

Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP, Director
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Bakersfield, CA 93301-2323
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Web Address: <http://kernplanning.com/>



**PLANNING AND NATURAL
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Planning
Community Development
Administrative Operations

DATE: March 4, 2022

TO: See Attached Mailing List

FROM: Kern County Planning and Natural
Resources Department
Attn: Cindi Hoover
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661)862-8629; hooverc@kerncounty.com

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) FOR THE CARBON TERRAVULT 1 (CTV 1) CARBON CAPTURE AND SEQUESTRATION PROJECT BY CALIFORNIA RESOURCES CORPORATION (CRC)

The Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department as Lead Agency (per CEQA Guidelines Section 15062) has determined that preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (per CEQA Guidelines 15161) is necessary for the proposed project identified below. The Planning and Natural Resources Department solicits the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency may need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval of the project.

You are invited to view the NOP and submit written comments regarding the content of the environmental information in connection with the proposed project should you wish to do so. Due to the limits mandated by State law, your response must be received by **April 4, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** Comments on the scope and content of the EIR can be submitted to the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department at the address shown above or to hooverc@kerncounty.com. A Scoping Meeting will be held on **Friday, March 18, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.**

PROJECT TITLE: Carbon TerraVault 1 (CTV 1) by California Resources Corporation (PP22405); PLN21-01378; ZCC No. 5, Map No. 118; ZCC No. 5, Map No. 119; ZCC No. 4, Map No. 120; CUP No. 13, Map No. 118; CUP No. 5, Map No. 119; CUP No. 3, Map No. 120

PROJECT LOCATION: Central Valley portion of unincorporated Kern County, West side of Elk Hills Road and north Side of Skyline Road, within the Elk Hills Oil Field, approximately 26 miles from the City of Bakersfield (pop. 413,098), approximately 8.5 miles from the City of Taft (pop 8945) and approximately 4 miles from the unincorporated community of Buttonwillow (pop. 1443), also being located within within section 12 of Township 30 South, Range 22 East, sections 7, 8, 17, 18, 22, 25, 26, 27, 35 and 36 of Township 30 South, Range 23 East, and section 31 Township 30 South, Range 24 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM), County of Kern, State of California.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project is a Conditional Use Permit for a 5,332.34 acre carbon capture and sequestration field, associated Class VI geologic sequestration injection wells and related improvements for storage of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂). The project, Carbon TerraVault 1 (CTV 1), is a wholly

owned subsidiary of California Resources Corporation, the applicant for the project. The project comprises the following area:

Table 1: Project Assessor Parcel Numbers, Existing General Plan Designation, Existing Zoning Classification, Proposed Zone Classification, Acreage

APN	Map No.	Zoning	GP Designation	Sec/T/R	Acreage	Ag. Preserve
157-060-02 PTN	118	A (Exclusive Agriculture)	8.4 Mineral and Petroleum	12/ 30 S/R 22 E	159.50	Ag. Preserve 3 Inclusion: Yes
158-040-07	119	A (Exclusive Agriculture)	8.3 Extensive Agriculture; 8.3/2.1 Extensive Agriculture and Seismic Hazard	7/ 30 S/R 23 E	42.95	Ag. Preserve 3 Inclusion: Yes
158-040-06	119	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)	8.4 Mineral and Petroleum	8/30 S/R 23 E	641.20	
158-070-02	119	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)	8.3 Extensive Agriculture	17/ 30 S/R 23 E	156.44	
158-070-03 PTN	119	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)	8.4 Mineral and Petroleum	17/ 30 S/R 23 E	154.38	
158-070-01 PTN	119	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)	8.4 Mineral and Petroleum	18/ 30 S/R 23 E	319.06	
158-080-06 PTN	119	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)	8.4 Mineral and Petroleum	22/ 30 S/R 23 E	160.89	
158-090-03 PTN	119	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)	8.3 Extensive Agriculture	25/ 30 S/R 23 E	340.82	

158-090-02	119	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)	8.4 Mineral and Petroleum	26/ 30 S/R 23 E	637.78	
158-090-01	119	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)	8.4 Mineral and Petroleum	27/ 30 S/R 23 E	637.54	
158-090-19	119	A (Exclusive Agriculture)	8.4 Mineral and Petroleum; 8.3/2.1 Extensive Agriculture & Seismic Hazard	35/ 30 S/R 23 E	637.89	Ag. Preserve 3 Inclusion: Yes
158-090-04	119	A (Exclusive Agriculture)	8.4 Mineral and Petroleum	36/ 30 S/R 23 E	683.74	Ag. Preserve 3 Inclusion: Yes
159-280-07 PTN	120	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)	8.4 Mineral and Petroleum; 8.4/2.4 Extensive Agriculture/ Steep Slope	31/ 30 S/R 24 E	160.15	
Total Acres					5,332.34	

The proposed project site is located within the Elk Hills Oil Field which comprises approximately 75 square miles (47,800-acre) complex with surface and mineral rights privately held by CRC in the San Joaquin Valley of unincorporated Kern County. The surrounding area is comprised of agricultural fields, both active and fallow, and other existing oilfields. They include the Midway – Sunset Oil Field, McKittrick Oilfield and Cymric Oil Field. Skyline Road is closed to public entry and is the southern boundary of the project. Skyline Road connects to Elk Hills Road, which connects the town of Taft, to the south, with Buttonwillow to the north. California Resource Corporation’s gated and guarded entrance to the field is located at the western intersection of Skyline Drive and Elk Hills Road.

The proposed project would take local industrial sources of CO₂ that are transported by a combination of truck, pipeline and/or rail to the dedicated Class VI injection wells for the project. Potential sources and locations of sources will be specifically identified and analyzed to the extent legally required by CEQA in the Draft EIR. The CO₂ would then be injected into identified geographically confined reservoirs for storage in perpetuity. This area has been identified as a location suitable for such storage and a potential to provide a contribution to the goals of California for carbon neutrality by 2045 by reducing industrial uses to no net contribution and potentially supporting direct removal of CO₂ from the air. California executive order B-55-18 mandates that the state achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 and maintain net negative emissions thereafter (<https://livermorelabfoundation.org/2019/12/19/getting-to-neutral/>). The project, as proposed, has the capacity for up to 48 million metric tons of estimated storage and capable of sequestering over 1.5 million metric tons of CO₂ per year.

Implementation of the project would require permits from the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for four (4) to six (6) Class VI injection wells in compliance with the UIC program Class VI geologic

sequestration regulations. Location of the proposed Class VI injection wells will be within the proposed CUP boundary of 5,332.34 acres. All employee facilities needed to manage the project will be provided by the existing Elk Hills oil field facilities.

