than Significant Impact. As discussed above under Impact SOC-3, construction and operation of the Project would result in direct and indirect economic growth within Solano County amounting to $4.2 million in direct economic output at full buildout (Appendix Q). Table 5.6-19 and Table 5.6-20 present the full direct output, including secondary effects of the Project. The Project would require removal of 9.7 acres of agricultural production, which currently generates $16,836 in total annual labor income and $81,526 in total economic output, including direct and secondary effects (Appendix Q). This represents less than 0.01 percent of total labor income in Solano County and involves no jobs. The Project would result in an increase in regional employment and income. Therefore, the Project would have a positive impact on local businesses.

Table 5.6-19 Estimated Direct Output and Income Impacts of Construction of the Project

Impact	Impact Type	Vaca Dixon	Arges	Project Total
Jobs	Direct	46	53	98
	Indirect	13	44	57
	Induced	15	60	74
	Total	**73**	**156**	**229**
Labor Income	Direct	$6,878,000	$30,462,000	$37,340,000
	Indirect	$912,000	$3,198,000	$4,110,000
	Induced	$780,000	$3,197,000	$3,977,000
	Total	**$8,570,000**	**$36,857,000**	**$45,427,000**
Output	Direct	$47,337,000	$172,621,000	$219,958,000
	Indirect	$3,527,000	$12,372,000	$15,899,000
	Induced	$2,576,000	$10,567,000	$13,143,000
	Total	**$53,440,000**	**$195,561,000**	**$249,001,000**

Source: Appendix Q

Table 5.6-20 Estimated Direct Output and Income Impacts of Operation of the Project

Impact	Impact Type	Vaca Dixon	Arges	Project Total
Jobs	Direct	1	2	3
	Indirect	1	1	2
	Induced	1	2	2
	Total	**2**	**5**	**7**
Labor Income	Direct	$125,000	$260,000	$385,000
	Indirect	$102,000	$102,000	$204,000
	Induced	$44,000	$92,000	$136,000
	Total	**$272,000**	**$454,000**	**$726,000**
Output	Direct	$1,505,000	$2,740,000	$4,245,000
	Indirect	$492,000	$492,000	$984,000
	Induced	$144,000	$297,000	$441,000
	Total	**$2,142,000**	**$3,529,000**	**$5,671,000**

Source: Appendix Q

Threshold: Would the Project induce changes in fiscal resources for local governments that result in a reduction of service levels, budget cuts, or other fiscally destabilizing effects?

Construction

Less than Significant Impact. Construction spending on the Vaca Dixon 57 MWh BESS component is anticipated to result in sales tax revenue for the Socioeconomics Study Area amounting to $1.5 million (Appendix Q). Construction spending on Arges 400 MWh BESS component of the Project is anticipated to result in sales tax revenue for the Socioeconomics Study Area amounting to $5.1

million (Appendix Q). Therefore, construction of the Vaca Dixon 57 MWh and the Arges 400 MWh BESS projects would result in a positive fiscal impact.

Operation

Less than Significant Impact. Spending on operations and maintenance for the entire Project would result in sales tax benefits in the Socioeconomics Study Area amounting to $74,800 annually, or less than 0.1 percent of annual Solano County tax revenue. Property taxes associated with operation of the Project at full build-out equate to an average of $1.49 million annually over the Project's lifetime, or less than 1 percent of annual Solano County tax revenue. Therefore, operation of the Project would result in a positive fiscal impact.

Impact SOC-4

Threshold:	Would the Project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services: fire protection, police protection, schools, parks; and/or other public facilities?

Construction and operation of the Project would not result in construction of new or physically altered governmental facilities; however, it could result in impacts related to maintaining acceptable service ratios and response times, as discussed in the following subsections.

