

Project Title & No. (Vali Family Vineyards LLC) Major Grading ED20-141 (PMTG2019-00097)

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:

 \square

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.

Prepared by (Print)	Signature	Date	
		Steve McMasters, Principal Environmental Specialist	
Reviewed by (Print)	Signature	Date	

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 Vali Family Vineyards LLC. for a Major Grading Permit (PMTG2019-00097) to construct a lined, 4.43-acre-foot agricultural reservoir to be used for irrigation for 69 acres of planned vineyards. The reservoir will be supplied by a proposed polyvinyl chloride (PVC) waterline and one existing onsite well located on the subject property. The project would result in the disturbance of 1.3 acres of a 200-acre site. The project is within the Agriculture land use category and is located off of Adelaida Road, south of the intersection of Adara Road and Adelaida Road, approximately 6.6 miles west of the City of Paso Robles. The site is in the Adelaida Sub Area of the North County Planning Area.

Background:

The proposed reservoir would be approximately 20 feet deep with a maximum capacity of 4.43 acre-feet. This reservoir would encompass a total area of approximately 0.5-acres and would require approximately 8,332 cubic yards of cut. The cut material would be compacted with a 30-40 percent shrinkage factor. The project would require a total of approximately 4,314 cubic yards of fill. Net cut of approximately 4,018 cubic yards will be spread and stabilized on site and will be used as non-structural fill.

A lined, vegetative swale would be constructed around two sides of the reservoir perimeter to keep any surface flows away from the toe of the berm slopes. The existing irrigation well would be utilized to supply groundwater to the proposed reservoir; the well is located approximately 0.25 miles northeast of the proposed reservoir site. The reservoir would be served by existing electrical utilities; a utility extension is proposed along with an extension of an existing 10-foot-wide access road.

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S): 026-281-067

Latitude: 35 degrees 38' 3.39" N Longitude: 120 degrees 49' 53.68" W SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT #1

B. Existing Setting

Plan Area:	North County	Sub:	Adelaida	Comm:	None
Land Use Cate	gory:	Agriculture			

Combining Designation:	None			
Parcel Size:	200.1 acres			
Topography:	Moderately sloping to steep	ly sloping	i	
Vegetation:	Grasses Shrubs Oak woodland			
Existing Uses:	Undeveloped			
Surrounding Land Use Categories and Uses:				
<i>North:</i> Agriculture; agric	ultural uses residential	East:	Agriculture; agricultural uses residential	
<i>South:</i> Agriculture; agric	ultural uses residential West: Agriculture; agricultural uses residential			

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.

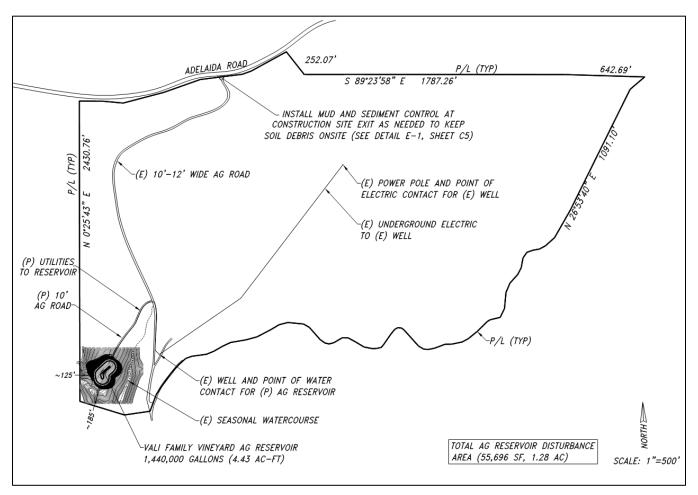


Figure 1. Overall site plan.

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

CEQA establishes that it is the policy of the state to take all action necessary to provide people of the state "with... enjoyment of aesthetic, natural, scenic and historic environmental qualities" (Public Resources Code Section 21001(b)).

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 County's Conservation and Open Space Element (COSE) provides guidelines for the appropriate placement of development so that the natural landscape continues to be the dominant view in rural parts of the county and to ensure the visual character contributes to a robust sense of place in urban areas. The COSE provides a number of goals and policies to protect the visual character and identify of the county while protecting private property rights, such as the identification and protection of community separators (rural-appearing land located between separate, identifiable communities and towns), designation of scenic

corridors along public roads and highways throughout the county, retaining existing access to scenic vista points, and setting the standard that new development in urban and village areas shall be consistent with the local character, identify, and sense of place.

The proposed reservoir is located approximately 2,000 feet from Adelaida Road and is approximately 6.6 miles from west of the City of Paso Robles. The project site is within an area with proposed agricultural uses, the applicant plans to plant approximately 69 acres of vineyard. The visual setting includes vast agricultural views (predominantly vineyards), open hillsides, a few scattered rural residences, and other appurtenant agricultural infrastructure and development. No nearby roadways have been officially designated as scenic corridors; however, portions Highway 101 has been identified as a state scenic highway by the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) California Scenic Highway Mapping System. Highway 101 runs north-south through the City of Paso Robles, approximately 6 miles east of the reservoir site.

Discussion

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

The project site is located in a rural area accessed by agricultural farm roads off of Adelaida Road, which serves as the primary public viewing location for the project site. For the purposes of determining significance under CEQA, a scenic vista is defined as a viewpoint that provides expansive views of a highly valued landscape for the benefit of the general public. While the project vicinity has high scenic value and an appealing rural and agricultural character, it is not officially or unofficially designated as a scenic vista. Therefore, the project would not result in a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista, and impacts would be *less than significant*.

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

The most prominent scenic features of the project sites include the rolling hills and vineyards throughout the proposed development area. The project site would not be visible from Highway 46 or Highway 101 due to distance, the non-descript agricultural nature of the proposed developments, and intervening agricultural uses and topography, and would therefore not be 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 impacts would be *less than significant*.

(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 visual character of the project vicinity is dominated by agricultural land uses including vineyards, agricultural reservoirs, agricultural accessory structures, and scattered rural residences. Although Adelaida Road has no official scenic designation, the roadway offers high-value views of rural agricultural landscapes. The proposed reservoir would not be highly visible from Adelaida Road due to intervening topography, active vineyards and agricultural uses, and distance. The agricultural reservoirs would also be consistent with the existing visual character and quality of the area and existing adjacent uses. Therefore, impacts to the visual character and quality of the area would be *less than significant*.

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

The project does not propose the installation of lighting. Sun during the day can reflect off the water and cause glare; however, due to the limited visibility of the reservoir site and the consistency with existing adjacent uses, glare would not adversely affect public views in the area. Therefore, impacts relating to nighttime lighting and glare would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

The project would be visually consistent with existing uses in the project vicinity and would not adversely affect scenic resources, quality, or character. Therefore, potential impacts on aesthetic resources would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

None required.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

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

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

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(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?				\boxtimes

Setting

The County of San Luis Obispo supports a unique, diverse, and valuable agricultural industry that can be attributed to its Mediterranean climate, fertile soils, and sufficient water supply. Wine grapes are regularly the top agricultural crop in the county. Top value agricultural products in the county also include fruit and nuts, vegetables, field crops, nursery products, and animals. The County of San Luis Obispo Agriculture Element includes policies, goals, objectives, and other requirements that apply to lands designated in the Agriculture land use category. In addition to the Agriculture Element, in accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code, the County Agricultural Commissioner releases an annual report on the condition, acreage, production, pest management, and value of agricultural products within the county. The most recent annual crop report can be found here: https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Agriculture-Weights-and-Measures/All-Forms-Documents/Information/Crop-Report.aspx

The California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) produces maps and statistical data used for analyzing impacts on California's agricultural resources. Agricultural land is rated according to soil quality and current land use. For environmental review purposes under CEQA, the FMMP categories of Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Local Importance, and Grazing Land are considered 'agricultural land'. Other non-agricultural designations include Urban and Built-up Land, Other Land, and Water.

According to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, the proposed reservoir would be located atop "Not Prime Farmland". The soil types and characteristics subject to disturbance from this project include:

Nacimiento-Ayar complex, 9 to 30 percent slopes

<u>Nacimiento</u>. This moderately sloping, fine loamy soil is considered not well drained. The soil has moderate erodibility and moderate shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: steep slopes, shallow depth to bedrock, slow percolation. The soil is considered Class IV without irrigation and Class IV when irrigated.

<u>Ayar</u>. This moderately sloping, fine loamy soil is considered very poorly drained. The soil has moderate erodibility and high shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: steep slopes, shallow depth to bedrock, slow percolation. The soil is considered Class IV without irrigation and Class IV when irrigated.

The Land Conservation Act of 1965, commonly referred to as the Williamson Act, enables local governments to enter into contracts with private landowners for the purpose of restricting specific parcels of land to agriculture or related open space use. In return, landowners receive property tax assessments which are much lower than normal because they are based upon farming and open space uses as opposed to full market value. The project site is within the Agriculture land use designation and is within lands subject to a Williamson Act contract.

According to Public Resources Code Section 12220(g), forest land is defined as land that can support 10percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of one or more forest resources, including timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits. Timberland is defined as land, other than land owned by the federal government and land designated by the board as experimental forest land, which is available for, and capable of, growing a crop of trees of a commercial species used to produce lumber and other forest products, including Christmas trees. The project site does not support any timberland, however the project parcel is known to support 34-75% coastal oak woodland.

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?

Based on information provided by the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, the proposed reservoir would not be located atop land which has been designated as farmland. The project would be located on "Not Prime Farmland". Additionally, the proposed reservoir would assist in bringing an agricultural use, in the form of approximately 69-acres of vineyards. Therefore, the project would have *no impact*.

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

The subject property is within the Agriculture land use category and is currently under a Williamson Act contract. The proposed agricultural reservoir is considered an agricultural use and would support the production of proposed vineyards. Therefore, the project would support agriculture and would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or the existing Williamson Act Contract that the property is enrolled in. Potential impacts would be *less than significant*.

(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))?

The project site does not include land use designations or zoning for forest land or timberland; *no impacts would occur.*

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

The project site currently supports oak woodland and scattered oak trees that provide an aesthetic benefit to the area as well as wildlife habitat. The project does not propose the removal of any trees and proposes the use of fencing around tree driplines to protect against impacts of nearby grading. To ensure the use of such fencing, a mitigation measures have been added and are described in Section IV, Biological Resources. If any oak trees are removed as a result of the project, the County's oak tree replacement standards will be triggered as described in Section IV, Biological Resources. Mitigation measures these effects and, through their implementation, impacts would be *less than significant*.

(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?

The project proposes the development of an agricultural support facility and would not involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use or conversion of forestland to non-forest use. The purpose of the proposed reservoir is to provide onsite frost protection and irrigation for proposed vineyards and offsite transfer of reservoir water and/or other uses of the reservoirs would be prohibited. The project would be compatible with existing agricultural operations, would not adversely affect existing proximate agricultural uses, agricultural support services, or agricultural infrastructure or resources. The proposed project would not result in the indirect conversion of existing farm or forestland to another use. Therefore, *no impacts would occur*.

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. Potential impacts to agricultural resources would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

See Section IV, Biological Resources for applicable mitigation measures

Sources

See Exhibit A.

III. AIR QUALITY

	Less Than		
	Significant		
Potentially	with	Less Than	
Significant	Mitigation	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 of the applicable air quality plan?		\boxtimes	
(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

Regulatory Agencies and Standards

San Luis Obispo County is part of the South Central Coast Air Basin, (SCCAB) which also includes Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Air quality within the SCCAB is regulated by several jurisdictions including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), California Air Resources Board (ARB), and the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (SLOAPCD). Each of these jurisdictions develops rules, regulations, and policies to attain the goals or directives imposed upon them through legislation. The California ARB is the agency responsible for coordination and oversight of state and local air pollution control programs in California and for implementing the California Clean Air Act (CCAA) of 1988. The State Department of Public Health established California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) in 1962 to define the maximum amount of a pollutant (averaged over a specified period of time) that can be present without any harmful effects on people or the environment. The California ARB adopted the CAAQS developed by the Department of Public Health in 1969, which had established CAAQS for 10 criteria pollutants: particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5), ozone (O3), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), sulfate, carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO2), visibility reducing particles, lead (Pb), hydrogen sulfide (H2S), and vinyl chloride.

The Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA) later required the U.S. EPA to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment, and also set deadlines for their attainment. The U.S. EPA has established NAAQS for six criteria pollutants (all of which are also regulated by CAAQS): CO, lead, NO2, ozone, PM10 and PM2.5, and SO2.

California law continues to mandate compliance with CAAQS, which are often more stringent than national standards. However, California law does not require that CAAQS be met by specified dates as is the case with NAAQS. Rather, it requires incremental progress toward attainment. The SLOAPCD is the agency primarily

responsible for ensuring that NAAQS and CAAQS are not exceeded and that air quality conditions within the county are maintained.

SLOAPCD Thresholds

The SLOAPCD has developed and updated their CEQA Air Quality Handbook (most recently updated with a November 2017 Clarification Memorandum) to help local agencies evaluate project specific impacts and determine if air quality mitigation measures are needed, or if potentially significant impacts could result.

The APCD has established thresholds for both short-term construction emissions and long-term operational emissions. 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. Combustion emissions, such as nitrogen oxides (NOx), reactive organic gases (ROG), greenhouse gases (GHG) and diesel particulate matter (DPM), are most significant when using large, diesel-fueled scrapers, loaders, bulldozers, haul trucks, compressors, generators and other heavy equipment. SLOAPCD has established thresholds of significance for each of these contaminants.

The project proposes the movement of approximately 8,332 cubic yards (CY) of cut and 4,314 CY of fill. These are estimates of the amount of ground movement necessary to accommodate the proposed driveway and the reservoir. The project proposes the disturbance of approximately 1.3 acres.

Operational impacts are focused primarily on the indirect emissions (i.e., motor vehicles) associated with residential, commercial and industrial development. Certain types of project can also include components that generate direct emissions, such as power plants, gasoline stations, dry cleaners, and refineries (source emissions).

General screening criteria is used by the SLOAPCD to determine the type and scope of air quality assessment required for a particular project (Table 1-1 in the APCD's CEQA Air Quality Handbood). These criteria are based on project size in an urban setting and are designed to identify those projects with the potential to exceed the APCD's significance thresholds. A more refined analysis of air quality impacts specific to a given project is necessary for projects that exceed the screening criteria below or are within ten percent (10%) of exceeding the screening criteria.

Air Quality Monitoring

The county's air quality is measured by a total of 10 ambient air quality monitoring stations, and pollutant levels are measured continuously and averaged each hour, 24 hours a day. The significance of a given pollutant can be evaluated by comparing its atmospheric concentration to state and federal air quality standards. These standards represent allowable atmospheric containment concentrations at which the public health and welfare are protected, and include a factor of safety. The SLOAPCD prepares an Annual Air Quality Report detailing information on air quality monitoring and pollutant trends in the county. The most recent https://storage.googleapis.com/slocleanair-Annual Air Quality Report can be found here: org/images/cms/upload/files/2017agrt-FINAL2.pdf.

