

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING PLN-2040 06/13/2019

NEGATIVE DECLARATION & NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION NO. ED19-163

DATE: August 22, 2019

PROJECT/ENTITLEMENT: Chesebrough and AT&T Mobility Conditional Use Permit / DRC2018-00128

APPLICANT NAME: Robert and Donna Chesebrough and AT&T Mobility
 Email: jambrose@wireless01.com
 ADDRESS: 1452 Edinger Avenue, 3rd Floor, Tustin, CA 92780
 CONTACT PERSON: Jerry Ambrose, Eukon Group
 Telephone: (805) 637-7407

PROPOSED USES/INTENT: A request by Robert and Donna Chesebrough and AT&T Mobility for a Conditional Use Permit (DRC2018-00128) to allow for the construction and operation of a wireless communications facility consisting of twelve (12) panel antennas, thirty-six (36) remote radio units, six (6) surge suppression units, two (2) microwave dishes, and associated equipment and hardware, all within an approximately 24-feet wide, 28.5-feet tall cylinder portion of a new 57.5-feet tall faux elevated water tank to be located within a 28-foot by 28-foot lease area, surrounded by a 6-feet tall cattle guard enclosure. The project also includes a 64-square-foot equipment lease area located approximately 25 feet east of the proposed water tank, surrounded by a 6-feet tall cattle guard enclosure. The project will result in the disturbance of approximately 1,275 square feet (including utility trenching) on an approximately 244-acre parcel. The proposed project is within the Agriculture land use category.

LOCATION: The proposed project is located at 790 Moss Lane, approximately 1.5 miles east of the community of Templeton. The site is in the El Pomar-Estrella Sub Area of the North County Planning Area.

LEAD AGENCY: County of San Luis Obispo Dept of Planning & Building 976 Osos Street, Rm. 200 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040 Website: http://www.sloplanning.org

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW: YES 🛛 NO 🗌

OTHER POTENTIAL PERMITTING AGENCIES: N/A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information pertaining to this Environmental Determination may be obtained by contacting the above Lead Agency address or (805)781-5600

COUNTY "REQUEST FOR REVIEW" PERIOD ENDS AT 4:30 p.m. (2 wks from above DATE) 30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD begins at the time of public notification

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Notice of Determination	State Clearinghouse No				
This is to advise that the San Luis Obispo County <i>Responsible Agency</i> approved/denied the above has made the following determinations regarding the	described project on, and				
The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. Mitigation measures and monitoring were made a condition of approval of the project. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted for this project. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.					
This is to certify that the Negative Declaration with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at the 'Lead Agency' address above.					
Cody Scheel (<u>cscheel@co.s</u>	o.ca.us) County of San Luis Obispo				
Signature Project Manager Nat	ne Date Public Agency				



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING

Initial Study - Environmental Checklist

Chesebrough and AT&T Mobility Wireless Facility Conditional Use Permit ED19-163 (DRC2018-00128)

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The proposed project could have a "Potentially Significant Impact" for environmental factors checked below. Please refer to the attached pages for discussion on mitigation measures or project revisions to either reduce these impacts to less than significant levels or require further study.



DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the Environmental Coordinator finds that:

The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE
DECLARATION will be prepared.

Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Cody Scheel	Coy Schol	8/7/19
Prepared by (Print)	Signature	Date
Lacey Minnick Reviewed by (Print)	Lacey Minnick Signature	For Steve McMasters, Principal Environmental Specialist Date

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Project Environmental Analysis

The County's environmental review process incorporates all of the requirements for completing the Initial Study as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. The Initial Study includes staff's on-site inspection of the project site and surroundings and a detailed review of the information in the file for the project. In addition, available background information is reviewed for each project. Relevant information regarding soil types and characteristics, geologic information, significant vegetation and/or wildlife resources, water availability, wastewater disposal services, existing land uses and surrounding land use categories and other information relevant to the environmental review process are evaluated for each project. Exhibit A includes the references used, as well as the agencies or groups that were contacted as a part of the Initial Study. The County Planning Department uses the checklist to summarize the results of the research accomplished during the initial environmental review of the project.

Persons, agencies or organizations interested in obtaining more information regarding the environmental review process for a project should contact the County of San Luis Obispo Planning Department, 976 Osos Street, Rm. 200, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93408-2040 or call (805) 781-5600.

A. Project

DESCRIPTION: A request by Robert and Donna Chesebrough and AT&T Mobility for a Conditional Use Permit (DRC2018-00128) to allow for the construction and operation of a wireless communications facility consisting of twelve (12) panel antennas, thirty-six (36) remote radio units, six (6) surge suppression units, two (2) microwave dishes, and associated equipment and hardware, all within an approximately 24-feet wide, 28.5-feet tall cylinder portion of a new 57.5-feet tall faux elevated water tank to be located within a 28-foot by 28-foot lease area, surrounded by a 6-feet tall cattle guard enclosure. The project also includes a 64-square-foot equipment shelter and a diesel standby emergency generator, within a 25-foot by 15-foot equipment lease area located approximately 25 feet east of the proposed water tank, surrounded by a 6-feet tall cattle guard enclosure. The proposed by a 6-feet tall cattle guard enclosure. The proposed by a 6-feet tall cattle guard enclosure. The proposed by a 6-feet tall cattle guard enclosure. The proposed by a 6-feet tall cattle guard enclosure. The proposed project will result in the disturbance of approximately 1,275 square feet (including utility trenching) on an approximately 244-acre parcel. The proposed project is within the Agriculture land use category and is located at 790 Moss Lane, approximately 1.5 miles east of the community of Templeton. The site is in the El Pomar-Estrella Sub Area of the North County Planning Area.

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S): 034-011-005

Latitude:	35⁰ 32' 30.87" ≬	N Longitude:	120° 40' 55.32" W	SUPERVISORIAL	DISTRICT #	5		
B. Existing Setting								
Plan Area:	North County	Sub:	El Pomar/Estrella	Comm:	Rural			
Land Use Ca	tegory:	Agriculture						
Combining D	Designation:	None						
Parcel Size:		244.4 acres						
Topography	:	Gently sloping to moderately sloping						
Vegetation: Agriculture, Scattered Oaks								
Existing Use	s:	Agricultural uses, resic	lential					

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Surrounding Land Use Categories and Uses:

North:	Agriculture; agricultural uses	East:	Agriculture; agricultural uses
South:	Agriculture; agricultural uses	West:	Agriculture; agricultural uses

C. Environmental Analysis

The Initial Study Checklist provides detailed information about the environmental impacts of the proposed project and mitigation measures to lessen the impacts.

I. AESTHETICS

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Exce	pt as provided in Public Resources Code Section	21099, would the	e project:		
(a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?		\boxtimes		
(b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				\boxtimes
(c)	In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				
(d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			\boxtimes	

Setting

The proposed wireless communications facility is located approximately 1,650 feet south of Moss Lane and 1.33 miles from the unincorporated community of Templeton. The project site is within a predominantly rural agricultural area and is located on gently rolling topography surrounded by sparsely developed large agricultural parcels. A single-family residence, barn, small accessory structures, livestock paddocks, and pasture are located on the project site. The surrounding visual setting includes vast agricultural views, open hillsides, scattered rural residences, and other agricultural infrastructure and accessory development. The surrounding land is used primarily for grazing or grain cultivation. No nearby roadways have been officially designated as scenic highways; however, Highway 101 has been identified as an eligible state scenic highway by the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) California Scenic Highway Mapping System (2018). The proposed project site is 1.67 miles east of Highway 101.

Section 22.30.180 of the Land Use Ordinance establishes the following screening standard for wireless communications facilities:

All facilities shall be screened with vegetation or landscaping. Where screening with vegetation is not feasible, the facilities shall be disguised to resemble rural, pastoral architecture (ex: windmills, barns, trees) or other features determined to blend with the surrounding area and be finished in a texture and color deemed unobtrusive to the neighborhood in which it is located.

Conservation and Open Space Element Policy VR 9.3 states:

Locate, design and screen communications facilities, including towers, antennas, and associated equipment and buildings in order to avoid views of them in scenic areas, minimize their appearance and visually blend with the surrounding natural and built environments. Locate such facilities to avoid ridge tops where they would silhouette against the sky as viewed from major public view corridors and locations.

Conservation and Open Space Element Policy VR 9.4 states:

Encourage collocation of communications facilities (one or more carriers sharing a site, tower, or equipment) when feasible and where it would avoid or minimize adverse visual effects.

Discussion

(a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

A scenic vista is generally defined as a high-quality view displaying good aesthetic and compositional values that can be seen from public viewpoints. Some scenic vistas are officially or informally designated by public agencies or other organizations. A substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista would occur if the project would significantly degrade the scenic landscape as viewed from public roads or other public areas. A proposed project's potential effect on a scenic vista is largely dependent upon the degree to which it would complement or contrast with the natural setting, the degree to which it would be noticeable in the existing environment, and whether it detracts from or complements the scenic vista.

The project site is located in a rural area accessed by a driveway off of Moss Lane, which serves as the primary public view of the project site. The project vicinity has an appealing rural and agricultural character but is not officially or informally designated as a scenic vista. The proposed project could have a potentially significant impact on visual resources as seen from Moss Lane, since it would introduce a new use which could be visually incompatible with the character of the surrounding rural residential and agricultural landscape.

The applicant submitted photo-simulations of the proposed facility from key viewing angles along Moss Lane and from Lupine Lane. The photo-simulations demonstrate that the facility will be primarily visible from Moss Lane, and less visible from Lupine Lane. However, since the facility is designed to appear like an agrarian-style elevated water tank, it will be aesthetically compatible with the surrounding area. The proposed perimeter fence is in character with the surrounding residential/agrarian setting since it is a metal cattle guard style fence that matches existing fencing on the property. In order to reduce visual impacts, the project is subject to mitigation measures that require the applicant to use colors and materials that are characteristic of an agrarian-style water tank and equipment shelter. These measures, identified in detail in the mitigation summary table (Exhibit B), would reduce the project's potential visual impacts to a level of insignificance. Therefore, impacts to the quality of the visual character of the area would be *less than significant with mitigation*.

(b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

Among the most prominent scenic features of the project site is the mature oak trees to the south. The project site is not located along nor is visible from a designated state scenic highway or eligible

state scenic highway. Therefore, the project would not result in substantial damage to scenic resources within a state scenic highway, and there would be *no impact*.

(c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

The proposed project could have a potentially significant impact on visual resources since it would introduce a new use which could be visually incompatible with the character of the surrounding rural residential landscape. The project site is located in a rural area accessed by a driveway off Moss Lane, which serves as the primary public key viewing area of the project site. the applicant submitted photo-simulations of the proposed facility from key viewing angles along Moss Lane and Lupine Lane. The photo-simulations demonstrate that the site will be visible from the road, primarily from Moss Lane. However, since the facility is designed to appear like an agrarian-style elevated water tank, it will be aesthetically compatible with the surrounding area. The proposed perimeter fence is in character with the surrounding residential/agrarian setting since it is a metal cattle guard style fence that matches existing fencing on the property. In order to reduce visual impacts, the project is subject to mitigation measures that require the applicant to use colors and materials that are characteristic of an agrarian-style water tank and equipment shelter. These measures, identified in detail in the mitigation summary table (Exhibit B), would reduce the project's potential visual impacts to a level of insignificance. Therefore, impacts to the quality of the visual character of the area would be *less than significant with mitigation*.

(d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

The proposed project would not result in the installation of lighting. The water tank would appear as a natural aged-wood tank, which would not result in substantial glare. Therefore, impacts relating to nighttime lighting and glare would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

Although the proposed communications facility is not a use that is inherently compatible with the character of the surrounding residential/agrarian landscape, the proposed project is a stealth design that would blend with existing natural features of the landscape. Since the proposed facility would visually blend with the landscape, it would not be readily discernible as a wireless communications facility. This is consistent with the visual screening standard for wireless communications facilities which requires facilities to either be completely screened by vegetation or disguised to resemble natural or built features of the landscape. In order to reduce visual impacts, the project is subject to mitigation measures that require the applicant to use colors and materials that are characteristic of an agrarian-style water tank and equipment shelter. These measures, identified in detail in the mitigation summary table (Exhibit B), would reduce the project's potential visual impacts to a level of insignificance.

Mitigation

AES-1

At the time of application for construction permits, the construction drawings shall show the following specifications:

a. The water tank shall be designed to appear as a natural aged-wood tank with realistic appearing color and texture treatments for both the tank and the support

structure. No signs, banners, or graphic displays shall be painted or otherwise depicted on the tank.

- b. All of the antennas (with the exception of the GPS antennas located on the equipment shelter) shall be located completely within the faux tank.
- c. The coaxial cables and cable tray shall be located below the fence line and shall not be visible to the public.
- AES-2 At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall submit accurate scaled engineering and architectural drawings of the water tank exactly as proposed. Water tank plans shall not include generic illustrations of a typical faux tank. The drawings shall include elevations and plan views. Once approved, the water tank plans shall be specifically used (in conjunction with approved color and material samples and other related documents) as a basis for assessing condition compliance during construction. The plans, specifications and estimates, and construction schedule shall provide for revisions and corrections to the water tank engineering and architectural plans prior to preparation of the final plans.
- AES-3 Prior to issuance of construction permits, the applicant shall submit material and color test samples of all visible elements of the water tank to the County Department of Planning and Building for review and approval.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

	Less Than		
	Significant		
Potentially	with	Less Than	
Significant	Mitigation	Significant	
Impact	Incorporated	Impact	No Impact

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

(a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique		\boxtimes
	Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide		
	Importance (Farmland), as shown on the		
	maps prepared pursuant to the		
	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring		
	Program of the California Resources		
	Agency, to non-agricultural use?		

