

4.15 Utilities and Service Systems

The Proposed Project and alternatives parallel numerous public utility and service systems, including water, sewer, solid waste, electric, natural gas, and telecommunication lines in Tulare County, the cities of Visalia and Farmersville, and the community of Lemon Cove. Various entities operate these systems and provide services to residents and businesses in the vicinity of the study area.

4.15.1 Setting

Water

A multitude of domestic water service providers, both public and private, service the unincorporated areas of Tulare County. Providers include Community Service Districts (CSDs), sanitary districts, County Service Areas (CSAs), irrigation districts (IDs), mutual water companies, and public utility districts (PUDs). Individual water systems are the predominant water supply for domestic use within the unincorporated communities of Tulare County (Tulare County, 2007). If the water system has fewer than 200 service connections, it is overseen by the Tulare County Environmental Health Department (Hemans, 2008). If the system has more than 200 service connections, it is regulated directly by the State of California Department of Public Health, Fresno office. The State does not regulate personal water wells with four or less service connections, though the Environmental Health Department performs some health testing during permitting processes (Hemans, 2008).

The California Water Service Company provides water service to the City of Visalia. Current water demand in the City of Visalia averages 24 million gallons per day (Mgal/d), and the California Water Service Company delivers potable water to approximately 38,000 residential, commercial, and industry/institutional customer connections (California Water Service Company, 2008). All business customers are supplied water on a metered basis (Boswell, 2008). Residential customers with houses built before 1987 are supplied water with a flat rate; houses constructed in 1987 and after are billed on a metered basis (Boswell, 2008). The City of Visalia has no surface water, and no primary well (Johnson, 2008). There are 79 wells located throughout the city that provide the City's water supply. The City does not use a specific well as an emergency back-up water supply; rather, it has two small tanks for back-up storage, each of which holds 300,000 gallons. Future increases in water supply will be from new wells (Johnson, 2008).

The City of Farmersville provides water service through its Department of Public Works, and obtains its water from underground supplies. In 2007, water demand in the City of Farmersville ranged from approximately 1.2 Mgal/d in January to 3.09 Mgal/d in July, with an average of 1.98 Mgal/d (Wyckoff, 2008). The City delivers potable water through approximately 3,000 service connections to customers on a flat-rate basis. The City serves a small number of businesses on a metered basis; however, it is planning to shift all customers to a metered basis within the next three years. Six wells, named 1a, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5a, and 6a, provide the City's water supply. The wells are on a looped pressure system, provide relatively equal service, and have a combined capacity of approximately eight Mgal/d. Future increases in water supply will be from

new wells. A seventh well is due to begin service in the near future, and will add approximately 1,800 gallons per minute (gpm). Though the City has emergency backup power on three of the existing six wells and will have it on the new well, the City has no emergency back up water supply and no reservoir storage (Wyckoff, 2008).

The Tulare Irrigation District (TID) maintains a canal that runs along the west side of Farmersville. The TID obtains and delivers surface water supply to approximately 230 farms in the TID service area (including farms in Farmersville), and provides water for 1,100 acres of groundwater recharge/regulation basins underlying the TID (Tulare Irrigation District, 2008).

The Lemon Cove Sanitary District (also known as the Lemon Cove Water Company), a special district, serves the unincorporated community of Lemon Cove. The water system delivers potable water to residential, commercial, and industry/institutional customers through 50 domestic water service connections on a metered basis (Tulare County, 2007). The Keller-Wegley McKay's Point Lemon Cove Well, which pumps 50 gpm, provides the community's water supply (Pensar, 2008). The well has a two-horsepower submersible pump and is connected to a 30,000 gallon storage tank, booster pump, and a 4,000 gallon pressure tank. The water system has no reservoir storage. Future increase in water supply would likely be derived from new wells (Tulare County, 2007).