In the county of San Luis Obispo, ozone and fine particulates (particulate matter of 10 microns in diameter or smaller; PM10) are the pollutants of main concern, since exceedances of state health-based standards for these pollutants are experienced in some areas of the county. Under federal standards, the county has non-attainment status for ozone in eastern San Luis Obispo County.

San Luis Obispo County Clean Air Plan

The SLOAPCD's San Luis Obispo County 2001 Clean Air Plan (CAP) is a comprehensive planning document intended to evaluate long-term emissions and cumulative effects and provide guidance to the SLOAPCD and other local agencies on how to attain and maintain the state standards for ozone and PM10. The CAP presents a detailed description of the sources and pollutants which impact the jurisdiction's attainment of state standards, future air quality impacts to be expected under current growth trends, and an appropriate control strategy for reducing ozone precursor emissions, thereby improving air quality.

Naturally Occurring Asbestos

Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA) is identified as a toxic air contaminant by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Serpentine and other ultramafic rocks are fairly common throughout the county and may contain NOA. If these areas are disturbed during construction, NOA-containing particles can be released into the air and have an adverse impact on local air quality and human health. The project is not within an area the APCD has identified as having the potential for Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA).

Sensitive Receptors

Sensitive receptors are people that have an increased sensitivity to air pollution or environmental contaminants, such as the elderly, children, people with asthma or other respiratory illnesses, 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 sensitive receptor is located approximately 1,000 feet from proposed reservoir (APN: 026-281-037).

Discussion

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

The project would not result in a new or substantially different use in the project area. The project would not generate a substantial increase in population or employment opportunities and would not result in a significant increase in vehicle trips. The proposed project would not contribute to the generation of significant levels of any air contaminants and would not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of the San Luis Obispo County Clean Air Plan or other applicable regional and local planning documents. Therefore, impacts 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?

The County is currently designated as non-attainment for ozone and PM10 under state ambient air quality standards. Construction of the project would result in emissions of ozone precursors including reactive organic gasses (ROG) and nitrous oxides (NOX) and fugitive dust emissions (PM10).

Construction Impacts

The SLOAPCD CEQA Air Quality Handbook provides thresholds of significance for construction related emissions. Table 1 lists SLOAPCD's general thresholds for determining whether a potentially significant impact could occur as a result of a project's construction activities.

Table 1. SLOAPCD Thresholds of Significance for Construction Activities

Pollutant	Threshold ⁽¹⁾				
Fonutant	Daily Quarterly Tier		Quarterly Tier 2		
Diesel Particulate Matter (DPM)	7 lbs	0.13 tons	0.32 tons		
Reactive Organic Gases (ROG) + Oxides of Nitrogen (NOX)	137 lbs	2.5	6.3 tons		
Fugitive Particulate Matter (PM10), Dust (2)		2.5 tons ⁽²⁾			

1. Daily and quarterly emission thresholds are based on the California Health and Safety Code and the CARB Carl Moyer Guidelines.

2. Any project with a grading area greater than 4.0 acres of worked area can exceed the 2.5-ton PM10 quarterly threshold.

The SLOAPCD CEQA Air Quality Handbook also provides preliminary screening construction emission rates based on the proposed volume of soil to be moved and the anticipated area of disturbance. Table 2 lists the SLOAPCD's screening emission rates that would be generated based on the amount of material to be moved. The APCD's CEQA Handbook also clarifies that any project that would require grading of 4.0 acres or more can exceed the 2.5-ton PM10 quarterly threshold listed above.

Pollutant	Grams/Cubic Yard of Material Moved	Lbs/Cubic Yard of Material Moved	
Diesel Particulate Matter (DPM)	2.2	0.0049	
Reactive Organic Gases (ROG)	9.2	0.0203	
Oxides of Nitrogen (NOX)	42.4	0.0935	
Fugitive Particulate Matter (PM10)	0.75 tons/acre/month of construction activity (assuming 22 da of construction per month)		

Based on estimated cut and fill estimates and the construction emission rates shown in Table 2, construction-related emissions that would result from the project were calculated and are shown in Table 3 below.

	Total Estimated	SLOAPCD	Threshold	
Pollutant	Emissions	Daily	Quarterly (Tier 1)	Exceeded?

ROG + NOX (combined)	1,445.26 pounds (.72 tons)	137 pounds 2.5 tons		With mitigation, no
Diesel Particulate Matter (DPM)	62.23 pounds (.031 tons)	7 pounds	7 pounds 0.13 tons	
Fugitive Particulate Matter (PM10)	.975 tons		2.5 tons	No

For projects involving construction and/or grading activities, the LUO requires that all surfaces and materials shall be managed to ensure that fugitive dust emissions are adequately controlled to below the 20% opacity limit and to ensure dust is not emitted offsite. The LUO includes a list of primary fugitive dust control measures required for all projects involving grading or site disturbance. The LUO also includes an expanded list of fugitive dust control measures for projects requiring site disturbance of greater than four acres or which are located within 1,000 feet of any sensitive receptor location. All applicable fugitive dust control measures are required to be shown on grading and building plans and monitored by a designated monitor to minimize dust complaints, reduce visible emissions below the 20% opacity limit, and to prevent transport of dust offsite (LUO 22.52.160.C).

The California Code of Regulations (Section 2485 of Title 13) also prohibits idling in excess of 5 minutes from any diesel-fueled commercial motor vehicles with gross vehicular weight ratings of 10,000 pounds or more or that must be licensed for operation on highways.

Based on the volume of proposed grading, area of project site disturbance, estimated duration of the construction period, and the APCD's screening construction emission rates identified above, the project would result in the emission of criteria pollutants that would exceed construction-related thresholds established by the SLOAPCD. The project exceeds the daily thresholds for construction emissions, however remains within the limits of quarterly emissions. Mitigation measures AQ-1 and AQ-2 are recommended to reduce project construction emissions of diesel particulates as well as ROG and NOX. Implementation of Mitigation Measures AQ-1 and AQ-2 would reduce possible impacts and therefore, the project construction impacts would be *less than significant with mitigation*.

Operational Impacts

The SLOAPCD's CEQA Air Quality Handbook provides operational screening criteria to identify projects with the potential to exceed APCD operational significance thresholds (refer to Table 1-1 of the CEQA Handbook). Based on Table 1-1 of the CEQA Handbook, the project does not propose a use that would have the potential to result in operational emissions that would exceed APCD thresholds. The project would not generate substantial new long-term traffic trips or vehicle emissions and does not propose construction of new direct (source) emissions. Therefore, potential operational emissions would be *less than significant*.

(c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

The proposed project would require disturbance within 1,000 feet of a sensitive receptor (i.e. singlefamily residence). Implementation of the proposed project would result in the generation of dust, potentially affecting local residents and businesses in close proximity to the project site. Dust complaints could result in violation of the APCD's nuisance rules, a potentially significant air quality

impact. As such, the project would be subject to expanded fugitive dust control measures in addition to primary measures pursuant to Land Use Ordinance Section 22.52.160.C (Construction Procedures, Air Quality Controls). These measures shall be shown on all grading and building plans in accordance with LUO Section 22.53.160C. Compliance with these measures would ensure fugitive dust emissions are adequately controlled to below 20 percent opacity limit as identified in the APCD's 401 Visible Emissions rule and that dust is not emitted offsite. Through the incorporation of mitigation measure AQ-2, impacts would be minimized to *less than significant levels with mitigation*.

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

Construction could generate odors from heavy diesel machinery and materials used for excavation and construction of the project. The generation of odors during the construction period would be temporary, would be consistent with odors commonly associated with typical construction equipment and activities, and would dissipate within a short distance from the active work area. The project site is almost entirely surrounded by existing vineyards and undeveloped hillsides and no significant longterm operational emissions or odors would be generated by the project. Therefore, impacts related to other emissions adversely affecting a substantial number of people would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

The project would have the potential to result in ROG, NOX, and DPM emissions that exceed the daily thresholds established by SLOAPCD for construction emissions. Mitigation Measures AQ-1 through AQ-3 have been identified to reduce construction-related emissions. With implementation of these measures, potential impacts to air quality would be less than significant.

Mitigation

AQ-1

- **Prior to issuance of construction permits**, the following measures related to ROG and NOx shall be incorporated into the construction phase of the project and shown on all applicable construction plans:
 - a) Maintain all construction equipment in proper tune according to manufacturer's specifications;
 - b) Fuel all off-road and portable diesel-powered equipment with ARB certified motor vehicle diesel fuel (non-taxed version suitable for use off-road);
 - c) Use diesel construction equipment meeting ARB's Tier 2 certified engines or cleaner off-road heavy-duty diesel engines, and comply with the State Off-Road Regulation;
 - d) Use on-road heavy-duty trucks that meet the ARB's 2007 or cleaner certification standard for on-road heavy-duty diesel engines, and comply with the State On-Road Regulation;
 - e) Construction or trucking companies with fleets that that do not have engines in their fleet that meet the engine standards identified in the above two measures (e.g. captive or NOx exempt area fleets) may be eligible by proving alternative compliance;
 - All on and off-road diesel equipment shall not idle for more than 5 minutes. Signs shall be posted in the designated queuing areas and or job sites to remind drivers and operators of the 5-minute idling limit;
 - g) Diesel idling within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors is not permitted;

- h) Staging and queuing areas shall not be located within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors;
- i) Electrify equipment when feasible;
- j) Substitute gasoline-powered in place of diesel-powered equipment, where feasible; and,
- k) Use alternatively fueled construction equipment on-site where feasible, such as compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG), propane or biodiesel.
- AQ-2 Prior to issuance of construction permits, the following measures related to fugitive dust emissions shall be incorporated into the construction phase of the project and shown on all applicable construction plans:
 - a) Reduce the amount of the disturbed area where possible;
 - b) Use of water trucks or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 mph. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible;
 - c) All dirt stock pile areas should be sprayed daily as needed;
 - Permanent dust control measures identified in the approved project revegetation and landscape plans should be implemented as soon as possible following completion of any soil disturbing activities;
 - e) Exposed ground areas that are planned to be reworked at dates greater than one month after initial grading should be sown with a fast germinating, non-invasive grass seed and watered until vegetation is established;
 - All disturbed soil areas not subject to revegetation should be stabilized using approved chemical soil binders, jute netting, or other methods approved in advance by the APCD;
 - g) All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, etc. to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used;
 - h) Vehicle speed for all construction vehicles shall not exceed 15 mph on any unpaved surface at the construction site;
 - i) All trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials are to be covered or should maintain at least two feet of freeboard (minimum vertical distance between top of load and top of trailer) in accordance with CVC Section 23114;
 - j) Install wheel washers where vehicles enter and exit unpaved roads onto streets, or wash off trucks and equipment leaving the site;
 - k) Sweep streets at the end of each day if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent paved roads. Water sweepers with reclaimed water should be used where feasible;
 - I) All of these fugitive dust mitigation measures shall be shown on grading and building plans; and

m) The contractor or builder shall designate a person or persons to monitor the fugitive dust emissions and enhance the implementation of the measures as necessary to minimize dust complaints, reduce visible emissions below 20% opacity, and to prevent transport of dust offsite. Their duties shall include holidays and weekend periods when work may not be in progress. The name and telephone number of such persons shall be provided to the APCD Compliance Division prior to the start of any grading, earthwork or demolition.

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?				

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?		\boxtimes		
(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?				\boxtimes

Setting

Sensitive Resource Area Designations

The County of San Luis Obispo Land Use Ordinance (LUO) Sensitive Resource Area (SRA) combining designation applies to areas of the county with special environmental qualities, or areas containing unique or sensitive endangered vegetation or habitat resources. The combining designation standards established in the LUO require that proposed uses be designed with consideration of the identified sensitive resources and the need for their protection.

Federal and State Endangered Species Acts

The Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (FESA) provides legislation to protect federally listed plant and animal species. The California Endangered Species Act of 1984 (CESA) ensures legal protection for plants listed as rare or endangered, and wildlife species formally listed as endangered or threatened, and also maintains a list of California Species of Special Concern (SSC). SSC status is assigned to species that have limited distribution, declining populations, diminishing habitat, or unusual scientific, recreational, or educational value. Under state law, the CDFW has the authority to review projects for their potential to impact special-status species and their habitats.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) protects all migratory birds, including their eggs, nests, and feathers. The MBTA was originally drafted to put an end to the commercial trade in bird feathers, popular in the latter part of the 1800s. The MBTA is enforced by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and potential impacts to species protected under the MBTA are evaluated by the USFWS in consultation with other federal agencies and are required to be evaluated under CEQA.

Oak Woodland Ordinance

The County of San Luis Obispo Oak Woodland Ordinance was adopted in April 2017 to regulate the clearcutting of oak woodlands. This ordinance applies to sites located outside of Urban or Village areas within the inland portions of the county (not within the Coastal Zone). "Clear-cutting" is defined as the removal of one acre or more of contiguous trees within an oak woodland from a site or portion of a site for any reason, including harvesting of wood, or to enable the conversion of land to other land uses. "Oak woodland" includes the following species: Blue oak (Quercus douglasii), coast live oak (Quercus agrifolia), interior live oak (Quercus

wislizeni), valley oak (Quercus labata), and California black oak (Quercus kelloggii). The ordinance applies to clear-cutting of oak woodland only and does not apply to the removal of other species of trees, individual oak trees (except for Heritage Oaks), or the thinning, tree trimming, or removal of oak woodland trees that are diseased, dead, or creating a hazardous condition. Heritage oaks are any individual oak species, as defined in the Oak Woodland Ordinance, of 48 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) or greater, separated from all Stands and Oak Woodlands by at least 500 feet. Minor Use Permit approval is required to remove any Heritage Oak. The project is in an area known to support Oak Woodland. The project does not propose the removal of any trees.

Clean Water Act and State Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulates discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States. These waters include wetland and non-wetland water bodies that meet specific criteria. USACE jurisdiction regulates almost all work in, over, and under waters listed as "navigable waters of the U.S." that results in a discharge of dredged or fill material within USACE regulatory jurisdiction, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Under Section 404, USACE regulates traditional navigable waters, wetlands adjacent to traditional navigable waters, relatively permanent non-navigable tributaries that have a continuous flow at least seasonally (typically 3 months), and wetlands that directly abut relatively permanent tributaries.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) regulate discharges of fill and dredged material in California, under Section 401 of the CWA and the State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, through the State Water Quality Certification Program. State Water Quality Certification is necessary for all projects that require a USACE permit, or fall under other federal jurisdiction, and have the potential to impact waters of the State. Based on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory, the project site does not support wetlands, riparian or deep-water habitats (USFWS 2019).

