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<b>Document Title:</b>	Section 3-19 Utilities and Service Systems
<b>Description:</b>	This Section evaluates the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts the Project may have related to utilities and service systems and identifies any required Applicant-Proposed Measures (APM) and any required Mitigation Measures.
<b>Filer:</b>	Hannah Gbeh
<b>Organization:</b>	Resolution Environmental
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Applicant Consultant
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## 3.19 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

This section of the EIR addresses the project’s potential for environmental impacts related to the provision of utilities and service systems for the project. Utilities include water supply services, wastewater services, stormwater drainage, solid waste services, electricity services, and natural gas services. This analysis is based on the review of existing resources; technical data; applicable laws, regulations, and guidelines; and the following technical reports prepared for the project:

- *Water Supply Assessment*, prepared by SWCA Environmental Consultants (2024) (Appendix J).

### 3.19.1 Regulatory Setting

#### 3.19.1.1 Federal

##### **CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN OF 1980, AS AMENDED**

The 25 million-acre California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) contains over 12 million acres of public lands spread within the area known as the California Desert, which includes the following three deserts: the Mojave, the Sonoran, and a small portion of the Great Basin. Approximately 10 million acres of the CDCA public lands are administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Lands within the project site are designated Multiple-Use Classes L, M, and I under the CDCA Plan. Specifically, with respect to waste disposal, the CDCA Plan requires that no hazardous or nonhazardous waste disposal is allowed in any areas within the CDCA, regardless of multiple-use class. Thus, any solid waste generated by the project would require off-site disposal.

##### **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT DESERT RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN**

In September 2016, the BLM adopted the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA) to the CDCA Plan, Bishop Resource Management Plan, and Bakersfield Resource Management Plan. The DRECP LUPA addresses solar, wind, and geothermal energy generation and transmission projects on 10.8 million acres of BLM-administered lands in the desert regions of southern California (BLM 2016).

The BLM DRECP LUPA establishes several land use classifications, including Development Focus Areas (DFAs), Variance Process Lands (VPLs), Recreation Management Areas, General Public Lands, and various conservation land use designations. In DFAs, renewable energy projects are incentivized, and permitting is streamlined. Renewable energy projects may be implemented on VPLs, but they must first be evaluated under a variance process and then approved by the BLM to proceed through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental review. BLM Conservation Areas include National Landscape Conservation System lands, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), and Wildlife Allocations. Recreation Management Areas are designated for recreation actions. This designation includes Extensive Recreation Management Areas, which entail management specifically to address recreation use and demand; and Special Recreation Management Areas, which are high-priority areas for recreation and have unique value and importance for recreation. General Public Lands are BLM-administered lands that do not have a specific land allocation or designation associated with energy development, conservation, or recreation. These lands are not needed to fulfill the DRECP biological conservation or renewable energy strategy. These areas are available to renewable energy applications but do not benefit from permit review streamlining or other incentives.

Most of the project site is on DRECP General Public Lands, and the gen-tie route is within an ACEC.

## **CLEAN WATER ACT**

In 1972, the federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act [CWA]) was amended to prohibit the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States unless the discharge receives a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The CWA focused on tracking point sources, primarily from wastewater treatment facilities and industrial waste dischargers, and required implementation of control measures to minimize pollutant discharges. The CWA was amended again in 1987, adding Section 402(p), to provide a framework for regulating municipal and industrial stormwater discharges. In November 1990, the EPA published final regulations that establish application requirements for specific categories of industries, including construction projects that encompass greater than or equal to 5 acres of land. The Phase II Rule became final in December 1999, expanding regulated construction sites to those greater than or equal to 1 acre. The regulations require that stormwater and non-stormwater runoff associated with construction activity that discharges either directly to surface waters or indirectly through Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), must be regulated by an NPDES permit.

## **SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT**

The purpose of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) is to protect public health by regulating the nation's public drinking water supply. The SDWA authorizes the EPA to set national health-based standards for drinking water to protect against both naturally occurring and human-made contaminants that may be found in drinking water. Potential contaminants include improperly disposed chemicals, animal wastes, pesticides, human threats, waste injected underground, and naturally occurring substances. In addition, water that is not properly treated may pose a threat to drinking water. The SDWA applies to all public water systems across the nation. The EPA, individual states, and water systems work in coordination to ensure that these standards are met. The EPA identifies potential contaminants, determines an allowable maximum contaminant level, and enforces the set standards.

### **3.19.1.2 Regional**

## **URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Public water systems are required by the California Water Code to prepare Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs) to carry out “long-term resource planning responsibilities to ensure adequate water supplies to meet existing and future demands for water” (California Water Code 10610.2). UWMPs are prepared using input from multiple water systems operating in a region. They include assessment of the reliability of water supply over a 20-year period and account for known and projected water demands during that time, including during normal, single dry, and multiple dry water years (Mojave Water Agency [MWA] 2021).

The MWA created an UWMP for 2020 that covers the entire MWA service area. The project water supply source lies within the Baja Subarea, an adjudicated water basin, and therefore, groundwater within the basin is actively managed to achieve sustainability. As part of the UWMP, an analysis was performed to determine whether MWA has adequate water supplies to meet demands during average, single dry, and multiple dry years over the next 25 years.

## **STIPULATED JUDGMENT (WATERMASTER CITY OF BARSTOW ET AL., V. CITY OF ADELANTO ET AL., RIVERSIDE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. 208568)**

Case No. 208568 in the Riverside County Superior Court, which has been adjudicated, pertains to the Mojave Basin. Groundwater extraction from the basin is regulated by a 1996 stipulated judgment issued

by the same court. The Mojave Basin Area is delineated into five distinct yet hydrologically interconnected subareas. Each subarea was determined to be in overdraft to some extent. Some subareas historically received part of their natural water supply from upstream subareas, either on the surface or as subsurface flow. To maintain this historical relationship, the average annual obligation of any subarea to another is set equal to the estimated average annual natural flow between the subareas over the 60-year period from 1930–1931 through 1989–1990. If a subarea fails to meet its obligation, producers in the upstream subarea must provide makeup water to the downstream subarea.

