## SUPPLEMENT TO THE FINAL STAFF ASSESSMENT, DATED MAY 22, 2012 PIO PICO ENERGY CENTER (11-AFC-1)

**Public Health (Section 4.7)** 

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

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## CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS TO RECEPTORS IN THE ESTADOS UNIDOS MEXICANOS (MEXICO)

The proposed site for the Pio Pico Energy Center is located approximately one and a quarter miles north of Mexico (see Final Staff Assessment, **Project Description - Figure 3**). In describing the project's site and vicinity, page 4.7-3 of the Final Staff Assessment (FSA) states "there are no sensitive receptors within a three-mile radius of the site." Staff wants to clarify that the known absence of sensitive receptors applies to the area within the three-mile radius <u>on the United States side</u> of the border with Mexico. While the FSA identified the absence of sensitive receptors (i.e. individuals) on the American side of the border, there is a possibility of the presence of sensitive receptors within the portion of the three-mile radius that extends into Mexico.

Regarding noncancer health effects, as discussed on page 4.7-6 of the FSA, sensitive receptors are more responsive to the effects of toxic pollutants than the individual with normal sensitivity. Safe exposure limits (as discussed on page 4.7-6), are established to protect against pollutant impacts to sensitive individuals, whether in the United States or across the border in Mexico. Staff's analysis and conclusions in the FSA, on page 4.7-15 that no significant cancer, short-term or long-term health effects would be expected from PPEC-related impacts within the three-mile radius, applies equally to the area within the United States *and* the area within the three-mile radius that extends across the international border into Mexico. Therefore, the presence of sensitive receptors, if any, within the three-mile radius in Mexico would not result in any change to staff's analysis and conclusions as set forth in the FSA.