Conservation and Open Space Element

The intent of the goals, policies, and implementation strategies in the COSE is to identify and protect biological resources that are a critical component of the county's environmental, social, and economic well-being. Biological resources include major ecosystems; threatened, rare, and endangered species and their habitats; native trees and vegetation; creeks and riparian areas; wetlands; fisheries; and marine resources. Individual species, habitat areas, ecosystems and migration patterns must be considered together in order to sustain biological resources. The COSE identifies Critical Habitat areas for sensitive species including California condor, California red legged frog, vernal pool fairy shrimp, La Graciosa thistle, Morro Bay kangaroo rat, Morro shoulderband snail, tiger salamander, and western snowy plover. The COSE also identifies features of particular importance to wildlife for movement corridors such as riparian corridors, shorelines of the coast and bay, and ridgelines.

Site Setting

The reservoir would be located in an open area that currently consists of bare soils and nonnative grasses and forbs. There are no trees at the reservoir site, however a number of trees surround the proposed reservoir site. An unnamed ephemeral stream is located directly adjacent to the proposed reservoir site, however there is little evidence indicating that the stream still flows and "likely holds water only after heavy rains" (Cindy Cleveland, January 2020). Other than irrigated agriculture, dominant habitat types within a 1mile radius of the reservoir site primarily consists of annual grassland interspersed with bristlecone fir (Abies bracteata) and umbrella larkspur (Delphinium umbraculorum), as well as Valley Oak Woodland. Cleveland

Biological LLC provided a Biological Resource Assessment Memo dated January 8, 2020. The memo indicated that no special status species were observed during a site visit on January 3, 2020.

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?

As noted above, the Biological Resource Assessment Memo prepared for the project indicates that no special status species exist within proximity to the proposed reservoir. The reservoir site consists of predominantly bare soils and non-native grasses and forbs. Several trees are within close proximity to the reservoir area and may contain suitable nesting habitat for sensitive bird and raptor species. No trees would be removed as part of the construction of the reservoir and possible impacts to trees have been addressed through mitigation measure BIO-1 and BIO-2. Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1 and BIO-2 would reduce possible impacts on listed species to *less than significant with mitigation*.

(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?

No riparian vegetation or other sensitive natural communities are known to exist within or immediately adjacent to the proposed areas of disturbance. The site is located adjacent to an unnamed creek, however the Biological Resource Assessment Memo indicated that there is little evidence indicating that the stream still flows and "likely holds water only after heavy rains". The area surrounding the stream and previous vegetation has likely been impact or removed by cattle activities. The Biological Resource Assessment Memo indicated that direct and indirect impacts to the creek may occur during project construction. To mitigate potential impacts, the Biological Resource Assessment Memo suggests the incorporation of fencing around the unnamed creek during construction activities. Through the incorporation of Mitigation Measure BIO-3 and BIO-4, impacts to the unnamed creek would be minimized and therefore impacts would be *less than significant with mitigation*.

(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?

The project site does not support state or federal wetlands or other jurisdictional areas. Therefore, the project would not result in an adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands and impacts would be *less than significant*.

(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?

Based on the California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project, the project site is not located in an identified as an Essential Connectivity Area, however it is mapped as a Conservation Planning Linkage. The project site does not contain habitat features conducive to migratory wildlife species such as riparian corridors, shorelines, or ridgelines. Potential impacts to the unnamed creek on site have been addressed through Mitigation Measures BIO-3 and BIO-4. Therefore impacts would be *less than significant with mitigation*.

(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 Oak Woodland Ordinance was adopted in April 2017 to regulate the clear-cutting of oak woodlands. This ordinance applies to sites located outside of Urban or Village areas within the inland portions of the county (not within the Coastal Zone). "Clear-cutting" is defined as the removal of one acre or more of contiguous trees within an oak woodland from a site or portion of a site for any reason, including harvesting of wood, or to enable the conversion of land to other land uses. "Oak woodland" includes the following species: Blue oak (Quercus douglasii), coast live oak (Quercus agrifolia), interior live oak (Quercus wislizeni), valley oak (Quercus lobata), and California black oak (Quercus kelloggii). The ordinance applies to clear-cutting of oak woodland only and does not apply to the removal of other species of trees, individual oak trees (except for Heritage Oaks), or the thinning, tree trimming, or removal of oak woodland trees that are diseased, dead, or creating a hazardous condition. Heritage oaks are any individual oak species, as defined in the Oak Woodland Ordinance, of 48 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) or greater, separated from all Stands and Oak Woodlands by at least 500 feet. Minor Use Permit approval is required to remove any Heritage Oak.

The proposed project has the potential to impact adjacent oak woodland habitat. Mitigation measures BIO-1 and BIO-2 address potential impacts to adjacent oaks and requires replacement trees to be planted at a ratio of four trees for every one tree removed (4:1). This impact is considered *less than significant with mitigation*.

(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?

The project is not located within an area covered by an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation plan, or other adopted habitat conservation plan. Therefore, there would be *no impact*.

Conclusion

Upon implementation of mitigation measures BIO-1 through BIO-4 to reduce potential impacts to the adjacent unnamed creek and native oak trees, potential impacts to biological resources would be less than significant.

Mitigation

BIO-1 To avoid impacts to oak trees, **prior to issuance of construction permits**, plans should indicate the use of temporary fencing around the dripline or critical root zone (1.5 times the trunk diameter), whichever distance is greater, of the adjacent trees.

Prior to commencement of project construction activities, tree protection fencing shall be installed around the dripline or critical root zone (1.5 times the trunk diameter), whichever distance is greater, of all oak trees within 50 feet of project activities. The fencing shall be in place throughout the duration of the project.

If impacts, including pruning and any ground disturbance, within this area are unavoidable, impacts to nearby oak trees shall be assessed by a Certified Arborist **at the time of project construction**. A Certified Arborist shall be present during approved Project activities within the critical root zone to document impacts to the trees, and shall provide a written report to the County of any mitigation obligation.

BIO-2 If **at the time of project construction** it is found that impacts to native trees are unavoidable, impacts shall be mitigated by planting additional trees on site. Any oak tree with a dbh of five inches or greater shall require mitigation. Oak trees removed shall be replaced in kind at a 4:1 ratio. Impacts to oak trees shall be mitigated by planting additional oak trees, in kind, at a 2:1 ratio.

Replacement trees shall be planted **prior to project finalization**, shall be of one-gallon size, of local origin, and of the same species as was impacted. Replacement trees shall be seasonally maintained and monitored annually for at least seven years.

- **BIO-3 Prior to issuance of construction permits**, appropriate construction practices to retain sediments on-site (perimeter sediment controls, stabilized construction entrances, contour wattle installation on steep slopes, repacking of de-compacted soils) shall be outlined on project plans and shall be implemented at the time of project construction to prevent excess sedimentation from becoming displaced.
- **BIO-4 Prior to issuance of construction permits**, plans shall indicate the use of protective fencing around the top of bank of the adjacent unnamed creek. Additionally, plans shall outline the prohibition of equipment fueling, hazardous materials storage, portable restrooms, concrete washouts, or overnight vehicle or equipment staging within 100 feet of the unnamed creek during construction.

During project construction, workers shall not be allowed in the unnamed creek and the protective fencing shall remain in place for the full duration of construction activities.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	<i>Id the project:</i>				
(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

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, and immigrant settlers.

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).
- 2. 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.

The County of San Luis Obispo LUO Historic Site (H) combining designation is applied to areas of the county to recognize the importance of archeological and historic sites and/or structures important to local, state, or national history. Standards are included regarding minimum parcel size and permit processing requirements for parcels with an established structure and Historic Site combining designation. For example, all new structures and uses within an H combining designation require Minor Use Permit approval, and applications for such projects are required to include a description of measures proposed to protect the historic resource identified by the Land Use Element (LUO 22.14.080).

San Luis Obispo County was 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 not known, as those boundaries may have changed over time.

The COSE identifies and maps anticipated culturally sensitive areas and historic resources within the county and establishes goals, policies, and implementation strategies to identify and protect areas, sites, and buildings having architectural, historical, Native American, or cultural significance. Based on the COSE, the project is not located in a designated Archaeological Sensitive Area or Historic Site.

An Archaeological Inventory Survey was prepared for the site Cultural Resources Management Services in January of 2020. The report found small cobbles of Monterey chert of relatively poor quality. No prehistoric or historic cultural materials or historic structures within the project site (CRMS, January 2020). See Section XVIII – Tribal Cultural Resources for AB52 consultation.

Discussion

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

The project site does not contain, nor is it located near, any historic resources identified in the National Register of Historic Places or California Register of Historic Resources. The project site does not contain a site under the Historic Site (H) combining designation and does not contain other structures of historic age (50 years or older) that could be potentially significant as a historical resource. Therefore, the project would not result in an adverse change in the significance of a historical resources and *no impacts* would occur.

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

As noted above, the Archaeological Inventory Survey did not identify any known archaeological 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 Adelaida Cemetery, located approximately 4 miles to the northeast. The record and literature search of the project area did not identify any known burial sites within the vicinity of the reservoir. Project excavations have the potential to encounter previously unidentified human remains in the form of burials or isolated bones and bone fragments. If human remains are exposed during construction, construction shall halt around the discovery of human remains, the area shall be protected, and consultation and treatment shall occur as prescribed by State law. The County's Coroner and Sheriff Department shall be notified immediately to comply with State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, which states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has been notified and can make the necessary findings as to origin and disposition of the remains. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner will notify the NAHC and the remains will be treated in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. With adherence to State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, impacts related to the disturbance of human remains would be reduced to *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 impacts on cultural resources would occur. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of archaeological resources during earth-moving activities, compliance with the LUO would ensure potential impacts to cultural resources would be reduced to less than significant.

Mitigation

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

Sources

See Exhibit A.

VI. ENERGY

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a) Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to waste inefficient, or unnecessary consum of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	otion		\boxtimes	
<i>(b)</i> Conflict with or obstruct a state or l plan for renewable energy or energ 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 2017).

The County COSE 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. The COSE 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.

In 2010, the EWP established a 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 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). The project site is located within the County's Renewable Energy Combining Designation.

Discussion

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

Project implementation would require minimal consumption of energy resources. During construction, fossil fuels, electricity, and natural gas would be used by construction vehicles and equipment. The energy consumed during construction would be temporary and would not represent a significant or wasteful demand on available resources. Energy demands during project operation would be provided through existing infrastructure and would not substantially increase over existing demands. Operational energy use would be consistent with that of similar facilities and would not be wasteful or inefficient. There are no unique project characteristics that would result in a significant increase in energy usage, or an inefficient, wasteful use, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. Potential impacts would be *less than significant*.

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

Implementation of the project would not result in a significant new energy demand and there are no project components or operations that would conflict with the EWP or any other state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Compliance with State laws and regulations, including the most recent Building Code requirements, will ensure the project continues to reduce energy demands and greenhouse gas emissions, through, for example, increasing state-wide requirements that energy be sourced from renewable resources. Therefore, *no impact would occur*.

Conclusion

The project would not result in a significant energy demand during short-term construction or long-term operations and would not conflict with state or local renewable energy or energy efficiency plans. Therefore, potential impacts related to energy would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

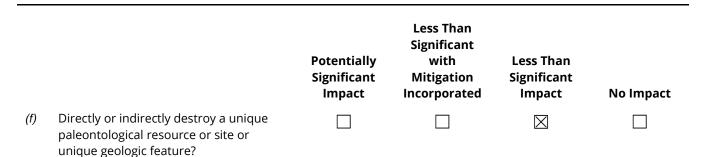
None necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	ld the project:				
(a)	Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:			\boxtimes	
	 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)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			\boxtimes	
(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?			\boxtimes	
(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?			\boxtimes	
(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?				\boxtimes



Setting

The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act (Alquist-Priolo Act) is a California state law that was developed to regulate development near active faults and mitigate the surface fault rupture potential and other hazards. The Alquist-Priolo Act identifies active earthquake fault zones and restricts the construction of habitable structures over known active or potentially active faults. San Luis Obispo County is located in a geologically complex and seismically active region. The Safety Element of the County of San Luis Obispo General Plan identifies three active faults that traverse through the County and that are currently zoned under the Alquist-Priolo Act: the San Andreas, the Hosgri-San Simeon, and the Los Osos. The San Andreas Fault zone is located along the eastern border of San Luis Obispo County and has a length of over 600 miles. The Hosgri-San Simeon fault system generally consists of two fault zones: the Hosgri fault zone that is mapped off of the San Luis Obispo County coast; and the San Simeon fault zone, which appears to be associated with the Hosgri, and comes onshore near San Simeon Point, Lastly, the Los Osos Fault zone has been mapped generally in an east/west orientation along the northern flank of the Irish Hills.

The County Safety Element also identifies 17 other faults that are considered potentially active or have uncertain fault activity in the County. The Safety Element establishes policies that require new development to be located away from active and potentially active faults. The element also requires that the County enforce applicable building codes relating to seismic design of structures and require design professionals to evaluate the potential for liquefaction or seismic settlement to impact structures in accordance with the Uniform Building Code. The project is located approximately 4.5 miles east of the nearest potentially capable fault line.

Groundshaking refers to the motion that occurs in response to local and regional earthquakes. Seismic groundshaking is influenced by the proximity of the site to an earthquake fault, the intensity of the seismic event, and the underlying soil composition. Groundshaking can endanger life and safety due to damage or collapse of structures or lifeline facilities. The California Building Code includes requirements that structures be designed to resist a certain minimum seismic force resulting from ground motion.

Liquefaction is the sudden loss of soil strength due to a rapid increase in soil pore water pressures resulting from groundshaking during an earthquake. Liquefaction potential increases with earthquake magnitude and groundshaking duration. Low-lying areas adjacent to creeks, rivers, beaches, and estuaries underlain by unconsolidated alluvial soil are most likely to be vulnerable to liquefaction. The CBC requires the assessment of liquefaction in the design of all structures. Per the County's Land Use View Mapping Application, the project is located in an area with low potential for liquefaction to occur.

Landslides and slope instability can occur as a result of wet weather, weak soils, improper grading, improper drainage, steep slopes, adverse geologic structure, earthquakes, or a combination of these factors. Despite current codes and policies that discourage development in areas of known landslide activity or high risk of landslide, there is a considerable amount of development that is impacted by landslide activity in the County each year. The County Safety Element identifies several policies to reduce risk from landslides and slope instability. These policies include the requirement for slope stability evaluations for development in areas of

moderate or high landslide risk, and restrictions on new development in areas of known landslide activity unless development plans indicate that the hazard can be reduced to a less than significant level prior to beginning development. Per the County's Land Use View Mapping Application, the project is located in an area with moderate potential for landslides.

Shrink/swell potential is the extent to which the soil shrinks as it dries out or swells when it gets wet. Extent of shrinking and swelling is influenced by the amount and kind of clay in the soil. Shrinking and swelling of soils can cause damage to building foundations, roads and other structures. A high shrink/swell potential indicates a hazard to maintenance of structures built in, on, or with material having this rating. Moderate and low ratings lessen the hazard accordingly. Soils located on site have a moderate shrink-swell potential and moderately low erodibility rating.