To ensure water balance in each subarea, the judgment established a decreasing free production allowance (FPA) in each subarea for the initial 5 years. Subsequently, the court reviews and adjusts the FPA for each subarea annually. The FPA is distributed among producers based on their percentage share of the FPA, calculated from their base annual production (BAP) during the 5-year base period (1986–1990). Any water produced beyond a producer's FPA share must be replaced, either through payment to the Watermaster for replacement water or by transferring unused FPA from another producer. Producers are permitted to extract water as needed annually within each subarea, contingent on compliance with the Physical Solution outlined in the judgment. The underlying assumption is that the basin's future water needs will be met through a combination of natural supply, imported water, water conservation, water reuse, and FPA transfers among producers.

### **3.19.1.3 State**

#### **SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT**

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act is a three-bill legislative package, comprising Assembly Bill (AB) 1739, Senate Bill (SB) 1168, SB 1319, and subsequent statewide regulations. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act provides a statewide framework for the long-term protection of groundwater resources by requiring local agencies to form groundwater sustainability agencies for high- and medium-priority basins.

Those groundwater sustainability agencies are required to develop and implement a groundwater sustainability plan to mitigate the overdraft of groundwater resources. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is responsible for assessing existing conditions and prioritizing groundwater basins within the state. The project site is within the Lower Mojave River Valley Groundwater Basin, which has been designated as a very low priority basin (DWR 2020).

#### **CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT**

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) mandated local jurisdictions to meet waste diversion goals of 25% by 1995 and 50% by 2000 and established an integrated framework for program implementation, solid waste planning, and solid waste facility and landfill compliance. AB 939 requires Cities and Counties to prepare, adopt, and submit to CalRecycle a source reduction and recycling element to demonstrate how the jurisdiction will meet the diversion goals. Other elements included encouraging resource conservation and considering the effects of waste management operations. The diversion goals and program requirements of the act are implemented through a disposal-based reporting system by local jurisdictions under California Integrated Waste Management Board regulatory oversight. AB 939 has achieved substantial progress in waste diversion, program implementation, solid waste planning, and protection of public health, safety, and the environment from landfill operations and solid waste facilities. In 2011, AB 341 was passed, requiring CalRecycle to require that local agencies adopt strategies that will enable 75% diversion of all solid waste by 2020.

Since 2007, CalRecycle has measured solid waste diversion rates by comparing reported disposal tons to population to calculate per capita disposal, expressed in pounds per person per day (PPD). The per-capita disposal rate is a jurisdiction-specific index used as one of several factors in determining a jurisdiction's compliance with AB 939 that allows jurisdictions, as well as CalRecycle, to set their primary focus on the successful implementation of diversion programs. CalRecycle measures per capita disposal rates for two measures of population, the total number of residents of a local jurisdiction ("population") and the estimate of the annual average number of people employed at businesses within the jurisdiction ("employment"). For most jurisdictions, CalRecycle uses population disposal rates to set diversion goals. For jurisdictions whose primary source of solid waste is business, CalRecycle may use the employment disposal rates.

In 2022, unincorporated San Bernardino County had an annual population disposal PPD of 5.8, which is below the County-specific target maximum of 6.2 PPD. The County also met the County-specific employment disposal target of 43.3 PPD by having an annual disposal of 31.0 PPD (CalRecycle 2022).

## **STATE-MANDATED SOLID WASTE DIVERSION**

As landfills reach their capacities and new landfill sites become increasingly difficult to establish, the need to reduce solid waste generation is significant. State law currently requires that local jurisdictions divert at least 50% of their solid waste from landfills through recycling, conservation, and composting. The County of San Bernardino is required to comply with state regulations.

## **CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE AND GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS**

The California Building Code (CBC) contains standards that regulate the method of use, properties, performance, or types of materials used in the construction, alteration, improvement, repair, or rehabilitation of a building or other improvements to real property. The CBC is adopted every 3 years by the Building Standards Commission.

"Green" building standards are virtually indistinguishable from any other building standards, are contained in the CBC, and regulate the construction of new buildings and improvements. Whereas the focus of traditional building standards has been protecting public health and safety, the focus of green building standards is to improve environmental performance. The green building standards were most recently updated in January 2023 and are detailed in the 2022 California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen). CALGreen Section 5.408 requires the diversion of at least 65% of the construction waste generated during construction (CALGreen 2023).

## **CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 1374**

SB 1374 was implemented to assist jurisdictions with diverting construction and demolition waste material. Per SB 1374, Public Resources Code (PRC) 41821 requires public agencies to include a summary of the progress made in diverting construction and demolition waste according to diversion goals included in AB 939. Per SB 1374, PRC 41850 authorizes CalRecycle to fine jurisdictions that do not meet the required goals. Additionally, per SB 1734, PRC 42912 requires that CalRecycle adopt a model ordinance for diverting 50% to 75% of all construction and demolition waste from landfills.

## **SENATE BILL 901, 610, AND 267, WATER SUPPLY ASSESSMENT**

SB 901 was enacted in 1995 to ensure that Cities and Counties assess the adequacy of available water supplies to meet projected water demand prior to approving certain types of new land development projects. SB 901, also known as the Water Supply Assessment (WSA) law, requires that before a project is granted approval, the city or county must request the preparation of a WSA by the public water supplier

that will serve the project. The provisions of SB 901 were codified in Water Code Sections 10910 through 10915.

In 2001, California adopted SB 610 and SB 221, amending the CWC to require that certain types of development projects provide detailed assessments of water supply availability and reliability to county and city decision-makers prior to project approval. Preparation of a WSA is required for specified projects subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including a proposed industrial facility occupying more than 40 acres of land (CWC 10912(a)). WSAs identify water supply needs for a described project over a 20-year projection under varying climatic conditions. The primary purpose of these requirements is to promote collaborative planning of local water supplies and land use decisions. Because the language of SB 610 is unclear on whether renewable energy projects meet the definition of a “project,” this analysis takes a conservative approach and considers renewable energy projects to be subject to the requirements of SB 610. In accordance with this law, a WSA was prepared to support the analysis in this EIR (see Appendix J).