Sanitary Sewer

In unincorporated areas of Tulare County, special districts generally operate and manage sanitary sewer services. These special districts include: PUDs, CSDs, CSAs, sanitary districts, and sewer maintenance districts (Tulare County, 2007). The Tulare County Resource Management Agency (RMA) has jurisdiction over lands not included in these special districts; any permit for a project requiring sewage disposal in these areas must be approved by the RMA (Williams, 2008). Individual or community septic systems serve some of the unincorporated urban areas within Tulare County that are lacking sanitary sewer infrastructure (Tulare County, 2007).

The City of Visalia Department of Public Works provides sanitation service in the City. The City maintains sewer lines and a wastewater treatment plant. The City provides sanitation services for an estimated 120,000 residential, commercial, and industry/institutional customers, through approximately 35,000 connections. The wastewater treatment plant has an average dry and wet weather capacity of approximately 22 Mgal/d (Ross, 2008).

The City of Farmersville Public Works Department provides sanitation service in the City. The City handles all aspects of its wastewater treatment, which includes maintaining sewer lines and a wastewater treatment plant. The City provides sanitation services for approximately 3,000 service connections, for residential, commercial, and industry/institutional customers. The wastewater treatment plant has an average dry weather capacity of 1.25 Mgal/d (Wyckoff, 2008).

The Lemon Cove Sanitary District (LCSD) provides sanitation service in the unincorporated community of Lemon Cove. LCSD provides collection and primary treatment services for the community's approximately 300 residents. Permitted capacity is 0.020 Mgal/d, and average dry weather flow is 0.012 Mgal/d (Tulare County, 2007).

Electricity and Natural Gas

SCE is the primary provider of electrical services throughout Tulare County, though PG&E also serves northern Tulare County on a limited basis. The Gas Company (formerly Southern California Gas Company) provides natural gas services (Tulare County, 2007).

Telephone

AT&T, Ducor, Sprint and Verizon provide telephone services in Tulare County. These companies supply local and long distance calling, Internet access, and wireless services to commercial and residential customers (Tulare County, 2007).

Solid Waste and Recycling Service

Private haulers licensed through Tulare County provide solid waste collection and disposal services to unincorporated areas of the County. The City of Visalia employs its own haulers to provide solid waste collection and disposal services for residential and nonresidential areas in the cities of Visalia and Farmersville (Manuele, 2008).

Solid waste generated within the project area would primarily be disposed of at the Visalia Landfill (Manuele, 2008). The Visalia Landfill is located on Road 80, north of Avenue 328, approximately four miles northwest of the City of Visalia, and is currently permitted to accept 2,000 tons of solid waste per day. It has an estimated remaining capacity of 16 million cubic yards (86.7 percent) until 2024 (CIWMB, 2008).

Two other landfills exist that serve Tulare County: the Woodville Disposal Site and the Teapot Dome Disposal Site. The Woodville Disposal Site is located on Road 152 approximately five miles south of SR 137 near Avenue 200, approximately seven miles southeast of the City of Tulare. It is currently permitted to accept 2,000 tons of solid waste per day and has an estimated remaining capacity of 16 million cubic yards (58.5 percent) until 2026. The Teapot Dome Disposal Site is located on Avenue 128 east of Road 208, approximately five miles southwest of the City of Porterville. It is currently permitted to accept 600 tons of solid waste per day and has an estimated remaining capacity of one million cubic yards (15.3 percent) until 2012 (CIWMB, 2008).

Regulatory Context

State

Protection of Underground Infrastructure

Section 1, Chapter 3.1 “Protection of Underground Infrastructure,” Article 2 of California Government Code 4216 requires that utility operators and other excavators must contact a regional notification center at least two days prior to excavation of any subsurface installations. The notification center for southern California is Underground Service Alert. Any utility provider seeking to begin an excavation project must call Underground Service Alert’s toll-free hotline. In turn, Underground Service Alert will notify the utilities that may have buried lines within

1,000 feet of the excavation. Representatives of the utilities are required to mark the specific location of their facilities within the work area prior to the start of excavation. The excavator is required to probe and expose the underground facilities by hand prior to using power equipment.