Implementation of the project as proposed includes the following requests:

- Zone Change Case (ZCC No. 5, Map No. 118; ZCC No. 5, Map No. 119; ZCC No 4, Map No. 120); : From A-1 (Limited Agriculture) to A (Exclusive Agriculture) on approximately 3,208 acres; and
- Issuance of three (3) Conditional Use Permits (CUP No. 13, Map No. 118; CUP No. 5, Map 119; CUP No. 3, Map No. 120) to allow for the construction and operation of a 5,332.34-acre carbon capture and sequestration field and accessory infrastructure with a CO₂ storage capacity of 48 million metric tons, within the A (Exclusive Agriculture) Zone District. Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS) has been determined to be a storage operation and not a manufacturing operation and under the Kern County Zoning Ordinance, Section 19.08.085. And under the authority of Section 19.06.020. Storage of CCS in either existing formations or tanks is an allowed use with a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in the following districts:
 - A District (Exclusive Agriculture)
 - M-2 District (Medium Industrial)
 - M-3 (Heavy Industrial)

Documents can be viewed online at: <https://kernplanning.com/planning/notices-of-preparation/>

Signature:
Name:



Cindi Hoover, Supervising Planner

Carbon TerraVault1
ZCC 5, Map 119; CUP 5, Map 119

City of Arvin
P.O. Box 548
Arvin, CA 93203

Bakersfield City Planning Dept
1715 Chester Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Bakersfield City Public Works Dept
1501 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

California City Planning Dept
21000 Hacienda Blvd.
California City, CA 93515

Delano City Planning Dept
P.O. Box 3010
Delano, CA 93216

City of Maricopa
P.O. Box 548
Maricopa, CA 93252

City of McFarland
401 West Kern Avenue
McFarland, CA 93250

City of Ridgecrest
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

City of Shafter
336 Pacific Avenue
Shafter, CA 93263

City of Taft
Planning & Building
209 East Kern Street
Taft, CA 93268

City of Tehachapi
Attn: John Schlosser
115 South Robinson Street
Tehachapi, CA 93561-1722

City of Wasco
764 E Street
Wasco, CA 93280

Los Angeles Co Reg Planning Dept
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Bernardino Co Planning Dept
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 1st Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0182

Inyo County Planning Dept
P.O. Drawer "L"
Independence, CA 93526

Santa Barbara Co Resource Mgt Dept
123 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Tulare County Planning & Dev Dept
5961 South Mooney Boulevard
Visalia, CA 93291

Kings County Planning Agency
1400 West Lacey Blvd, Bldg 6
Hanford, CA 93230

U.S. Bureau of Land Management
Caliente/Bakersfield
3801 Pegasus Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93308-6837

Federal Aviation Administration
Western Reg Office/
777 South Aviation Boulevard
Suite 150
El Segundo, CA 90245

San Luis Obispo Co Planning Dept
Planning and Building
976 Osos Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Ecological Services
2800 Cottage Way #W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

North West Kern Resource Cons Dist
5080 California Avenue, Suite 150
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Ventura County RMA Planning Div
800 South Victoria Avenue, L1740
Ventura, CA 93009-1740

U.S. Dept of Agriculture/NRCS
5080 California Avenue, Ste 150
Bakersfield, CA 93309-0711

California Air Resources Board
Stationary Resource Division
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

Federal Communications Comm
18000 Studebaker Road, #660
Cerritos, CA 90701

California Dept of Conservation
Geologic Energy Management Division
801 K Street, MS 20-20, Sacramento,
CA 95814

California Natural Resources Agency
Secretary Wade Crowfoot
715 P Street 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Air Resources Board
Industrial Strategic Division
Matthew Bohill, Chief
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

Caltrans/Dist 6
Planning/Land Bank Bldg.
P.O. Box 12616
Fresno, CA 93778

Caltrans/
Division of Aeronautics, MS #40
P.O. Box 942873
Sacramento, CA 94273-0001

Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX Office
75 Hawthorn Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

California Dept of Conservation
Geologic Energy Management Division
4800 Stockdale Highway, Ste 108
Bakersfield, CA 93309

California State University
Bakersfield - Library
9001 Stockdale Highway
Bakersfield, CA 93309

So. San Joaquin Valley Arch Info Ctr
California State University of Bkfd
9001 Stockdale Highway
Bakersfield, CA 93311

California Fish & Wildlife
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710

California Regional Water Quality
Control Board/Central Valley Region
1685 E Street
Fresno, CA 93706-2020

California Dept of Conservation
Director's Office
801 "K" Street, MS 24-01
Sacramento, CA 95814-3528

California Energy Commission
Attn: Commissioner Douglas
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Public Utilities Commission
Attn: President Alice Reynolds
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cal Environmental Protection Agency/
Dept of Toxic Substances Control, Reg 1
Attn: Dave Kerezais, Permit Div - CEQA
8800 Cal Center Drive, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95826

California Dept of Water Resources
San Joaquin Dist.
3374 East Shields Avenue, Room A-7
Fresno, CA 93726

California State Geological Survey
Attn: Steve Bohlan
801 K Street MS 12-30, 801 K St MS 12-
30, Sacramento, CA 95814

California Dept of Toxic Substance Control
Environmental Protection Agency
1515 Tollhouse Road
Clovis, CA 93612

California Dept of Water Resources
Div. Land & Right-of-Way
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Kern County Public Works Department/
Building & Development/Development
Review

Kern County Airports Department

Kern County Public Works Department/
Building & Development/Floodplain

Kern County Public Works Department/
Building & Development/Survey

Kern County
Env Health Services Department

Kern County Fire Dept
Aaron Duncan, Fire Chief

Kern County Sheriff's Dept
Administration

Kern County Library/Beale
Local History Room

Kern County Library/Beale
Andie Sullivan

Kern County Fire Dept
Kain Linville, Fire Marshall

Kern County Public Works
Department/Operations &
Maintenance/Regulatory Monitoring &
Reporting

Kern County Library
Buttonwillow Branch
116 Buttonwillow Avenue
Buttonwillow, CA 93206

Kern County Library
Taft Branch
27 Emmons Park Drive
Taft, CA 93268

Buttonwillow Union School Dist
42600 Highway 58
Buttonwillow, CA 93206

Taft Union High School Dist
701 - 7th Street
Taft, CA 93268

McKittrick School Dist
P.O. Box 277
McKittrick, CA 93251

Kern County Superintendent of Schools
Attention School District Facility Services
1300 - 17th Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Elk Hills School Dist
P.O. Box 129
Tupman, CA 93276