Construction

Less than Significant Impact. Construction of the Project facilities could result in increased demand for law enforcement, fire protection, and EMS services. It would not result in any adverse impacts on schools, parks and recreation facilities, libraries, or other public facilities. The increased concentration of workers in Solano County required to construct the Project would increase the risk of emergency incidents requiring public safety or medical attention and likely would increase the frequency of responses to the Project Site. The number of workers commuting to the Project Site may also increase the risk of traffic accidents and other travel and transportation issues. Emergency response to the Project Site would be provided by CALFIRE, individual fire protection districts, and the Solano County Sherrif (Solano County 2008). The nearest individual fire protection district to the Project Site is the Vacaville Fire Protection District. The Vacaville Fire Department Field Operations Division has a response time goal of seven minutes or less 90 percent of the time (City of Vacaville 2025). The Vacaville Fire Protection District utilizes fire stations and equipment in Vacaville including Vacaville Fire Station 73, which is approximately two miles from the Project Site. Due to the proximity of this station to the Project Site, it is unlikely that increased demand from construction of the Project would result in extended travel times for emergency personnel. Therefore, calls to the Project Site would not draw resources away from other emergencies for longer periods. Furthermore, the Project would be served by the Solano County Sherrif which relies on partnerships with other agencies in the community, intergovernmental organizations and other employee organizations to provide effective law enforcement (Solano County 2008). Due to the relatively small number of workers associated with construction of the Project as discussed in Impact SOC-1, increased demand for public services during the 24-month construction window would be temporary and would be adequately served by existing public service agencies and facilities; therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

Operation

Less than Significant Impact. Operation of the Project facilities could result in increased demand for law enforcement, fire protection, and EMS services. It would not result in any adverse impacts on schools, parks and recreation facilities, libraries, or other public facilities. Once constructed, the Project would increase the risk of fire compared to the existing land use. As discussed above, the Project would be served by CALFIRE and the Vacaville Fire Protection District which utilizes fire stations and equipment in Vacaville including Vacaville Fire Station 73 which is approximately two miles from the Project Site. The proximity of a fire station to the Project Site would result in short response times and would not draw resources away from other emergencies within the City or County. Additionally, as discussed in Chapter 5.10, *Worker Safety*, an Emergency Action Plan would be implemented in accordance with CCR Title 8, Section 3220 which would include procedures for reporting fires and other emergencies and include an emergency evacuation plan. Furthermore, as described in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, the Project BESS facilities would have a fire suppression system and multiple fire detection systems on-site. These plans, guidelines, and fire suppression and detection systems would further reduce the likelihood of a fire on the Project Site thereby reducing operational demand for public services such as fire protection services. With implementation of these measures, operation of the Project would not have a significant impact on public services.

Impact SOC-5

Threshold:	Would the Project impose additional costs on utilities or change capacity or service levels for existing or future customers of gas, water, wastewater, or solid waste?

Construction

Less than Significant Impact. Construction of the Project would not result in adverse impacts to utilities**.** During construction, water would be obtained from an existing City of Vacaville fire hydrant located adjacent to the southwest corner of the Project Site. This temporary use would not require new infrastructure or result in significant demand on the City's water system. The Project would not require natural gas or wastewater services during construction, as discussed in Section 5.6.1.6. As discussed in depth in Section 5.11, *Waste Management*, construction waste would be adequately handled at appropriate local facilities.

Operation

No Impact. Operation of the Project would not result in adverse impacts on utilities. The Project facilities would not require or rely on gas, solid waste services, or wastewater services. During operation, the total annual water usage for the Project would be less than one acre-foot per year (AFY). Water demand during operation of the Project would be primarily related to fire water and landscaping, as applicable. The Project design includes installation of a fire water loop around the BESS facilities, which would connect to an existing City of Vacaville owned water main. Annual water usage estimate includes flow testing for the fire water system. The Project would increase demand for municipal water by a small amount over the operational phase of the Project, with the daily maximum demand representing roughly 0.01 percent of current daily or less than 0.01 percent of current annual municipal water deliveries. Thus, no significant adverse impacts to municipal water costs or water service levels for existing or future customers are anticipated.

Impact SOC-6

Threshold:	Would the Project change the character of nearby local communities or affect the ability of the local population to address its needs? Would the Project create a substantial change in community interaction patterns, social organization, social structures, or social institutions; substantial conflict with community attitudes, values, or perceptions; or substantial inequities in the distribution of the costs and benefits?