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		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?			\boxtimes	
(c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?				
(d)	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				\boxtimes
(e)	Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				

Setting

The following area-specific elements relate to the property's importance for agricultural production:

Land Use Category: Agriculture	Historic/Existing Commercial Crops: Row		
	crops		
State Classification: Farmland of Local	In Agricultural Preserve? No		
Importance	Under Williamson Act contract? Yes		

Based on the California Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) and the San Luis Obispo County Important Farmland Map (DOC 2019), the entire project site contains Farmland of Local Importance. The project site is subject to a Williamson Act contract and has historically grown irrigated row crops, irrigated pasture, and dry farmed grain crops. The soil type and characteristics of the project area include:

<u>160-Lockwood-Concepcion complex</u>, 9 to 15 percent slopes. This complex consists of rolling soils on terraces. This complex is very deep, moderately well to well drained, and has very slow to moderately slow permeability. The complex also has medium runoff potential and moderate erodibility. Main uses include cultivated crops and urban land. Soil erosion can be controlled by cultivating across the slope, maintaining crop residue on or near the surface during periods of rain, and by using crop rotation. This complex has moderate to high shrink-swell potential. This soil is classified as Not Prime Farmland by the NRCS and has a California Revised Storie Index of Grade 2 – Good.

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Initial Study – Environmental Checklist

<u>179-Nacimiento-Los Osos complex, 9 to 30 percent slopes.</u> This complex consists of moderately steep soils on hills. The complex is moderately deep, well drained, slow to moderately slow permeability, rapid surface runoff and high erodibility. The complex has a high shrink-swell potential. The major use includes rangeland. Management considerations include paying special attention to erosion and surface compaction. Maintaining adequate crop residue on the soil surface helps control erosion. This soil is classified as Not Prime Farmland by the NRCS. This soil is not applicable for Storie Index.

Other soils on the project site, but outside of the project area, include:

128-Cropley clay, 2 to 9 percent slopes.

Linne-Calodo complex, 50 to 75 percent slopes.

Lockwood-Concepcion complex, 2 to 9 percent slopes.

Discussion

(a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

The proposed project area is not underlain by soils classified as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or as Farmland of Statewide Importance by the FMMP. The project area is however classified as Farmland of Local Importance. Farmland of Local Importance is defined as land of importance to the local economy, as defined by each county's local advisory committee and adopted by its Board of Supervisors. Farmland of Local Importance is either currently producing, or has the capability of production, but does not meet the criteria of Prime, Statewide or Unique Farmland. The telecommunications tower would not be located on Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance and therefore there would be *no impact* to these farmland classifications.

(b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

The subject property is zoned for Agriculture and is currently subject to a Williamson Act contract. The proposed telecommunications tower would be located near the middle of the contracted property. Construction and operation of the telecommunications tower remove approximately 1,239 square-feet of contracted agricultural land from production (0.01 percent of the project site). The land that would be impacted is currently utilized for dry-farmed grain production and staging of agricultural equipment. The proposed facility would be unmanned and, once constructed, would generate approximately one roundtrip vehicle trip every four to six weeks for routine maintenance. The proposed project was referred to the County Agriculture Department, who determined that due to the location, site design, limited footprint, and proximity to existing access roads, the project would have a less than significant impact to on and off-site agriculture (Auchinachie 2018). Additionally, Table 2 of the County's Land Conservation Rules of Procedure lists communication facilities as an allowed use on lands subject to a contract. Based on the limited size of the project and the proposed project design, the project's impacts to existing zoning for agricultural use or Williamson Act contracts would be *less than significant*.

(c-d) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

The project site is not zoned for forest land, timberland, or Timberland Protection, and is not listed as Private Timberland or Public Land with Forest by the CDFW. There is no forest land onsite and the nearest forest land is approximately 7 miles to the west (Los Padres National Forest). The proposed project would have *no impacts* to forest and timberland.

(e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

As listed above in impact threshold a, the construction and use of the telecommunications tower would not affect Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, or forest land. As noted in Impact threshold c-d, the project site is not located on or near any areas zoned for forest land, timberland, and are not listed as Private Timberlands or Public Lands with Forests by the CDFW. Since the proposed project would not result in the conversion of Farmland or forest land to non-agricultural or non-forest use, there would be *no impact*.

Conclusion

The project would not directly or indirectly result in the conversion of farmland, forest land, or timber land to non-agricultural uses or non-forest uses and would not conflict with agricultural zoning or otherwise adversely affect agricultural resources or uses. No significant impacts to agricultural resources would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

III. AIR QUALITY

Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	
Impact	Incorporated	Impact	No Impact

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

(a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation		\boxtimes	
	of the applicable air quality plan?	 	,	

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		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(b)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non- attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?			\boxtimes	
(c)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			\boxtimes	
(d)	Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?				\boxtimes

Setting

The project site is located in the South Central Coast Air Basin (SCCAB) under the jurisdiction of the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (SLOAPCD). The SLOAPCD has developed and updated a CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012) and clarification memorandum (2017) to evaluate project specific impacts and help determine if air quality mitigation measures are needed, or if potentially significant impacts could result. To evaluate long-term emissions, cumulative effects, and establish countywide programs to reach acceptable air quality levels, a Clean Air Plan has been adopted (prepared by SLOAPCD).

Use of heavy equipment and earth moving operations during project construction can generate fugitive dust and engine combustion emissions that may have substantial temporary impacts on local air quality and climate change. Operational impacts are focused primarily on the indirect emissions (i.e., motor vehicles) associated with residential, commercial and industrial development. General screening criteria used by the SLO County APCD to determine the type and scope of projects requiring an air quality assessment, and/or mitigation, is presented in Table 1-1 of the CEQA Air Quality Handbook.

Sensitive receptors are people that have an increased sensitivity to air pollution or environmental contaminants, such as the elderly, children, asthmatics, and others who are at a heightened risk of negative health outcomes due to exposure to air pollution. Some land uses are considered more sensitive to changes in air quality than others, due to the population that occupies the uses and the activities involved. Sensitive receptor locations include schools, parks and playgrounds, day care centers, nursing homes, hospitals, and residences. The nearest offsite sensitive receptor to the project is a residence located approximately 1,894 feet to the southwest (APN 034-131-058).

Discussion

(a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

As proposed, the project would result in the disturbance of approximately 1,239 square feet. This will result in the creation of construction dust, as well as short- and long-term vehicle emissions. The project would be moving less than 1,200 cubic yards/day of material and would disturb less than four acres of area, and therefore would be below the general thresholds triggering construction-related mitigation. The project is also not in close proximity to sensitive receptors that might otherwise result in nuisance complaints and be subject to limited dust and/or emission control

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measures during construction. From an operational standpoint, based on Table 1-1 of the CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012), the project would not exceed operational thresholds triggering mitigation. The project is consistent with the general level of development anticipated and projected in the Clean Air Plan. Therefore, impacts related to conflict of an air quality plan would be *less than significant*.

(b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

San Luis Obispo County is currently designated as nonattainment status for federal ozone, state ozone, and state PM₁₀ standards. With regards to federal ozone standards, only the eastern portion of the county is designated nonattainment. The project would not result in a noticeable increase in vehicular traffic since long-term maintenance and operational trips associated with the facility would be minimal (one trip every four to six weeks) and would not substantially differ from existing onsite agricultural operations. Therefore, impacts related to a cumulatively considerable net increase of a criteria pollutant would be *less than significant*.

(c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

The project site is generally surrounded by agricultural land uses, with the nearest offsite sensitive receptor (a residence) approximately 1,894 feet to the southwest. As stated above, the project would result in 1,239 square feet of site disturbance and minimal grading. Because the project would be grading an area less than 4 acres, and would be located more than 1,000 feet from sensitive receptors, the project would be subject to SLOAPCD Rule 401 which requires the project to manage fugitive dust emissions so that they do not exceed 20% opacity. Therefore, the project would not result in substantial air pollutant concentrations within close proximity to a sensitive receptor location and impacts would be *less than significant*.

(d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

The project would not result in the generation of other emissions such as those leading to odors, and the project site is not within close proximity to a land use that could expose a substantial number of people to other emissions produced from the project site. Therefore, *no impacts would occur*.

Conclusion

The project would be consistent with the County Clean Air Plan and would not result in cumulatively considerable emissions of any criteria pollutant for which the County is in non-attainment. The project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations or result in other emissions adversely affecting a substantial number of people. Therefore, the project would not result in significant adverse impacts related to Air Quality.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	ld the project:				
(a)	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
(b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				
(c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				
(d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				
(e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				
(f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				

Setting

Vegetation on the project site consists of tilled agricultural fields, irrigated row crops, irrigated pasture, and scatted oak trees. Several ephemeral streams are located on the project site, the nearest being

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approximately 760 feet to the north. The nearest major water way is the Salinas River, approximately 1.37 miles west of the project. A small irrigation pond is also located on the site, approximately 230 feet to the west of the proposed facility.

The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) was queried for sensitive species within one mile of the proposed project. Two species were identified to have documented occurrences within the one-mile radius: shining navarretia and mesa horkelia (two occurrences).

Mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata var. puberula*): This perennial herb is generally found on sandy or gravelly soils in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub areas between the 70 and 810-meter elevation (230 to 2,660 feet). It has a blooming period of February-September. The mesa horkelia is considered rare by CNPS.

Shining navarretia (*Navarretia nigelliformis ssp. radians*): This annual herb generally occurs in wetlands and is found in valley grassland and foothill woodland communities between the 160 to 540-meter elevation (525 to 1,770 feet). It has a blooming period of April-July. The shining navarretia is considered rare by the CNPS.

As discussed in Section II: Agriculture and Forestry Resources, above, soil on the site is not considered sandy/gravelly and the project area does not contain depressions or other features that would be conducive to wetlands or vernal pools. Several oak trees are located to the west of the project area, but no trees would be impacted or removed as a result of construction or operation of the project.

Discussion

(a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

The project would result in approximately 1,239 square feet of site disturbance in an area that is regularly tilled and is currently used for agricultural equipment staging. The two special status species that are known to occur in the project area are expected to have a low probability of occurring onsite due to habitat conditions and historic site disturbance due to routine agricultural operations. Therefore, impacts to special status species would be *less than significant*.

(b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?

The proposed project area is located 500 feet from any riparian area. The project site is not located within the County's kit fox habitat mitigation area, and there are no other identified sensitive natural communities onsite. Impacts would be *less than significant*.

(c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

Based on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory, the existing agricultural stock pond is designated as a Freshwater Pond wetland (NWI 2019). The pond is located approximately 230 feet west of the proposed project and is enclosed by an existing fence. During application for construction permits, a drainage, sedimentation, erosion plan will be required and will be reviewed by the Department of Public Works (per Land Use Ordinance section 22.52.110). With implementation of this plan, impacts to wetlands would be *less than significant*.

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(d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

The project is not located in close proximity to any waterbodies that support migratory fish populations. The nearest trees to the project area are located approximately 230 feet to the west, and the project does not propose to impact or remove trees; therefore, impacts to migratory birds would be less than significant. The project site and neighboring project sites are fenced, significantly hindering the ability for wildlife movement through the area. According to the California Habitat Connectivity Viewer (2018), there are no know or proposed habitat connectivity corridors on the project site. Impacts are expected to be *less than significant*.

(e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

The County of San Luis Obispo has adopted an oak woodland preservation ordinance; however, the project is not proposing the removal of oak trees or construction within 1.5 times the dripline of oak trees. Therefore, the project would have *no impacts* on local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources.

(f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

There is no adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan adopted that includes the project site. Therefore, there will be *no impact.*

Conclusion

The project is not expected to result in significant biological impacts. Implementation of Land Use Ordinance section 22.52.110 will ensure no significant drainage related issues will occur to the agricultural pond/wetland.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	ld the project:				
(a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to § 15064.5?			\boxtimes	
(b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?			\boxtimes	
(c)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?			\boxtimes	

Setting

The project is located in an area historically occupied by two Native American tribes, the northernmost subdivision of the Chumash, the Obispeño (after Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa), and the Salinan. However, the precise location of the boundary between the Chumashan-speaking Obispeño Chumash and their northern neighbors, the Hokan-speaking Playanos Salinan, is currently the subject of debate, as those boundaries may have changed over time.

San Luis Obispo county possesses a rich and diverse cultural heritage and therefore has a wealth of historic and prehistoric resources, including sites and buildings associated with Native American inhabitation, Spanish missionaries, immigrant settlers, and military branches of the United States.

As defined by CEQA, a historical resource includes:

- 1. A resource listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR).
- Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant. The architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural records of California may be considered to be a historical resource, provided the lead agency's determination is supported by substantial evidence.

Pursuant to CEQA, a resource included in a local register of historic resources or identified as significant in an historical resource survey shall be presumed to be historically or culturally significant. Public agencies must treat any such resource as significant unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrates that it is not historically or culturally significant.

A Cultural Resources Survey was prepared for the project by EBI Consulting in January 2019. The report identified no known archaeological sites within 0.5 miles and a pedestrian survey was negative for resources.

Discussion

(a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to § 15064.5?

According to the Cultural Resources Survey, no known historical resources are present on the project site. Therefore, the project would have *no impact* on historical resources.

(b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?

No known archaeological resources are present on the project site. As noted above, the Cultural Resources Survey identified no known archaeological sites within 0.5 miles and a pedestrian survey was also negative for resources. In the unlikely event resources are uncovered during grading activities, implementation of LUO Section 22.10.040 (Archaeological Resources) would be required, which states:

In the event archeological resources are unearthed or discovered during any construction activities, the following standards apply:

A. Construction activities shall cease, and the Department shall be notified so that the extent and location of discovered materials may be recorded by a qualified archaeologist, and disposition of artifacts may be accomplished in accordance with state and federal law.

B. In the event archeological resources are found to include human remains, or in any other case when human remains are discovered during construction, the County Coroner shall be notified in addition to the Department so proper disposition may be accomplished.

Based on the low known sensitivity of the project site, and with implementation of LUO Section 22.10.040, impacts to archaeological resources would be *less than significant*.