Kern High School Dist
5801 Sundale Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93309

West Side Rec & Parks Dist
P.O. Box 1406
Taft, CA 93268

Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Dist
P.O. Box 20820
Bakersfield, CA 93390-0820

Kern County Water Agency
P.O. Box 58
Bakersfield, CA 93302-0058

West Side Mosquito
Abatement Dist.
P.O. Box 205
Taft, CA 93268

Buttonwillow Rec & Parks Dist
P.O. Box 434
Buttonwillow, CA 93206-9320

San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution Control District
1990 East Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726

Center on Race, Poverty
& the Environment
Attn: Marissa Alexander
1999 Harrison Street – Suite 650
San Francisco, CA 94612

Buttonwillow County Water Dist
P.O. Box 874
Buttonwillow, CA 93206

Kern Audubon Society
Attn: Frank Bedard, Chairman
4124 Chardonnay Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93306

Native American Heritage Council
of Kern County
3401 Aslin Street
Bakersfield, CA 93312

Center on Race, Poverty
& the Environmental/
CA Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
1012 Jefferson Street
Delano, CA 93215

Defenders of Wildlife
980 - 9th Street, Suite 1730
Sacramento, CA 95814

Southern California Gas Co
35118 McMurtrey Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93308-9477

Pacific Gas & Electric Co
Land Projects
650 "O" Street, First Floor
Fresno, CA 93760-0001

Sierra Club/Kern Kaweah Chapter
P.O. Box 3357
Bakersfield, CA 93385

Verizon California, Inc.
Attention Engineering Department
520 South China Lake Boulevard
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Southern California Gas Co
Transportation Dept
9400 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91313-6511

Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Attn: Michael Mirelez, Cultural
Resources Coordinator
P.O. Box 1160
Thermal, CA 92274

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Attn: , Cultural Resources Analyst
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA 92346

Tejon Indian Tribe
Kathy Morgan, Chairperson
1731 Hasti-acres Drive, Suite 108
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission
Indians
Attn: Anthony Madrigal Jr., Tribal Grants
Administrator
46-200 Harrison Place
Coachella, CA 92236

Tejon Indian Tribe
Attn: Collin Rambo, Cultural Resource
Management Technician
1731 Hasti Acres Dr., Suite 108
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission
Indians
Attn: Darrell Mike, Tribal Chairman
46-200 Harrison Place
Coachella, CA 92236

LIUNA
Attn: Danny Zaragoza
2201 "H" Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Lozeau Drury LLP
1939 Harrison Street, Suite 150
Oakland, CA 94612

Adams, Broadwell, Joseph & Cardozo
Attention: Janet M. Laurain
601 Gateway Boulevard, Suite 1000
South San Francisco, CA 94080

JB Energy Partners
Andrew Bremner
P.O. Box 82515
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Livermore Lab Foundation
c/o UC Office of Institutional
Advancement
1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, CA 94607

WZI, Inc.
1717 - 28th Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301

QK Inc,
Chris Mynk
5080 California Ave. Suite 220
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Chevron, USA
9525 Camino Media
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Stanford University
Energy Resources Engineering
Center of Carbon Storage
367 Panama Street
Stanford, CA 94305

Aera
Attn: Cindy Pollard
10000 Ming Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Exxon/Mobil Production Company
Attn: Troy Tranquada
12000 Calle Real
Goleta, CA 93117

CIPA
Attn: Trent Rosenlibe
1200 Discovery Drive, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93309

LINN Energy, LLC
5201 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Hathaway, LLC
Attn: Chad Hathaway
P.O. Box 81385
Bakersfield, CA 93380

IOPA
Attn: Les Clark
4520 California Avenue, Suite 230
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Halliburton
Attn: Steve Pruett
34722 Seventh Standard Road
Bakersfield, CA 93314

Macpherson Oil Company
P.O. Box 5368
Bakersfield, CA 93388

WSPA
Attn: Suzanne Noble
1518 Mill Rock Way, Suite 103
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Seneca Resources Corporation
2131 Mars Court
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Venoco, Inc.
Attn: Ian Livett
6267 Carpentaria Avenue, Suite 100
Carpentaria, CA 93013

Kern Oil and Refining
7724 East Panama Lane
Bakersfield, CA 93307

Naftex Operating Company
P.O. Box 308
Edison, CA 93220

Mt Poso CoGen Company, LLC
100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 800
Santa Maria, CA 90401

E&B Natural Resources Management
1600 Norris Road
Bakersfield, CA 93309

San Joaquin Refining
3129 Standard Street
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Tricor Refining, LLC
1134 Manor Street
Bakersfield, CA 93308

GE Energy
13000 Jameson Road
Tehachapi, CA 93561

Ensign
7001 Charity Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Key Energy Services, Inc.
5080 California Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Hess Corporation
1675 Chester Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

PCL Industrial Services
1500 Union Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93307

PLCL Plus Int'l, Inc.
12418-B Rosedale Highway
Bakersfield, CA 93312

Vintage Production California
9600 Ming Avenue, Suite 300
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Sturgeon Services Int'l
3511 Gilmore Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Sturgeon Services Int'l
3511 Gilmore Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Kern Citizens for Energy
5001 California Avenue, Suite 211
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Weatherford Completions
Attn: Gregg Hurst
5060 California Avenue, Suite 1150
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Total Western
2811 Fruitvale Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Baker Hughes
3901 Fanucchi Way
Shafter, CA 93263

Schlumberger Oilfield Services
2157 Mohawk Street
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Nabors Completion & Production
3651 Pegasus Drive, Suite 101
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Golden Gate University School of Law
Environmental Law and Justice Clinic,
Attn: Lucas Williams, Susann Bradford
536 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Center for Biological Diversity
Ann K. Brown
Open Government Coordinator
P.O. Box 11374
Portland, OR 97211-0974

California State University Bakersfield
Dr. Lynette Zelezny, Ph.D., M.B.A.
President
Mail Stop: 33BCD
9001 Stockdale Highway
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Kern Economic Development Corp
Richard Chapman, President & CEO
2700 M Street, Suite 200,
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dolores Huerta Foundation
Dolores Huerta, President
P.O. Box 2087
Bakersfield, CA 93303

Dolores Huerta Foundation
Camila Chavez, Executive Director
P.O. Box 2087
Bakersfield, CA 93303

Kern Community College District
Dr. Sonya Christian, Chancellor
2100 Chester Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Kern Community College District
Bonita Steele, Ed. D
Director, Programs and Program
Development
2100 Chester Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