Assembly Bill 939

Assembly Bill 939 (AB 939), enacted in 1989 and known as the Integrated Waste Management Act, required each city and/or county's Source Reduction and Recycling Element to reduce the amount of waste being disposed to landfills, with diversion goals of 50 percent by the year 2000. Tulare County, which includes the cities of Visalia and Farmersville and the community of Lemon Cove, had a diversion rate of 46 percent in 2005 and 52 percent in 2006¹ (Ackley, 2008).

Local

Tulare County General Plan (Proposed Project and Alternatives 2, 3 and 6)

The following goals and policies have been identified in the Water Element of the Tulare County General Plan and may be applicable to the Proposed Project and alternatives:

Policy 2.B.10: New or greatly improved sewer systems and facilities should be constructed for Richgrove, Traver, East Orosi, Tract 92, Goshen, Poplar-Cotton Center, Lemon Cove, Terra Bella and Camp Nelson, as feasible, subject to allocation of County resources.

(Tulare County, 2001).

Tulare County Construction and Demolition Debris Ordinance (Proposed Project and Alternatives 2, 3 and 6)

The Tulare County Construction and Demolition Ordinance (Ordinance Number 3321), adopted in 2006, establishes regulations for the recycling and diversion of Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris within unincorporated areas in Tulare County. According to the ordinance, every applicant requesting a building or demolition permit for an applicable project must first submit a properly completed C&D Debris Recycling and Reuse Plan to the Tulare County Resource Management Agency's Permit Center. Within 30 days of project completion the applicant must also submit a C&D Debris Recycling and Reuse Final Compliance report. Diversion requirements stipulate that 100 percent of inert solids and at least 50 percent by weight of the remaining C&D debris resulting from the project must be diverted to an approved facility or by salvage (Fussel, 2008).

City of Visalia General Plan (Proposed Project and Alternatives 2, 3 and 6)

The following goals and policies identified in the Land Use Element of the City of Visalia General Plan may be applicable to the Proposed Project and alternatives:

Policy 2.2.5: Promote solid waste recycling to conserve limited natural resources.

¹ In 2005, Tulare County was divided into two Regional Agencies. The first, Unincorporated Tulare County, had a diversion rate of 47 percent. The second, called Consolidated Waste Management Authority (CWMA), was comprised of the Cities of Dinuba, Lindsay, Porterville, Tulare and Visalia, and had a diversion rate of 46 percent. In 2006, CWMA added Unincorporated Tulare County to its membership.

Policy 2.4.2: Development shall not occur unless water supplies are available to adequately serve the project.

Goal 5: Plan and develop an efficient public facilities and services system to serve as a framework for orderly urban development.

(City of Visalia, 1996).

City of Visalia Construction and Demolition Debris Ordinance (Proposed Project and Alternatives 2, 3 and 6)

Regulations for the recycling and diversion of Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris are provided in the City of Visalia Ordinance Code Chapter 829.00. According to the ordinance, prior to issuance of building or demolition permits involving any Covered Project, every applicant must complete and submit a properly completed C&D Recycling and Reuse Plan to the Building Official with the City of Visalia. The plan must be completed within 30 days of the project final. Diversion requirements state that 100 percent of inert solids and at least 50 percent by weight of the remaining C&D debris resulting from the project shall be diverted to an approved facility or by salvage (City of Visalia, 2008).

City of Farmersville General Plan (Proposed Project)

The following goals and policies identified in the Land Use Element of the City of Farmersville General Plan may be applicable to the Proposed Project:

Infrastructure Goal III: Maintain, rebuild and upgrade infrastructure systems.

Objective 3: The City should work with the private sector to participate in the upgrading of the infrastructure system when it is developing in the city.

Action plan a: From time to time, the City may wish to work with a developer to upgrade a part of the infrastructure or street system that is not part of the project being developed.

(City of Farmersville, 2002).