The County LUO identifies a Geologic Study Area (GSA) combining designation for areas where geologic and soil conditions could present new developments and/or their occupants with potential hazards to life and property. All land use permit applicants located within a GSA are required to include a report prepared by a certified engineering geologist and/or registered civil/soils engineer as appropriate, with the exception of construction of one single-story single family residence, agricultural uses not involving a building, agricultural accessory structures, and alterations or additions to any structure which does not exceed 50 percent of the assessed value of the structure. In addition, all uses within a GSA are subject to special standards regarding grading and distance from an active fault within an Earthquake Fault Zone (LUO 22.14.070). The project site is not located within a GSA Combining Designation.

Paleontological resources are fossilized remains of ancient environments, including fossilized bone, shell, and plant parts; impressions of plant, insect, or animal parts preserved in stone; and preserved tracks of insects and animals. Paleontological resources are considered nonrenewable resources under state and federal law. Paleontological sensitivity is defined as the potential for a geologic unit to produce scientifically significant fossils, as determined by rock type, past history of the rock unit in producing fossil materials, and fossil sites that have been recorded in the unit. Paleontological resources are generally found below ground surface in sedimentary rock units. The boundaries of the sedimentary rock unit is used to define the limits of paleontological sensitivity in a given region.

In the county, the Coastal Franciscan domain generally lies along the mountains and hills associated with the Santa Lucia Range. Fossils recorded from the Coastal Franciscan formation include trace fossils (preserved tracks or other signs of the behaviors of animals), mollusks, and marine reptiles. Nonmarine or continental deposits are more likely to contain vertebrate fossil sites. Occasionally vertebrate marine fossils such as whale, porpoise, seal, or sea lion can be found in marine rock units such as the Miocene Monterey Formation and the Pliocene Sisquoc Formations known to occur throughout Central and Southern California. Vertebrate fossils of continental material are usually rare, sporadic, and localized.

The County COSE identifies a policy for the protection of paleontological resources from the effects of development by avoiding disturbance where feasible. Where substantial subsurface disturbance is proposed in paleontologically sensitive units, Implementation Strategy CR 4.5.1 (Paleontological Studies) requires a paleontological resource assessment ad mitigation plan be prepared, to identify the extent and potential significance of resources that may exist within the proposed development and provide mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts to paleontological resources.

Vali Family Vineyard

Initial Study – Environmental Checklist

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.

Based on the California Department of Conservation Earthquake Zone Map, the project site is not located within a mapped Alquist-Priolo earthquake hazard zone (CGS 2018). Based on the County Safety Element Fault Hazards Map, the project site is not located within 1 mile of a known active or potentially active fault. Therefore, the project would not have the potential to result in substantial adverse effects involving rupture of a known earthquake fault and impacts would be *less than significant*.

(a-ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

Based on the County Safety Element Fault Hazards Map, the project site is not located within 1 mile of a known active or potentially active fault. However, San Luis Obispo County is located in a seismically active region and there is always a potential for seismic ground shaking. The proposed project would be subject to professional engineering and construction standards to ensure the reservoir is constructed in a stable manner. The project would not be open to the public and would be unmanned except for occasional maintenance operations. The project does not include unique components that would be particularly sensitive to seismic ground shaking or result in an increased risk of injury or damage as a result of ground shaking. Implementation of the project would not expose people or structures to significant increased risks associated with seismic ground shaking; therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

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

Based on the County Safety Element Liquefaction Hazards Map, the project site is located in an area with low potential for liquefaction. In addition, the project would be required to comply with CBC seismic requirements to address the site's potential for seismic-related ground failure including liquefaction; therefore, the potential impacts would be *less than significant*.

(a-iv) Landslides?

The project site has moderate to steeply sloping topography and based on the County Safety Element Landslide Hazards Map is located in an area with moderate potential for landslide risk. The proposed project would be subject to professional engineering and construction standards to ensure the reservoir is constructed in a stable manner. Therefore, the project would not result in significant adverse effects associated with landslides and impacts would be *less than significant*.

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

The reservoir would result in a total disturbance of approximately 1.3 acres, including approximately 8,332 cubic yards of cut and 4,314 cubic yards of fill, balanced on site. The greatest potential for onsite erosion to occur would be during the initial site preparation and grading during construction. 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. In addition, the project would be subject to Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) requirements for preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (LUO Section 22.52.130) which may include the preparation of a Storm Water Control Plan to further minimize onsite sedimentation and erosion. The project plans indicate that all cut and fill slopes would be covered, protected, stabilized, and re-seeded with a seed mix to reduce surficial erosion of the slopes and to allow for revegetation. Additional preventative measures have been outlined in the project preliminary Erosion, Sediment, and Environmental Control Plan. Upon implementation of the Erosion, Sediment, and Environmental Control Plan. Upon and loss of topsoil would be *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 in an area with slopes susceptible to local failure or landslide.

The project would be required to comply with CBC seismic requirements to address potential seismicrelated 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 and the project is not located within the GSA combining designation. 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?

Based on the Soil Survey of San Luis Obispo County and Web Soil Survey, the project site is not located within an area known to contain expansive soils as defined in the Uniform Building Code. The project site is located on soil units with a moderate shrink-swell (expansive) potential and low clay content. Therefore, impacts to life or property related to expansive soils would be *less than significant*.

(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 project does not propose the installation or use of septic tanks or waste water disposal systems. Therefore, there would be *no impact*.

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

According to the Cultural Resources Investigation (Parker, April 2004), no paleontological sites have been identified near the project site. No unique geological features exist on the project site and would therefore not be affected. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

Based on compliance with existing regulations and recommendations, implementation of the sedimentation and erosion control measures as specified in project plans, and compliance with the measures outlined in the County's LUO and codes, impacts to geologic and soil resources would be *less than significant*.

Mitigation

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

Sources

See Exhibit A.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	<i>Id the project:</i>				
(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 or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			\boxtimes	

Setting

As noted in Section 3 Air Quality, the project sites are 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 CO2e/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 CO2e/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) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

Based on the size of the proposed project and the comparable general light industry land use category, the project is expected to generate less than the SLOAPCD's Bright-Line Threshold of 10,000 MT CO2e/yr of GHG emissions due to the negligible long-term operational emissions. Therefore, the project's potential direct and cumulative GHG emissions would be less than significant and less than a cumulatively considerable contribution to GHG emissions. Section 15064(h)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines provides 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 related to GHGs would be *less than significant*.

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

The proposed project would not generate significant additional long-term vehicle trips or mobilesource emissions. The project would not conflict with the control measures identified in the CAP or other state and local regulations related to GHG emissions and renewable energy. The project would result in *less than significant* impacts associated with conflicts with plans and policies adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

Conclusion

No potentially significant impacts to greenhouse gases were identified and therefore, no mitigation is required.

Mitigation

None needed.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	ld 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?				

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

Setting

The Hazardous Waste and Substances Site (Cortese) List is a planning document used by the State, local agencies, and developers to comply with CEQA requirements related to the disclosure of information about the location of hazardous materials release sites. Government Code section 65962.5 requires the California EPA to develop at least annually an updated Cortese List. Various state and local government agencies are required to track and document hazardous material release information for the Cortese List. The California Department of Toxic Substance Control's (DTSC's) EnviroStor database tracks DTSC cleanup, permitting, enforcement, and investigation efforts at hazardous waste facilities and sites with known contamination, such as federal superfund sites, state response sites, voluntary cleanup sites, school cleanup sites, school investigation sites, and military evaluation sites. The State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB's) GeoTracker database contains records for sites that impact, or have the potential to impact, water in California, such as Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) sites, Department of Defense sites, and Cleanup Program Sites. The remaining data regarding facilities or sites identified as meeting the "Cortese List" requirements can be located on the CalEPA website: https://calepa.ca.gov/sitecleanup/corteselist/. The

project site is not within close proximity to any site included on the Cortese List, EnviroStor database, or GeoTracker database.

The California Health and Safety Code provides regulations pertaining to the abatement of fire related hazards and requires that local jurisdictions enforce the California Building Code, which provides standards for fire resistive building and roofing materials, and other fire-related construction methods. The County Safety Element provides a Fire Hazard Zones Map that indicates unincorporated areas in the County within moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones. The project is located in a high fire hazard severity zone and has an estimated emergency response time of greater than 15 minutes. For more information about fire-related hazards and risk assessment, see Section XX. Wildfire.

The County also has adopted general emergency plans for multiple potential natural disasters, including the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, County Emergency Operations Plan, Earthquake Plan, Dam and Levee Failure Plan, Hazardous Materials Response Plan, County Recovery Plan, and the Tsunami Response Plan.

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 transport, use or disposal of hazardous substances. Any commonly-used hazardous substances within the project site (e.g., cleaners, solvents, oils, paints, etc.) would be transported, stored, and used according to regulatory requirements and existing procedures for the handling of hazardous materials. *No impacts* associated with the routine transport of hazardous materials would occur.

(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?

During construction the proposed project would utilize limited quantities of hazardous substances such as 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 Advanced Christian Training, a private school located approximately 4.5 miles to the east. 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?

Based on a search of the California Department of Toxic Substance Control's EnviroStar database, the State Water Resources Control Board's Geotracker database, and CalEPA's Cortese List website, there are no hazardous waste cleanup sites within the project site. Therefore, *no impacts* would occur.

(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 site is not located within an airport land use plan or within 2 miles of a public airport; therefore, *no impacts* would occur.

(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 and proposed 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. No structures or other obstacles are proposed that would hinder evacuation or emergency response. 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. Construction would be temporary and once construction is completed, employees would be onsite for periodic maintenance. The project would not be accessible to the public and no structures are proposed. Therefore, impacts related to risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

The project does not propose the routine transport, use, handling, or disposal of hazardous substances. It is not located within proximity to any known contaminated sites and is not within close proximity to populations that could be substantially affected by upset or release of hazardous substances. Project implementation would not subject people or structures to substantial risks associated with wildland fires and would not impair implementation or interfere with any adopted emergency response or evacuation plan. Therefore, potential impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

None 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
Wou	ld the pr	oject:				
(a)	waste otherv	e any water quality standards or discharge requirements or vise substantially degrade surface und water quality?			\boxtimes	
(b)	supplie groune projec	antially decrease groundwater es or interfere substantially with dwater recharge such that the t may impede sustainable dwater management of the basin?				
(C)	patter throug stream of imp	antially alter the existing drainage n of the site or area, including gh the alteration of the course of a n or river or through the addition pervious surfaces, in a manner would:			\boxtimes	
	()	Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;			\boxtimes	
	ā r	Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;			\boxtimes	
	((((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) l	mpede or redirect flood flows?				\boxtimes
(d)	zones,	d hazard, tsunami, or seiche risk release of pollutants due to t inundation?				\boxtimes
(e)	of a wa	ct with or obstruct implementation ater quality control plan or nable groundwater management			\boxtimes	

Setting

The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) has established Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) thresholds for waterbodies within the County. A TMDL establishes the allowable amount of a particular pollutant a waterbody can receive on a regular basis and still remain at levels that protect beneficial uses designated for that waterbody. A TMDL also establishes proportional responsibility for controlling the pollutant, numeric indicators of water quality, and measures to achieve the allowable amount of pollutant loading. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires states to maintain a list of bodies of water that are designated as "impaired". A body of water is considered impaired when a particular water quality objective or standard is not being met.

The RWQCB's Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin (Basin Plan; 2017) describes how the quality of surface water and groundwater in the Central Coast Region should be managed to provide the highest water quality reasonably possible. The Basin Plan outlines the beneficial uses of streams, lakes, and other water bodies for humans and other life. There are 24 categories of beneficial uses, including, but not limited to, municipal water supply, water contact recreation, non-water contact recreation, and cold freshwater habitat. Water quality objectives are then established to protect the beneficial uses of those water resources. The Regional Board implements the Basin Plan by issuing and enforcing waste discharge requirements to individuals, communities, or businesses whose discharges can affect water quality.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), through Section 404 of the CWA, regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Waters of the U.S. are typically identified by the presence of an ordinary high water mark (OHWM) and connectivity to traditional navigable waters or other jurisdictional features. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and nine RWQCBs regulate discharges of fill and dredged material in California, under Section 401 of the CWA and the State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, through the State Water Quality Certification Program. State Water Quality Certification is necessary for all projects that require a USACE permit, or fall under other federal jurisdiction, or have the potential to impact waters of the State. Waters of the State are defined by the Porter-Cologne Act as any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state.

The County LUO dictates which projects are required to prepare a drainage plan, including any project that would, for example, change the runoff volume or velocity leaving any point of the site, result in an impervious surface of more than 20,000 square feet, or involve hillside development on slopes steeper than 10 percent. Preparation of a drainage plan is not required where grading is exclusively for an exempt agricultural structure, crop production, or grazing.

The County LUO also dictates that an erosion and sedimentation control plan is required year-round for all construction and grading permit projects and site disturbance activities of one-half acre or more in geologically unstable areas, on slopes steeper than 30 percent, on highly erodible soils, or within 100 feet of any watercourse.

Per the County's Stormwater Program, the Public Works Department is responsible for ensuring that new construction sites implement best management practices during construction, and that site plans incorporate appropriate post-construction stormwater runoff controls. Construction sites that disturb 1.0 acre or more must obtain coverage under the SWRCB's Construction General Permit. The Construction General Permit requires the preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to minimize on-site sedimentation and erosion. There are several types of projects that are exempt from preparing a SWPPP, including routine maintenance to existing developments, emergency construction activities, and projects exempted by the SWRCB or RWQCB. Projects that disturb less than 1.0 acre must implement all required elements within the site's erosion and sediment control plan as required by the San Luis Obispo County LUO.

For planning purposes, the flood event most often used to delineate areas subject to flooding is the 100-year flood. The County Safety Element establishes policies to reduce flood hazards and reduce flood damage, including but not limited to prohibition of development in areas of high flood hazard potential, discouragement of single road access into remote areas that could be closed during floods, and review of plans for construction in low-lying areas. All development located in a 100-year flood zone is subject to Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA) regulations. The County Land Use Ordinance designates a Flood Hazard (FH) combining designation for areas of the County that could be subject to inundation by a 100-year flood or within coastal high hazard areas. Development projects within this combining designation are subject to FH permit and processing requirements, including, but not limited to, the preparation of a drainage plan, implementation of additional construction standards, and additional materials storage and processing requirements for substances that could be injurious to human, animal or plant life in the event of flooding. The project site is not located within a Flood Hazard combining designation. An unnamed creek is located adjacent to the proposed reservoir.