(c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

The nearest dedicated cemetery is the Templeton Cemetery, located 2.4 miles to the northwest. The record and literature search of the project area did not identify any know burial sites within 0.5 miles of the project. Additionally, consultation with the Native American tribes did not result in identification of known burials. (See Section XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources.) Based on the low known sensitivity of the project site, and with implementation of LUO Section 22.10.040, impacts to human remains are expected to be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

County land Use Ordinance Section 22.10.040 includes a provision that construction work cease in the event resources are unearthed with work allowed to continue once the issue is resolved. No significant archaeological or historical resource impacts are expected to occur.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures above what are already required by ordinance are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

VI. ENERGY

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	ld the project:				
(a)	Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?			\boxtimes	
(b)	Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?			\boxtimes	

Setting

Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) is the primary electricity provider for urban and rural communities within the County of San Luis Obispo. Approximately 33% of electricity provided by PG&E is sourced from renewable resources and an additional 45% is sourced from greenhouse gas-free resources (PG&E 2019).

The County has adopted a Conservation and Open Space Element (COSE) that establishes goals and policies that aim to reduce vehicle miles traveled, conserve water, increase energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This element provides the basis and direction for the development of the County's EnergyWise Plan (EWP), which outlines in greater detail the County's strategy to reduce government and community-wide greenhouse gas emissions through a number of goals, measures, and actions, including energy efficiency and development and use of renewable energy resources.

The EWP established the goal to reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions to 15% below 2006 baseline levels by 2020. Two of the six community-wide goals identified to accomplish this were to "[a]ddress future energy needs through increased conservation and efficiency in all sectors" and "[i]ncrease the production of renewable energy from small-scale and commercial-scale renewable energy installations to account for 10% of local energy use by 2020." In addition, the County has published an EnergyWise Plan 2016 Update to summarize progress toward implementing measures established in the EWP and outline overall trends in energy use and emissions since the baseline year of the EWP inventory (2006).

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 improvement to real property. The CBC includes mandatory green building standards for residential and nonresidential structures, the most recent version of which are referred to as the *2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards*. These standards focus on four key areas: smart residential photovoltaic systems, updated thermal envelope standards (preventing heat transfer from the interior to the exterior and vice versa), residential and nonresidential ventilation requirements, and non-residential lighting requirements.

The County LUO includes a Renewable Energy Area combining designation to encourage and support the development of local renewable energy resources, conserving energy resources and decreasing reliance on

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environmentally costly energy sources. This designation is intended to identify areas of the county where renewable energy production is favorable and establish procedures to streamline the environmental review and processing of land use permits for solar electric facilities (SEFs). The LUO establishes criteria for project eligibility, required application content for SEFs proposed within this designation, permit requirements, and development standards (LUO 22.14.100).

Discussion

(a-b) Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

The proposed project would utilize electricity supplied by PG&E via an existing power pole and the installation of a new meter. Energy use would be limited to powering the facility, as there would be no employee work area or administration needs. Furthermore, there would be a limited number of vehicle trips due to the unmanned nature of the facility.

The proposed project would not interfere with the County of San Luis Obispo's EnergyWise Plan, which notes the emission reduction goals for the county by 2035 (San Luis Obispo County 2011).

Conclusion

The project would not result in a significant energy demand during the construction phase or during operation. The project would not result in a conflict with state or local renewable energy or energy efficiency plans. Therefore, the project would not result in any potentially significant impacts related to energy and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary

Sources

See Exhibit A.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	L ess Than Significant Impact	No Impact	
Wou (a)	<i>ld the project:</i> Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:			\boxtimes		

			Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	(i)	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map Issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				
	(ii)	Strong seismic ground shaking?			\boxtimes	
	(iii)	Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			\boxtimes	
	(iv)	Landslides?			\boxtimes	
(b)		ılt in substantial soil erosion or the of topsoil?			\boxtimes	
(c)	is ur unst pote land	ocated on a geologic unit or soil that nstable, or that would become able as a result of the project, and entially result in on- or off-site slide, lateral spreading, subsidence, efaction or collapse?				
(d)	in Ta Cod	ocated on expansive soil, as defined able 18-1-B of the Uniform Building e (1994), creating substantial direct adirect risks to life or property?				
(e)	supp alter whe	e soils incapable of adequately porting the use of septic tanks or mative waste water disposal systems re sewers are not available for the osal of waste water?				
(f)	pale	ctly or indirectly destroy a unique ontological resource or site or jue geologic feature?			\boxtimes	

Setting

The project site is gently sloping to moderately sloping and the soils on the site have a high shrink-swell (expansive) potential. The project site is not within the County's Geologic Study Area and has a low landslide risk and low liquefaction potential. The nearest potentially active fault is approximately 0.5 miles northeast

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of the project site. There are no notable geologic features on the project site, including serpentine or ultramafic rock/soils.

Discussion

- (a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
- (a-i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

The proposed project would not be open to the public and would not have regular employees onsite. The project site is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Fault Hazard Zone. An unnamed fault from the Rinconada fault zone is located 0.5 miles northwest of the project site (DOC 2018). The project would not be open to the public and would be unmanned, with employees briefly onsite once every four to six weeks for routine maintenance. Therefore, potential adverse impacts related to known fault zones would be *less than significant*.

(a-ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

The project would be required to comply with the California Building Code (CBC) to ensure the effects of a potential seismic event would be minimized to the greatest extent feasible. The project would not be open to the public and would be unmanned, with employees briefly onsite once every four to six weeks for routine maintenance. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

(a-iii-a-iv)Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Landslides?

The project site is gently to moderately sloping, but the project area has relatively flat topography. Based on the County Safety Element Landslide Hazards Map is located in an area with low potential for landslide risk. Therefore, the project would not cause adverse effects involving landslides and impacts would be *less than significant*.

(b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

The project would result in the disturbance of approximately 1,239 square-feet and does not include substantial grading or vegetation removal. During grading activities there would be a potential for erosion and sedimentation to occur. A sedimentation and erosion control plan is required for all construction and grading projects (LUO Section 22.52.120) to minimize potential impacts related to erosion and sedimentation, and includes requirements for specific erosion control materials, setbacks from creeks, and siltation. Upon implementation of the above control measures, as recommended by the county, impacts related to soil erosion and sedimentation would be reduced to *less than significant*.

(c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

Landslides typically occur in areas with steep slopes or in areas containing escarpments. Based on the Landslide Hazards Map provided in the County Safety Element, the project site is not located within an area with slopes susceptible to local failure.

The project would be required to comply with CBC seismic requirements to address potential seismic-related ground failure including lateral spread. Based on the County Safety Element and USGS data, the project is not located in an area of historical or current land subsidence (USGS 2019). Based on the County Safety Element Liquefaction Hazards Map, the project site is located in an area with low potential for liquefaction risk. Therefore, impacts related to on- or off-site landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse would be less than significant.

(d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

The project site is located on soil units with a moderate to high shrink-swell potential, which stems from high clay content. The proposed project would be uninhabited and would be required to comply with the most recent CBC requirements, which have been developed to property safeguard structures and occupants from land stability hazards, such as expansive soils

(e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

The proposed project would not result in the production of waste water, septic tanks and waste water disposal systems would not be required. Therefore, there would be *no impact* stemming from the installation of septic systems or waste water disposal systems.

(f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

According to the National Environmental Policy Act Screening Report prepared by EBI Consulting in March 2019, no paleontological sites have been identified within a half mile radius of the project site. No unique geologic features exist on the project site and would therefore not be affected. Therefore, impacts to paleontological resources and unique geologic features would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

The project would be required to comply with CBC requirements which have been developed to properly safeguard against seismic and geologic hazards. The project would not result in significant impacts related to geology or soils and no mitigation is necessary.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 (a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? 			\boxtimes	
(b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy of regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	or 🗌		\boxtimes	

Setting

As noted in Section 3 Air Quality, the project site is located in the South Central Coast Air Basin (SCCAB) under the jurisdiction of the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (SLOAPCD). The SLOAPCD has developed and updated a CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012) and clarification memorandum (2017) to evaluate project specific impacts and help determine if air quality mitigation measures are needed, or if potentially significant impacts could result. To evaluate long-term emissions, cumulative effects, and establish countywide programs to reach acceptable air quality levels, a Clean Air Plan has been adopted (prepared by APCD).

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions have been found to result in an increase in the earth's average surface temperature by exacerbating the naturally occurring "greenhouse effect" in the earth's atmosphere. The rise in global temperature is has been projected to lead to long-term changes in precipitation, sea level, temperatures, wind patterns, and other elements of the earth's climate system. This phenomenon is commonly referred to as global climate change. These changes are broadly attributed to GHG emissions, particularly those emissions that result from human production and use of fossil fuels.

The passage of AB32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act (2006), recognized the need to reduce GHG emissions and set the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal for the State of California into law. The law required that by 2020, State emissions must be reduced to 1990 levels. This is to be accomplished by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from significant sources via regulation, market mechanisms, and other actions. Subsequent legislation (e.g., SB97-Greenhouse Gas Emissions bill) directed the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop statewide thresholds.

In March 2012, the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) approved thresholds for GHG emission impacts, and these thresholds have been incorporated the APCD's CEQA Air Quality Handbook. APCD determined that a tiered process for residential / commercial land use projects was the most appropriate and effective approach for assessing the GHG emission impacts. The tiered approach includes three methods, any of which can be used for any given project:

1. Qualitative GHG Reduction Strategies (e.g. Climate Action Plans): A qualitative threshold that is consistent with AB 32 Scoping Plan measures and goals; or,

- 2. Bright-Line Threshold: Numerical value to determine the significance of a project's annual GHG emissions; or,
- 3. Efficiency-Based Threshold: Assesses the GHG impacts of a project on an emissions per capita basis.

For most projects, the Bright-Line Threshold of 1,150 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year (MT CO_2e /year) will be the most applicable threshold. In addition to the residential/commercial threshold options proposed above, a bright-line numerical value threshold of 10,000 MT CO_2e /yr was adopted for stationary source (industrial) projects.

It should be noted that projects that generate less than the above-mentioned thresholds will also participate in emission reductions because air emissions, including GHGs, are under the purview of the CARB (or other regulatory agencies) and will be "regulated" either by CARB, the federal government, or other entities. For example, new vehicles will be subject to increased fuel economy standards and emission reductions, large and small appliances will be subject to more strict emissions standards, and energy delivered to consumers will increasingly come from renewable sources. Other programs that are intended to reduce the overall GHG emissions include Low Carbon Fuel Standards, Renewable Portfolio Standards, and the Clean Car Standards. As a result, even the emissions that result from projects that produce fewer emissions than the threshold will be subject to emission reductions.

Under CEQA, an individual project's GHG emissions will generally not result in direct significant impacts. This is because the climate change issue is global in nature. However, an individual project could be found to contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact. Projects that have GHG emissions above the noted thresholds may be considered cumulatively considerable and require mitigation.

Discussion

(a-b) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Using the GHG threshold information described in the Setting section, the project is expected to generate less than the Bright-Line Threshold of 1,150 metric tons of GHG emissions. Therefore, the project's potential direct and cumulative GHG emissions are found to be less significant and less than a cumulatively considerable contribution to GHG emissions. Section 15064(h)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines provide guidance on how to evaluate cumulative impacts. If it is shown that an incremental contribution to a cumulative impact, such as global climate change, is not 'cumulatively considerable', no mitigation is required. Because this project's emissions fall under the threshold, impacts *would be less than significant*.

Conclusion

Impacts relating to greenhouse gas emissions would be less than significant.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

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IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	
Woul	d the project:					
(a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			\boxtimes		
(b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?					
(c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				\boxtimes	
(d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?					
(e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety					
	hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?					
(f)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			\boxtimes		
(g)	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?			\boxtimes		

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Setting

The project is not located in an area of known hazardous material contamination and is not on a site listed on the "Cortese List" (which is a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5) (SWRCB 2019; California Department of Toxic Substance Control [DTSC] 2019). The project is located within a high fire hazard severity zone within a State Responsibility Area and based on the County's response time map, it will take approximately 5 to 10 minutes to respond to a call regarding fire or life safety. The project is not located within an Airport Review Area and the closest active landing strip, Oak Country Ranch Airport, is 6.56 miles northwest of the project site.

Discussion

(a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

The project does not propose the routine use, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials. The applicant supplied a Radio Frequency (RF) report to evaluate the proposed communications facility for compliance with appropriate guidelines limiting human exposure to radio frequency electromagnetic fields. According to the RF report for this project (EBI Consulting 2018), the maximum level of RF emissions from the proposed facility at ground-level would be equivalent to 2.8 percent of the applicable exposure limit. These results include several "worst-case" assumptions and therefore are expected to overstate actual power density levels. Although the results are "worst-case" assumptions, they are still within Federal Guidelines for RF exposure limits. However, the County is precluded from evaluating or addressing risk outside of those guidelines. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

(b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

Construction of the proposed project is anticipated to require use of limited quantities of hazardous substances, including gasoline, diesel fuel, hydraulic fluid, solvents, oils, paints, etc. Handling of these materials has the potential to result in an accidental release. Construction contractors would be required to comply with applicable federal and state environmental and workplace safety laws. Additionally, the construction contractor would be required to implement BMPs for the storage, use, and transportation of hazardous materials during all construction activities. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

(c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

The nearest school is Templeton Elementary School, located 1.5 miles to the west. There are no schools within a quarter mile of the proposed project. Therefore, there would be *no impact*.

(d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

The project is not located in an area of known hazardous material contamination and is not on a site listed on the "Cortese List" pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. Therefore, there would be *no impact.*

(e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

The project is not located within an airport land use plan and is not located within two miles of an airport. Therefore, there would be no risk of exposing persons to a safety hazard or excessive noise from the operation of the airport and there would be *no impact*.

(f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

The project would not conflict with any regional emergency response or evacuation plan as the existing access roads would be wide enough to accommodate emergency vehicles and the project footprint is small. Construction and operation of the project would not require road closure, and the project would not physically block the onsite residents from evacuating during an emergency. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

(g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?