### **14 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS DIVISION 7.3**

Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) (14 CCR 17200 et seq.) provides minimum requirements for solid waste handling and disposal within the state. The regulations implement standards for the disposal and storage of solid waste, for nonhazardous wastes, and solid wastes from industrial sources. Specific requirements are included for the handling and disposal of construction and demolition wastes, nonhazardous contaminated soil, waste tires, nonhazardous ash, and inert debris. Additional requirements are provided for transfer and processing facilities, siting and design standards, operation, and recordkeeping and reporting.

### **22 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS DIVISION 4.5**

Title 22, Division 4.5 of the CCR (22 CCR 66250 et seq.) discusses an array of requirements with respect to the disposal and recycling of hazardous and universal wastes. Specific standards and requirements are included for the identification, collection, transport, disposal, and recycling of hazardous wastes. Additional standards are included for the collection, transport, disposal, and recycling of universal wastes, defined as those wastes identified in 22 CCR 66273.9, including batteries, electronic devices, mercury-containing equipment, lamps, cathode ray tubes, and aerosol cans. Requirements include recycling, recovery, returning spent items to the manufacturer, or disposal at an appropriately permitted facility. Title 22, Division 4.5 also provides restrictions and standards relevant to waste destination facilities and provides authorization requirements for various waste handlers. Note that Title 22 includes California’s Universal Waste Rule, as well as other additional waste handling and disposal requirements.

### **27 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS DIVISION 2**

Title 27, Division 2 of the CCR (27 CCR 20005 et seq.) implements regulations of CalRecycle and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) with respect to the disposal of wastes on land. The regulations implement a waste classification and management system, which determines whether wastes are compatible with containment features of specific disposal facilities, and whether wastes are considered hazardous. Additional requirements are included for the waste disposal sites, including construction standards, liner requirements, siting criteria, and operational management requirements. Water quality monitoring requirements are also included, along with associated contamination response programs. Finally, disposal facility closure and post-closure requirements, compliance with reporting programs, and financial assurance requirements also are included.

### 3.19.1.4 Local

The project is located on federally owned land managed by the BLM. While it is not subject to County land use plans and ordinances, local plans were reviewed for informational purposes.

#### SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN

The following policies identified in the Infrastructure & Utilities element of the San Bernardino County General Plan are relevant to this analysis (San Bernardino County 2020).

**Goal IU-1 Water Supply** Water supply and infrastructure are sufficient for the needs of residents and businesses and resilient to drought.

- **Policy IU-1.1 Water supply.** We require that new development be connected to a public water system or a County-approved well to ensure a clean and resilient supply of potable water, even during cases of prolonged drought.
- **Policy IU-1.2 Water for military installations.** We collaborate with military installations to avoid impacts on military training and operations from groundwater contamination and inadequate groundwater supply.
- **Policy IU-1.3 Recycled water.** We promote the use of recycled water for landscaping, groundwater recharge, direct potable reuse, and other applicable uses in order to supplement groundwater supplies.
- **Policy IU-1.4 Greywater.** We support the use of greywater systems for non-potable purposes.
- **Policy IU-1.5 Agricultural water use.** We encourage water-efficient irrigation and the use of non-potable and recycled water for agricultural uses.
- **Policy IU-1.6 User fees.** For water systems operated by County Special Districts, we establish user fees that cover operation and maintenance costs and set aside adequate reserves for capital upgrades and improvements.
- **Policy IU-1.7 Areas vital for groundwater recharge.** We allow new development on areas vital for groundwater recharge when stormwater management facilities are installed onsite and maintained to infiltrate predevelopment levels of stormwater into the ground.
- **Policy IU-1.8 Groundwater management coordination.** We collaborate with watermasters, groundwater sustainability agencies, water purveyors, and other government agencies to ensure groundwater basins are being sustainably managed. We discourage new development when it would create or aggravate groundwater overdraft conditions, land subsidence, or other “undesirable results” as defined in the California Water Code. We require safe yields for groundwater sources covered by the Desert Groundwater Management Ordinance.
- **Policy IU-1.9 Water conservation.** We encourage water conserving site design and the use of water conserving fixtures, and advocate for the adoption and implementation of water conservation strategies by water service agencies. For existing County-owned facilities, we incorporate design elements, building materials, fixtures, and landscaping that reduce water consumption, as funding is available.
- **Policy IU-1.10 Connected systems.** We encourage local water distribution systems to interconnect with regional and other local systems, where feasible, to assist in the transfer of water resources during droughts and emergencies.

- **Policy IU-1.11 Water storage and conveyance.** We assist in development of additional water storage and conveyance facilities to create a resilient regional water supply system, when it is cost effective for County-owned water and stormwater systems.

**Goal IU-2 Wastewater Treatment and Disposal** Residents and businesses in unincorporated areas have safe and sanitary systems for wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal.

- **Policy IU-2.1 Minimum parcel size.** We require new lots smaller than one-half acre to be served by a sewer system. We may require sewer service for larger lot sizes depending on local soil and groundwater conditions, and the County's Local Area Management Program.
- **Policy IU-2.2 User fees.** For wastewater systems operated by County Special Districts, we establish user fees that cover operation and maintenance costs and set aside adequate reserves for capital upgrades and improvements.
- **Policy IU-2.3 Shared wastewater facilities for recycled water.** We encourage an expansion of recycled water agreements between wastewater entities to share and/or create connections between wastewater systems to expand the use of recycled water.

**Goal IU-3 Stormwater Drainage** A regional stormwater drainage backbone and local stormwater facilities in unincorporated areas that reduce the risk of flooding.