The applicant provided a Hydrogeologic Analysis for the proposed project, prepared by Cleath-Harris Geologists, Inc. (CHG) on March 3, 2020 as well as a revised report from June 5, 2020 and the analyses were peer-reviewed by GSI Water Solutions, Inc. The revised CHG report "Hydrogeologic Impact Assessment of Proposed Agricultural Reservoir Vali Family Vineyard, 7365 Adelaida Road, San Luis Obispo County, California, APN 026-281-067" (June 5, 2020) fulfills the requirements promulgated in San Luis Obispo County Code - Title 22, Section 22.52.150 F, 4, b. The revised CHG report states that the vineyard manager estimates that 14 acrefeet (AF) of water will be used over the course of six months annually to irrigate 69 acres of newly planted vineyard on the property. This is equivalent to using 0.2 AF per acre per year (AF/acre/yr), which is only 20-percent of the generally accepted regional theoretical vineyard water demand estimate of 1 AF/acre/yr. This indicates that the vineyard manager is planning to operate Vali Family Vineyard under deficit irrigation conditions, which is common in the Adelaida area. The revised CHG report calculates a net water loss of 1.9 acre-feet per year (AFY) under average conditions. This is equivalent to an annual average daily loss of 1.2 gallons per minute.

Discussion

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

The proposed reservoir would be constructed on nearly level to gently sloping topography, outside of a 100-year Flood Hazard designation. The project would be located a minimum of approximately 0.5 miles from Las Tablas Creek, though an unnamed ephemeral stream is located adjacent to the reservoir. Underlying soils of the reservoir sites have moderate erodibility. The project plans indicate that all cut and fill slopes would be covered, protected, stabilized, and re-seeded with a seed mix to reduce surficial erosion of the slopes and to allow for revegetation.

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

- Approximately 1.3 acres, including approximately 8,332 cubic yards of cut and 4,314 cubic yards of fill, balanced on site;
- The project will be subject to standard County requirements for drainage, sedimentation, and erosion control for construction and permanent use;
- The project is not on highly erodible soils, nor on moderate to steep slopes;

- The project is within 100 feet from the closest creek or surface water body (impacts addressed in the Biological Resource Assessment Memo prepared by Cleveland Biology LLC and added as mitigation in Section IV: Biological Resources);
- Stockpiles will be properly managed during construction to avoid material loss due to erosion; and
- All hazardous materials and/or wastes will be properly stored onsite, which include secondary containment should spills or leaks occur.

To provide protection from downward migration of stored water within the reservoir, the proposed earthen irrigation reservoir would be lined with the approved liner. This liner would provide protection from leakage into the subsurface; therefore, water quality related associated with subsurface leakage to groundwater would be *less than significant*.

The proposed project would not result in any wastewater discharge. As noted above, the proposed reservoir sites are nearly level to gently sloping. Stormwater would be diverted around the reservoirs and implementation of the project would not substantially change the volume or velocity of runoff leaving any point of the site or result in a significant increase in impervious surface area. Annual average evaporative losses from the proposed pond is estimated at 1.9 AF/yr. The hydrogeologic analysis concludes that the additional daily pumping duration at 35 gpm required to meet the pond evaporation demand (1,677 gallons per day) will result in no significant water level drawdown interference at the nearest known active wells on adjacent properties. No pumping offset for evaporative losses is required since the site does not overlie an LOS III groundwater basin. Therefore, potential impacts would be *less than significant*.

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

Water used to fill the reservoirs would be sourced from an existing well. The proposed reservoir would result in water loss through evaporation from the water surface to the atmosphere and increased pumping from the basins to compensate for reservoir evaporation. The revised CHG report states that the proposed use for the reservoir is to allow operational flexibility in the vineyard irrigation schedule during the growing season. No frost protection irrigation is planned according to the vineyard manager. Therefore, the reservoir would not be used outside the months of the growing season. The hydrogeologic analyses concluded that the proposed project will result in additional groundwater use when compared to historical usage, will result from the initial filling of the reservoirs and the net evaporative losses from the exposed water surfaces of the reservoirs. Specifically, drawdown impact resulting from use of the reservoir (evaporative loss during growing season) is predicted to be approximately 3.7 feet of drawdown, and pumping required for claimed crop water demand [14 AF/yr (average daily flow rate: 17.5 gpm)] is predicted to be 27 feet of drawdown. Therefore, with the additional daily pumping duration at 35 gpm required to meet the pond evaporation demand (1,667 gallons per day), the project would result in negligible water level drawdown at neighboring properties due to increased pumping activities. Potential impacts related to water level drawdown 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 reservoir would result in a total disturbance of approximately 1.3 acres, including approximately 8,332 cubic yards of cut and 4,314 cubic yards of fill, balanced on site. The greatest potential for erosion and siltation to occur would be during the initial site preparation and grading during construction. 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. In addition, the project would be subject to Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) requirements for preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (LUO Section 22.52.130) which may include the preparation of a Storm Water Control Plan to further minimize onsite sedimentation and erosion.

The project plans indicate that all cut and fill slopes would be covered, protected, stabilized, and re-seeded with a seed mix to reduce surficial erosion of the slopes and to allow for revegetation. Additional preventative measures have been outlined in the project preliminary Erosion, Sediment, and Environmental Control Plan. Upon implementation of the Erosion, Sediment, and Environmental Control Plan, impacts related to soil erosion and loss of topsoil would be *less than significant*.

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

The project would not substantially increase the amount of impervious surface area or the rate and volume of surface runoff in a manner that could result in flooding on- or off-site. Based on the nature and size of the project, changes in surface hydrology would be negligible. Therefore, potential impacts related to increased surface runoff resulting in flooding 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?

The project would not substantially increase the amount of impervious surface area or the rate and volume of surface runoff in a manner that could exceed the capacity of existing stormwater or drainage systems. Based on the nature and size of the project, changes in surface hydrology would be negligible. Therefore, potential impacts related to increased surface runoff exceeding stormwater capacity would be *less than significant*.

(c-iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?

Based on the County Flood Hazard Map, the project site is not located within a 100-year flood zone. The project would be subject to standard County requirements for drainage, sedimentation, and erosion control for construction and operation. Therefore, *no impacts* would occur.

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

Based on the County Safety Element, the project site is not located within a 100-year flood zone or within an area that would be inundated if dam failure were to occur. Based on the San Luis Obispo County Tsunami Inundation Maps, the project site is not located in an area with potential for inundation by a tsunami (DOC 2019). The project site is not located within close proximity to a standing body of water with the potential for a seiche to occur. Therefore, the project site has no potential to release pollutants due to project inundation and *no impacts* would occur.

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

The project does not overlie a LOS III groundwater basin, therefore the project does not obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. No pumping offset for evaporative losses is required and impacts are *less than significant*.

Conclusion

Compliance with existing regulations and/or required plans would adequately address the potential for surface water quality impacts during construction and permanent use of the project. No change in groundwater quality would occur. The applicant would be required to prepare a drainage plan and sedimentation and erosion control plan in accordance with the County of San Luis Obispo Land Use Ordinance. Compliance with these existing regulations would ensure potential impacts related to drainage, sedimentation, and erosion would be less than significant; therefore, water quality related impacts would be less than significant.

During operation, the project would not increase the demand or use of groundwater and would not otherwise result in water loss (i.e., evaporative loss would be avoided through the utilization of a floating membrane cover). The hydrogeologic analysis concludes that the additional daily pumping duration at 35 gpm required to meet the pond evaporation demand (1,677 gallons per day) will result in no significant water level drawdown interference at the nearest known active wells on adjacent properties. Annual average evaporative losses from the proposed pond is estimated at 1.9 AF/yr. No pumping offset for evaporative losses is required since the site does not overlie an LOS III groundwater basin. Therefore, no substantial long-term adverse impacts on water quantity would occur.

The project would not require connection to any existing water or stormwater facilities and would not affect or exceed the capacity of existing facilities or community water service provider. The project is not within the 100-year flood zone and would not increase the risk of flooding or inundation. Therefore, potential impacts related to water service providers and flooding would be less than significant.

Mitigation

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

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	<i>Id the project:</i>				
(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?				\boxtimes

Setting

The LUO was established to guide and manage the future growth in the County in accordance with the General Plan, to regulate land use in a manner that will encourage and support orderly development and beneficial use of lands, to minimize adverse effects on the public resulting from inappropriate creation, location, use or design of buildings or land uses, and to protect and enhance significant natural, historic, archeological, and scenic resources within the county. The LUO is the primary tool used by the County to carry out the goals, objectives, and policies of the County General Plan.

The County Land Use Element (LUE) provides policies and standards for the management of growth and development in each unincorporated community and rural areas of the county and serves as a reference point and guide for future land use planning studies throughout the county. The LUE identifies strategic grown principles to define and focus the county's pro-active planning approach and balance environmental, economic, and social equity concerns. Each strategic growth principle correlates with a set of policies and implementation strategies that define how land will be used and resources protected. The LUE also defines each of the 14 land use designations and identifies standards for land uses based on the designation they are located within. The project parcel and surrounding parcels are within the Agriculture land use designation.

The inland LUE also contains the area plans of each of the four inland planning areas: Carrizo, North County, San Luis Obispo, and South County. The area plans establish policies and programs for land use, circulation, public facilities, services, and resources that apply "areawide", in rural areas, and in unincorporated urban areas within each planning area. Part three of the LUE contains each of the 13 inland community and village plans, which contain goals, policies, programs, and related background information for the County's unincorporated inland urban and village areas. The project is located within the North County Planning Area.

Discussion

(a) *Physically divide an established community?*

The project does not propose project elements or components that would physically divide the site from surrounding areas and uses. The project would be consistent with the general level of development within the project vicinity and would not create, close, or impede any existing public or private roads, or create any other barriers to movement or accessibility within the community.

Therefore, the proposed project would not physically divide an established community and *no impacts* would occur.

(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 would be consistent with the property's land use designation and the guidelines and policies for development within the applicable area plan, inland LUO, and the COSE. The project is consistent with existing surrounding developments and does not contain sensitive on-site resources; therefore, the project would not conflict with policies or regulations adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating environmental effects. The project would be consistent with existing land uses and designations for the proposed site and, therefore, would not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating environmental effects. *No impacts* would occur.

Conclusion

The project would be consistent with local and regional land use designations, plans, and policies and would not divide an established community. Therefore, potential impacts related to land use and planning would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

None necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

Wou	ld the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(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 California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) requires that the State Geologist classify land into mineral resource zones (MRZ) according to the known or inferred mineral potential of the land (Public Resources Code Sections 2710–2796).

The three MRZs used in the SMARA classification-designation process in the San Luis Obispo-Santa Barbara Production-Consumption Region are defined below (California Geological Survey 2011a):

- MRZ-1: Areas where available geologic information indicates that little likelihood exists for the presence of significant mineral resources.
- MRZ-2: Areas where adequate information indicates that significant mineral deposits are present, or where it is judged that a high likelihood for their presence exists. This zone shall be applied to known mineral deposits or where well-developed lines of reasoning, based upon economic-geologic principles and adequate data, demonstrate that the likelihood for occurrence of significant mineral deposits is high.
- MRZ-3: Areas containing known or inferred aggregate resources of undetermined significance.

The County LUO provides regulations for development in delineated Energy and Extractive Resource Areas (EX) and Extractive Resource Areas (EX1). The EX combining designation is used to identify areas of the county where:

- 1. Mineral or petroleum extraction occurs or is proposed to occur;
- 2. The state geologist has designated a mineral resource area of statewide or regional significance pursuant to PRC Sections 2710 et seq. (SMARA); and,
- 3. Major public utility electric generation facilities exist or are proposed.

The purpose of this combining designation is to protect significant resource extraction and energy production areas identified by the County LUE from encroachment by incompatible land uses that could hinder resource extraction or energy production operations, or land uses that would be adversely affected by extraction or energy production.

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?

The project is not located within a designated mineral resource zone or within an Extractive Resource Area combining designation. There are no known mineral resources in the project area; therefore, *no impacts* would occur.

(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?

There are no known or mapped mineral resources in the project area and the likelihood of future mining of important resources within the project area is very low. Therefore, *no impacts* would occur.

Conclusion

No impacts to mineral resources would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

None necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XIII. NOISE

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	ld the project result in:				
(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?			\boxtimes	
(b)	Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			\boxtimes	
(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?				

Setting

The San Luis Obispo County Noise Element of the General Plan provides a policy framework for addressing potential noise impacts in the planning process. The purpose of the Noise Element is to minimize future noise conflicts. The Noise Element identifies the major noise sources in the county (highways and freeways, primary arterial roadways and major local streets, railroad operations, aircraft and airport operations, local industrial facilities, and other stationary sources) and includes goals, policies, and implementation programs to reduce future noise impacts. Among the most significant polices of the Noise Element are numerical noise standards that limit noise exposure within noise-sensitive land uses, and performance standards for new commercial and industrial uses that might adversely impact noise-sensitive land uses.

Noise sensitive uses that have been identified by the County include the following:

- Residential development, except temporary dwellings
- Schools preschool to secondary, college and university, specialized education and training

- Health care services (e.g., hospitals, clinics, etc.)
- Nursing and personal care
- Churches
- Public assembly and entertainment
- Libraries and museums
- Hotels and motels
- Bed and breakfast facilities
- Outdoor sports and recreation
- Offices

All sound levels referred to in the Noise Element are expressed in A-weighted decibels (dB). A-weighting deemphasizes the very low and very high frequencies of sound in a manner similar to the human ear. The project site is located approximately 1,000 feet from a sensitive receptor (i.e. residence).

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 not introduce noise-generating equipment for operation of the proposed project and therefore would not generate a permanent increase in ambient noise levels. However, project construction activities would generate short-term 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) and would be located approximately 1,000 from any off-site receptor. Construction-related noise would not be substantially different than existing farm equipment uses and would attenuate considerably before reaching off-site receptors. Therefore, impacts related to increases in ambient noise levels would 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 (blasting, pile driving, demolition, etc.). 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 project site is not located within an airport land use plan and is not located within two miles of a public use airport. Therefore, there would be *no impact*.

Vali Family Vineyard

Initial Study – Environmental Checklist

Conclusion

No significant long-term change in noise levels would occur. Short-term construction related noise would be limited in nature and duration and would only occur during appropriate daytime hours. Therefore, potential noise impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation

None needed.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Wou	ld the project:				
(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.

Discussion

(a-b) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

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

The proposed project proposes construction of an agricultural reservoir to store water to serve a proposed agricultural use. The proposed project does not include any residential uses or structures for human habitation. The project would not require additional employees beyond the existing

amount used for the existing agricultural operation. The project would not result in a need for new housing and would not displace existing housing. The project does not propose new roads or infrastructure to undeveloped or underdeveloped areas that would indirectly result in population growth. Therefore, there would be *no impacts*.

Conclusion

No population and housing impacts would occur.

Mitigation

None needed.

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	
	Parks?			\boxtimes	
	Other public facilities?			\boxtimes	

Setting

Fire protection services in unincorporated San Luis Obispo County are provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), which has been under contract with the County of San Luis Obispo to provide full-service fire protection since 1930. Approximately 180 full-time state employees operate the

County Fire Department, supplemented by as many as 100 state seasonal fire fighters, 300 County paid-call and reserve fire fighters, and 120 state inmate fire fighters. CAL FIRE responds to emergencies and other requests for assistance, plans for and takes action to prevent emergencies and to reduce their impact, coordinates regional emergency response efforts, and provides public education and training in local communities. CAL FIRE has 24 fire stations located throughout the county. The nearest fire station (35 Las Tablas) is located at 275 Cypress Mountain Drive, approximately 7 miles from the project parcel. The estimated emergency response tile is upwards of 15 minutes.