According to Cal Fire, the project site is located in a high fire hazard severity zone within a State Responsibility Area. With the exception of the construction period, the proposed project would not regularly have employees onsite. Once construction is completed, employees would only be onsite for periodic maintenance (once every four to six weeks). The project would not be accessible to the public. Therefore, impacts related to risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires would be *less than significant.*

Conclusion

No significant impacts related to hazards or hazardous materials would occur.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would	d the project:				
(a)	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?			\boxtimes	

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			Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(b)	supp grou proje	stantially decrease groundwater blies or interfere substantially with indwater recharge such that the ect may impede sustainable indwater management of the basin?			\boxtimes	
(c)	patte thro strea of im	stantially alter the existing drainage ern of the site or area, including ugh the alteration of the course of a am or river or through the addition opervious surfaces, in a manner th would:				
	(i)	Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;			\boxtimes	
	(ii)	Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;			\boxtimes	
	(iii)	Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or				
	(iv)	Impede or redirect flood flows?			\boxtimes	
(d)	zone	ood hazard, tsunami, or seiche es, risk release of pollutants due to ect inundation?			\boxtimes	
(e)	ofa	flict with or obstruct implementation water quality control plan or ainable groundwater management ?			\boxtimes	

Setting

The proposed unmanned wireless communications facility would not generate water demand outside the construction phase.

The topography of the project is gently sloping to moderately sloping. As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the soil surface is considered to have very high erodibility and is considered well-drained. The project parcel is within the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin. The closest creek from the proposed development is approximately 723 feet away. The project site is not located within a 100-year flood zone.

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For areas where drainage is identified as a potential issue, the Land Use Ordinance (LUO Sec. 22.52.110) includes a provision to prepare a drainage plan to minimize potential drainage impacts. When required, this plan would need to address measures such as: constructing on-site retention or detention basins or installing surface water flow dissipaters. This plan would also need to show that the increased surface runoff would have no more impacts than that caused by historic flows.

Soil type, area of disturbance, and slopes are key aspects to analyzing potential sedimentation and erosion issues. The project's soil types and descriptions are listed in the previous Agriculture section under "Setting". As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the project's soil erodibility is high.

A sedimentation and erosion control plan is required for all construction and grading projects (LUO Sec. 22.52.120) to minimize these impacts. When required, the plan is prepared by a civil engineer to address both temporary and long-term sedimentation and erosion impacts. Projects involving more than one acre of disturbance are subject to the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which focuses on controlling storm water runoff. The Regional Water Quality Control Board is the local extension who monitors this program.

Discussion

(a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

With regards to project impacts on water quality the following conditions apply:

- Approximately 1,239 square feet of site disturbance;
- The project will be subject to standard County requirements for drainage, sedimentation and erosion control for construction and permanent use;
- The project is on soils with moderate to high erodibility, but not on moderate to steep slopes;
- The project is not within a 100-year Flood Hazard designation;
- The project is more than 500 feet from the closest creek and at least 100 feet from the nearest surface water body;
- All hazardous materials and/or wastes will be properly stored onsite, which include secondary containment should spills or leaks occur; and
- Stockpiles will be properly managed during construction to avoid material loss due to erosion.
- Erosion control measures to be implemented during construction include a permanent erosion control blanket to reduce surficial erosion of the slopes and allow for vegetation growth on the slopes.

Implementation of Land Use Ordinance Section 22.52.110 and Section 22.52.120 will help ensure *less than significant impacts* to water quality standards and surface and ground water quality.

(b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

As proposed, operation of the project would not utilize water and would not result in wastewater production. Impervious surface area of the project would be less than 200 square feet, which would

not substantially interfere with groundwater recharge. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

- (c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:
- (C-i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

The project would be subject to LUO Section 22.52.120A and be required to prepare a sedimentation and erosion control plan. Impervious surface area of the project would be less than 200 square feet, which would not substantially contribute to erosion or siltation. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

(c-ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding onor off-site?

There are no existing or planned stormwater drainage system within or adjacent to the project site. Impervious surface area of the project would be less than 200 square feet, which would not substantially contribute to additional surface runoff. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant.*

(c-iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

There are no existing or planned stormwater drainage system within or adjacent to the project site. Impervious surface area of the project would be less than 200 square feet, which would not substantially contribute to additional surface runoff. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant.*

(c-iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?

The project is not located within a flood zone and is not located within close proximity to a drainage channel. Impervious surface area of the project would be less than 200 square feet, which would not substantially change the existing ground surface. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

(d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

Based on the County Safety Element Dam Inundation Map, the project site is not located in an area that would become inundated in the event of dam failure. The proposed project is not located in a 100-year flood zone, and the Pacific Ocean is located more than 20 miles from the project site. The likelihood of flood, tsunami, or seiche affecting the project site is very low and therefore impacts would be *less than significant*.

(e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

As stated earlier, the proposed project would not result in the use of water for any purpose besides construction, which would be temporary and limited in nature. Furthermore, the proposed project would not result in the production of wastewater, which indicates the likelihood of conflicting with a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan would be *less than significant*.

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Conclusion

No significant water-related impacts would occur.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

Wou	ld the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Physically divide an established community?				\boxtimes
(b)	Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				

Setting

The proposed communication tower would be located in an area designated Agriculture by the County of San Luis Obispo. The project site is surrounded by grazing land and row crop cultivation. The proposed project was reviewed for consistency with policy and regulatory documents relating to the environment and appropriate land use (e.g., County Land Use Ordinance, North County Area Plan, etc.). Referrals were sent to outside agencies and other County departments to review for policy consistencies (e.g., County Fire/CAL FIRE for Fire Code, SLOAPCD for Clean Air Plan, etc.).

Discussion

(a) Physically divide an established community?

The proposed project is located on an existing parcel and would not involve any components that would physically divide the rural community. The project would utilize the existing circulation system and onsite roads for access and would not require the construction of offsite infrastructure. Therefore, there would be *no impact*.

(b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

The project site is located in an area surrounded by agricultural operations (grazing and row crop cultivation). The project site is zoned as Agriculture by the County of San Luis Obispo and no zoning changes are proposed. According to the Agriculture Element of the San Luis Obispo County General

Plan, telecommunication towers are considered compatible uses on agricultural land assuming that they are located off of productive agricultural lands. So long as new structures are located where land use compatibility, circulation, and infrastructure capacity exist or can be developed compatible with agricultural uses, the new structures would be considered compatible uses. Since the project would be located on land not actively being used for cultivation, the project would be compatible with the agricultural designation. The project was found to be consistent with standards and policies set forth in the County General Plan, the North County Area Plan, the SLOAPCD Clean Air Plan, and other land use policies for this area. The project would be conditioned to be consistent with standards set forth by County Fire/CAL FIRE, Environmental Health, and the Department of Public Works. Therefore, impacts related to inconsistency with land use and policies adopted to address environmental effects would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

No significant land use or planning impacts would occur.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A. 🚽

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	
Would the project:						
(a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?			\boxtimes		
(b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally- important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?			\boxtimes		

Setting

The County Land Use Ordinance provides regulations for development in delineated Energy and Extractive Resource Areas (EX) and Extractive Resource Areas (EX1). The proposed project is not located within an EX or EX1 designation. Based on the California Geological Survey (CGS) Information Warehouse for Mineral Land Classification, the project site is located within an Aggregate Materials study area which covers the majority of the county. Active mining operations are located approximately one mile west of the project site, in the Salinas River bed.

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Discussion

(a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

There are no known mineral resources on the project site. Although the project site is located within an Aggregate Materials study area, the project site does not contain resources identified in the study (aggregate materials - sand and gravel for concrete), which are primarily found in the Salinas River. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

(b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally- important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

Based on Chapter 6 of the County of San Luis Obispo General Plan Conservation and Open Space Element – Mineral Resources, the project site is not located within an extractive resource area or an energy and extractive resource area, and the site is not designated as a mineral resource recovery site. Therefore, impacts related to preclusion of future extraction of locally important mineral resources would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

Due to the lack of known valuable minerals on the project site, and the lack of a mineral resource recovery designation, the proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of or future extraction of valuable mineral resources.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

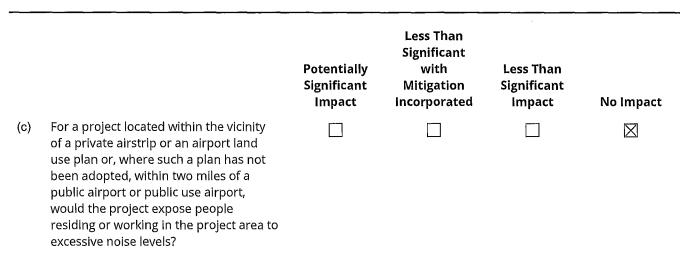
XIII. NOISE

Wou	Id the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				
(b)	Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			\boxtimes	

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Setting

The existing ambient noise environment is characterized by traffic on Moss Lane, as well as agricultural equipment from surrounding properties. Noise-sensitive land uses typically include residences, schools, nursing homes, and parks. The nearest existing off-site noise-sensitive land use is a residence approximately 1,894 feet southwest of the proposed project site. The project site is not located within an Airport Review Area, and the nearest airport, Country Ranch Airport, is located 6.56 miles northwest of the project site.

The County Land Use Ordinance Section 22.10.120 establishes maximum allowed noise levels for both daytime (7 a.m. to 10 p.m.) and nighttime (10 p.m. to 7 a.m.) hours, as shown below. The maximum allowed exterior hourly noise level is 50 db for the daytime hours and 45 db for the nighttime hours.

Discussion

(a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

The proposed project would introduce noise generating equipment into a relatively quiet rural area. The facility's primary operational noise source would be a diesel-powered emergency back-up generator. The emergency generator is intended to power the facility in the event of a power outage. It would also be operated for about 15 minutes every four to six weeks for routine maintenance and testing. As conditioned, the generator would only be operated for testing during day-time hours. Additionally, the generator would be located over 1,500 feet from each property line, and the noise from the generator would attenuate considerably by the time it reaches the property lines.

Project construction activities would also generate short-term (temporary) construction noise. These activities would be limited to the daytime hours of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday, in accordance with County construction noise standards (County Code Section 22.10.120.A).

Noise impacts resulting from both construction and operation of the proposed facility are expected to be *less than significant*.

(b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

Operation of the proposed project would not result in groundborne vibration. No construction equipment or methods are proposed that would generate substantial ground vibration. Therefore, impacts related to temporary or permanent groundborne vibration would be *less than significant*.

(c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

The closest airport is Oak Country Ranch Airport, located 6.56 miles northwest of the project site. Since the project site is not located within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, and is not located in an area subject to an airport land use plan, there would be *no impact* to people residing or working in the project area from excessive air traffic related noise levels.

Conclusion

No significant noise-related impacts are anticipated.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

Wou	ld the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	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)?				
(b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				\boxtimes

Setting

In its efforts to provide for affordable housing, the County currently administers the Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, which provides limited financing to projects relating to affordable housing throughout the county. The County's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance requires provision of new affordable housing in conjunction with both residential and nonresidential development and subdivisions. DRC2018-00128

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Discussion

(a) 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)?

The proposed project would not result in new jobs in the area that would require new housing. The project does not propose new roads or infrastructure to undeveloped or underdeveloped areas that would indirectly result in population growth. Therefore, *no impacts* would occur.

(b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

The proposed project proposes construction of a telecommunications tower and a pre-fabricated shelter. The proposed project does not include any residential uses or structures for human habitation. The project would not result in a need for new housing and would not displace existing housing. Therefore, *no impacts* would occur.

Conclusion

No significant population and housing impacts would occur.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources See Exhibit A.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	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?			\boxtimes	
	Police protection?			\boxtimes	
	Schools?				\boxtimes

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Parks?				\boxtimes
Other public facilities?			\boxtimes	

Setting

The project area is served by the following public services/facilities:

<u>Police</u> : County Sheriff	Location: Templeton (Approximate	ely 1.88 miles to the northwest)		
<u>Fire</u> : Cal Fire (formerly CDF)	Hazard Severity: High	Response Time: 5 to 10 minutes		
Location: #30 Paso Robles Station Approximately 2.83 miles northwest				

School District: Templeton Unified School District.

Discussion

(a) 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?

The proposed project was reviewed by County Fire/Cal Fire for consistency with the Uniform Fire Code and will be required to adhere to the requirements of Uniform Fire Code. The proposed project, along with other projects in the area, will result in a cumulative effect on fire protection services. The project's direct and cumulative impacts are within the general assumptions of allowed use for the subject property that was used to estimate the public facility fees in place. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

Police protection?

The proposed project, along with other projects in the area, would result in a cumulative effect on police protection services. The project's direct and cumulative impacts would be within the general assumptions of allowed use for the subject property that was used to estimate the public facility fees in place. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

Schools?

The proposed project would not result in the need for new housing and would not result in population growth. Therefore, there will be *no impact* to existing schools or a need for new school facilities.

Parks?

The proposed project would not result in the need for new housing and would not result in population growth. Therefore, there will be *no impact* to existing parks or a need for new park facilities.

Other public facilities?

The proposed project proposes construction of an unmanned communications facility, and would not generate substantial long-term increases in demand for roads, solid waste, or other public services or utilities. The proposed project site would be accessed by the existing local circulation system and onsite farm roads and would not generate substantial long-term operational trips. Therefore, potential impacts on public services or utilities would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

No significant impacts to public services would occur.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XVI. RECREATION

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				
(b)	Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				\boxtimes

Setting

The County of San Luis Obispo Parks and Recreation Element (Recreation Element) establishes goals, policies, and implementation measures for the management, renovation, and expansion of existing, and the development of new, parks and recreation facilities in order to meet existing and projected needs and to assure an equitable distribution of parks throughout the county. The Recreation Element does not show any existing or potential future trails going through or adjacent to the project site.

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Discussion

(a-b) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

Construction and operation of the proposed telecommunication tower would not have an adverse effect on existing or planned recreational opportunities in the county. The project would not result in the need for new housing and would not result in population growth, and therefore would not create a significant need for additional park, natural area, and/or recreational resources. The proposed project would have *no impact* on recreational activities since it is located on a private agricultural zoned parcel and would not induce population growth that would require increased recreational services and facilities.

Conclusion

No significant impacts to recreational resources would occur.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION

Wou	ld the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?			\boxtimes	
(b)	Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?				\boxtimes
(c)	Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				
(d)	Result in inadequate emergency access?			\boxtimes	

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Setting

The County has established the acceptable Level of Service on roads for this rural area as "C" or better. The existing road network in the area including the project's access street—Moss Lane—are operating at acceptable levels. Based on existing road speeds and configuration (vertical and horizontal road curves), sight distance is considered acceptable

Discussion

(a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?