- **Policy IU-3.1 Regional flood control.** We maintain a regional flood control system and regularly evaluate the need for and implement upgrades based on changing land coverage and hydrologic conditions in order to manage and reduce flood risk. We require any public and private projects proposed anywhere in the county to address and mitigate any adverse impacts on the carrying capacity and stormwater velocity of regional stormwater drainage systems.
- **Policy IU-3.2 Local flood control.** We require new development to install and maintain stormwater management facilities that maintain predevelopment hydrology and hydraulic conditions.
- **Policy IU-3.3 Recreational use.** We prefer that stormwater facilities be designed and maintained to allow for regional open space and safe recreation use without compromising the ability to provide flood risk reduction.
- **Policy IU-3.4 Natural floodways.** We retain existing natural floodways and watercourses on County- controlled floodways, including natural channel bottoms, unless hardening and channelization is the only feasible way to manage flood risk. On floodways not controlled by the County, we encourage the retention of natural floodways and watercourses. Our priority is to reduce flood risk, but we also strive to protect wildlife corridors, prevent loss of critical habitat, and improve the amount and quality of surface water and groundwater resources.
- **Policy IU-3.5 Fair share requirements.** We require new development to pay its fair share of capital costs to maintain adequate capacity of the County's regional flood control systems.

**Goal IU-4 Solid Waste** Adequate regional landfill capacity that provides for the safe disposal of solid waste, and efficient waste diversion and collection for unincorporated areas.

- **Policy IU-4.1 Landfill capacity.** We maintain a minimum ongoing landfill capacity of 15 years to serve unincorporated waste disposal needs.
- **Policy IU-4.2 Transfer stations.** We locate and operate transfer stations based on overall system efficiency.



- **Policy IU-4.3 Waste diversion.** We shall meet or exceed state waste diversion requirements, augment future landfill capacity, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and use of natural resources through the reduction, reuse, or recycling of solid waste.
- **Policy IU-4.4 Landfill funding.** We require sufficient fees for use of County landfills to cover capital costs; ongoing operation, maintenance, and closure costs of existing landfills; and the costs and liabilities associated with closed landfills.

**Goal IU-5 Power and Communications** Unincorporated area residents and businesses have access to reliable power and communication systems.

- **Policy IU-5.1 Electricity and natural gas service.** We partner with other public agencies and providers to improve the availability and stability of electricity and natural gas service in unincorporated communities.
- **Policy IU-5.2 Expanded high-speed internet and wireless communication.** We encourage the expansion of expand affordable, high-speed internet access in underserved and unserved unincorporated communities. We encourage the expansion of advanced mobile and fixed wireless communication technologies that improve service, coverage, and reliability throughout the county.
- **Policy IU-5.3 Underground facilities.** We encourage new and relocated power and communication facilities to be located underground when feasible, particularly in the Mountain and Desert regions.
- **Policy IU-5.4 Electric transmission lines.** We support the maintenance of existing and development of new electric transmission lines along existing rights-of-way and easements to maintain the stability and capacity of the electric distribution system in southern California.
- **Policy IU-5.5 Energy and fuel facilities.** We encourage the development and upgrade of energy and regional fuel facilities in areas that do not pose significant environmental or public health and safety hazards, and in a manner that is compatible with military operations and local community identity.
- **Policy IU-5.6 Dig once approach.** We encourage infrastructure, telecommunication, and utility planning and projects to coordinate so that improvements are made concurrently or in such a manner that minimizes disruption to rights-of-way and reduces costs.

## **SAN BERNARDINO COUNTYWIDE INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

State law requires Counties in California, in conjunction with their Cities, to prepare a Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP) to reduce dependence on landfilling solid waste, and to ensure an effective and coordinated effort to safely manage solid waste generated within the state. The San Bernardino CIWMP includes a Source Reduction and Recycling Element, Countywide Siting Element, Household Hazardous Waste Element, and a Non-Disposal Facility Element. The CIWMP contains goals and policies that profile the County's current waste as well as a summary of integrated waste management issues faced by the County and strategies being utilized in its approach to these issues. It summarizes waste management programs designated by the County's jurisdictions to meet their 50% waste reduction mandates and suggests steps necessary to cooperatively implement and administer specific programs regionally or countywide (San Bernardino County 2018).

## **SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

San Bernardino County has adopted CALGreen, which includes mandatory construction and demolition waste recycling (San Bernardino County 2022). Projects that have the potential to generate construction and demolition waste are required to submit a Construction and Demolition Solid Waste Management Plan (WMP) to identify the estimated quantity and location of recycling for construction and demolition waste resulting from the project. The goal of the WMP is to recycle, reuse, compost, and/or salvage a minimum of 50% by weight of the waste generated on-site. The WMP must be approved by the Solid Waste Management Division prior to issuance of building permits. An “Actual Material Disposal/Diversion Worksheet” is required upon completion of construction that demonstrates the actual quantity of construction and demolition waste recycled.

### **SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY GROUNDWATER ORDINANCE NO. 3872**

San Bernardino County (County) adopted this ordinance to help protect water resources in unregulated portions of the desert while not precluding its use. The ordinance requires a permit to locate, construct, operate, or maintain a new groundwater well within the unincorporated, unadjudicated desert region of San Bernardino County. CEQA compliance must be completed prior to issuance of a permit, and groundwater management, mitigation, and monitoring may be required as a condition of the permit. The ordinance states that it does not apply to “groundwater wells located on federal lands unless otherwise specified by inter-agency agreement.” The BLM and County entered into a memorandum of understanding, which establishes that the BLM will require conformance with this ordinance for all projects proposing to use groundwater from beneath public lands within the county.

### **SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY TECHNICAL GUIDANCE MANUAL FOR ON-SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS**

The San Bernardino County Division of Environmental Health Services (EHS) has published guidelines for the minimum setback and location of septic systems (San Bernardino County EHS 2024). The guidelines provide guidance to project contractors, engineers, designers, and installers for on-site wastewater treatment systems within San Bernardino County. According to the manual, installation of the proposed septic system would require a setback of at least 100 feet between the system and the nearest groundwater well. There are no existing groundwater wells within 5 miles of the proposed septic system.