City of Bakersfield
Mayor Karen Goh
Office of the Mayor
1501 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Governor's Office of Business and
Economic Development
Dee Dee Myers, Senior Advisor & Director
1325 J Street, 18th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Natural Resources Agency
Wade Crowfoot, Secretary for Natural
Resources
715 P Street, 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Workforce Development Board
Tim Rainey, Executive Director
800 Capitol Mall, Suite 1022
Sacramento, CA 95814

California State Senate
Senator Melissa Hurtado, 14th District
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Large Scale Solar Association
Shannon Eddy, Executive Director
2501 Portola Way
Sacramento, CA 95818

Kern County Farm Bureau
Patty Poire, Board President
1800 30th Street, Suite 390
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Kern County Farm Bureau
Romeo Agbalog, Executive Director
1800 30th Street, Suite 390
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Employers' Training Resource
Teresa Hitchcock, Assistant CAO
1600 East Belle Terrace
Bakersfield, CA 93307

Greater Bakersfield Chamber of
Commerce
Nick Ortiz, President & CEO
1725 Eye Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301

International Brotherhood of Electrical
Workers
Brian Holt, Business Manager/Financial
Secretary
3921 Sillect Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Tejon Indian Tribe
Octavio Escobedo, Tribal Chair
P.O. Box 640
Arvin, CA 93203

Building Trades Council
Kern, Inyo, & Mono Counties, AFL-CIO
John Spaulding, Executive Secretary
200 West Jeffrey Street
Bakersfield, CA 93305-2434

Public Policy Institute of California
PPIC Water Policy Center
Ellen Hanak, Vice President, Senior
Fellow, and Director
500 Washington Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94111

Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP, Director
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2323
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Fax: (661) 862-8601 TTY Relay 1-800-735-2929
Email: planning@kerncounty.com
Web Address: <http://kernplanning.com/>



**PLANNING AND NATURAL
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Planning
Community Development
Administrative Operations

DATE: March 4, 2022

TO: Surrounding Property Owners within
1,000 Feet of Project Boundary; and,
Interested Parties

FROM: Kern County Planning and Natural
Resources Department
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301

**SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report – Carbon TerraVault 1 by
California Resources Corporation (PP22405)**

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department has determined that preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is necessary for the proposed project identified below. The purpose of this letter is to notify interested parties and surrounding property owners within 1,000 feet of the project boundaries of this determination. A copy of the Initial Study/Notice of Preparation (IS/NOP) prepared for this proposed project is available for viewing at the following Kern County website:

<https://kernplanning.com/planning/notices-of-preparation/>

The purpose of the IS/NOP is to describe the proposed project, specify the project location, and to identify the potential environmental impacts of the project so that Responsible Agencies and interested persons can provide a meaningful response related to potential environmental concerns that should be analyzed in the Environmental Impact Report.

You are invited to view the NOP and submit written comments regarding the scope and content of the environmental information in connection with the proposed project should you wish to do so. Due to the limits mandated by State law, your response must be received by **April 4, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** Comments can be submitted to the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department at the address shown above or to hooverc@kerncounty.com. A Scoping meeting will be held on **Friday, March 18, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.**, at the address listed above.

Please be advised that any comments received after the dates listed above will still be included in the public record for this project and made available to decision makers when this project is scheduled for consideration at a public hearing. Please also be advised that you will receive an additional notice in the mail once a public hearing date is scheduled for this project. You will also be provided additional opportunities to submit comments at that time.

PROJECT TITLE: Carbon TerraVault 1 (CTV 1) by California Resources Corporation (PP22405);
PLN21-01378: ZCC No. 5, Map No. 119; CUP No. 5, Map No. 119

PROJECT LOCATION: Central Valley portion of unincorporated Kern County, west side of Elk Hills Road and north side of Skyline Road, within the Elk Hills Oil Field, approximately 26 miles from the City of Bakersfield, approximately 8.5 miles from the City of Taft, and approximately 4 miles from the unincorporated community of Buttonwillow, also being located within sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 17,

18, and 26 of Township 30 South, Range 23 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM), County of Kern, State of California.

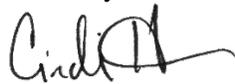
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project is a Conditional Use Permit for a 5,745.44 acre carbon capture and sequestration field, associated Class VI geologic sequestration injection wells, and related improvements for storage of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂). The project, Carbon TerraVault 1 (CTV 1), is a wholly owned subsidiary of California Resources Corporation, the applicant for the project.

Implementation of the project as proposed includes the following requests:

- a) Zone Change Case # 5, Map 119: From A-1 (Limited Agriculture) to A (Exclusive Agriculture) on approximately 4,465 acres; and
- b) Issuance of Conditional Use Permit #5, Map 119 to allow for the construction and operation of a 5,745.44-acre carbon capture and sequestration field and accessory infrastructure with a CO₂ storage capacity of 48 million metric tons, within the A (Exclusive Agriculture) Zone District. Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS) has been determined to be a storage operation under the Kern County Zoning Ordinance, Section 19.08.085 and Section 19.06.020. Therefore, CCS in either existing formations or tanks is an allowed use with a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in the following districts:
 - o A District (Exclusive Agriculture)
 - o M-2 District (Medium Industrial)
 - o M-3 (Heavy Industrial)

Should you have any questions regarding this project, or the Initial Study/Notice of Preparation, please feel free to contact me at (661) 862-8629 or hooverc@kerncounty.com