Short-term construction-related trips would be minimal, and area roadways are operating at acceptable levels and would be able to accommodate construction-related traffic. Long-term maintenance and operational trips would not substantially differ from existing onsite agricultural operations. As a result, the proposed project would have no significant long-term impact on existing road service or traffic safety levels. The project does not conflict with adopted policies, plans and programs related to transportation, would not affect air traffic patterns or policies related to public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities.

(b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?

CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3 does not apply until July 1, 2020 and the County has not elected to be governed by the provisions of this section in the interim. Therefore, this threshold does not apply and there is *no impact*.

(c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

The project would not result in any changes to the access road or alterations to the existing driveway approach. Therefore, the project would not substantially increase hazards and would have a *less than significant impact*.

(d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

Moss Lane and the project sites access road are currently able accommodate farm equipment, construction vehicles, and emergency vehicles. The project would have the highest risk of emergencies occurring construction, which would be temporary. During operation of the project the likelihood of an emergency incident occurring would low because the facility is unmanned and employees would be onsite infrequently. Additionally, the proposed project would not block or alter egress routes for the existing onsite residents. Therefore, impacts related to emergency access would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

No significant transportation-related impacts would occur.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

			Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	adve triba Reso a sit that the s sacr valu	Id the project cause a substantial erse change in the significance of a al cultural resource, defined in Public ources Code section 21074 as either e, feature, place, cultural landscape is geographically defined in terms of size and scope of the landscape, ed place, or object with cultural e to a California Native American e, and that is:				
	(i)	Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or				
	(ii)	A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.				
Settin	g					

Approved in 2014, Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) added tribal cultural resources to the categories of resources that must be evaluated under CEQA. Tribal cultural resources are defined as either of the following:

- 1) Sites, features, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either of the following:
 - a. Included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources; or

- b. Included in a local register of historical resources as defined in subdivision (k) of California Public Resources Code Section 5020.1.
- 2) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of California Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying these criteria for the purposes of this paragraph, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American Tribe.

AB 52 consultation letters were sent to four tribes on August 21, 2018: Northern Chumash Tribal Council, Salinan Tribe of San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties, Xolon Salinan Tribe, and yak tit^yu tit^yu yak tiłhini. A response was submitted by the Northern Chumash Tribal Council (NCTC) on August 22, 2018 requesting to see a cultural report and the project plans. A cultural report and plans were submitted to the NCTC on December 20, 2018, and the NCTC responded by stating the report was not prepared by a qualified archaeologist, and is requesting a new updated report prepared by a qualified archaeologist. A second cultural report (prepared by EBI Consulting, March 25, 2019) was sent to the NCTC on April 11, 2019. No further response or request for consultation were received.

As noted in Section V. Cultural Resources, the project is located in an area historically occupied by the Obispeño Chumash and the Salinan.

Discussion

- (a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:
- (a-i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?

As noted in Section V. Cultural Resources, the Cultural Resources Survey prepared by EBI Consulting concluded that known prehistoric or historic resources were not present within the proposed project *vicinity*. There are no known historical resources within the project area; therefore, impacts to historical resources and tribal historical resources would be *less than significant*.

(a-ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

As noted in Section V. Cultural Resources, the Cultural Resources Survey prepared by EBI Consulting concluded that known prehistoric or historic cultural resources were not present within the proposed project area. A literature search and pedestrian survey further confirmed the absence of known archaeological sites near the study area. Further, per AB 52, no tribal cultural resources were identified by any of the four tribes that received notice.

In the unlikely event resources are uncovered during grading activities, implementation of LUO Section 22.10.040 (Archaeological Resources) would be required, which states:

In the event archeological resources are unearthed or discovered during any construction activities, the following standards apply:

A. Construction activities shall cease, and the Department shall be notified so that the extent and location of discovered materials may be recorded by a qualified archaeologist, and disposition of artifacts may be accomplished in accordance with state and federal law.

B. In the event archeological resources are found to include human remains, or in any other case when human remains are discovered during construction, the County Coroner shall be notified in addition to the Department so proper disposition may be accomplished.

There are no known tribal cultural resources within the project area. Therefore, impacts are expected to be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

No significant impacts on tribal cultural resources would occur. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of tribal resources during earth-moving activities, compliance with the LUO would ensure potential impacts would be reduced to less than significant.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	ld the project:				
(a)	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?				
(b)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?				\boxtimes

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(c)	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?				
(d)	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?				
(e)	Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?			\boxtimes	

Setting

A fee program has been adopted to address impacts related to public facilities (county) and schools (State Government Code 65995 et seq.). Fees are assessed annually by the County based on the type of proposed development and proportional impact and collected at the time of building permit issuance. Fees are used for the construction as needed to finance the facilities required to the serve new development.

Discussion

(a) 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?

The proposed project would not result in the necessity of new or expanded water, wastewater, natural gas, or telecommunications connections or facilities. Wastewater generated during the construction phase of the project would be via a portable restroom (port-a-potty), which would be collected and removed by the portable restroom company. Electrical power is currently provided on site through an existing PG&E connection. A new meter for AT&T on the existing pole would be installed, as would 10 feet of underground cables to connect the meter to the equipment and utility pad. Additional underground trenching (approximately 35 feet) would be required to connect the equipment/utility lease area to the faux water tank. While the proposed project is the installation of a new telecommunications facilities. No other offsite infrastructure is required. The underground cables are not expected to result in environmental impacts, as the trenching would be located under an existing dirt road and equipment staging area. As discussed in Section V. Cultural Resources and XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources, significant impacts are not expected to buried resources. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

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Initial Study – Environmental Checklist

(b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?

The proposed project would not result in the usage of water and therefore would result in *no impact*.

(c) 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?

Operation of the proposed project would not result in the production of wastewater. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on wastewater treatment and storage facilities.

(d) 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?

Operation of the project would not result in solid waste generation. Any waste generated from the construction of the proposed facility would be removed by the contractor and disposed of. The nearest solid waste facility is the Chicago Grade Landfill, located near the community of Templeton, which has a remaining capacity of 6,022,396 cubic yards (CalRecycle 2019). Impacts are expected to be *less than significant*.

(e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Solid waste during construction would be collected by construction crews and hauled off site periodically. Operation of the proposed project would not result in the production of solid waste and therefore would comply with all federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Impacts with regards to solid waste compliance with statutes and regulations would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

Portable restrooms would be provided during construction and handled by the portable restroom provided. Solid waste may be generate during construction of the facility, and would be removed from the site by the project contract. No significant impacts related to utilities and service systems would occur, and therefore mitigation is not required.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XX. WILDFIRE

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
lf loc	ated in or near state responsibility areas or land	ds classified as ve	ry high fire hazard s	everity zones, wou	ld the project:
(a)	Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			\boxtimes	
(b)	Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?				
(c)	Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?				
(d)	Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				

Setting

The proposed project site is located in a High Fire Hazard Severity Zone and has an average annual windspeed of approximately 6.6 to 8.8 miles per hour (Weather Spark 2018). Existing conditions that may exacerbate fire risk include the gently to moderately sloping topography in some areas and the moderate average windspeed.

The County of San Luis Obispo Safety Element establishes goals, policies, and programs to reduce the threat to life, structures, and the environment caused by fire. Policy S-13 identifies that new development should be carefully located, with special attention given to fuel management in higher fire risk areas, and that new development in fire hazard areas should be configured to minimize the potential for added danger.

The California Fire Code provides minimum standards for many aspects of fire prevention and suppression activities. These standards include provisions for emergency vehicle access, water supply, fire protection systems, and the use of fire-resistant building materials.

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Initial Study – Environmental Checklist

Discussion

(a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

The project would not conflict with any regional emergency response or evacuation plan because the project would be located on an existing parcel and would not alter or prohibit access to the local circulation system. The structures proposed have a small footprint and would be unlikely to pose a significant obstacle during emergency response. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

(b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?

The proposed project site is located in an area of moderate wind, with an average annual wind speed of approximately 6.6 to 8.8 miles per hour (Wind Spark 2018). The project site has abundant fuel, especially during the summer months when vegetation is drier, and has gently to moderately sloping topography is some areas, all of which exacerbate fire risk. All of these conditions have resulted in the project site being classified in a High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. The proposed project would have the highest fire risk during construction as construction vehicles have the ability to spark wildfires when operating machinery around dry vegetation. The project proponent would be required to adhere to a Fire Safety Plan prepared by County Fire/Cal Fire to lessen fire risk within the project site. The project would be an unmanned facility, and employees would only be onsite for limited period maintenance. Therefore, fire-related impacts to project occupants would be *less than significant*.

(c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

Existing local roads and onsite agricultural roads would be used for access and new roads would not be constructed. The proposed project site would require power to be routed underground north from the equipment lease area to an existing utility pole within an approximately 10-foot long by 2-foot wide utility easement. Due to the underground location of the conduit, fire risk would be low. Fire-related impacts due to installation of new infrastructure would be *less than significant*.

(d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

As stated earlier, employees would rarely be onsite after completion of construction of the project. The risk to structures would be low due to the low landslide and liquefaction risk, location outside a 100-year flood zone, and distance from nearby streams. Therefore, there would be a *less than significant* impact to people and structures in regard to flooding and landslides from post-fire slope instability.

Conclusion

With the implementation of the Fire Safety Plan, the project would result in less than significant impacts related to wildfire.

Mitigation

No mitigation measures are necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				
(b)	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?				
(c)	Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?		\boxtimes		

Discussion

(a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

As discussed in each resource section above, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to biological or cultural resources and would not substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to

eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Additionally, compliance with mitigation measures AES-1 through AES-3 identified in Exhibit B – Mitigation Summary Table would ensure impacts to aesthetic resources as a result of the proposed project would be less than significant. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.

(b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

The potential cumulative impacts of the proposed project have been analyzed within the discussion of each environmental resource area above. Cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project would be less than significant.

(c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Environmental impacts that may have an adverse effect on human beings, either directly or indirectly, are analyzed in each environmental resource section above. Environmental impacts that could cause substantial adverse effects of human beings would be less than significant.

Conclusion

The proposed project has the potential to have significant impacts to the aesthetic nature of the area. However, with the inclusion of mitigation measures AES-1 through AES-3, impacts would be mitigated to less than significant.

Mitigation

See mitigation measures AES-1 – AES-3, which will reduce aesthetic impacts to less than significant.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

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Initial Study – Environmental Checklist

Exhibit A - Initial Study References and Agency Contacts

The County Planning Department has contacted various agencies for their comments on the proposed project. With respect to the subject application, the following have been contacted (marked with an \boxtimes) and when a response was made, it is either attached or in the application file:

Contacted	Agency	Response
\boxtimes	County Public Works Department	In File**
\boxtimes	County Environmental Health Services	In File**
\boxtimes	County Agricultural Commissioner's Office	In File**
	County Airport Manager	Not Applicable
	Airport Land Use Commission	Not Applicable
	Air Pollution Control District	Not Applicable
	County Sheriff's Department	Not Applicable
	Regional Water Quality Control Board	Not Applicable
	CA Coastal Commission	Not Applicable
	CA Department of Fish and Wildlife	Not Applicable
\boxtimes	CA Department of Forestry (Cal Fire)	None
	CA Department of Transportation	Not Applicable
	Community Services District	Not Applicable
\boxtimes	Other Templeton Area Advisory Group	In File**
	Other	Not Applicable

** "No comment" or "No concerns"-type responses are usually not attached

The following checked (" \boxtimes ") reference materials have been used in the environmental review for the proposed project and are hereby incorporated by reference into the Initial Study. The following information is available at the County Planning and Building Department.

\boxtimes	Project File for the Subject Application		Design Plan
	County Documents		Specific Plan
	Coastal Plan Policies		Annual Resource Summary Report
\boxtimes	Framework for Planning (Coastal/Inland)		Circulation Study
\boxtimes	General Plan (Inland/Coastal), includes all		<u>Other Documents</u>
	maps/elements; more pertinent elements:	\boxtimes	Clean Air Plan/APCD Handbook
	Agriculture Element		Regional Transportation Plan
	Conservation & Open Space Element	\boxtimes	Uniform Fire Code
	Economic Element		Water Quality Control Plan (Central Coast Basin –
	🛛 Housing Element		Region 3)
	Noise Element	\boxtimes	Archaeological Resources Map
	Parks & Recreation Element/Project List	\boxtimes	Area of Critical Concerns Map
	Safety Element	\boxtimes	Special Biological Importance Map
\boxtimes	 Land Use Ordinance (Inland/Coastal) Building and Construction Ordinance Public Facilities Fee Ordinance 		CA Natural Species Diversity Database
\boxtimes			Fire Hazard Severity Map
			Flood Hazard Maps
	Real Property Division Ordinance	\boxtimes	Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey
\boxtimes	Affordable Housing Fund		for SLO County
	Airport Land Use Plan	\boxtimes	GIS mapping layers (e.g., habitat, streams,
\boxtimes	Energy Wise Plan		contours, etc.)
\boxtimes	North County Area Plan/El Pomar-Estrella SA		Other

In addition, the following project-specific information and/or reference materials have been considered as a part of the Initial Study:

- California Department of Conservation (DOC). 2019. Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program DLRP Important Farmland Finder. Accessed on: June 14, 2019. Available at: <<u>https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/</u>>
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2018. CDFW Lands Viewer. Accessed on July 1, 2019. Available at: < <u>https://apps.wildlife.ca.gov/lands/</u>>
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2019. California Natural Diversity Database BIOS Viewer. Accessed on June 18, 2019. Available at: < <u>https://apps.wildlife.ca.gov/bios/?bookmark=327</u>>
- California State Water Resources Control Board. 2019. Geotracker. Accessed on June 18, 2019. Available at:
- California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). 2019. EnviroStor. Accessed on June 18, 2019. Available at: <<u>https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/</u>>
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2008. Scenic Highway Guidelines. October 2008.
- California Department of Conservation (DOC). California Geological Survey Information Warehouse for Mineral Land Classification. 2019. Accessed on June 18, 2019. Available at <<u>https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/informationwarehouse/mlc/</u>>
- CalRecycle. May 14, 2019. SWIS Facility Detail. Accessed on June 18, 2019. Available at: https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/swfacilities/Directory/40-AA-0008
- County of San Luis Obispo. 2011. EnergyWise Plan. Available at <<u>https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Planning-Building/Energy-and-Climate/Energy-Climate-</u> <u>Reports/EnergyWise-Plan.aspx</u>> Accessed on: June 3, 2019.
- EBI Consulting. July 12, 2018. Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Energy (RF-EME) Compliance Report.
- EBI Consulting. January 28, 2019. Cultural Resources Survey CSL03205 / FA I3790050.
- EBI Consulting. March 25, 2019. National Environmental Policy Act Screening Report CSL03205 / FA I3790050.
- Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E). 2019. Delivering Low-Emission Energy. Available at: <u>https://www.pge.com/en_US/about-pge/environment/what-we-are-doing/clean-energy-</u> <u>solutions/clean-energy-solutions.page</u>
- San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District (SLOAPCD). 2012. CEQA Air Quality Handbook. Accessed on June 14, 2019. Available at: < <u>https://storage.googleapis.com/slocleanairorg/images/cms/upload/files/CEQA_Handbook_2012_v2%20%28Updated%20Map2019%29_Linkedwi</u> <u>thMemo.pdf</u>>
- San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District (SLOAPCD). 2017. CEQA Air Quality Handbook Clarification Memo. Accessed on June 14, 2019. Available at: < <u>https://storage.googleapis.com/slocleanair-org/images/cms/upload/files/FINAL_Clarification%20Memorandum%2020172.pdf</u>>

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- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2019. National Wetlands Inventory Surface Waters and Wetlands. June 5, 2019. Available at: <<u>https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/Mapper.html</u>>
- Weather Spark. 2018. Average Weather in Templeton, California. Access on June 30, 2019. Available at: < https://weatherspark.com/y/1290/Average-Weather-in-Templeton-California-United-States-Year-Round

Exhibit B - Mitigation Summary

The applicant has agreed to incorporate the following measures into the project. These measures become a part of the project description and therefore become a part of the record of action upon which the environmental determination is based. All development activity must occur in strict compliance with the following mitigation measures. These measures shall be perpetual and run with the land. These measures are binding on all successors in interest of the subject property.

AES-1

At the time of application for construction permits, the construction drawings shall show the following specifications:

- a. The water tank shall be designed to appear as a natural aged-wood tank with realistic appearing color and texture treatments for both the tank and the support structure. No signs, banners, or graphic displays shall be painted or otherwise depicted on the tank.
- b. All of the antennas (with the exception of the GPS antennas located on the equipment shelter) shall be located completely within the faux tank.
- c. The coaxial cables and cable tray shall be located below the fence line and shall not be visible to the public.
- AES-2 At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall submit accurate scaled engineering and architectural drawings of the water tank exactly as proposed. Water tank plans shall not include generic illustrations of a typical faux tank. The drawings shall include elevations and plan views. Once approved, the water tank plans shall be specifically used (in conjunction with approved color and material samples and other related documents) as a basis for assessing condition compliance during construction. The plans, specifications and estimates, and construction schedule shall provide for revisions and corrections to the water tank engineering and architectural plans prior to preparation of the final plans.
- AES-3 Prior to issuance of construction permits, the applicant shall submit material and color test samples of all visible elements of the water tank to the County Department of Planning and Building for review and approval.

DEVELOPER'S STATEMENT FOR CHESEBROUGH AND AT&T MOBILITY CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT DRC2018-00128

The applicant agrees to incorporate the following measures into the project. These measures become a part of the project description and therefore become a part of the record of action upon which the environmental determination is based. All development activity must occur in strict compliance with the following mitigation measures. These measures shall be perpetual and run with the land. These measures are binding on all successors in interest of the subject property.

Note: The items contained in the boxes labeled "Monitoring" describe the County procedures to be used to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures.

The following mitigation measures address impacts that may occur as a result of the development of the project.

Aesthetics (Visual Resources)

- AES-1 At the time of application for construction permits, the construction drawings shall show the following specifications:
 - a. The water tank shall be designed to appear as a natural aged-wood tank with realistic appearing color and texture treatments for both the tank and the support structure. No signs, banners, or graphic displays shall be painted or otherwise depicted on the tank.
 - b. All of the antennas (with the exception of the GPS antennas located on the equipment shelter) shall be located completely within the faux tank.
 - c. The coaxial cables and cable tray shall be located below the fence line and shall not be visible to the public.
- AES-2 At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall submit accurate scaled engineering and architectural drawings of the water tank exactly as proposed. Water tank plans shall not include generic illustrations of a typical faux tank. The drawings shall include elevations and plan views. Once approved, the water tank plans shall be specifically used (in conjunction with approved color and material samples and other related documents) as a basis for assessing condition compliance during construction. The plans, specifications and estimates, and construction schedule shall provide for revisions and corrections to the water tank engineering and architectural plans prior to preparation of the final plans.
- AES-3 Prior to issuance of construction permits, the applicant shall submit material and color test samples of all visible elements of the water tank to the County Department of Planning and Building for review and approval.

Monitoring: (Visual Recourse Measures VR-1 to VR-3) Required at the time of application for construction permits. Compliance will be verified by the County Department of Planning and Building.

Environmental Determination: ED19-163

Date: July 3, 2019

The applicant understands that any changes made to the project description subsequent to this environmental determination must be reviewed by the Environmental Coordinator and may require a new environmental determination for the project. By signing this agreement, the owner(s) agrees to and accepts the incorporation of the above measures into the proposed project description.

Signature of Agent(s)

July 9th 2019 Date (

MALIK - CHE Project Manager. 1JAN Name (Print)

Templeton Area Advisory Group Approved Minutes

8.2 DRC20185-00128 AT&T Mobility – Chesebrough. Vance Pomeroy of Velotera Services, Inc. represented the project which involves the installation of a 55-foot high cell phone tower with antennas, and related ground mounted control equipment including a small ancillary building to shelter the equipment and a back up diesel-fueled power generator installed outdoors.

- Pomeroy stated that AT&T had considered recommendations made by TAAG's PRC to provide an installation more fitting than a single pole (monopole) mount. The suggested solution of disguising the installation as an elevated water tank allowing the tower to blend into the agricultural environment was acceptable to TAAG and AT&T.
- Fluer asked Pomeroy to confirm the color of the equipment.
 Pomeroy responded that the equipment would be painted brown to blend into the surroundings.
- Cobey made a motion to approve the installation, seconded by Parker. The motion was unanimously approved 6-0-0.

8.3 Proposal to move the election of delegates from the first Thursday in March to the first Saturday in March.

- Powell suggested referring the matter to the Bylaws Committee. The Bylaws Committee will meet in October, with a goal of having this change and others incorporated into the bylaws no later than the December meeting. The Board accepted the suggestion with no objections.
- Gwen Pelfrey, a Templeton resident, asked to be placed on a distribution list to receive an email notification of when the meeting of the Bylaws Committee would meet. A response was made from the Board in the affirmative.

8.4 Consideration of appointment of alternates.

- Cobey announced that Kelli Gonzalez would not be eligible for consideration as an alternate delegate as she resides outside of the limits of the Templeton School District.
- Cobey introduced Bruce Jones as a candidate for one of the two open alternate delegate positions. A completed Candidate/Applicant Questionnaire was forwarded to TAAG delegates in advance of the meeting.
- Jones stated the reasons for his interest in TAAG focusing on a desire to contribute to the community after retirement and moving into the Templeton area in January of 2018. He stated that he was a retired orthopedic surgeon and had worked his way through school where he worked doing carpentry on occasion. He gained



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES Marty Settevendemie Ag Commissioner / County Sealer

DATE: September 10, 2018
TO: Young Choi, Project Manager
FROM: Lynda L. Auchinachie, Agriculture Department
SUBJECT: AT&T Mobility/Chesebrough Conditional Use Permit DRC2018-00128 (3000)

Summary of Findings

The applicant is proposing the construction and operation of an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility within an agricultural area. The proposed development includes the construction of an equipment shelter within a 588 square foot lease area and a monopolo tower within a 100 square foot lease area. Each lease area will be surrounded by cattle proof fencing. The area identified for development is currently used for staging of agricultural equipment. Access to the lease sites will be provided by an existing access road. The property is under a Williamson Act contract. The Agriculture Department's review finds that the proposed construction and operation of the proposed unmanned wireless telecommunications facility within an agricultural area will have:

- **Potential** to create a significant environmental impact(s) to agricultural resources or operations.
- Less than significant impact(s) to on and off-site agricultural resources or operations because of the location and site design, limited footprint of the lease area, and proximity to the existing access road.
- □ No anticipated impact to agricultural resources or operations.

Comments and recommendations are based on policies in the San Luis Obispo County Agriculture Element and the Conservation and Open Space Element, the Land Use Ordinance, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and on current departmental policy to conserve agricultural resources and to provide for public health, safety and welfare while mitigating negative impacts of development to agriculture. If you have questions, please call 781-5914.



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO Department of Public Works Colt Esenwein, P.E. Director

RECEIVED

5 SEP 2018

REFERRAL

PLANNING & BUILDING

Date: September 4, 2018

To: Young Choi, Project Planner

Subject: Public Works Project Referral for DRC2018-00128, AT&T MUP, Moss Ln, Templeton, APN 034-011-005

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information on the proposed subject project. It has been reviewed by several divisions of Public Works, and this represents our consolidated response.

Public Works Comments:

- A. The proposed project is within a drainage review area. Drainage plan is required and it will be reviewed at the time of Building Permit submittal by Public Works. The applicant should review Chapter 22.52.110 or 23.05.040 of the Land Use Ordinance prior to future submittal of development permits.
- B. This project appears to not meet the applicability criteria for Stormwater Management, it is located outside a Stormwater Management Area.

Recommended Project Conditions of Approval:

<u>Access</u>

- 1. At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall submit to the Department of Public Works an encroachment permit application, plans, fees, and post a cash damage bond to install improvements within the public right-of-way in accordance with County Public Improvement Standards. The plans are to include, as applicable:
 - a. Utility construction plan showing all work proposed within the Moss Lane right-of-way.
- 2. **On-going condition of approval (valid for the life of the project)**, and in accordance with County Code Section 13.08, no activities associated with this permit shall be allowed to occur within the public right-of-way including, but not limited to, project signage; tree planting; fences; etc. without a valid encroachment permit issued by the Department of Public Works.
- 3. **Prior to commencing permitted activities**, all work in the public right-of-way must be constructed or reconstructed to the satisfaction of the Public Works Inspector and in accordance with the County Public Improvement Standards; the project conditions of approval, including any related land use permit conditions; and the approved improvement plans.
- 4. At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall provide evidence to the Department of Planning and Building that onsite circulation and pavement structural sections have been designed and shall be constructed in conformance with Cal Fire, or the regulating fire agency standards and specifications back to the nearest public maintained roadway.

<u>Drainage</u>

- 5. At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall submit complete drainage plans for review and approval in accordance with Section 22.52.110 (Drainage) or 23.05.040 (Drainage) of the Land Use Ordinance.
- 6. At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall submit complete erosion and sedimentation control plan for review and approval in accordance with 22.52.120.
- 7. At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall demonstrate that the project construction plans are in conformance with their Stormwater Control Plan.

G:\Development_DEVSERV Referrals\Land Use Permits\MUP\DRC2018\DRC2018-00128 AT&T MUP Templeton.docx

Young L. Choi

From: Sent:	Michael Stoker Wednesday, August 22, 2018 8:57 AM
То:	Young L. Choi
Cc:	Cheryl Journey; Don C. Moore
Subject:	Re: DRC2018-00128 AT&T / CHESEBROUGH, North County E-Referral, Conditional Use
	Permit, Templeton

Young,

Please find buildings recommendations for DRC2018-00128 below. Let me know if you have any questions.

In regards to this preliminary review, a building permit is required. The drawings specify the work to be completed consists of new wireless communication facility. A California State licensed design professional (Architect/Engineer) shall prepare plans in compliance with current codes adopted by the County of San Luis Obispo (2016 California Building Standards Codes and Title 19 of the SLO County Codes).

While a thorough plan review will be conducted at the time of the building permit application, the following items are noted to assist design review;

- 1. The plans need to be prepared by a California Licensed Design Professional (Architect or Engineer)
- 2. Provide isometric / single line drawings for the electrical elements to verify compliance with the 2016 versions of the California Electrical Code.
- 3. Provide complete structural plans (foundation, framing, welding, bolt connections, etc) and supporting documentation (calculations, specifications, ICC ES-reports, etc) for the new structures located on the site to verify compliance with the 2016 CBSC and referenced standards.
- 4. Provide details for anchorage for all equipment. For equipment weighing more than 400 lbs, provide calculations for seismic anchorage in accordance with ASCE 7-10, Chapter 13.
- 5. Specify post-installed anchorage (expansion or epoxy anchors). Indicate manufacturer's name and ICC report number. Anchors shall be approved for installation into cracked concrete.
- 6. Provide an equipment schedule on the plans and supporting documentation with approved listings.
- 7. Provide the specification and installation instruction for the generator.
- 8. Provide a list of required special inspection on the cover sheet of the plans as required by CBC, including Chapter 17. Also, the special inspector performing the inspection will need to be listed on the cover sheet and Statement of qualifications provided to the County of San Luis Obispo for review and approval.

thanks

County Of San Luis Obispo Planning & Building



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING TREVOR KEITH, DIRECTOR

THIS IS A NEW PROJECT REFERRAL

DATE: 8/20/2018

TO: 5th District Legislative Assistant, Ag Commissioner, Building Division, Cal-Fire*
 Environmental Health*, Public Works*, AB52, Templeton Area Advisory
 Group

FROM: Young Choi (805-788-2086 or ychoi@co.slo.ca.us)

PROJECT NUMBER & NAME: DRC20185-00128 AT&T MOBILITY / CHESEBROUGH PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Proposed Conditional Use Permit for Wireless Communications Facility. The proposed project is within the Agricultural lan d use category and is located at 790 Moss Lane, in the community of Templeton. The site in in the North County Planning Area.