## **3.19.2 Environmental Setting**

### **3.19.2.1 Water**

#### **GROUNDWATER**

Two separate groundwater basins underlie the project site: the Soda Lake Valley Groundwater Basin and the Cronise Valley Groundwater Basin (DWR 2019); neither basin has been adjudicated, and both are considered very low priority under the SGMA (DWR 2019). Water will be trucked to the project site from a private water supply source approximately 40 miles southwest of the project site. The water supply wells overlie the Lower Mojave River Valley Groundwater Basin, an adjudicated basin that is part of the Baja Subarea, an administrative unit managed by the Mojave Water Agency (MWA) (Figures 3.10-1 and 3.10-2).

### **3.19.2.2 Wastewater**

The project site is not currently served by a public wastewater treatment service provider.

### **3.19.2.3 Stormwater**

The project site is located in the valley portion of the Soda Lake Watershed. Interstate 15 (I-15) intersects a large historic alluvial fan landscape, and culverts were constructed beneath the highway to collect and allow passage of upstream water from the north side of the highway to the south side. In addition to the culverts, large berms and the elevated highway prevent upstream water from passing through until diverted toward and through one of the culverts.

### **3.19.2.4 Solid Waste**

The project would generate both hazardous and nonhazardous solid waste during construction and operation. Nonhazardous solid waste would generally be recycled or disposed of at a Class II/III landfill. The project would employ third parties to manage appropriate handling and disposal of nonhazardous solid waste. The San Bernardino County Solid Waste Management Division (SBCSWMD) is responsible for the operation and management of the County's solid waste disposal system, which consists of five landfills and nine transfer stations. Table 3.19-2 summarizes the six active permitted Class III solid waste disposal facilities within a 100-mile radius of the project site that accept construction/demolition solid waste, and data on daily throughput, permit capacity, remaining capacity, and total number of enforcement actions from state or local agencies on record. One facility, Wells Cargo landfill in Clark County, Nevada, was excluded from this list despite proximity to site, as information regarding the landfill's throughput was unavailable online and the facility did not respond to a request for permit information. Table 3.9-2 provides details on enforcement actions against these facilities.

Barstow Sanitary Landfill is an approximately 645-acre active solid waste disposal facility that accepts Class III waste, including biosolids, mixed municipal, industrial, construction/demolition, and agricultural wastes (CalRecycle 2024). Currently, only 331 acres are permitted for solid waste management. The permit capacity for the facility is 80,354,500 cubic yards per day (CYD), and as of May 2024, the facility has approximately 71,481,660 CYD of remaining capacity. The maximum permitted throughput for the facility is 1,500 tons per day (TPD). The facility has three recorded violations of minimum state standards (see Table 3.9-1).

Victorville Sanitary Landfill is an approximately 491-acre active solid waste disposal facility that accepts Class III waste, including wood waste, tires, biosolids, mixed municipal, industrial, construction/demolition, and agricultural wastes (CalRecycle 2024). The permit capacity for the facility is 93,400,000 CYD, and as of May 2024, the facility has approximately 79,400,000 CYD of remaining capacity. The maximum permitted throughput for the facility is 3,000 TPD. The facility has four recorded enforcement actions by state and local regulatory agencies (see Table 3.9-2).

Landers Sanitary Landfill is an approximately 637-acre active solid waste disposal facility that accepts Class III waste, including tires, biosolids, mixed municipal, industrial, and construction/demolition wastes (CalRecycle 2024). Currently, only 92 acres of the land are permitted for solid waste management. The permit capacity for the facility is 13,983,500 CYD, and as of May 2024, the facility has approximately 11,148,100 CYD of remaining capacity. The maximum permitted throughput for the facility is 1,200 TPD. The facility has three recorded enforcement actions by state and local regulatory agencies (see Table 3.9-2).

Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill is an approximately 498-acre active solid waste disposal facility that accepts Class III waste, including wood waste, tires, mixed municipal, inert, industrial, green material, dead animal, contaminated soil, construction/demolition, and agricultural wastes (CalRecycle 2024). Currently, 408 acres are permitted for solid waste management. The permit capacity for the facility is 101,300,000 CYD, and as of May 2024, the facility has approximately 54,219,377 CYD of remaining capacity. The maximum permitted throughput for the facility is 7,500 TPD. The facility has five recorded enforcement actions by state and local regulatory agencies (see Table 3.9-2).

California Street Sanitary Landfill is an approximately 115-acre active solid waste disposal facility that accepts Class III waste, including biosolids, mixed municipal, and construction/demolition wastes (CalRecycle 2024). Currently, 106 acres of the land are permitted for solid waste management. The permit capacity for the facility is 11,400,000 CYD, and as of May 2024, the facility has approximately 5,168,182 CYD of remaining capacity. The maximum permitted throughput for the facility is 829 TPD. The facility has 12 recorded enforcement actions by state and local regulatory agencies (see Table 3.9-2).

San Timoteo Sanitary Landfill is an approximately 366-acre active solid waste disposal facility that accepts Class III waste, including biosolids, mixed municipal, inert, industrial, dead animals, construction/demolition, and agricultural wastes (CalRecycle 2024). Currently, 114 acres are permitted for solid waste management. The permit capacity for the facility is 23,685,785 CYD and as of May 2024, the facility has approximately 12,360,396 CYD of remaining capacity. The maximum permitted throughput for the facility is 1,800 TPD. The facility has two recorded enforcement actions by state and local regulatory agencies (see Table 3.9-2).