Police protection and emergency services in the unincorporated portions of the county are provided by the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office Patrol Division responds to calls for service, conducts proactive law enforcement activities, and performs initial investigations of crimes. Patrol personnel are deployed from three stations throughout the county, the Coast Station in Los Osos, the North Station in Templeton, and the South Station in Oceano. The nearest Sheriff's Station (North Patrol) is located at 65 N Main Street in Templeton, approximately 15 miles southeast of the project parcel.

San Luis Obispo County has a total of 12 school districts that currently enroll approximately 34,000 students in over 75 schools. The project is within the Templeton Unified School District as well as the San Luis Obispo Joint Community College District.

Within the County's unincorporated areas, there are currently 23 parks, three golf courses, four trails/staging areas, and eight Special Areas that include natural areas, coastal access, and historic facilities currently operated and maintained by the County.

Public facilities fees, Quimby fees, and developer conditions are several ways the County currently funds public services. A public facility fee program (i.e., development impact fee program) has been adopted to address impacts related to public facilities (county) and schools (State Government Code 65995 et seq.). The fee amounts are assessed annually by the County based on the type of proposed development and the development's proportional impact and are collected at the time of building permit issuance. Public facility fees are used as needed to finance the construction of and/or improvements to public facilities required to the serve new development, including fire protection, law enforcement, schools, parks, and roads.

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 project would be required to comply with all fire safety rules and regulations including the California Fire Code and Public Resources Code prior to issuance of construction permits. Based on the limited nature of development proposed, the project would not result in a significant increase in demand for fire protection services. The project would be served by existing fire protection services and would not result in the need for new or altered fire protection services or facilities. In addition, the project would be subject to development impact fees to offset the project's contribution to demand for fire protection services. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

Police protection?

The project does not propose a new use or activity that would require additional police services above what is normally provided for similar surrounding land uses. The project would not result in a

significant increase in demand for police protection services and would not result in the need for new or altered police protection services or facilities. In addition, the project would be subject to development impact fees to offset the project's contribution to demand on law enforcement services. Therefore, impacts related to police services would be *less than significant*.

Schools?

As discussed in Section XIV. Population and Housing, the project would not induce a substantial increase in population growth and would not result in the need for additional school services or facilities to serve new student populations. Therefore, potential impacts would be *less than significant*.

Parks?

As discussed in Section XIV. Population and Housing, the project would not induce a substantial increase in population growth and would not result in the need for additional parks or recreational services or facilities to serve new populations. Therefore, potential impacts would be *less than significant*.

Other public facilities?

As discussed above, the proposed project would be subject to applicable fees to offset negligible increased demands on public facilities; therefore, impacts related to other public facilities would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

The project does not propose development that would substantially increase demands on public services and would not induce population growth that would substantially increase demands on public services. The project would be subject to payment of development impact fees to reduce the project's negligible contribution to increased demands on public services and facilities. Therefore, potential impacts related to public services would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

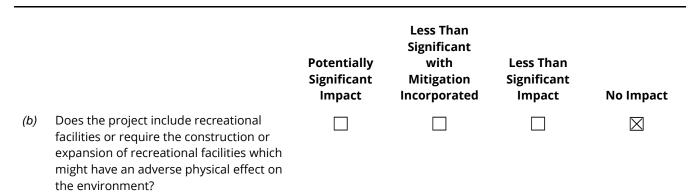
None necessary.

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?				



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.

Public facilities fees, Quimby fees, and developer conditions are several ways the County currently funds public parks and recreational facilities. Public facility fees are collected upon construction of new residential units and currently provide funding for new community-serving recreation facilities. Quimby Fees are collected when new residential lots are created and can be used to expand, acquire, rehabilitate, or develop community-serving parks. Finally, a discretionary permit issued by the County may condition a project to provide land, amenities, or facilities consistent with the Recreation Element.

The County Bikeways Plan identifies and prioritizes bikeway facilities throughout the unincorporated area of the county, including bikeways, parking, connections with public transportation, educational programs, and funding. The Bikeways Plan is updated every 5 years and was last updated in 2016. The plan identifies goals, policies, and procedures geared towards realizing significant bicycle use as a key component of the transportation options for San Luis Obispo County residents. The plan also includes descriptions of bikeway design and improvement standards, an inventory of the current bicycle circulation network, and a list of current and future bikeway projects within the county.

Discussion

(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?

The project would not result in a substantial growth within the area and would not substantially increase demand on any proximate existing neighborhood or regional park or other recreational facilities. Payment of standard development impact fees would ensure any incremental increase in use of existing parks and recreational facilities would be reduced to *less than significant*.

(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?

The project does not include the construction of new recreational facilities and would not result in a substantial increase in demand or use of parks and recreational facilities. Implementation of the project would not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities; therefore, *no impacts would occur*.

Conclusion

The project would not result in the significant increase in use, construction, or expansion of parks or recreational facilities. Therefore, potential impacts related to recreation would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

None 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	

Setting

The County Department of Public Works maintains updated traffic count data for all County-maintained roadways. In addition, Traffic Circulation Studies have been conducted within several community areas using traffic models to reasonably simulate current traffic flow patterns and forecast future travel demands and traffic flow patterns. These community Traffic Circulation Studies include the South County Circulation Study, Los Osos Circulation Study, Templeton Circulation Study, San Miguel Circulation Study, Avila Circulation Study, and North Coast Circulation Study. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) maintains annual traffic data on state highways and interchanges within the county. The project takes access from Adelaida Road, a paved, County maintained, collector road. Rural roads within the County have a Level of Service (LOS) rating of "C" or better.

In 2013, Senate Bill 743 was signed into law with the intent to "more appropriately balance the needs of congestion management with statewide goals related to infill development, promotion of public health through active transportation, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions" and required the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to identify new metrics for identifying and mitigating transportation impacts within CEQA. As a result, in December 2018, the California Natural Resources Agency certified and adopted updates to the State CEQA Guidelines. The revisions included new requirements related to the implementation of Senate Bill 743 and identified vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per capita, VMT per employee, and net VMT as new metrics for transportation analysis under CEQA (as detailed in Section 15064.3 [b]). Beginning July 1, 2020, the newly adopted VMT criteria for determining significance of transportation impacts must be implemented statewide.

The San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) holds several key roles in transportation planning within the county. As the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA), SLOCOG is responsible for conducting a comprehensive, coordinated transportation program, preparation of a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), programming of state funds for transportation projects, and the administration and allocation of transportation development act funds required by state statutes. As the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), SLOCOG is also responsible for all transportation planning and programming activities required under federal law. This includes development of long-range transportation plans and funding programs, and the approval of transportation projects using federal funds.

The 2019 RTP, adopted June 5, 2019, is a long-term blueprint of San Luis Obispo County's transportation system. The plan identifies and analyzes transportation needs of the region and creates a framework for project priorities. SLOCOG represents and works with the County of San Luis Obispo as well as the Cities within the county in facilitating the development of the RTP.

The County Department of Public Works establishes bicycle paths and lanes in coordination with the RTP, which outlines how the region can establish an extensive bikeway network. County bikeway facilities are funded by state grants, local general funds, and developer contributions. The RTP also establishes goals and recommendations to develop, promote, and invest in the public transit systems, rail systems, air services, harbor improvements, and commodity movements within the county in order to meet the needs of transit-dependent individuals and encourage the increasing use of alternative modes by all travelers that choose public transportation. Local transit systems are presently in operation in the cities of Morro Bay and San Luis Obispo, and South County services are offered to Grover Beach, Arroyo Grande, Pismo Beach, and Oceano. Dial-a-ride systems provide intra-community transit in Morro Bay, Atascadero, and Los Osos. Inter-urban systems operate between the City of San Luis Obispo and South County, Los Osos, and the North Coast.

The County's Framework for Planning (Inland), includes the Land Use and Circulation Elements of the County's General Plan. The Framework establishes goals and strategies to meet pedestrian circulation needs by providing usable and attractive sidewalks, pathways, and trails to establish maximum access and connectivity between land use designations.

Discussion

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

The proposed project includes construction of an agricultural reservoir for water storage to serve a proposed agricultural operation. 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 operations. As a result, the proposed project would have an insignificant 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. Therefore, impacts would be *less than significant*.

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

The County of San Luis Obispo has not yet identified an appropriate model or method to estimate vehicle miles traveled for proposed land use development projects. Section 15064.3, subdivision (b) states that if existing models or methods are not available to estimate the vehicle miles traveled for the particular project being considered, a lead agency may analyze the project's vehicle miles traveled qualitatively. While the County's program is still in development, the estimated new vehicle trips generated by the proposed project fall below the suggested screening threshold of 110 trips/day identified in the State guidance (Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA; Office of Planning & Research, December 2018), and would be assumed to be insignificant.

Based on the nature and location of the project, the project would not generate a significant increase in construction-related or operational traffic trips or vehicle miles traveled. The project would not substantially change existing land uses and would not result in the need for additional new or expanded transportation facilities. The project would be subject to standard development impact fees to offset the relative impacts on surrounding roadways. Therefore, potential impacts would be *less than significant*.

(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 and would include only a small extension to the existing driveway. This extension is not designed in such a way which would increase hazards due to geometric design features or incompatible uses. Therefore, the project would not substantially increase hazards and would have a *less than significant impact*.

(d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

The project sites access roads are currently approximately 10 to 12 feet wide on a nearly level surface which is ample room to accommodate farm equipment, construction vehicles, and emergency vehicles. The project sites would have the highest risk of emergencies occurring construction, which would be temporary. The project is required to meet all fire and building standards relating to road construction and design. During operation, the likelihood of an emergency incident occurring is low due to a lack of structures and infrequency of persons at the project. Therefore, impacts related to emergency access would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

The project would not alter existing transportation facilities or result in the generation of substantial additional trips or vehicle miles traveled. Payment of standard development fees and compliance with existing regulations would ensure potential impacts were reduced to less than significant. Therefore, potential impacts related to transportation would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

None 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 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.				

Setting

Approved in 2014, 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 June 2, 2020: 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 request to review the Phase 1 archaeological survey was submitted by the Salinan Tribe on July 13, 2020, no response has been provided since receiving the Phase 1 archaeological survey. An email from the Northern Chumash Tribal Council provided no additional comments for the project. No significant sensitive resources were identified.

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

Discussion

- (a-i) 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-ii) 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 Investigation prepared CRMS in January of 2020 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*.

(b) 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.

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

As noted in Section V. Cultural Resources, the Cultural Resources Survey prepared by Central Coast Archeological Research Consultants Consulting concluded that known prehistoric or historic cultural resources were not present within the proposed project area. 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 immediate project area. Compliance with the LUO would ensure potential impacts to cultural resources would be reduced to *less than significant*.

Conclusion

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

Mitigation

No mitigation measures above what are already required by ordinance 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?				

		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?			\boxtimes	
(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.

The County Public Works Department provides water and wastewater services for specific County Service Areas (CSAs) that are managed through issuance of water/wastewater "will serve" letters. The Department of Public Works currently maintains CSAs for the communities of Nipomo, Oak Shores, Cayucos, Avila Beach, Shandon, the San Luis Obispo County Club, and Santa Margarita. Other unincorporated areas in the County rely on on-site wells and individual wastewater systems. Regulatory standards and design criteria for onsite wastewater treatment systems are provided by the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (California OWTS Policy).

Per the County's Stormwater Program, the Public Works Department is responsible for ensuring that new construction sites implement best management practices during construction, and that site plans incorporate appropriate post-construction stormwater runoff controls. Construction sites that disturb 1.0 acre or more must obtain coverage under the SWRCB's Construction General Permit. Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) is the primary electricity provider and both PG&E and Southern California Gas Company provide natural gas services for urban and rural communities within the County of San Luis Obispo.

There are three landfills in San Luis Obispo County: Cold Canyon Landfill, located near the City of San Luis Obispo, Chicago Grade Landfill, located near the community of Templeton, and Paso Robles Landfill, located east of the City of Paso Robles.

Discussion

(a) 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?

The project proposes the use of an existing on-site well and would not result in a substantial increase in demand on water, wastewater, or stormwater collection, treatment, or disposal facilities and would not require the construction of new or expanded water, wastewater, or stormwater facilities. The project would not result in a substantial increase in energy demand, natural gas, or telecommunications; no new or expanded facilities would be required. No utility relocations are proposed. Therefore, *no impact* would occur.

(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 only see an increase in water usage compared to historical averages of water use on the land during initial filling of the reservoir. After initial filling, the water usage from the reservoir would remain relatively unchanged when compared to the historic usage. Since water usage would be consistent with historical use, the impacts from having insufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development would be *less than significant*.

(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?

The proposed project would not result in the production of any wastewater and all wastewater during construction would be collected in portable restroom facilities that would be serviced offsite. The project site is not served by a wastewater treatment provider, and the proposed project would have *no impacts* on capacity of a wastewater treatment provider's facilities.

(d-e) 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?

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

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. Any waste generated from the construction of the proposed facility would be removed by the contractor and disposed of. Impacts with regards to solid waste would be *less than significant*.

Conclusion

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

Mitigation

None necessary.

Sources

See Exhibit A.

XX. WILDFIRE

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
If loce	ated in or near state responsibility areas or lan	ds classified as ve	ery 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?			\boxtimes	

Setting

In central California, the fire season usually extends from roughly May through October, however, recent events indicate that wildfire behavior, frequency, and duration of the fire season are changing in California. Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) are defined by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) based on the presence of fire-prone vegetation, climate, topography, assets at risk (e.g., high population centers), and a fire protection agency's ability to provide service to the area (CAL FIRE 2007). FHSZs throughout the County have been designated as "Very High," "High," or "Moderate." In San Luis Obispo County, most of the area that has been designated as a "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone" is located in the Santa Lucia Mountains, which extend parallel to the coast along the entire length of San Luis Obispo County. The Moderate Hazard designation does not mean the area cannot experience a damaging fire; rather, it indicates that the probability is reduced, generally because the number of days a year that the area has "fire weather"

is less than in high or very high fire severity zones. Based on information obtained using the County Land Use View mapping tool, the project is located in a high fire severity zone.

The County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) addresses several overall policy and coordination functions related to emergency management. The EOP includes the following components:

- Identifies the departments and agencies designated to perform response and recovery activities and specifies tasks they must accomplish;
- Outlines the integration of assistance that is available to local jurisdictions during disaster situations that generate emergency response and recovery needs beyond what the local jurisdiction can satisfy;
- Specifies the direction, control, and communications procedures and systems that will be relied upon to alert, notify, recall, and dispatch emergency response personnel, alert the public, protect residents and property, and request aid/support from other jurisdictions and/or the federal government;
- Identifies key continuity of government operations; and
- Describes the overall logistical support process for planned operations.