Sincerely,



Cindi Hoover, Supervising Planner
Advanced Planning Division

Attachments: Figure 2 – Local Vicinity Map

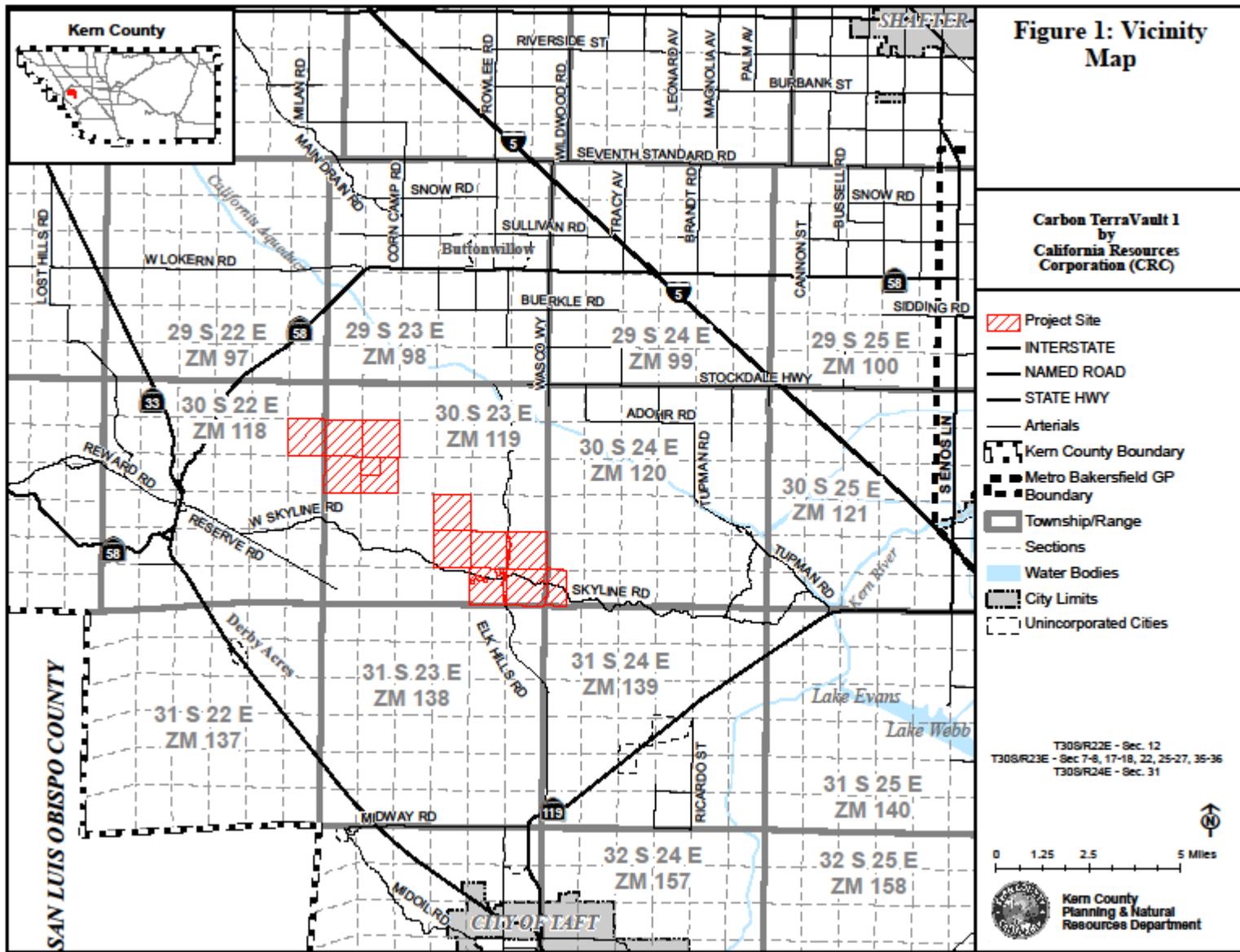


Figure 1: Regional Vicinity Map
Carbon TerraVault 1 Project

Carbon TerraVault1
ZCC 5, Map 119; CUP 5, Map 119
APN Labels

158 080 09 00 1
CALIFORNIA RESOURCES ELK
272000 TOURNEY RD STE 200
SANTA CLARITA CA 91355-4910

157 060 02 00 7
CALIFORNIA RESOURCES ELK
HILLS LLC
27200 TOURNEY RD STE 200
SANTA CLARITA CA 91355-4910

158 010 06 00 1
CENTER FOR NATURAL LANDS
MANAGEMENT
27258 VIA INDUSTRIA # B
TEMECULA CA 92590-3751

157 010 02 00 2
CHEVRON USA INC
P O BOX 1392
BAKERSFIELD CA 93302-1392

158 040 07 00 3
CHEVRON USA INC
PO BOX 1392
BAKERSFIELD CA 93302-1392

158 090 16 00 4
ELK HILLS POWER LLC
PO BOX 27570
HOUSTON TX 77227-7570

158 010 07 00 4
GARRARD MELODY
PO BOX 4456
PALM SPRINGS CA 92263-4456

158 010 05 00 8
MILLER MELVIN E & JACQULYN
TRS
2872 STANBRIDGE AV
LONG BEACH CA 90815-1059

158 010 23 00 0
BALDERAS REV TR
18053 ERWIN ST
ENCINO CA 91316-7116

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P. O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH # _____

Project Title: Carbon TerraVault 1 by California Resources Corporation (CRC)

Lead Agency: Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department Contact Person: Cindi Hoover

Mailing Address: 2700 "M" Street Suite 100 Phone: (661) 862-8629

City: Bakersfield Zip: 93301 County: Kern

Project Location: County: Kern City/Nearest Community: City of Taft, Community of Buttonwillow

Cross Streets: Skyline Road and Elk Hills Road Zip Code: 93251

Lat. / Long.: 35° 19.51567' N, 119° 31.11937' W Total Acres: 5,745.44

Assessor's Parcel No.: Multi Section: Multi Twp.: 30 S Range: 23 E Base: MDB&M

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: 58 W Waterways: California Aqueduct

Airports: Elk Hills – Buttonwillow Airport Railways: N/A Schools: N/A

Document Type:

- | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|--|-------|------------------------------------|--------|---|
| CEQA: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOP | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft EIR | NEPA: | <input type="checkbox"/> NOI | Other: | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Document |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Early Cons | <input type="checkbox"/> Supplement/Subsequent EIR | | <input type="checkbox"/> EA | | <input type="checkbox"/> Final Document |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Neg Dec | (Prior SCH No.) _____ | | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft EIS | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Mit Neg Dec | Other _____ | | <input type="checkbox"/> FONSI | | |

Local Action Type:

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Update | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rezone | <input type="checkbox"/> Annexation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Amendment | <input type="checkbox"/> Master Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Prezone | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Element | <input type="checkbox"/> Planned Unit Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use Permit | <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Permit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Site Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Development Type:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential: Units _____ Acres _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Facilities: Type _____ MGD _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation: Type _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Mining: Mineral _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Power: Type _____ MW _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste: Type _____ |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Carbon Capture and Sequestration |

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetic/Visual | <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation/Parks | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vegetation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Land | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood Plain/Flooding | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools/Universities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Land/Fire Hazard | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Septic Systems | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Supply/Groundwater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archeological/Historical | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geologic/Seismic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sewer Capacity | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetland/Riparian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minerals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildlife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Zone | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Growth Inducing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drainage/Absorption | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing Balance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic/Hazardous | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic/Jobs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Services/Facilities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Circulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cumulative Effects |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>GHG, Wildfire, Tribal Cultural Resources, Energy</u> | | | |

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation: Oil and Gas Exploration and Production/Zoning: A (Exclusive Agriculture); A-1 (Limited Agriculture)/General Plan: 8.3 (extensive Agriculture); 8.3/2.1 (Extensive Agriculture & Seismic Hazard); 8.4 (Mineral and Petroleum)