APN(s): 034-011-005

<u>Return this letter with your comments attached no later than 14 days from receipt of this referral.</u> <u>CACs please respond within 60 days. Thank you.</u>

PART I: IS THE ATTACHED INFORMATION ADEQUATE TO COMPLETE YOUR REVIEW?

- □ YES (Please go on to PART II.)
- □ NO (Call me ASAP to discuss what else you need. We have only 10 days in which we must obtain comments from outside agencies.)

PART II: ARE THERE SIGNIFICANT CONCERNS, PROBLEMS OR IMPACTS IN YOUR AREA OF REVIEW?

- YES (Please describe impacts, along with recommended mitigation measures to reduce the impacts to less-than-significant levels, and attach to this letter.)
- NO (Please go on to PART III.)

PART III: INDICATE YOUR RECOMMENDATION FOR FINAL ACTION.

Please attach any conditions of approval you recommend to be incorporated into the project's approval, or state reasons for recommending denial.

Applicant shall submit, to this office, the hazardous materials business plan for the proposed cell site. The plans shall be reviewed and approved prior to final sign-off. Please contact Aaron LaBarre at 781-5595 if you have any questions.

9.10.18 Date	Name	Eligia	V 5551 Phone
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976 Osos Street, Room 300 | San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 | (P) 805-781-5600 | 7-1-1 TTY/TRS Relay planning@co.slo.ca.us | www.sloplanning.org

Re: [EXTERNAL]RE: CUP for DRC2018-00128 / AT&t Mobility and Chesebrough / Attached records search

Holly Phipps

Thu 4/11/2019 10:47 AM

WirelessComm

To:fcollins_northernchumash.org <fcollins@northernchumash.org>;

cc.Cody Scheel <cscheel@co.slo.ca.us>;

1 attachments (17 MB)
 doc01245120190411101234.pdf;

Hi Fred,

I hope you are doing well. Attached is a copy of an Arch Report prepared by EBI Consulting. The Cultural Survey starts on page 9.

Have a great weekend.

Regards,

Holly Phipps, MCRP North County & Winery Planner

Department of Planning and Building 976 Osos Street, Room 300 San Luis Ohispo, CA, 93408 805-781-1162 http://www.sloplanning.org/

From: Fred Collins <fcollins@northernchumash.org> Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 5:44 AM To: Holly Phipps Subject: [EXTERNAL]RE: CUP for DRC2018-00128 / AT&t Mobility and Chesebrough / Attached records search

ATTENTION: This email originated from outside the County's network. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Hello Holly,

Clay Singer is not a qualified archaeologist and all of his work is not recognized by the Chumash Community, NCTC is requesting a new updated report by a qualified archaeologist on the County List.

These reports must be redone.

Fred Collins NCTC

From: Holly Phipps [mailto:hphipps@co.slo.ca.us] Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2018 12:11 PM To: fcollins_northernchumash.org Subject: CUP for DRC2018-00128 / AT&t Mobility and Chesebrough / Attached records search

Hi Fred,

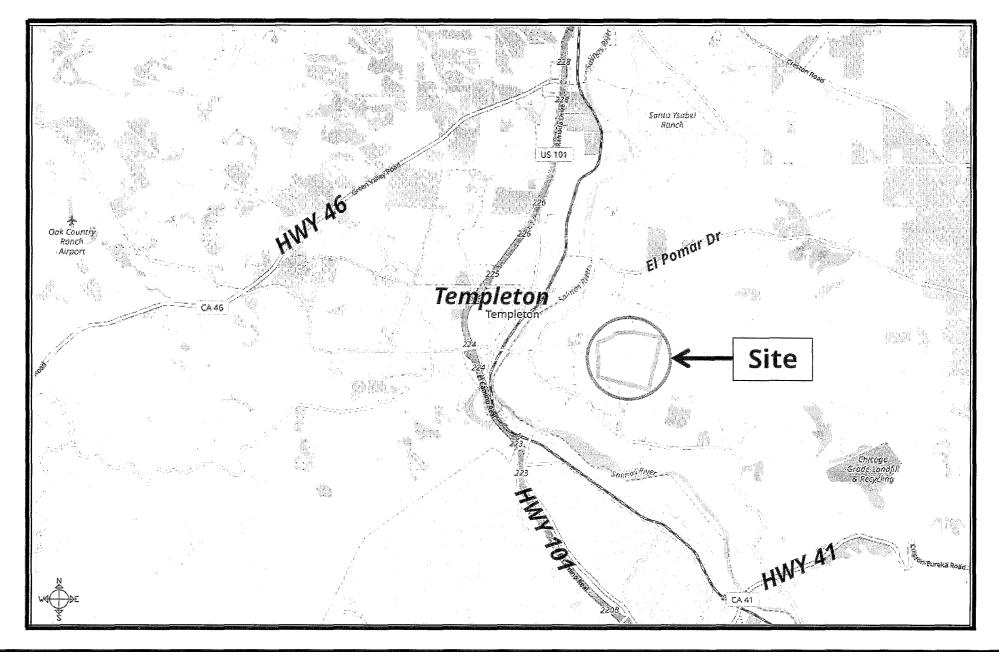
Here is the information you requested in your email dated August 22, 2018. There is no landscape plan to review.

Cheers,

Holly Phipps, MCRP North County & Winery Planner

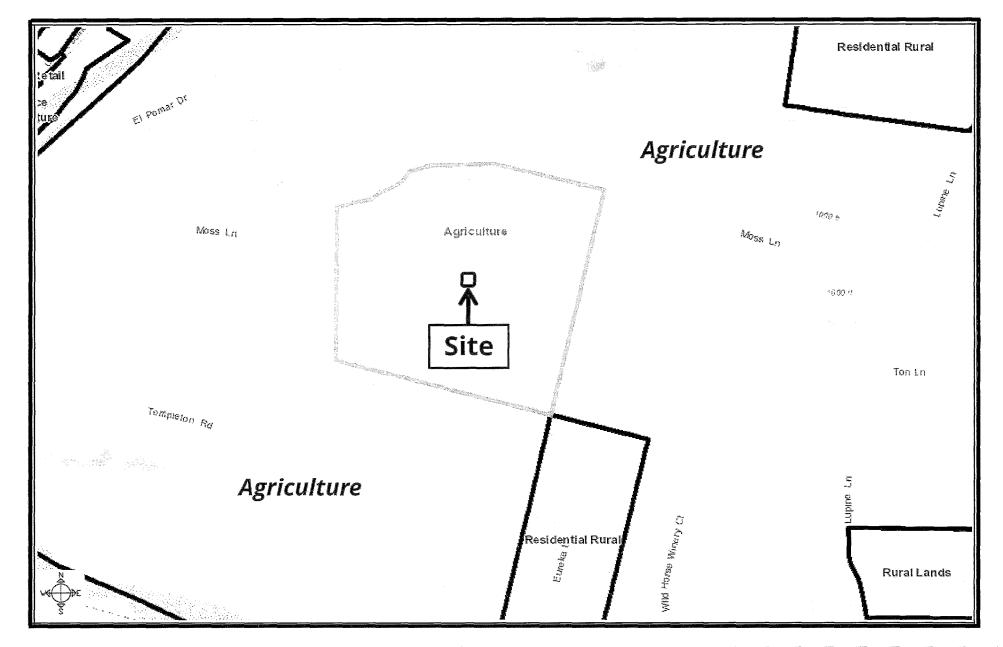
Department of Planning and Building

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Vicinity Map DRC2018-00128



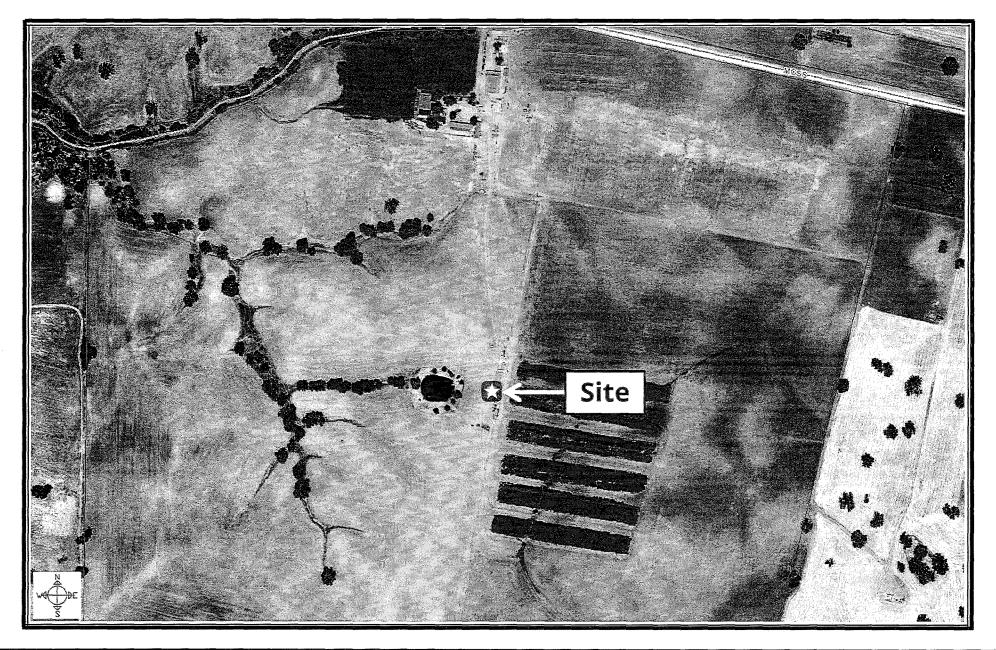




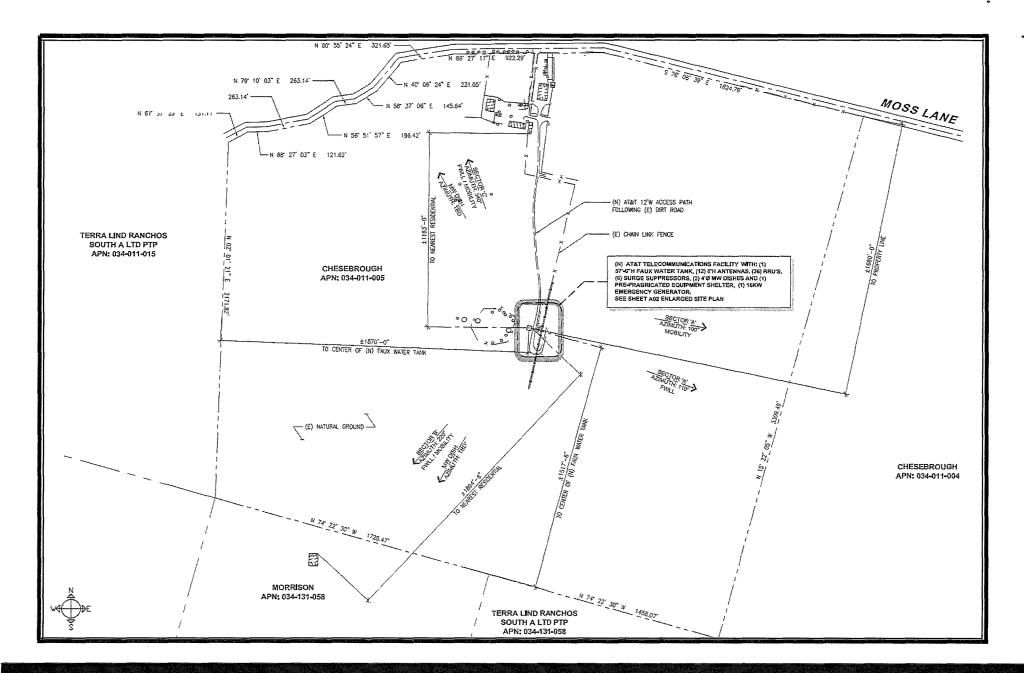
Aerial – Overall Site DRC2018-00128

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

COUNTY ⁵ SAN LUIS OBISPO



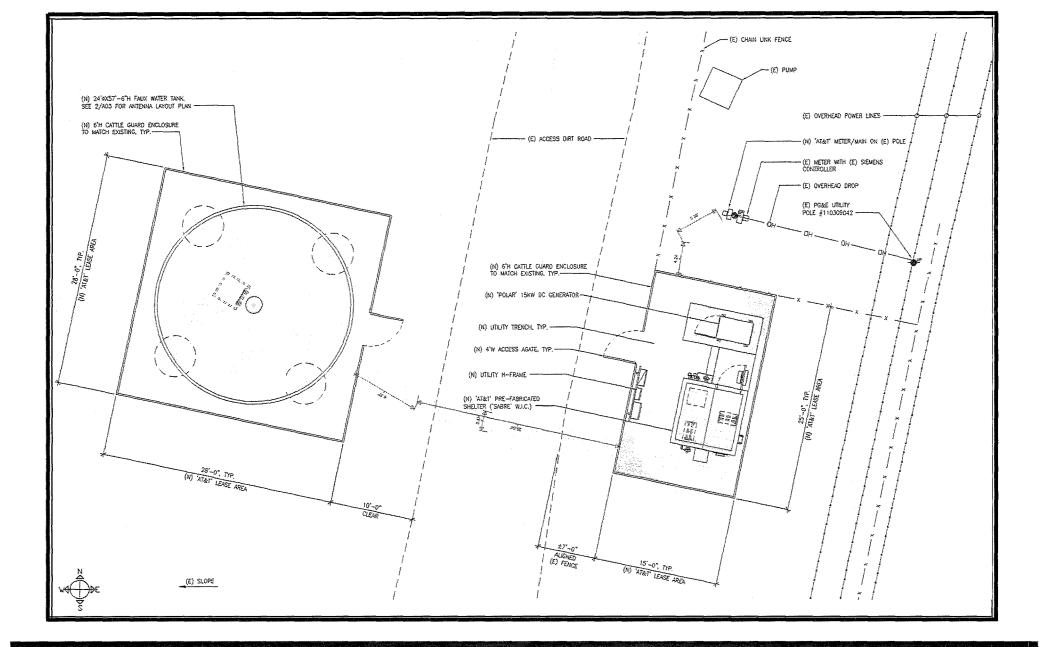




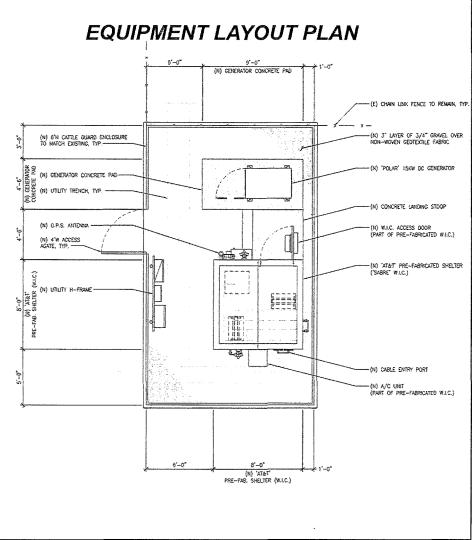
COUNTY SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO Overall Site Plan DRC2018-00128