Topography influences wildland fire to such an extent that slope conditions can often become a critical wildland fire factor. Conditions such as speed and direction of dominant wind patterns, the length and steepness of slopes, direction of exposure, and/or overall ruggedness of terrain influence the potential intensity and behavior of wildland fires and/or the rates at which they may spread (Barros et al. 2013).

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. Implementation strategies for this policy include identifying high risk areas, the development and implementation of mitigation efforts to reduce the threat of fire, requiring fire resistant material to be used for building construction in fire hazard areas, and encouraging applicants applying for subdivisions in fire hazard areas to cluster development to allow for a wildfire protection zone.

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.

The County has prepared an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to outline the emergency measures that are essential for protecting the public health and safety. These measures include, but are not limited to, public alert and notifications, emergency public information, and protective actions. The EOP also addresses policy and coordination related to emergency management.

Discussion

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

Implementation of the proposed project would not have a permanent impact on any adopted emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans. Temporary construction activities and staging would not substantially alter existing circulation patterns or trips. Access to adjacent areas would be maintained throughout the duration of the project. Therefore, the project would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Potential 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 project site is generally flat and contains sparse vegetation as the land has been previously disturbed due to cattle movement. Proposed uses would not significantly increase or exacerbate potential fire risks and the project does not propose any design elements that would exacerbate risks and expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of wildfire. Therefore, potential impacts 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?

The project proposes the installation of a utility line, however the utilities will be undergrounded, significantly diminishes their fire risk. The project does not propose additional wildfire protection infrastructure and would not result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment as a result of the development of wildfire prevention, protection, and/or management techniques. Therefore, potential impacts 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, the project would not result in the construction of structures, and employees would rarely be onsite. 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

The project would not expose people or structures to new or exacerbated wildfire risks and would not require the development of new or expanded infrastructure or maintenance to reduce wildfire risks. Therefore, potential impacts associated with wildfire would be less than significant and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Mitigation

None 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 project has the potential to impact the trees and unnamed creek located adjacent to the project site which serve as possible habitats or have the potential to degrade such habitats. Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO-4 would reduce impacts to less than significant levels. Therefore, the project would not result in significant impacts to biological 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. Potential impacts to air quality were also evaluated. Mitigation measures have been proposed to prevent or reduce all potential impacts to 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)?

Potential cumulative impacts of the proposed project have been analyzed within the discussion of each environmental resource areas above. Cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project would be *less than significant with mitigation*.

(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. In addition, implementation of mitigation measures included in Exhibit B – Mitigation Summary Table would further reduce potential adverse effects on human beings; therefore, impacts would be *less than significant with mitigation*.

Conclusion

With the implementation of the mitigation measures listed in Exhibit B – Mitigation Summary Table, impacts would be reduced to less than significant.

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	None
	County Environmental Health Services	Not Applicable
\boxtimes	County Agricultural Commissioner's Office	None
	County Airport Manager	Not Applicable
	Airport Land Use Commission	Not Applicable
\boxtimes	Air Pollution Control District	None
	County Sheriff's Department	Not Applicable
\boxtimes	Regional Water Quality Control Board	None
	CA Coastal Commission	Not Applicable
	CA Department of Fish and Wildlife	Not Applicable
	CA Department of Forestry (Cal Fire)	Not Applicable
	CA Department of Transportation	Not Applicable
	Community Services District	Not Applicable
	Other	Not Applicable
	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 (Inland)		Circulation Study
\boxtimes	General Plan (Inland), includes all maps/elements;		Other Documents
	more pertinent elements:	\boxtimes	Clean Air Plan/APCD Handbook
	Agriculture Element		Regional Transportation Plan
	Conservation & Open Space Element	\boxtimes	Uniform Fire Code
	Economic Element	\boxtimes	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)	\boxtimes	CA Natural Species Diversity Database
\boxtimes	Building and Construction Ordinance	\boxtimes	Fire Hazard Severity Map
	Public Facilities Fee Ordinance Real Property Division Ordinance Affordable Housing Fund		Flood Hazard Maps
			Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey
			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/Adelaida Sub Area		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). 2015. Fault Activity Map of California (2010) Available at <u>http://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/fam/</u>
- California Department of Conservation (DOC). 2016. California Important Farmland Finder. Available at < <u>https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/</u>>
- California Department of Conservation (DOC). 2016. San Luis Obispo County Important Farmland 2016. Available at <u>ftp://ftp.consrv.ca.gov/pub/dlrp/FMMP/pdf/2016/slo16.pdf</u>
- Cleath-Harris Geologists, Inc. Hydrogeologic Impact Assessment of Proposed Agricultural Reservoir Vali Family Vineyard, 7365 Adelaida Road, San Luis Obispo County, California, APN 026-281-067. June 5, 2020.
- Cleveland Biological, LLC. (Cindy Cleveland). 2020. Biological Resource Assessment Memo.
- Cultural Resources Management Services. Archaeological Inventory Survey of a Proposed Reservoir at 7365 Adelaida Road, Adelaida District, San Luis Obispo County, California. January 2020.
- GSI Water Solutions, Inc. Review of Vali Family Vineyard Agricultural Storage Pond Hydrogeologic Analysis. July 3, 2020.
- San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (SLOAPCD). 2019. SLO APCD NOA Screening Buffers. Available https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1YAKjBzVkwi1bZ4rQ1p6b2OMyvIM&ll=35.6640761533 3322%2C-120.44668446503107&z=11
- State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). 2015. GeoTracker. Available at <u>http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/</u>

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.

- **AQ-1 Prior to issuance of construction permits**, the following measures related to ROG and NOx shall be incorporated into the construction phase of the project and shown on all applicable construction plans:
 - a) Maintain all construction equipment in proper tune according to manufacturer's specifications;
 - b) Fuel all off-road and portable diesel-powered equipment with ARB certified motor vehicle diesel fuel (non-taxed version suitable for use off-road);
 - c) Use diesel construction equipment meeting ARB's Tier 2 certified engines or cleaner off-road heavy-duty diesel engines, and comply with the State Off-Road Regulation;
 - d) Use on-road heavy-duty trucks that meet the ARB's 2007 or cleaner certification standard for on-road heavy-duty diesel engines, and comply with the State On-Road Regulation;
 - e) Construction or trucking companies with fleets that that do not have engines in their fleet that meet the engine standards identified in the above two measures (e.g. captive or NOx exempt area fleets) may be eligible by proving alternative compliance;
 - All on and off-road diesel equipment shall not idle for more than 5 minutes. Signs shall be posted in the designated queuing areas and or job sites to remind drivers and operators of the 5-minute idling limit;
 - g) Diesel idling within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors is not permitted;
 - h) Staging and queuing areas shall not be located within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors;
 - i) Electrify equipment when feasible;
 - j) Substitute gasoline-powered in place of diesel-powered equipment, where feasible; and,
 - k) Use alternatively fueled construction equipment on-site where feasible, such as compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG), propane or biodiesel.
- **AQ-2 Prior to issuance of construction permits**, the following measures related to fugitive dust emissions shall be incorporated into the construction phase of the project and shown on all applicable construction plans:
 - a) Reduce the amount of the disturbed area where possible;
 - b) Use of water trucks or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 mph. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible;
 - c) All dirt stock pile areas should be sprayed daily as needed;

- Permanent dust control measures identified in the approved project revegetation and landscape plans should be implemented as soon as possible following completion of any soil disturbing activities;
- e) Exposed ground areas that are planned to be reworked at dates greater than one month after initial grading should be sown with a fast germinating, non-invasive grass seed and watered until vegetation is established;
- f) All disturbed soil areas not subject to revegetation should be stabilized using approved chemical soil binders, jute netting, or other methods approved in advance by the APCD;
- g) All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, etc. to be paved should be completed as soon as possible.
 In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used;
- h) Vehicle speed for all construction vehicles shall not exceed 15 mph on any unpaved surface at the construction site;
- i) All trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials are to be covered or should maintain at least two feet of freeboard (minimum vertical distance between top of load and top of trailer) in accordance with CVC Section 23114;
- j) Install wheel washers where vehicles enter and exit unpaved roads onto streets, or wash off trucks and equipment leaving the site;
- k) Sweep streets at the end of each day if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent paved roads. Water sweepers with reclaimed water should be used where feasible;
- I) All of these fugitive dust mitigation measures shall be shown on grading and building plans; and
- m) The contractor or builder shall designate a person or persons to monitor the fugitive dust emissions and enhance the implementation of the measures as necessary to minimize dust complaints, reduce visible emissions below 20% opacity, and to prevent transport of dust offsite. Their duties shall include holidays and weekend periods when work may not be in progress. The name and telephone number of such persons shall be provided to the APCD Compliance Division prior to the start of any grading, earthwork or demolition.
- **BIO-1** To avoid impacts to oak trees, **prior to issuance of construction permits**, plans should indicate the use of temporary fencing around the dripline or critical root zone (1.5 times the trunk diameter), whichever distance is greater, of the adjacent trees.

Prior to commencement of project construction activities, tree protection fencing shall be installed around the dripline or critical root zone (1.5 times the trunk diameter), whichever distance is greater, of all oak trees within 50 feet of project activities. The fencing shall be in place throughout the duration of the project.

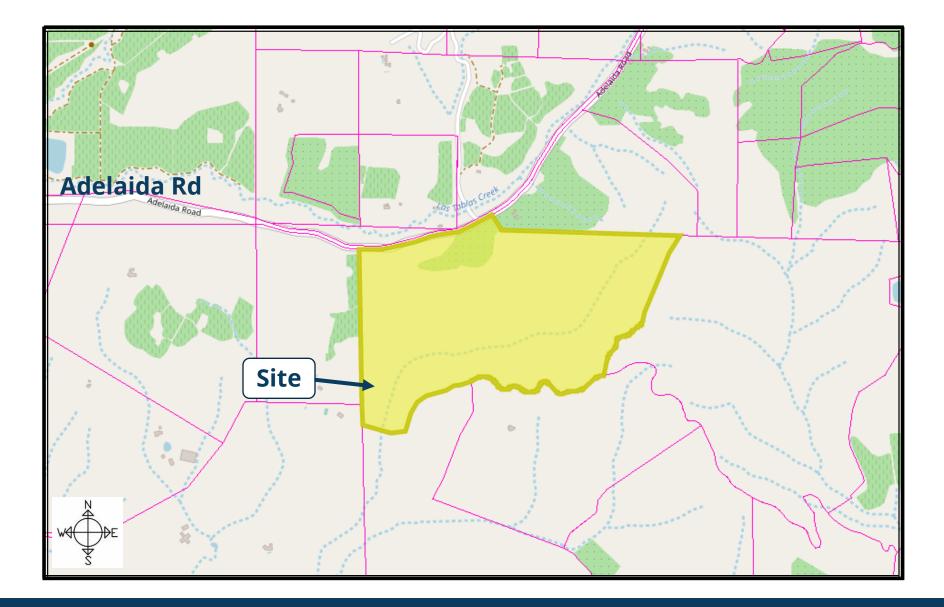
If impacts, including pruning and any ground disturbance, within this area are unavoidable, impacts to nearby oak trees shall be assessed by a Certified Arborist **at the time of project construction**. A Certified Arborist shall be present during approved Project activities within the critical root zone to document impacts to the trees, and shall provide a written report to the County of any mitigation obligation.

BIO-2 If **at the time of project construction** it is found that impacts to native trees are unavoidable, impacts shall be mitigated by planting additional trees on site. Any oak tree with a dbh of five inches or greater shall require mitigation. Oak trees removed shall be replaced in kind at a 4:1 ratio. Impacts to oak trees shall be mitigated by planting additional oak trees, in kind, at a 2:1 ratio.

Replacement trees shall be planted **prior to project finalization**, shall be of one-gallon size, of local origin, and of the same species as was impacted. Replacement trees shall be seasonally maintained and monitored annually for at least seven years.

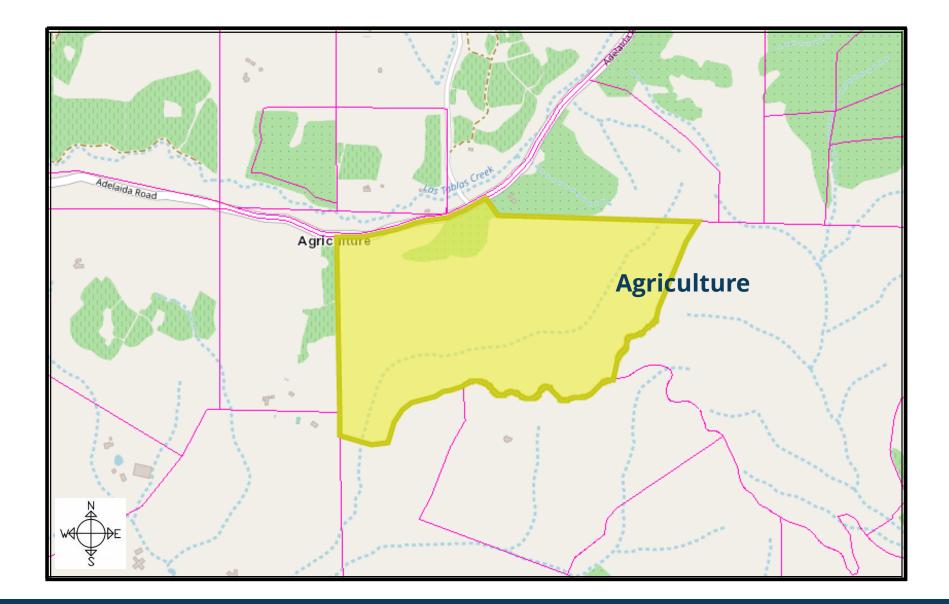
- **BIO-3 Prior to issuance of construction permits**, appropriate construction practices to retain sediments on-site (perimeter sediment controls, stabilized construction entrances, contour wattle installation on steep slopes, repacking of de-compacted soils) shall be outlined on project plans and shall be implemented at the time of project construction to prevent excess sedimentation from becoming displaced.
- **BIO-4 Prior to issuance of construction permits**, plans shall indicate the use of protective fencing around the top of bank of the adjacent unnamed creek. Additionally, plans shall outline the prohibition of equipment fueling, hazardous materials storage, portable restrooms, concrete washouts, or overnight vehicle or equipment staging within 100 feet of the unnamed creek during construction.

During project construction, workers shall not be allowed in the unnamed creek and the protective fencing shall remain in place for the full duration of construction activities.