4.15.2 Significance Criteria

Based on criteria in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would be considered to have a significant effect on the environment if it would:

- a) Conflict with wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board;
- b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects;
- c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects;
- d) Require new or expanded water supply resources or entitlements;

- e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that would serve the project that it does not have adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments;
- f) Be served by a landfill without sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs;
- g) Not comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste;
- h) Contact and/or disturb underground utility lines and/or facilities during construction activities.

4.15.3 Applicant Proposed Measures

No Applicant Proposed Measures have been identified by SCE to reduce project impacts on utilities and service systems.

4.15.4 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Approach to Analysis

This section presents an analysis of the potential utility service impacts associated with the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Proposed Project.

The proposed modifications at the Springville, Vestal, and Big Creek 3 Substations consist solely of electrical system and safety upgrades, and the associated construction, operation, and maintenance activities would have no impact to water, wastewater, storm water, or solid waste treatment or facilities. Similarly, the same type of electrical system and safety upgrade activities proposed for the Rector Substation would not have any potential impacts to water, wastewater, storm water, or solid waste treatment or facilities. Therefore, potential impacts will not be discussed further in this section.

a) Conflict with wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Impact 4.15-1: The Proposed Project could conflict with wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board. *Less than significant (Class III)*

The Proposed Project would not cause impacts to wastewater. Portable toilets would be utilized only during construction (a one-time limited timeframe) and waste would be disposed of according to required regulations. No additional wastewater would be generated during operation of the project; therefore, this impact would be less than significant. See also, e) below.

Mitigation: None required.

b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects.

Impact 4.15-2: The Proposed Project could require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. *Less than significant* (Class III)

The Proposed Project would require water use during construction, primarily for periodic dust control on access roads. However, this water use would be temporary in nature and would not generate wastewater that would require treatment or disposal. Operation of the Proposed Project would not require the use of water, and would therefore not create any demand for wastewater treatment or disposal. Consequently, the Proposed Project would not require or result in the construction of new or expanded water or wastewater treatment plant facilities; therefore, this impact would be less than significant. See also, d) and e) below.

Mitigation: None required.

c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects.

Impact 4.15-3: The Proposed Project could require or result in the construction of new storm drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities. *Less than significant* (Class III)

The Proposed Project would require the replacement of 26 single circuit lattice towers with approximately six double circuit tubular poles and one steel lattice structure along 1.1 miles of existing right-of-way (ROW), and would require the installation of approximately 96 double circuit tubular poles, six single-phase tubular poles and 12 double circuit lattice towers along the existing and new ROW. For the towers that would be removed and not replaced in the same location, holes would be filled and compacted, and the area would be smoothed to match surrounding grade. Restoration would include grading to original contours and reseeding where appropriate. Tower installation sites, work areas, pull and tension sites, staging area, and access roads required for the Proposed Project would not result in a net increase in impervious surfaces, as no surfaces associated with the Proposed Project would be paved.

The Proposed Project would also involve modifications at the Rector, Big Creek 3, Vestal, and Springville Substations that would consist of installing new cable, conduit, and protective relays, and removing a wave trap and line tuner. The project would also require the construction of one Mechanical and Electrical Equipment Room (MEER) to house relay equipment, as well as eight miles of new 20-foot wide access roads. However, all substation modifications, including construction of the MEER, would occur within the existing fence lines of the substations. Furthermore, the new access roads would remain unpaved. Consequently, none of these modifications would substantially increase runoff.

Since the Proposed Project would not substantially increase the amount of impervious surfaces, it would not create a significant amount of additional runoff water. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not require or result in the construction of a new or expanded storm drainage facility, and the impact would be less than significant.

Mitigation: None required.

d) Require new or expanded water supply resources or entitlements.