Construction

Less than Significant Impact. Construction of the Project could result in temporary changes to community character. The peak workforce present on-site could result in increased disruption and traffic, which could adversely affect nearby residents. However, the increase would be temporary, and minor due to the small number of workers required for Project construction. Therefore, impacts related to community character and community interaction would be less than significant.

Operation

Less than Significant Impact. The Project Site is located on approximately 10 acres of active agricultural production, which represents less than 0.1 percent of the 339,500 acres of farm in Solano County in 2022. This change would not result in job losses, as agricultural labor at the Project Site is seasonal and contracted through a third-party provider serving multiple farms. The Project is located near the PG&E Vaca-Dixon Substation and associated power lines; thus, Project activities would be consistent with existing land uses and other activities in the vicinity. No job loss associated with existing agricultural production in the Project Site are anticipated due to the Project. Therefore, no significant impact to community character are anticipated.

Additionally, the Project would increase electric grid reliability in the region and provide voltage support. A reduction in the frequency of power disruptions would benefit residents and businesses in a region that currently faces ongoing electricity constraints (Appendix Q). Increased electric grid stability would allow communities in the region to continue to be productive when they otherwise might not, increasing the local population's ability to address its needs.

A Community Benefits Agreement has been prepared for the Project (Appendix J) which outlines a plan to invest resources with local organizations that community leaders, in collaboration with the Applicant, identify as priority needs and would contribute to enhancing community character and resident quality of life. Therefore, impacts related to community character and community interaction would be less than significant.

5.6.3.3 Environmental Justice

This analysis relies on guidelines established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Center on Environmental Quality (CEQ). The purpose of this analysis is to assess the potential impacts of Project development on local Environmental Justice (EJ) communities, namely minority and low-income populations that may be disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards and who experience reduced quality of life as compared to other communities. The criteria for "minority" and "low-income" communities are defined as follows:

Minority populations: Individual(s) who are members of the following population groups: American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian or Pacific Islander; Black, not of Hispanic origin; or Hispanic. Minority populations should be identified where either: (a) the minority population of the affected area exceeds 50 percent or (b) the minority population percentage of the affected area is meaningfully greater than the minority population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis (Appendix Q).

Low-income populations: Low-income populations in an affected area should be identified with the annual statistical poverty thresholds from the Bureau of the Census' Current Population Reports, Series P-60 on Income and Poverty. In identifying low-income populations, agencies may consider as a community either a group of individuals living in geographic proximity to one another, or a set of individuals (such as migrant workers or Native Americans), where either type of group experiences common conditions of environmental exposure or effect (Appendix Q).

A community is defined as low-income if median household income is below 200% of the federal poverty level (Appendix Q).

The analysis area for impacts to EJ communities includes all census tracts within a 10-mile radius of the Project Site. This area represents the population that could potentially experience negative environmental impacts associated with construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the Project. The state of California is used as a reference area to determine the EJ Threshold for the census tracts in the analysis areas. Table 5.6-21 displays the threshold applied for low-income, minority, and Native American/Indigenous populations based on the statewide reference area and CEQ Guidelines.

Table 5.6-21 EJ Community Selection Thresholds

California Minority Threshold	Low Income Threshold	Tribal/Indigenous Threshold
50%	23%	3.60%
Appendix Q		

Table 5.6-22 provides the EJ status of each Census Tract within a 10-mile radius of the Project based on its composition of minority, low-income, and tribal/indigenous populations. Of the 33 tracts that fall partially or entirely within the radius, 25 contain EJ populations. Light grey shading indicates that a census tract meets the criteria in question. Based on estimates in the first three columns, the final column establishes whether a Census Tract qualifies as an EJ community.