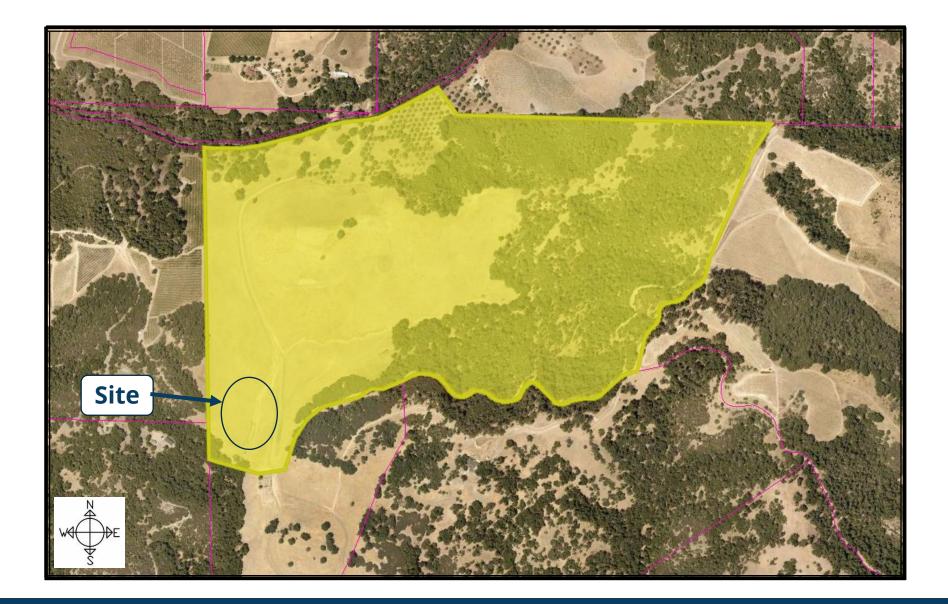


Vicinity Map Project Number



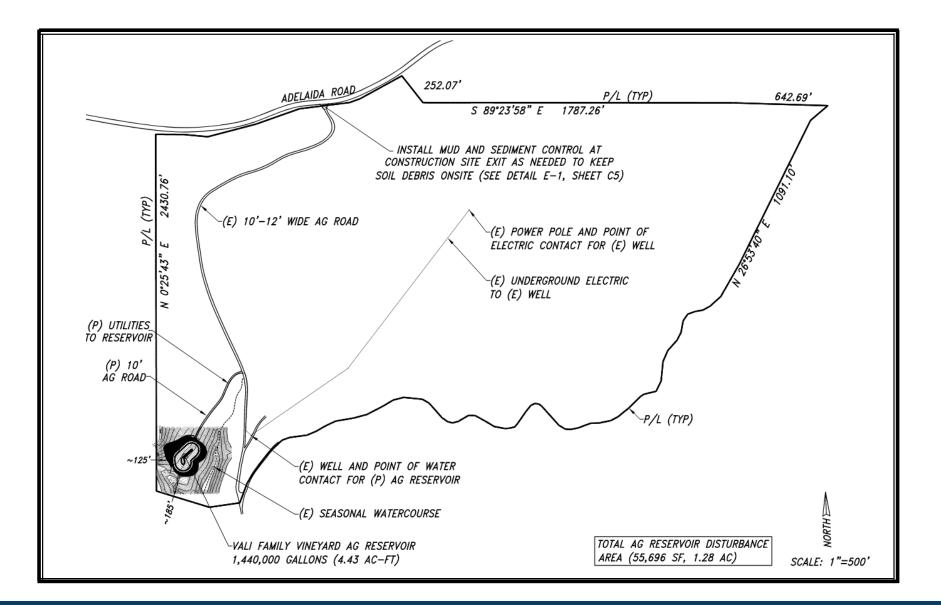


Land Use Category Map Project Number





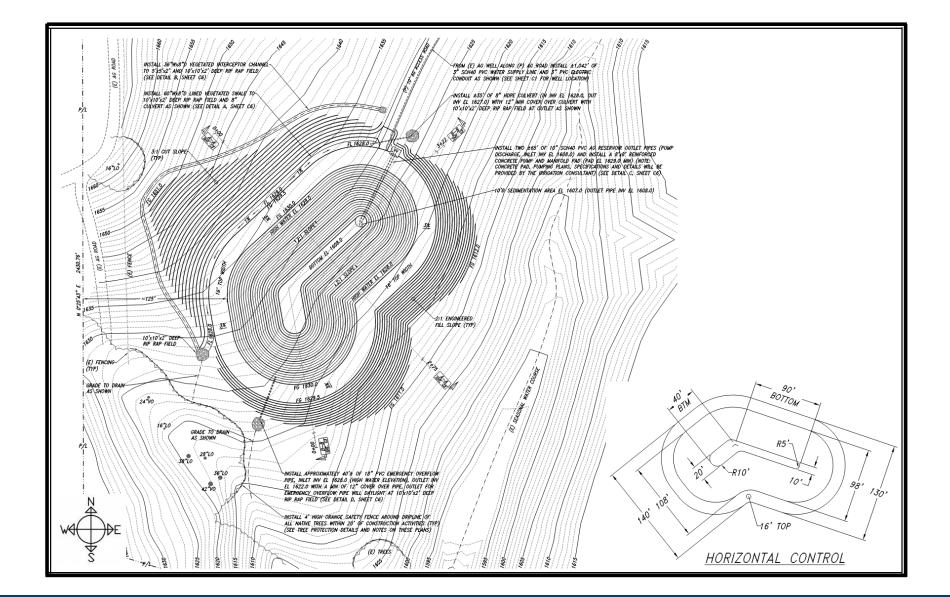
Aerial PMTG2019-00097



COUNTY SAN LUIS OBISPO

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

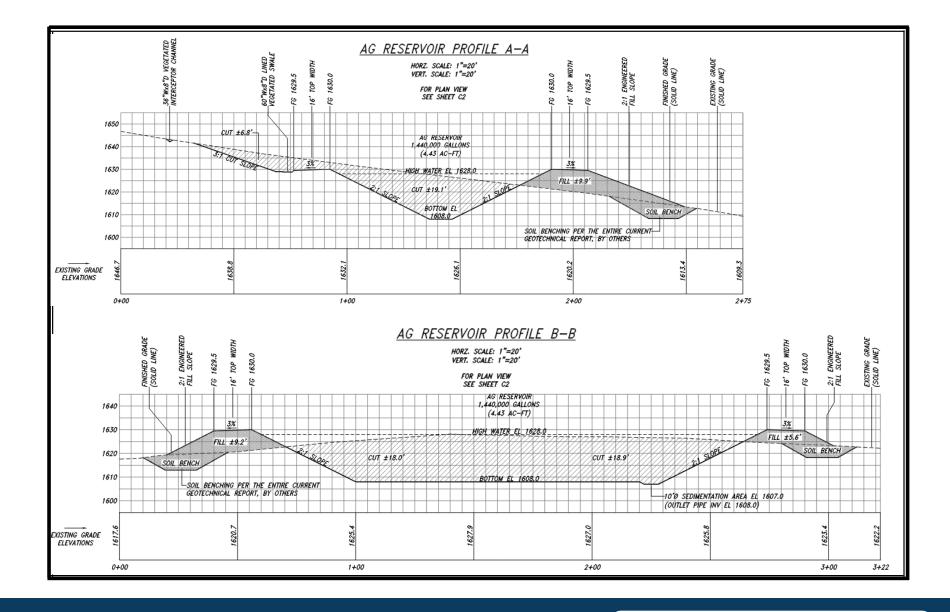
Overall Site Plan PMTG2019-00097



Drainage and Horizontal Control Plan



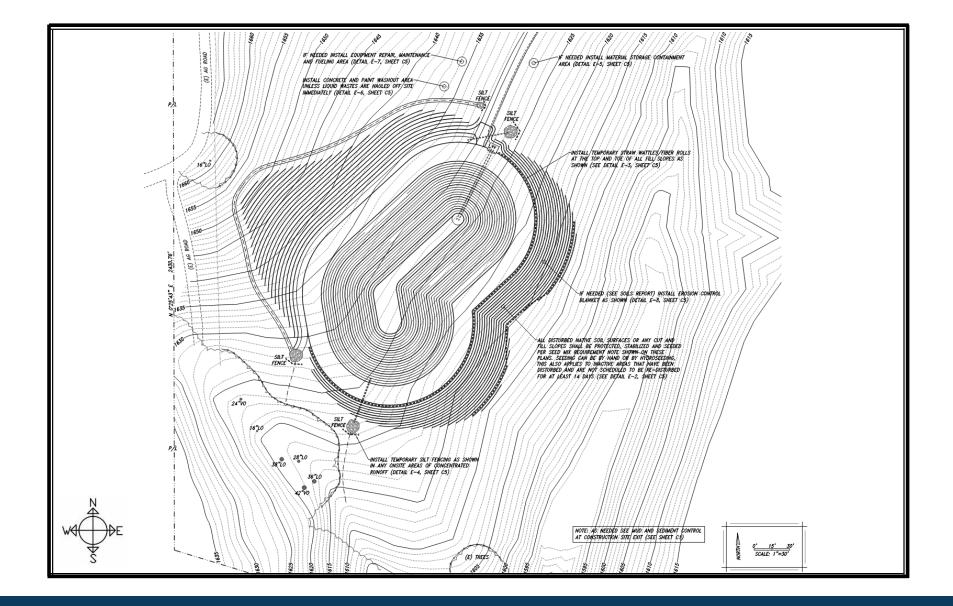
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO



COUNTY SAN LUIS OBISPO

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

Cross Sections PMTG2019-00097





Erosion & Sedimentation Control Plan

DEVELOPER'S STATEMENT FOR VALI FAMILY VINEYARDS LLC MAJOR GRADING PERMIT PMTG2019-00097

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.

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.

Air Quality

- AQ-1 Prior to issuance of construction permits, the following measures related to ROG and NOx shall be incorporated into the construction phase of the project and shown on all applicable construction plans:
 - Maintain all construction equipment in proper tune according to manufacturer's specifications;
 - Fuel all off-road and portable diesel-powered equipment with ARB certified motor vehicle diesel fuel (non-taxed version suitable for use off-road);
 - Use diesel construction equipment meeting ARB's Tier 2 certified engines or cleaner off-road heavy-duty diesel engines, and comply with the State Off-Road Regulation;
 - Use on-road heavy-duty trucks that meet the ARB's 2007 or cleaner certification standard for on-road heavy-duty diesel engines, and comply with the State On-Road Regulation;
 - e) Construction or trucking companies with fleets that that do not have engines in their fleet that meet the engine standards identified in the above two measures (e.g. captive or NOx exempt area fleets) may be eligible by proving alternative compliance;
 - All on and off-road diesel equipment shall not idle for more than 5 minutes. Signs shall be posted in the designated queuing areas and or job sites to remind drivers and operators of the 5-minute idling limit;
 - g) Diesel idling within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors is not permitted;

- Staging and queuing areas shall not be located within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors;
- i) Electrify equipment when feasible;
- j) Substitute gasoline-powered in place of diesel-powered equipment, where feasible; and,
- k) Use alternatively fueled construction equipment on-site where feasible, such as compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG), propane or biodiesel.
- AQ-2 Prior to issuance of construction permits, the following measures related to fugitive dust emissions shall be incorporated into the construction phase of the project and shown on all applicable construction plans:
 - a) Reduce the amount of the disturbed area where possible;
 - b) Use of water trucks or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 mph. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible;
 - c) All dirt stock pile areas should be sprayed daily as needed;
 - Permanent dust control measures identified in the approved project revegetation and landscape plans should be implemented as soon as possible following completion of any soil disturbing activities;
 - e) Exposed ground areas that are planned to be reworked at dates greater than one month after initial grading should be sown with a fast germinating, non-invasive grass seed and watered until vegetation is established;
 - All disturbed soil areas not subject to revegetation should be stabilized using approved chemical soil binders, jute netting, or other methods approved in advance by the APCD;
 - g) All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, etc. to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used;
 - Vehicle speed for all construction vehicles shall not exceed 15 mph on any unpaved surface at the construction site;
 - All trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials are to be covered or should maintain at least two feet of freeboard (minimum vertical distance between top of load and top of trailer) in accordance with CVC Section 23114;
 - J) Install wheel washers where vehicles enter and exit unpaved roads onto streets, or wash off trucks and equipment leaving the site;
 - Sweep streets at the end of each day if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent paved roads. Water sweepers with reclaimed water should be used where feasible;
 - All of these fugitive dust mitigation measures shall be shown on grading and building plans; and
 - m) The contractor or builder shall designate a person or persons to monitor the fugitive dust emissions and enhance the implementation of the measures as necessary to minimize dust complaints, reduce visible emissions below 20%

opacity, and to prevent transport of dust offsite. Their duties shall include holidays and weekend periods when work may not be in progress. The name and telephone number of such persons shall be provided to the APCD Compliance Division prior to the start of any grading, earthwork or demolition.

Biological Resources

BIO-1 To avoid impacts to oak trees, **prior to issuance of construction permits**, plans should indicate the use of temporary fencing around the dripline or critical root zone (1.5 times the trunk diameter), whichever distance is greater, of the adjacent trees.

Prior to commencement of project construction activities, tree protection fencing shall be installed around the dripline or critical root zone (1.5 times the trunk diameter), whichever distance is greater, of all oak trees within 50 feet of project activities. The fencing shall be in place throughout the duration of the project.

If impacts, including pruning and any ground disturbance, within this area are unavoidable, impacts to nearby oak trees shall be assessed by a Certified Arborist **at the time of project construction**. A Certified Arborist shall be present during approved Project activities within the critical root zone to document impacts to the trees, and shall provide a written report to the County of any mitigation obligation.

BIO-2 If at the time of project construction it is found that impacts to native trees are unavoidable, impacts shall be mitigated by planting additional trees on site. Any oak tree with a dbh of five inches or greater shall require mitigation. Oak trees removed shall be replaced in kind at a 4:1 ratio. Impacts to oak trees shall be mitigated by planting additional oak trees, in kind, at a 2:1 ratio.

Replacement trees shall be planted **prior to project finalization**, shall be of one-gallon size, of local origin, and of the same species as was impacted. Replacement trees shall be seasonally maintained and monitored annually for at least seven years.

- **BIO-3 Prior to issuance of construction permits**, appropriate construction practices to retain sediments on-site (perimeter sediment controls, stabilized construction entrances, contour wattle installation on steep slopes, repacking of de-compacted soils) shall be outlined on project plans and shall be implemented at the time of project construction to prevent excess sedimentation from becoming displaced.
- **BIO-4** Prior to issuance of construction permits, plans shall indicate the use of protective fencing around the top of bank of the adjacent unnamed creek. Additionally, plans shall outline the prohibition of equipment fueling, hazardous materials storage, portable restrooms, concrete washouts, or overnight vehicle or equipment staging within 100 feet of the unnamed creek during construction.

During project construction, workers shall not be allowed in the unnamed creek and the protective fencing shall remain in place for the full duration of construction activities.

If two weeks lapse between different phases of project activities (e.g., vegetation trimming and the start of grading), during which no or minimal work activity occurs, the nesting bird survey shall be repeated.

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.

Ul. AL A

8-4-2020

Date

Signature of Agent(s)

ADAM A. VALI

Name (Print)