Impact 4.15-4: The Proposed Project could require new or expanded water supply resources or entitlements. *Less than significant (Class III)*

Operation of the Proposed Project would not require the use of water. The primary use of water during construction of the Proposed Project would be for dust suppression measures on access roads. The water that would be required for construction of the transmission line would be trucked in from off-site. Dust suppression would be performed as necessary and is not anticipated to occur on a regular basis. A small amount of water would also be available for fire suppression. The working crew would bring in drinking water from off-site. Water used during the construction period would be available from existing municipal water sources and would not require local water providers to obtain additional water entitlements. The amount of water required for construction of the Proposed Project would be negligible. Impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation: None required.

e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that would serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments.

Impact 4.15-5: The Proposed Project could affect the wastewater treatment providers' ability to serve the Proposed Project's projected demand in addition to the providers' existing commitments. *Less than significant (Class III)*

As described in d), the primary use of water during construction of the Proposed Project would be for dust suppression measures on access roads. Disposal would not be required because the water used during dust suppression activities would be minimal and consequently this water would evaporate or be absorbed into the ground. In addition, construction crews would use portable sanitation facilities (portable toilets), generating relatively small volumes of wastewater for a limited time during the construction phase. Sanitation waste would be disposed of according to sanitation waste management practices. No other sources of wastewater are anticipated during the Proposed Project construction activities, and operation of the Proposed Project would not require the use of water. The negligible amount of water used during construction would not affect the wastewater treatment facilities' abilities to serve the Proposed Project's projected

demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments; therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

Mitigation: None required.

f) Be served by a landfill without sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.

Impact 4.15-6: The Proposed Project could be serviced by a landfill with insufficient capacity to accommodate the Proposed Project's solid waste disposal needs. *Less than significant* (Class III)

Operation of the Proposed Project would not generate solid waste and would therefore not affect existing landfill capacities. Construction of the Proposed Project would generate various waste materials, largely in the form of soil, vegetation, utility line cables, and scrap metal from the replacement of existing towers and substation modifications. This impact would be short-term and of short duration.

As described in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, the Proposed Project would require the removal and disposal of approximately 26 existing 220 kV lattice steel towers and associated hardware (i.e., insulators, vibration dampeners, suspension clamps, ground wire clamps, shackles, links, nuts, bolts, washers, cotter pins, insulator weights, and bond wires), as well as the transmission line primary conductors, ground wire and footings. Solid waste from the Proposed Project would be separated by construction crews at the project site into salvageable, recyclable, and non-reusable items. Items that could be recycled and salvaged (including conductor wire, steel from towers, and hardware) would be separated into roll-off boxes and transported to one of two material staging areas. These staging areas would be located at existing commercial facilities near the project site, and are anticipated to be no larger than five acres each. There, items would be sorted, and baled, and then sold through available markets. The wood poles used for guard structures and possible telecommunications support would be returned to the material staging yard, and depending on the condition of each pole, may be reused, disposed of in a Class I hazardous waste landfill, or in the lined portion of a Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) certified municipal landfill. Other miscellaneous non-hazardous construction materials that cannot be reused or recycled would be disposed of at municipal county landfills, such as the Visalia Solid Waste Landfill in Tulare County. Any hazardous material would be recycled, treated and/or disposed of in accordance with federal and local laws. Impacts related to the removal and disposal of treated wood and construction materials would be less than significant (see Section 4.7, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials* for additional information).

Soil and vegetative matter from excavations and land-clearing for new tower foundations would be screened and separated for use as backfill materials at the project sites to the maximum extent possible. Soils and vegetative matter unsuitable for backfill use would be disposed of at appropriate disposal sites.

As discussed in the Setting, the Visalia Landfill currently has a remaining permitted capacity of approximately 16 million cubic yards and is not estimated to close until 2024 (CIWMB, 2008). Because the majority of waste resulting from the removal of lattice steel towers would be included under the Tulare County and/or City of Visalia C&D Debris Ordinances and is salvageable, and because the local landfill has sufficient capacity to accept the remainder of SCE's construction waste, this would be a less than significant impact.