Project Description: The Carbon TerraVault 1 Project, as proposed by California Resources Corporation would develop an approximate 5,745 acre carbon capture and sequestration field, associated Class VI geologic sequestration injection wells, and related improvements for storage of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂). The proposed project would take local industrial sources of CO₂ that are transported by a combination of truck, pipeline and/or rail to the dedicated Class VI injection wells for the project. Potential sources and locations of sources will be specifically identified and analyzed to the extent legally required by CEQA in the Draft EIR. The CO₂ would then be injected into identified geographically confined reservoirs for storage in perpetuity. This area has been identified as a location suitable for such storage and a potential to provide a contribution to the goals of California for carbon neutrality by 2045 by reducing industrial uses to no net contribution and potentially supporting direct removal of CO₂ from the air. California executive order B-55-18 mandates that the state achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 and maintain net negative emissions thereafter. The project, as proposed, has the capacity for up to 40 million metric tons of estimated storage and capable of sequestering over 1 million metric tons of CO₂ per year.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Emergency Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CalFire | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # <u>6</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning (Headquarters) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # <u>Central</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers and Mtns Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region # <u>Fresno</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Waste Management Board | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission | |

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date March 4, 2022 Ending Date April 4, 2022

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: _____	Applicant: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____	City/State/Zip: _____
Contact: _____	Phone: _____
Phone: _____	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: _____ /s/ _____ **Date:** 03/04/2022
Cindi Hoover, Supervising Planner

NOTICE OF PREPARATION/INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

Carbon TerraVault 1 Project by California Resources Corporation

Zone Classification Change No. 5, Map No. 118
Zone Classification Change No. 5, Map No. 119
Zone Classification Change No. 4, Map No. 120
Conditional Use Permit No. 13, Map No. 118
Conditional Use Permit No. 5, Map No. 119
Conditional Use Permit No. 3, Map No. 120

PLN21-01378
(PP22405)

LEAD AGENCY:



Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2370

Contact: Cindi Hoover
(661) 862-8629
hooverc@kerncounty.com

March 2022

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INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department (County) will initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Carbon TerraVault 1 Carbon Capture and Sequestration Project in the unincorporated area of western Kern County, California.

Project Description

Project Location

The proposed Carbon TerraVault 1 Carbon Capture and Sequestration Project (proposed project) is a proposal by Carbon TerraVault 1, LLC (CRC) (project proponent) to construct and operate a carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) field on approximately 5,332 acres of privately owned land. The CCS field would include four to six injection wells and associated infrastructure, capable of storing approximately 48 million metric tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) within identified geographically confined reservoirs.

The project site is located in the Central Valley portion of unincorporated Kern County, on the west side of Elk Hills Road and the north side of Skyline Road, within the administrative boundary of the Elk Hills Oil Field, approximately 26 miles from the City of Bakersfield (pop. 413,098), approximately 8.5 miles from the City of Taft (pop. 8945), and approximately 4 miles from the unincorporated community of Buttonwillow (pop. 1443), also being located within Sections 7,8,9,10,13,15,16,17,18,26 of Township 30 South, Range 23 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM), County of Kern, State of California. Please see *Figure 1: Regional Vicinity Map*.

The project site is made up of ten (10) privately owned parcels totaling approximately 5,332 acres of land, predominately developed with oil and gas production and accessory facilities and infrastructure. Please see *Figure 2: Existing Parcel Map*. The total study area for this project includes the entirety of the confined reservoir proposed for CO₂ sequestration.

Primary access to the project site would be via existing access at the western intersection of Skyline Drive and Elk Hills Road. The access road connects to a network of existing dirt roads within the field, depending on the final locations of the injection wells and accessory facilities and infrastructure new internal access roads may be constructed. These new roads would most likely be compacted dirt roads as well. Please see *Figure 3: Aerial Photograph*.

Environmental Setting

The proposed project is located on approximately 5,332 acres of privately-owned land located in the southwestern extent of Kern County, California. Portions of the project site is located within the boundaries of Agricultural Preserve No. 3, however none of the parcels are currently subject to a Williamson Act Land Use Contract. The project is in the administrative boundary of the Elk Hills Oil Field and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Elk Hills and West Elk Hills 7.5-minute topographical quadrangle. Development in the area surrounding the project site is predominantly oil and gas production and agricultural.



The project site is within the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin, under the regulatory authority of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) delineates flood hazard areas on its Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). According to the FIRMs for the project area, the project site is designated Flood Zone X; which indicates the site is outside of the 0.2% annual chance floodplain.

The project site is not designated by the California Department of Conservation (DOC) as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, or Unique Farmland. The project site is designated *Urban Built-Up Land* and *Vacant or Disturbed Land*. Please see *Figure 4: Important Farmland*. There is land designated as Non-Prime Farmland, which is subject to a Williamson Act land Use Contract, immediately adjacent to the west of the project site. Please see *Figure 5: Williamson Act Land*

The project site is not within a mineral recovery area, however seven parcels are within designated mineral and petroleum resource site designated by the Kern County General Plan. The project site is not located within the County’s NR (Natural Resources) or PE (Petroleum Extraction) Zone Districts. *Table 1: Project Assessor Parcel Numbers, Existing Map Codes, Existing Zoning, and Acreage*, below identifies the individual parcels, their respective assessor parcel numbers (APN), acreages, and existing general plan and zoning designations. Please see *Figure 6: Existing General Plan Designations*, and *Figure 7: Existing Zoning Classifications*.

Table 1: Project Assessor Parcel Numbers, Existing Map Codes, Existing Zoning, and Acreage

APN	Existing Map Code Designation	Existing Zoning	Proposed Zoning	Section/Township / Range	Acres	Agricultural Preserve Inclusion
157-060-02	8.4	A	A	12/30 S/R 22 E	159.50*	Ag Preserve No. 3
158-040-07	8.3/2.1	A	A	7/ 30 S/R 23 E	642.85	Ag Preserve No. 3
158-040-06	8.4	A-1	A	8/30 S/R 23 E	641.20	
158-070-02	8.3	A-1	A	17/30 S/R 23 E	156.44	
158-070-03	8.4	A-1	A	17/ 30 S/R 23 E	154.38*	
158-070-01	8.4	A-1	A	18/ 30 S/R 23 E	319.06*	
158-080-06	8.4	A-1	A	22/ 30 S/R 23 E	160.89*	
158-090-03	8.3	A-1	A	25/ 30 S/R 23 E	340.82*	
158-090-02	8.4	A-1	A	26/ 30 S/R 23 E	637.78	
158-090-01	8.4	A-1	A	27/ 30 S/R 23 E	637.54	
158-090-19	8.4; 8.3/2.1	A	A	35/ 30 S/R 23 E	637.89	Ag. Preserve 3
158-090-04	8.4	A	A	36/ 30 S/R 23 E	683.74	Ag Preserve 3
159-280-07	8.4	A-1	A	31/ 30 S/R 24 E	160.15*	
Project Totals					5,332.34	