**Table 3.19-1 Solid Waste Disposal Facilities within 100 Miles of the Project Site**

Facility	Location	Class	Permitted Capacity (CYD)	Remaining Capacity (CYD)	Permitted Throughput (TPD)	Estimated Closure Date	Enforcement Actions Noted
Barstow Sanitary Landfill	32553 Barstow Road Barstow, CA 92311	III	80,354,500	71,481,660	1,500	5/1/2071	3
Victorville Sanitary Landfill	18600 Stoddard Wells Road Victorville, CA 92307	III	93,400,000	79,400,000	3,000	10/1/2047	4
Landers Sanitary Landfill	59200 Winters Road Landers, CA 92285	III	13,983,500	11,148,100	1,200	1/1/2072	3
Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill	2390 N. Alder Avenue Rialto, CA 92377	III	101,300,000	54,219,377	7,500	4/1/2045	5
California Street Sanitary Landfill	2151 Nevada Street Redlands, CA 92373	III	11,400,000	5,168,182	829	1/1/2042	12
San Timoteo Sanitary Landfill	San Timoteo Canyon Road Redlands, CA 92373	III	23,685,785	12,360,396	2,000.00	12/1/2039	2

Source: CalRecycle 2024

CYD = cubic yards per day; TPD = tons per day

**Table 3.19-2: Summary of Solid Waste Disposal Facility Enforcement Actions**

Facility	Enforcement Action Number	Program	Regulation Number	Regulation Title	Issued	Final Compliance
Barstow Sanitary Landfill	2009-011655-NOI	State	20921	Gas Monitoring and Control	8/5/2009	12/3/2009
	1996-000264-NOI	State	17535	Litter Control	4/24/1996	5/17/1996
	1994-000164-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	11/15/1994	5/12/1995
Victorville Sanitary Landfill	2010-011686-NOI	State	20921	Gas Monitoring and Control	1/13/2010	1/14/2010
	1997-000674-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	10/3/1997	8/13/1998
	1997-000646-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	6/11/1997	9/3/1997
	1994-000172-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	11/15/1994	5/11/1995
Landers Sanitary Landfill	2023-012794-NOI	State	20830	Litter Control	6/8/2023	7/13/2023
	1999-001137-NOI	State	20830	Litter Control	6/21/1999	9/10/1999
	1994-000167-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	11/15/1994	8/1/1995
Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill	1997-000650-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	10/24/1997	11/3/1997
	1997-000491-NOI	State	17711	Litter Control	1/17/1997	2/4/1997
	1996-000429-NOI	State	17676	Confined Unloading	8/26/1996	9/19/1996
	1996-000346-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	6/18/1996	11/3/1997
				18255	Submittal of Plans	
	1994-000165-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	11/15/1994	3/1/1995
California Street Sanitary Landfill	2015-012243-NOI	State	20615	Supervision	8/17/2015	9/24/2015
	2014-012141-CS	LEA	20921	Gas Monitoring and Control Closure PC	6/6/2014	4/23/2018
	2014-012136-LIS	State	20921	Gas Monitoring and Control Closure PC	5/19/2014	4/23/2018
	2014-012124-NOI	State	20921	Gas Monitoring and Control Closure PC	2/13/2014	Superseded
	2012-012041-NOI	LEA	-	No site documents available	9/10/2012	4/2/2013
	2010-011805-NOI	State	20530	Site Security	7/19/2010	9/28/2010
	1995-000059-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	8/7/1995	3/1/1996
	1995-000057-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	7/28/1995	3/1/1996
	1995-000056-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	3/29/1995	3/1/1996
	1994-000058-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	11/23/1994	3/1/1996
	1993-000055-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	2/17/1993	3/1/1996
	1992-000054-NAO	LEA	44004	Significant Change	3/12/1992	3/1/1996
San Timoteo Sanitary Landfill	2002-010241-NOI	LEA	21600	Report of Disposal Site Information	12/7/2001	12/17/2001
	1998-001141-NOI	LEA	21600	Report of Disposal Site Information	11/3/1998	11/23/1998

Source: CalRecycle (2024).

### **3.19.2.5 Electric Power and Other Utilities**

Infrastructure surrounding the site includes two high-voltage electric transmission lines, an electrical distribution line, wireless cellular telephone towers, two fiber-optic cables, and two fuel pipelines. The two high-voltage electrical transmission lines to the west of I-15 are a 115-kilovolt (kV) sub-transmission line owned by Southern California Edison and the Mead-Adelanto 500-kV transmission line operated by the Los Angeles Department of Public Works. The Mead-Adelanto Transmission Project is a 202-mile, 500 kV alternating current transmission line that extends between a southwest terminus at the Adelanto substation in Southern California and a northeast terminus at Marketplace Substation approximately 17 miles southwest of Boulder City, Nevada. The transmission line has a transfer capability of 1,291 MW (SCPPA 2024).

## **3.19.3 Impact Analysis**

### **3.19.3.1 Thresholds of Significance**

The determinations of significance of project impacts are based on applicable policies, regulations, goals, and guidelines defined by CEQA and San Bernardino County. Specifically, the project would be considered to have a significant effect on utilities and service systems if the effects exceed the significance criteria described below:

1. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects.
2. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years.
3. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments.
4. Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals.
5. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

Each of these thresholds is discussed under Section 3.19.4, Impact Assessment, below.

### **3.19.3.2 Methodology**

The following impact assessment evaluates the potential for the project to require new or relocated utility infrastructure or exceed existing utility infrastructure capacities and whether or not any necessary improvements may have the potential to cause significant environmental effects.

### **3.19.3.3 Applicant-Proposed Measures**

The applicant has identified and committed to implementing the following APMs as part of the proposed project to avoid or substantially lessen potentially significant impacts to utilities and service systems, to the extent feasible. The APMs, where applicable, are discussed in the impact analysis section below.