Mitigation: None required.

g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

Impact 4.15-7: The Proposed Project could conflict with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. *Less than significant (Class III)*

As discussed above, the Proposed Project would generate waste during construction. Construction waste would include the one time disposal of material that could not be recycled or reused. Transmission line operation and maintenance are not anticipated to produce additional solid waste. The construction waste generated would be minimal and SCE would dispose of the waste in an appropriate landfill. As discussed above, landfills within the project area have sufficient capacity to accept anticipated project waste.

Tulare County has an adopted the Countywide Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) that establishes goals and methodologies for compliance with the California AB 939, which establishes 50 percent diversion of solid waste from landfills. As stated earlier, Tulare County's diversion rate in 2005 was 46 percent and in 2006 was 52 percent (Ackley, 2008); therefore the County met the requirement of AB 939 in 2006 but not in 2005. The California Integrated Waste Management Board's Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program is helping the County meet the AB 939 goal. This program includes the entire County and offers low-interest loans up to two million dollars, technical assistance on financing strategies and assistance in marketing zones nationally and internationally (Ford, 2008).

As stated in the regulatory setting, Tulare County, the cities of Visalia and Farmersville all have construction and demolition ordinances that establish diversion requirements for construction and demolition. SCE would reduce their construction material and treated wood pole waste through the measures described above in Impact 4.15-6 consistent with Tulare County and the cities of Visalia and Farmersville recycling and reduction policies. Thus, impacts related to conflicts with statutes and regulations relating to solid waste and recycling would be less than significant.

Mitigation: None required.

h) Contact and/or disturb underground utility lines and/or facilities during construction activities.

Impact 4.15-8: The Proposed Project could contact and/or disturb underground utility lines and/or facilities during construction activities. *Less than significant (Class III)*

Construction activities could inadvertently contact underground facilities (i.e. natural gas, water, or sewer pipelines) during pole/tower excavation, pole/tower installation, and/or grading of work areas for the Proposed Project, possibly leading to short-term utility service interruptions. Prior to construction, surveys would be conducted by SCE to locate all underground and overhead utilities in the project area. As described above, SCE is required by State law to contact Underground Service Alert at least two working days prior to initiation of construction activities with ground disturbance. Underground Service Alert verifies the location of all existing underground facilities and alerts the other utilities to mark their facilities in the area (within 1,000 feet) of anticipated excavation activities. SCE is also required to manually (by hand) probe and expose any existing buried utilities in the Proposed Project corridors prior to any powered-equipment drilling or excavation. After probing within the corridor for existing utilities, exact placement of the tower and pole foundations would be determined so that they would not conflict with other co-located utilities. Therefore, impacts related to potential underground utility service interruptions would be less than significant.

Mitigation: None required.

4.15.5 Cumulative Impacts

Construction, operation, and maintenance activities associated with the Proposed Project would not result in significant impacts that would affect the ability of Tulare County, the cities of Visalia and Farmersville, and other service providers to effectively deliver public water supply, sanitary sewer (wastewater), solid waste, and other utility services in the service area. The past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects described in Section 3.6, *Cumulative Projects*, include several development projects planned in the vicinity of the project area that may impact utility services. These include numerous new housing subdivisions and the Yokohl Ranch Project – a master planned community of 10,000 residential units, 550,000 square feet of mixed use space, and infrastructure such as roads and utilities. It is likely that this cumulative development would require expansion of existing, or development of new, utility service infrastructure to support the planned population growth. However, these planned developments would be required to comply with all federal, State, and local regulations and ordinances protecting utility services, including complying with all standards of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, as well as water conservation measures and waste minimization efforts in accordance with Tulare County and cities of Visalia and Farmersville requirement. Further, because the Proposed Project demand for utility services would occur only during the construction period which would be completed well prior to completion of most of the planned residential development projects, the Proposed Project would have no cumulatively considerable impacts related to utilities and service systems (Class III).