* = Represents a portion of total APN acreage.
General Plan Map Code:
 8.3 = Extensive Agriculture (Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size)
 8.4 = Mineral and Petroleum
 2.1 = Seismic Hazard Overlay
 2.4 = Steep Slope Overlay
Zone Designation:
 A = Exclusive Agriculture
 A-1 = Limited Agriculture



Surrounding Land Uses

Table 2, Existing Project Site and Surrounding Properties, Existing Land Use, General Plan Map Code Designations, and Zoning, identifies the existing land use, the existing general plan land use designation, and the existing zoning for each of the two parcels within the project site. Additionally, such conditions are described for adjacent lands to the north, east, south, and west of the project site.

Table 2: Existing Project Sites and Surrounding Properties, Existing Land Use, General Plan Map Code Designations, and Zoning

Location	Existing Land Use	Existing General Plan Map Code Designations	Existing Zoning
Project Site	Oil and Gas Exploration and Production	8.3 (Extensive Agriculture); 8.3/ 2.1 (Extensive Agriculture Seismic Hazard Overlay) 8.4 (Mineral and Petroleum)	A (Exclusive Agriculture) A-1 (Limited Agriculture)
North	Oil and Gas Exploration and Production; Oil and Gas Ancillary Services Undeveloped Private Lands; Elk Hills/Buttonwillow Airport Landing	8.3 (Extensive Agriculture); 8.3/2.1 (Extensive Agriculture and Seismic Hazard); 8.4 (Mineral and Petroleum); 1.1 (State or Federal Land)	A (Exclusive Agriculture); A-1 (Limited Agriculture); PL RS MH (Platted Lands, Residential Suburban Combining, Mobile home Combining); AH (Exclusive Agriculture, Airport Approach Height Combining)
South	Oil and Gas Exploration and Production	8.4 (Mineral and Petroleum)	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)
East	Oil and Gas Exploration and Production	8.3 (Extensive Agriculture); 8.4 (Mineral and Petroleum)	A (Exclusive Agriculture); A-1 (Limited Agriculture); A-1 H (Limited Agriculture, Airport Approach Height Combining)
West	Oil and Gas Exploration and Production	8.3 (Extensive Agriculture); 8.3/2.1 (Extensive Agriculture and Seismic Hazard); 8.4 (Mineral and Petroleum)	A (Exclusive Agriculture)

Existing land use in the vicinity of the project site generally includes oil and gas exploration and production and agricultural lands. The sensitive receptor closest to the project site is the rural residence approximately 1 mile to the south of the project site. Lost Hills Wonderful Park, a local park, is located approximately 14 miles southeast of the project site. The closest schools to the site are the McKittrick Elementary School and the Buttonwillow Elementary School, located approximately 4.5 miles southwest and north, respectively, of the project site. The Elk Hills Elementary is located approximately 6 miles east of the project site.



The proposed project would be served by the Kern County Sheriff's Department for law enforcement and public safety services, with the closest substation being the Taft Area Substation, located at 315 N. Lincoln Street. Fire protection and emergency medical services would be provided by the Kern County Fire Department, with the closest station being Fire Station #25, located at 100 Mirasol Avenue, and Kern County Emergency Medical Services for medical care and emergency services.

The nearest public airport to the project site is the Elk Hills - Buttonwillow Airport located adjacent to the northeast corner of the project. The portion of the project site is located within Zone C of the Elk Hills-Buttonwillow Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP).

Project Description

Project Overview

The proposed project is a Conditional Use Permit for a 5,332.34 acre carbon capture and sequestration field, associated Class VI geologic sequestration injection wells and related improvements for storage of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂). The project, Carbon TerraVault 1 (CTV 1), is a wholly owned subsidiary of California Resources Corporation, the applicant for the project. The project comprises the area shown in *Table 1: Project Assessor Parcel Numbers, Existing Map Codes, Existing Zoning, and Acreage, above.*

The proposed project site is located within the Elk Hills Oil Field which comprises an approximately 75- square mile (47,800 acre) complex, with surface and mineral rights privately held by CRC, in the San Joaquin Valley of unincorporated Kern County. The surrounding area is comprised of agricultural fields, both active and fallow, and other existing oilfields. They include the Midway – Sunset Oil Field, McKittrick Oilfield and Cymric Oil Field. Skyline Road is closed to public entry and is the southern boundary of the project. Skyline Road connects to Elk Hills Road, which connects the town of Taft, to the south, with Buttonwillow to the north. California Resource Corporation's gated and guarded entrance to the field is located at the western intersection of Skyline Drive and Elk Hills Road

The proposed project would take local industrial sources of CO₂ that are transported by a combination of truck, pipeline and/or rail to the dedicated Class VI injection wells for the project. The CO₂ would then be injected into identified geographically confined reservoirs for storage in perpetuity. This area has been identified as a location suitable for such storage and a potential to provide a contribution to the goals of California for carbon neutrality by 2045 by reducing industrial uses to no net contribution and potentially supporting direct removal of CO₂ from the air. California executive order B-55-18 mandates that the state achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 and maintain net negative emissions thereafter. (<https://livermorelabfoundation.org/2019/12/19/getting-to-neutral/>). The project, as proposed, has the capacity for up to 48 million metric tons of estimated storage and capable of sequestering in excess of 1.5 million metric tons of CO₂ per year.

Implementation of the project would require permits from the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for up to six (6) Class VI injection wells in compliance with the UIC program Class VI geologic sequestration regulations. Location of the proposed Class VI injection wells will be within the proposed CUP boundary of 5,332.34 acres. All employee facilities needed to manage the project will be provided by the existing Elk Hills oil field facilities.