- **APM USS-1:** Prior to issuance of a notice to proceed, the project applicant shall submit a Waste Recycling Plan (WRP) to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the BLM. At a minimum, the WRP must identify the materials (e.g., solar panels, cardboard, concrete, asphalt, wood) that will be generated by construction and development; the projected amounts of each; the applicable state and local laws and regulations governing waste disposal and recycling (e.g., Department of Toxic Substances Control regulations regarding photovoltaic modules); the measures/methods that will be taken to recycle, reuse, and/or reduce the amount of materials; the facilities and/or haulers that will be utilized; and the targeted project-specific recycling or reduction rate. During construction, the project site shall have, at a minimum, two bins: one for waste disposal and the other for the recycling of construction and demolition (C&D) materials. Additional bins are encouraged to be used for further source separation of C&D recyclable materials and shall be provided if required by applicable state and local laws. The project applicant shall maintain accurate records (receipts or other types of verification) for recycling of C&D recyclable materials and solid waste disposal; arrangements for such receipts can be made through the franchise hauler. These receipts will be retained to demonstrate compliance with the approved WRP if requested by the agencies and must clearly identify the amount of waste disposal and C&D materials recycled.
- **APM USS-2:** Standard in situ testing (deep percolation tests) would be performed at locations where septic or alternative wastewater disposal systems are proposed. The applicant shall document that any proposed sites for septic or alternative wastewater disposal systems meet all applicable standards, and that documentation shall be made available to BLM.

### **3.19.3.4 Impact Assessment**

#### **IMPACT USS-1:**

***Impact USS-1: Would the project require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects? (Less Than Significant)***

#### **Water, Electric Power, Natural Gas, and Telecommunications**

The project would construct a new electric solar power facility that includes electric power and telecommunications connections. The project would not be connected to a public water system and would not use natural gas. The electric power and telecommunications would be attached to existing distribution lines, telecommunications infrastructure, and the project's substation. There would be no need to relocate any existing electric power or telecommunications structures. Given the proximity of existing facilities to the project site, the project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new water or natural gas facilities during construction, operation, maintenance, and future decommissioning. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

#### **Wastewater**

The project would not be connected to a public wastewater system and would not cause waste that would be treated in an existing wastewater treatment plant. A septic system and leach field would be located at adjacent to the operations and maintenance buildings to serve the project's sanitary and wastewater treatment needs. As outlined in APM USS-2, the project would conduct percolation testing and design of the septic system to meet San Bernardino County EHS septic system requirements. The project would not

require or result in the relocation or construction of new wastewater facilities that would cause significant environmental impacts. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

### **Stormwater**

Current state and federal water quality regulations, along with the proposed Stormwater Pollution Prevention (SWPPP), aim to maintain compliance with stormwater, water quality, and waste discharge standards throughout all phases of the project, including construction, operations, and eventual decommissioning. Compliance with these regulations would ensure that the project would not require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects. Therefore, impacts related to construction or relocation of service utilities would be **less than significant**.

**Impact USS-2: *Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years? (Less Than Significant)***

The project would transport water from two private groundwater wells for construction and operations and maintenance. The groundwater wells are located approximately 40 miles southwest of the project site in Newberry Springs. Water would be stored onsite in storage tanks. The estimated volumes of water use would be nominal in comparison to the estimated groundwater basin availability. Refer to Section 3.10, Hydrology and Water Quality, Impact HYD-2 for further analysis on impacts to groundwater supply. There would be sufficient water supplies available to serve the project during normal, dry, or multiple dry year scenarios. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

**Impact USS-3: *Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? (No Impact)***

The project would not be connected to a public sewer system and would not produce waste that would be treated in an existing wastewater treatment plant. A septic system and leach field would be constructed adjacent to the permanent buildings to serve the sanitary and wastewater treatment needs of the project. **No impacts** would result from the proposed project.

**Impact USS-4: *Would the project generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals? (Less Than Significant)***

### **Construction**

Construction of the project would generate solid waste. All waste generated during construction would be stored in wind-proof and wildlife-proof containers that would be periodically sorted and transported to an off-site disposal facility authorized to accept the waste. As outlined in APM USS-1, the project would prepare a WRP that identify construction waste, the projected amounts of each; the applicable state and local laws and regulations governing waste disposal and recycling; the measures/methods that will be taken to recycle, reuse, and/or reduce the amount of materials; the facilities and/or haulers that will be utilized; and the targeted project-specific recycling or reduction rate. Table 3.19-3 presents a summary of anticipated waste streams created by construction activities. The quantities listed in Table 3.19-3 are estimates and are subject to change based on design modifications or market conditions.



**Table 3.19-3. Potential Waste Generated during Construction**

Waste	Origin	Composition	Classification	Disposal	Estimated Quantity
Concrete	General Construction	Concrete	Nonhazardous	Recycle or Class II/III landfill	16 tons
Excavated soil	Excavation, trenching	Soils	Nonhazardous	On-site re-use or Class II/III landfill	449,900 cubic yards
Scrap metal	Construction of infrastructure	Metal	Nonhazardous	Recycle or Class II/III landfill	65 tons
Cardboard	Packaging	Paper	Nonhazardous	Recycle or Class II/III landfill	337 tons
Office waste	Administrative work	Paper, plastic	Nonhazardous	Recycle or Class II/III landfill	108 tons
Solar panel waste (1) (Qcell or equivalent)	Construction of solar arrays	Glass, plastic, metal, lead	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 2 tons
Battery Energy Storage System Waste	Faulty or damaged lithium batteries	Metal, plastic, lithium	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 2 tons
Sanitary waste	Portable restrooms, handwashing	Biological liquid/solid	Nonhazardous	Off-site treatment/disposal by contractor	27 tons
Process Water	Washing of equipment, dust suppression	Water, dirt	Nonhazardous	Evaporation	300,000 gallons
Waste oil	Heavy equipment maintenance	Hydrocarbon	Hazardous	Recycle/disposal by certified contractor	500 gallons
Miscellaneous solvents (detergents, paint, adhesives)	Equipment maintenance	Water, organics, inorganics	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 100 lbs
Fuels	Vehicles, generators, heavy equipment	Hydrocarbon	Hazardous	Recycle	< 50 gal
Oil filters	Vehicles, generators, heavy equipment	Hydrocarbons, cellulose, glass, polyester	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 800 lbs
Oily rags/sorbents	Spill cleanup	Hydrocarbons, peat, clay, cotton	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 1000 lbs
Spent lead acid batteries	Battery operated equipment	Heavy metal	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 1000 lbs
Spent alkaline batteries	Battery operated equipment	Metals	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal at universal waste facility	< 300 lbs
Aerosol cans	Equipment maintenance	Hydrocarbons	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 500 lbs

1) Solar cell designation as a hazard material determined by Qcell (current anticipated solar panel to be installed) SDS which states product has a 1% lead content, which is equivalent to 10,000 PPM. According to DTSC, total threshold limit for lead is 1,000 PPM. The exact model solar cell to be installed could change as needed to a panel of equivalent construction and function.