4.15.6 Alternatives

No Project Alternative

Under the No Project Alternative, the Proposed Project would not be implemented; therefore, no impacts to utilities would occur. The San Joaquin Cross Valley Loop would not be created and the modifications to the four substations would not occur. None of the project objectives would be met and demand in the Electrical Needs Area would not be adequately met. The unequal distribution of load would continue to result in overloads on the 220 kV lines serving Rector Substation from the Big Creek Hydroelectric Project. While this condition would continue to jeopardize SCE's ability to provide safe and reliable electric service to customers within the Electrical Needs Area, it would not result in physical impacts to utilities and service systems (No Impact).

Alternative 2

Construction, operation and maintenance impacts for this alternative would be similar to those identified for the Proposed Project, which were determined to be less than significant, requiring no mitigation. Construction of Alternative 2 would involve similar construction methods as those described for the Proposed Project. As such, the demands placed on local water, wastewater, storm drainage, and solid waste service providers as a result of this alternative would be identical to that discussed above in Section 4.15.4. Alternative 2 would require the demolition of approximately eight additional miles of single circuit transmission line, compared to the Proposed Project, and would thus generate proportionately more waste from construction activities. However, no part of construction or operation of this alternative would use water or generate wastewater or solid waste in amounts exceeding the capacity of local facilities serving the area. Impacts due to demands on water, wastewater, storm drainage, and solid waste facilities would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required. Construction of this alternative would result in a similar potential to contact or disrupt underground utility infrastructure. Actions taken to avoid utilities identified in accordance with Article 2 of California Government Code 4216 (i.e., contact Underground Service Alert and manually probe for existing buried utilities within the ROW) would ensure that construction activities would not result in reductions or interruptions of existing utility systems or cause a collocation accident. Therefore, this alternative would result in less-than-significant impacts to utility services (Class III).

Alternative 3

Construction, operation and maintenance impacts for this alternative would be similar to those identified for the Proposed Project, which were determined to be less than significant, requiring no mitigation. Construction of Alternative 3 would involve similar construction methods as those

described for the Proposed Project. As such, the demands placed on local water, wastewater, storm drainage, and solid waste service providers as a result of this alternative would be identical to that discussed above in Section 4.15.4. Alternative 3 would require the demolition of approximately 13 additional miles of single circuit transmission line, compared to the Proposed Project, and would thus generate proportionately more waste from construction activities. However, no part of construction or operation of this alternative would use water or generate wastewater or solid waste in amounts exceeding the capacity of local facilities serving the area. Impacts due to demands on water, wastewater, storm drainage, and solid waste facilities would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required. Construction of this alternative would result in a similar potential to contact or disrupt underground utility infrastructure. Actions taken to avoid utilities identified in accordance with Article 2 of California Government Code 4216 (i.e., contact Underground Service Alert and manually probe for existing buried utilities within the ROW) would ensure that construction activities would not result in reductions or interruptions of existing utility systems or cause a collocation accident. Therefore, this alternative would result in less-than-significant impacts to utility services (Class III).

Alternative 6

Construction, operation and maintenance impacts for this alternative would be similar to those identified for the Proposed Project, which were determined to be less than significant, requiring no mitigation. Construction of Alternative 6 would involve similar construction methods as those described for the Proposed Project. As such, the demands placed on local water, wastewater, storm drainage, and solid waste service providers as a result of this alternative would be identical to that discussed above in Section 4.15.4. Alternative 6 would require the demolition of approximately seven additional miles of single circuit transmission line, compared to the Proposed Project, and would thus generate proportionately more waste from construction activities. However, no part of construction or operation of this alternative would use water or generate wastewater or solid waste in amounts exceeding the capacity of local facilities serving the area. Impacts due to demands on water, wastewater, storm drainage, and solid waste facilities would be less than significant and no mitigation measures would be required. Construction of this alternative would result in a similar potential to contact or disrupt underground utility infrastructure. Actions taken to avoid utilities identified in accordance with Article 2 of California Government Code 4216 (i.e., contact Underground Service Alert and manually probe for existing buried utilities within the ROW) would ensure that construction activities would not result in reductions or interruptions of existing utility systems or cause a collocation accident. Therefore, this alternative would result in less-than-significant impacts to utility services (Class III).

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