Table 5.6-22 EJ Status by Census Tract

Census Tract	Share Minority	Share Considered Low Income	Share Tribal/Indigenous	EJ Status
2529.13	39%	15%	10%	Yes
2529.08	55%	4%	5%	Yes
2531.06	39%	15%	2%	No
2523.15	64%	8%	3%	Yes
2529.12	46%	7%	7%	Yes
2528.02	44%	9%	10%	Yes
2529.14	62%	16%	8%	Yes
2532.08	70%	23%	1%	Yes
2534.02	58%	22%	5%	Yes
2543.04	44%	19%	0.3%	No
2529.10	49%	7%	5%	Yes
2532.07	39%	9%	4%	Yes
2530	82%	0%	5%	Yes
2531.05	60%	25%	3%	Yes
2533	40%	16%	3%	No
2523.13	55%	17%	5%	Yes
2532.06	49%	6%	3%	No
2531.01	35%	14%	1%	No
2532.03	44%	22%	6%	Yes
2531.08	51%	20%	3%	Yes
2532.16	79%	25%	4%	Yes
2529.03	32%	7%	2%	No
2529.04	51%	7%	1%	Yes
2529.11	39%	6%	5%	Yes
2529.15	60%	5%	9%	Yes
2528.01	47%	24%	17%	Yes
2532.01	36%	9%	11%	Yes
2534.03	48%	8%	2%	No
2523.17	77%	14%	9%	Yes
9800	0%	0%	0%	No
2529.09	52%	4%	2%	Yes
2532.05	53%	17%	2%	Yes
2531.07	63%	23%	6%	Yes

Appendix Q

Results and Conclusion

As discussed in Impact SOC-6, the temporary construction phase may increase the demand for public services at the Project Site, including for law enforcement, fire protection, and emergency medical services. The potential increase in demand could adversely impact services for EJ communities of concern, temporarily over the construction phase. The Project Site is located along I-80, a well-traveled freeway with significant existing traffic due to population growth in the region (Appendix Q). Though the construction workforce and other construction related traffic would increase traffic commuting to the Project Site, this increase would be temporary and is anticipated to be minor due to the relatively small number of employees needed for Project construction.

Additionally, impacts related to public services, traffic, noise, air quality, hazards and aesthetics have the capacity to impact people both directly and indirectly. As described in Sections 5.3, *Noise*, 5.4, *Traffic and Transportation*, 5.5, *Visual Resources*, 5.7, *Air Quality*, 5.8, *Public Health*, 5.9, *Hazardous Materials Handling*, and 5.11, *Waste Management*, there would be no significant and unavoidable impacts that could directly or indirectly affect humans. Therefore, no related impacts to EJ communities are anticipated.

5.6.4 Cumulative Impacts

Overall Project

The impact analysis highlights that most of the Project's impacts would be beneficial to the local economy. Population and housing effects as well as job loss would be insignificant at the scale of the Socioeconomics Study Area and 60-minute commute area. Other construction projects that require non-local labor and occur at the same time as the Project could produce adverse cumulative effects on temporary housing resources in Solano County. This includes several energy production projects and other commercial and industrial developments that are planned or approved and located within three miles of the Project Site. A full list of these projects is included in Section 5, *Environmental Analysis*. As with demands on housing, construction projects in Solano County that occur at the same time as this Project could produce adverse cumulative impacts on response times for emergency responders. Projects not under construction at the same time are unlikely to produce cumulative impacts related to the construction labor force.

The energy projects also in development within three miles of the Project Site are likely to attract vandalism, trespass, and other issues that law enforcement and emergency responders must attend to; these incidences have increased in recent years, including at solar projects in the County. Coordination and ongoing monitoring and security response for each of these facilities is likely to contribute to cumulative adverse impacts on local law enforcement agencies. These potential cumulative impacts should be discussed with public safety providers in the region to identify potential opportunities to reduce demands on law enforcement. This may include additional investments in private security and ongoing coordination with local law enforcement officers. As discussed under Impact SOC-5, security measures and fire protection measures would be implemented to reduce the impacts associated with increased police and fire activity on the Project Site. With implementation of these measures, cumulative impacts would be less than significant.

5.6.5 Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards

This section lists and discusses the socioeconomic-related LORS that apply to the Project. Table 5.6-23 summarizes the LORS relevant to the Project.