Nonhazardous construction waste would be recycled or disposed of at a Class II/III landfill, 6 of which exist within a 100-mile radius of the project site. The project would employ third parties to manage appropriate handling and disposal of nonhazardous solid waste. Considering there are multiple locations that would accept anticipated construction waste streams, and the solid waste landfills listed in Table C

would have a collective remaining capacity of over 228 million cubic yards, waste generated from construction of the solar facility, step-up substation, and gen-tie line components would not exceed the capacity of surrounding accepting facilities. Therefore, project construction would have a **less than significant impact** involving solid waste recycling, disposal capacity, and impaired attainment of solid waste reduction goals.

### Operation and Maintenance

Project operation is expected to produce minimal amounts of solid waste, primarily from on-site workers conducting regular maintenance. This waste will be gathered by the workers either daily or as needed and will be taken to a certified landfill or recycling facility off-site for proper disposal. Additionally, during operation and maintenance, some photovoltaic panels would require replacement due to breakage or other damage or to take advantage of new technologies. Removed photovoltaic panels would be recycled or disposed of in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal standards and regulations. Table 3.19-4 presents a summary of anticipated waste streams created during project operation; these quantities are estimates and are subject to change based on design modifications or market conditions.

**Table 3.19-4. Potential Waste Generated during Operations**

Waste	Origin	Composition	Classification	Disposal	Estimated Quantity
Scrap metal	Miscellaneous O&M projects	Metal	Nonhazardous	Recycle or Class II/III landfill	< 500 lbs
Office waste	Administrative work	Paper, plastic	Nonhazardous	Recycle or Class II/III landfill	< 30,000 lbs
Solar panel waste (Qcell or equivalent)	Solar array operation and maintenance	Glass, plastic, metal, lead	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 500 lbs (< 6 solar panel failures)
Battery Energy Storage System Waste	Spent lithium batteries	Metal, plastic, lithium	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 1000 lbs
Substation waste	Transformer maintenance	Metal, oil	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 500 lbs
Switchyard waste	Switchyard maintenance	Metals	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 500 lbs
Sanitary waste and wastewater	Handwashing sinks, toilets	Biosolids	Nonhazardous	Septic system	< 8000 lbs
Panel washing water	Washing of array panels	Water, dirt	Nonhazardous	Evaporation	750,000 gallons
Waste oil	Heavy equipment maintenance	Hydrocarbon	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	100 gallons
Miscellaneous solvents (detergents, paint, adhesives)	Equipment maintenance	Water, organics, inorganics	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 25 gallons
Welding materials	Infrastructure maintenance	Metal	Hazardous	Recycle or disposed of in class I landfill	< 250 lbs
Oil filters	Vehicles, heavy equipment	Hydrocarbons, cellulose, glass, polyester	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 50 lbs
Oily rags/sorbents	Spill cleanup	Hydrocarbons, peat, clay, cotton	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 100 lbs

Waste	Origin	Composition	Classification	Disposal	Estimated Quantity
Spent lead acid batteries	Battery operated equipment	Heavy metal	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 200 lbs
Spent alkaline batteries	Battery operated equipment	Metals	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal at universal waste facility	< 25 lbs
Aerosol cans	Equipment maintenance	Hydrocarbons	Hazardous	Recycle or disposal by certified contractor	< 10 lbs

Considering there are multiple locations that would accept anticipated operational waste streams, and the solid waste landfills listed in Table 3.19-4 have a collective remaining capacity of over 228 million cubic yards, waste generated from operation of the solar facility, step-up substation, and gen-tie line components would not exceed the capacity of surrounding accepting facilities. Therefore, project operation would have a **less than significant impact** involving solid waste recycling, disposal capacity, and impaired attainment of solid waste reduction goals.

Solid waste generated by project construction, operation, and decommissioning is not expected to impact landfill capacity. The project will adhere to all relevant federal, state, and local measures for reducing and recycling solid waste. Therefore, impacts related to landfill capacity would be **less than significant**.

**Impact USS-5: *Would the project comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste? (Less Than Significant)***

Refer to Impact USS-4 above. The project would adhere to the CALGreen standards and requirements for supporting the state's initiatives to reduce waste, enhance recycling activities, and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. At least 65% of waste generated during construction will be recycled in alignment with CALGreen objectives. Minimal amount of solid waste will be generated during the project operation, and materials will be recycled where possible. As such, the project would comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant**.

### 3.19.4 Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are required.

### 3.19.5 Cumulative Impacts

**Impact C-USS-1: *Would the impacts of the proposed project, in combination with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, contribute to a cumulative impact related to utilities and service systems? (Less than Significant)***

Several other utility-scale solar development projects are proposed within 50 miles of the proposed project. Together, with the proposed project, these projects could temporarily increase demand for solid waste disposal in San Bernardino County due to simultaneous increases in solid waste during construction and future decommissioning. However, this would not lead to a significant cumulative effect on utility service systems as all projects would adhere to existing state and local regulations on waste management, recycling, and landfill capacity within San Bernardino County. Therefore, the waste accepted by the Barstow Sanitary Landfill would not exceed capacity, and cumulative impacts to solid waste disposal

would be less than significant. Similarly, the cumulative impact to utility services during operations is not expected to be significant. The proposed project will source water from an off-site provider and will not produce wastewater and will not contribute to cumulative impacts to water or wastewater infrastructure. Therefore, considering past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, the cumulative impact regarding utilities and service systems during construction, operation, and decommissioning will be **less than significant**.

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