Enlarged Site Plan DRC2018-00128

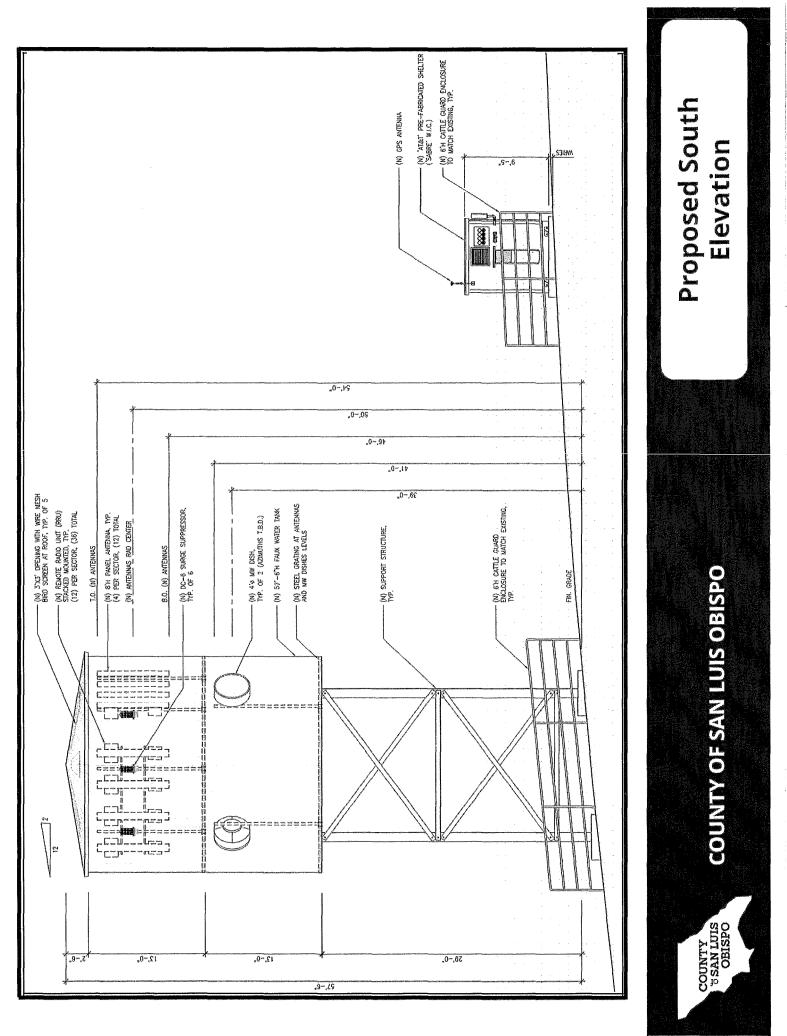


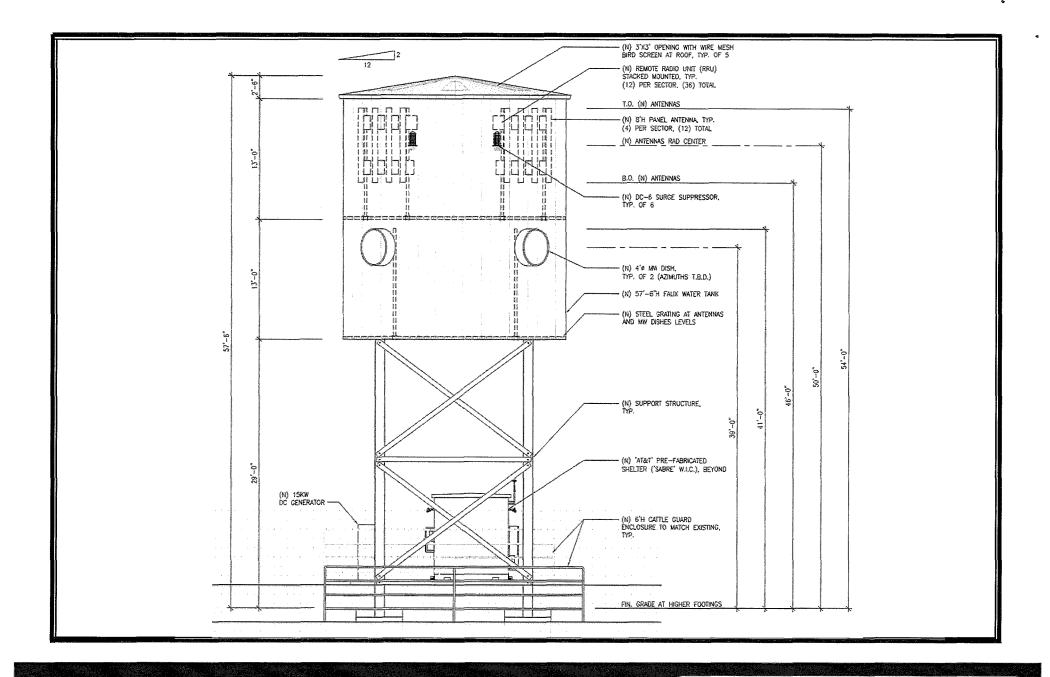
C NATION IN COMMITTY (N) 3"X3" OPENING WITH WIRE MESH BIRD SCREEN AT ROOF, TYP. OF 5 K name and the (N) 24'# X 57'-6"H FAUX WATER TANK (N) 8TH PANEL ANTENNA, TYP. (4) PER SECTOR, (12) TOTAL (N) 6'H CATTLE GUARD ENCLOSURE TO MATCH EXISTING AT GRADE, TYP.-(N) STEEL GRATING AT ANTENNAS AND MW DISHES LEVEL - (N) REMOTE BADIO UNIT (RRU) STACKED MOUNTED, TYP. (12) PER SECTOR, (36) TOTAL (N) TOWER CONCRETE FOOTING AT GRADE, TYP (N) ACCESS HATCH AT ANTENNAS AND (N) DC-6 SURGE SUPPRESSOR, TYP. OF 6 CI WAL MW DISHES LEVELS (N) 4' MW DISH, TYP. OF 2 0 (AZIMUTHS T.B.D.) 神回 AZIMUTH: TOP MCB/Lm FWN THE TYPE A RELIVENCE CONTRACTOR ANTENNA PLAN





Antenna & Equipment Layout Plan







COUNTY SAN LUIS OBISPO

Proposed West Elevation

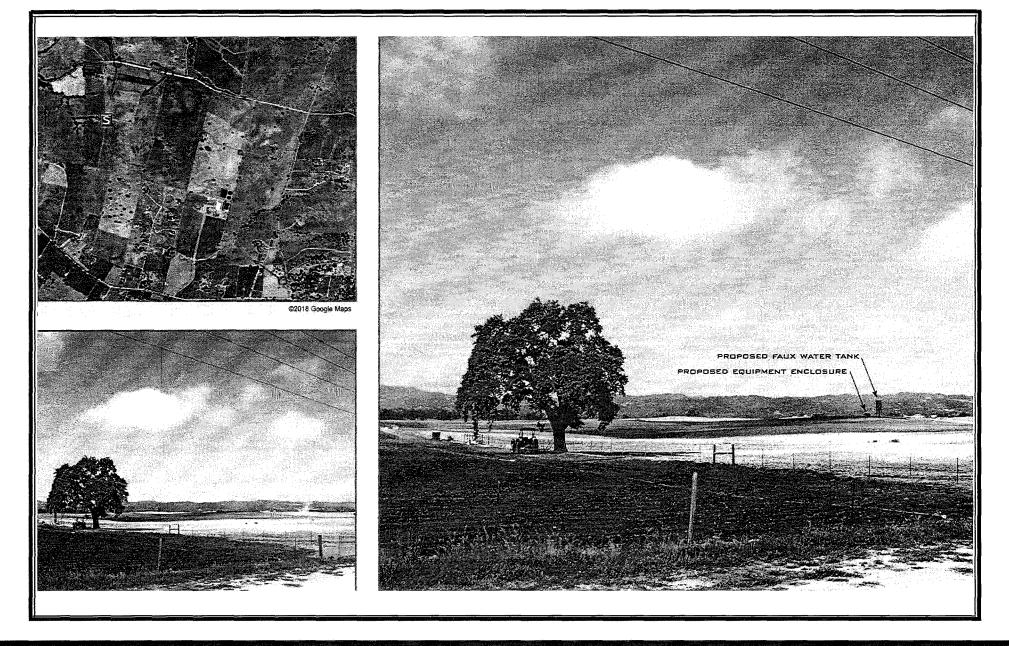
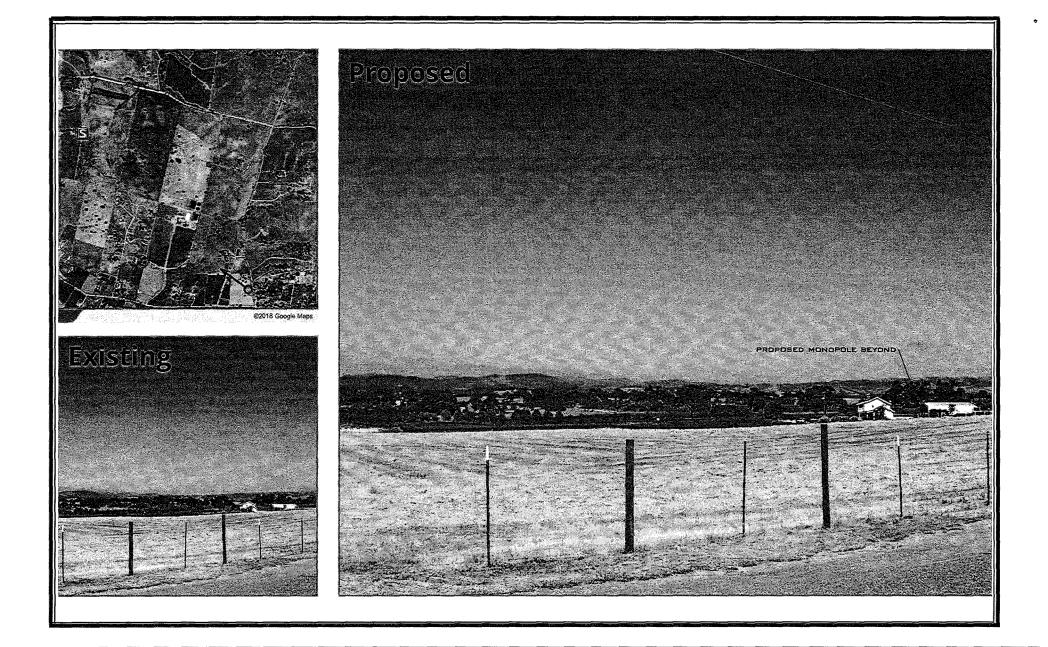




Photo-Simulation (Looking Southwest from Moss Lane)



COUNTY SAN LUIS OBISPO Photo-Simulation (Looking Northeast from Lupine Lane

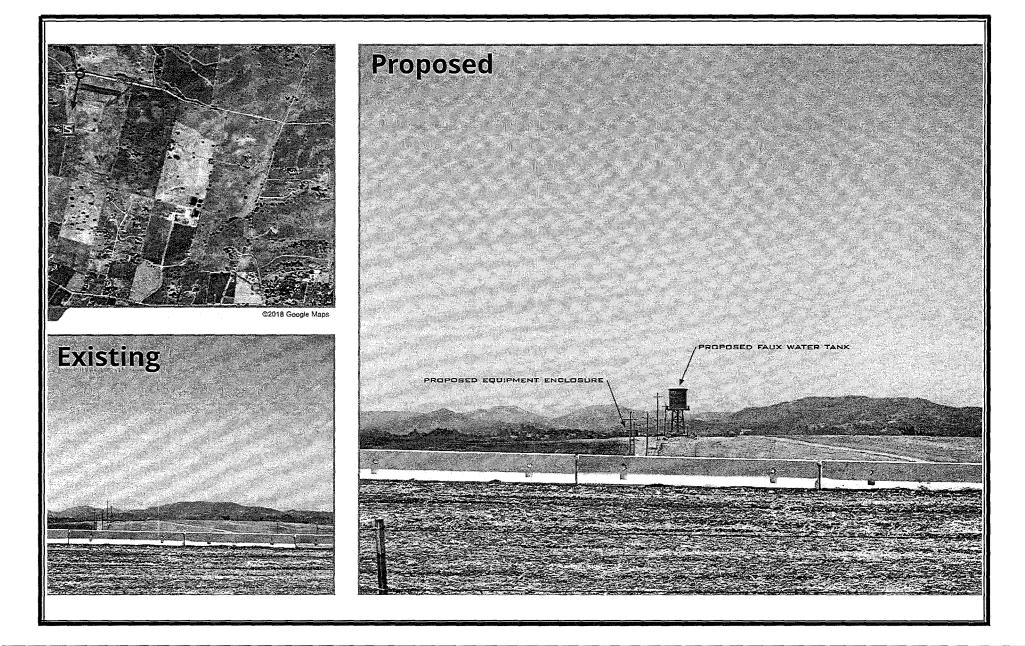




Photo-Simulation (Looking South from Moss Lane