Table 5.6-23 Applicable Law, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards

Jurisdiction	LORS	Requirements/Applicability	Opt-In Application Reference	Project Conformity
State	Government Code Section 65040.12 subd (e)	Defines and proposes methods for advancing environmental justice; defines environmental justice as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of people of all races, cultures, incomes., and national origins, with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.	Section 5.6.3.3	The definitions created by this policy were incorporated into the environmental justice analysis for the Project.
State	Title 14 California Code, Section 15131 (CEQA)	CEQA identifies several environmental factors that are addressed or referenced in this analysis, including Population/Housing, Utilities/Service Systems, Public Services, and Agriculture Resources. Economic/social effects of a project are not treated as significant effects on the environment, while they may be used to determine the significance of physical changes caused by the project.	Section 5.6.3	The CEC shall consider the social, economic, and housing factors presented in this Opt-In Application to determine whether changes to a project are necessary to avoid or reduce potentially significant effects on the environment.
State	Government Code Sections 65996-65997	Establishes the levying of a fee on construction of industrial facilities be considered as mitigating impacts on school facilities.	Impact SOC-6	The Project would pay applicable School District Impact fees, if determined to be required for the operations and maintenance building.
State	Education Code Section 17620	Allows school districts to levy a fee against any construction within district boundaries to fund the construction of school facilities as a one-time assessment fee to mitigate against potential school impacts of development.	Impact SOC-6	The Project would pay applicable School District Impact fees, if determined to be required for the operations and maintenance building.
Local	Ordinance No. 2024-1852-U-E	Extension of an interim ordinance prohibiting new commercial battery energy storage systems within unincorporated territory of Solano County. Temporarily pauses BESS permitting in unincorporated Solano County until January 23, 2026.	N/A	While the ordinance temporarily prohibits BESS facilities in Solano County, AB 205 grants the CEC jurisdiction over Project approval, overriding local permitting processes.
Local	Vacaville Unified School District (VUSD) Developer Fees	VUSD charges developer fees for residential and commercial/industrial developments. Commercial/industrial fees are $0.84 per square foot.	Impact SOC-6	The Project would pay applicable School District Impact fees.

Source: Appendix Q

5.6.6 Agencies and Agency Contact

Table 5.6-24 lists local agencies responsible for public services and economic development in the Socioeconomics Study Area.

Table 5.6-24 Agency Contacts for Socioeconomics

Issue	Agency	Contact Information
Public Services		
Law Enforcement	City of Vacaville Police Department	Chris Polen Police Chief, City of Vacaville Police Department chris.polen@cityofvacavile.com
Fire/EMS	City of Vacaville Fire Department	Kris Concepcion[1] Fire Chief 630 Merchant Street Vacaville, CA 95688 (707) 449-5452
		Jill Childers Fire Marshal/Safety Coordinator jill.childers@cityofvacaville.com
		Alex Nourot Deputy Fire Chief alex.nourot@cityofvacaville.com
	Dixon Fire Department	Randy Shafer Acting Fire Chief 205 Ford Way Dixon, CA 95620 (707) 678-7060
Transportation	California Department of Transportation	Vince Jacala Branch Chief, Solano County, CalTrans District 4 vince.jacala@dot.ca.gov
EMS	Solano County, Office of Emergency Services	Benjamin Gammon EMS Agency Administrator, Solano County bggammon@solanocounty.com 707-784-8155

1 Chief Concepcion is anticipated to step down from his position in January 2026 (City of Vacaville 2025b).

Source: Appendix Q

5.6.7 Permits and Permit Schedule

No permits related to socioeconomics have been identified that would be required for construction and/or operation of the Project.

5.6.8 References

City of Vacaville. 2025. Field Operations. https://www.cityofvacaville.gov/government/fire-department/about-vfd/operations. (Accessed March 2025).

_____. 2025b. City of Vacaville Fire Department. https://www.cityofvacaville.gov/government/fire-department (accessed July 3, 2025).

ECOnorthwest. 2025. Socioeconomic Technical Report. Included as Appendix Q.

Solano County. 2008. Solano County General Plan – Public Services and Facilities Element. https://www.solanocounty.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=6498 (accessed February 2025).