Implementation of the project as proposed includes the following requests:



- Zone Classification Change (ZCC No. 5, Map No. 118; ZCC No. 5, Map No. 119; ZCC No. 4, Map No. 120) from A-1 (limited Agriculture) Zone District to A (Exclusive Agriculture) Zone District on approximately 3,208 acres. See *Figure 8: Proposed Zoning Classification*
- Conditional Use Permit (CUP No. 13, Map No. 118; CUP No. 5, Map No. 119; CUP No. 3, Map No. 120) to allow for the construction and operation of a Carbon capture and sequestration field, within the A (Exclusive Agriculture) Zone District. Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS) has been determined to be a storage operation under the Kern County Zoning Ordinance, Section 19.08.085 and Section 19.06.020. Therefore, CCS in either existing formations or tanks is an allowed use with a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in the following districts:
 - A District (Exclusive Agriculture)
 - M-2 District (Medium Industrial)
 - M-3 (Heavy Industrial)

Project Objectives

The project proponent had defined the following objectives for the project:

- Construct and operate a permanent underground storage facility for up to 48 million tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) in an economically feasible manner.
- Contribute to California Resources Corporation (CRC) adopted goals of Full-Scope Net Zero emission for Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions by 2045.
- Support California’s Executive Order B-55-18 for Carbon neutrality by 2045 and net negative emissions thereafter.
- Site and design the project in an environmentally responsible manner consistent with current Kern County guidelines.
- To promote economic development and bring living-wage jobs to the region throughout the life of the proposed project.

Proposed Discretionary Actions/Required Approvals

The Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department as the Lead Agency (per CEQA Guidelines Section 15052) for the proposed project has discretionary responsibility for the proposed project. To implement this project, the project proponent may need to obtain discretionary and ministerial permits/approvals including, but not limited to, the following:

Federal

- Environmental Protection Agency Underground Injection Control – Class VI Permit
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Section 10 Incidental Take Permit and Habitat Conservation Plan (if required)
- United States Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit (if required)



State

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
 - Section 2081 Permit (State-listed endangered species) (if required)
- Central Valley Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
 - Waste Discharge Requirements
 - Regional Water Quality Certification (401 Permit) (if required)
 - National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit
 - General Construction Stormwater Permit (Preparation of a SWPPP) (if required)
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
 - Right-of-Way Encroachment Permit (if required)
 - Permit for Transport of Oversized Loads (if required)

Local

- **Kern County**
 - Certification of Final Environmental Impact Report
 - Adoption of Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
 - Adoption of 15091 Findings of Fact and 15093 Statement of Overriding Considerations
 - Approval of Zone Classification Change
 - Approval of Conditional Use Permits
 - Approval of Kern County Grading (if required)
 - Approval of Kern County Building Permits
 - Approval of Kern County Encroachment Permits (if required)
 - Approval of Fire Safety Plan
- **San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District**
 - Approval of Fugitive Dust Control Plan
 - Authority to Construct (ATC)
 - Permit to Operate (PTO)

The preceding discretionary actions/approvals are potentially required and do not necessarily represent a comprehensive list of all possible discretionary permits/approvals required. Other additional permits or



approvals from responsible agencies may be required for the proposed project.

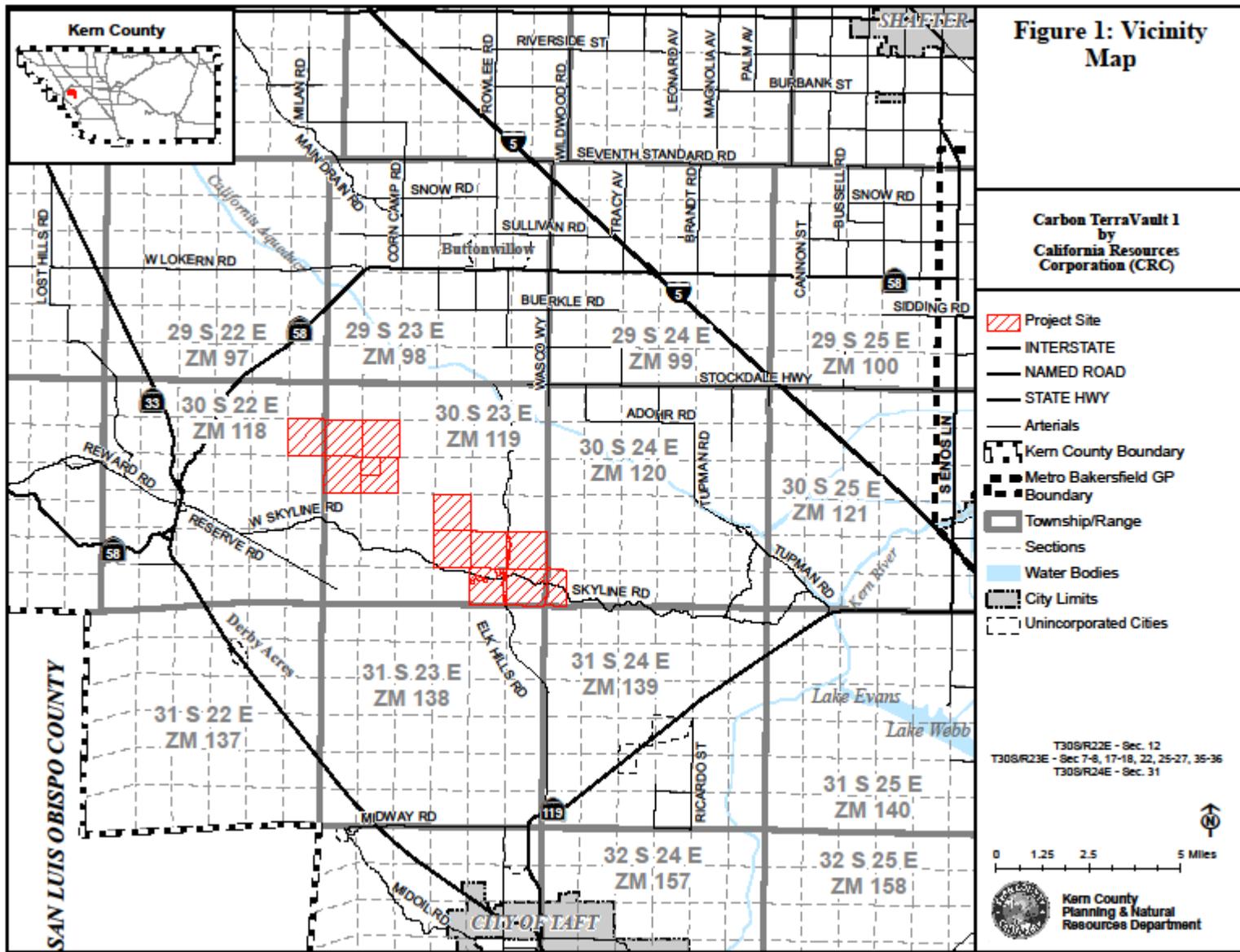


Figure 1: Regional Vicinity Map
Carbon TerraVault 1 Project

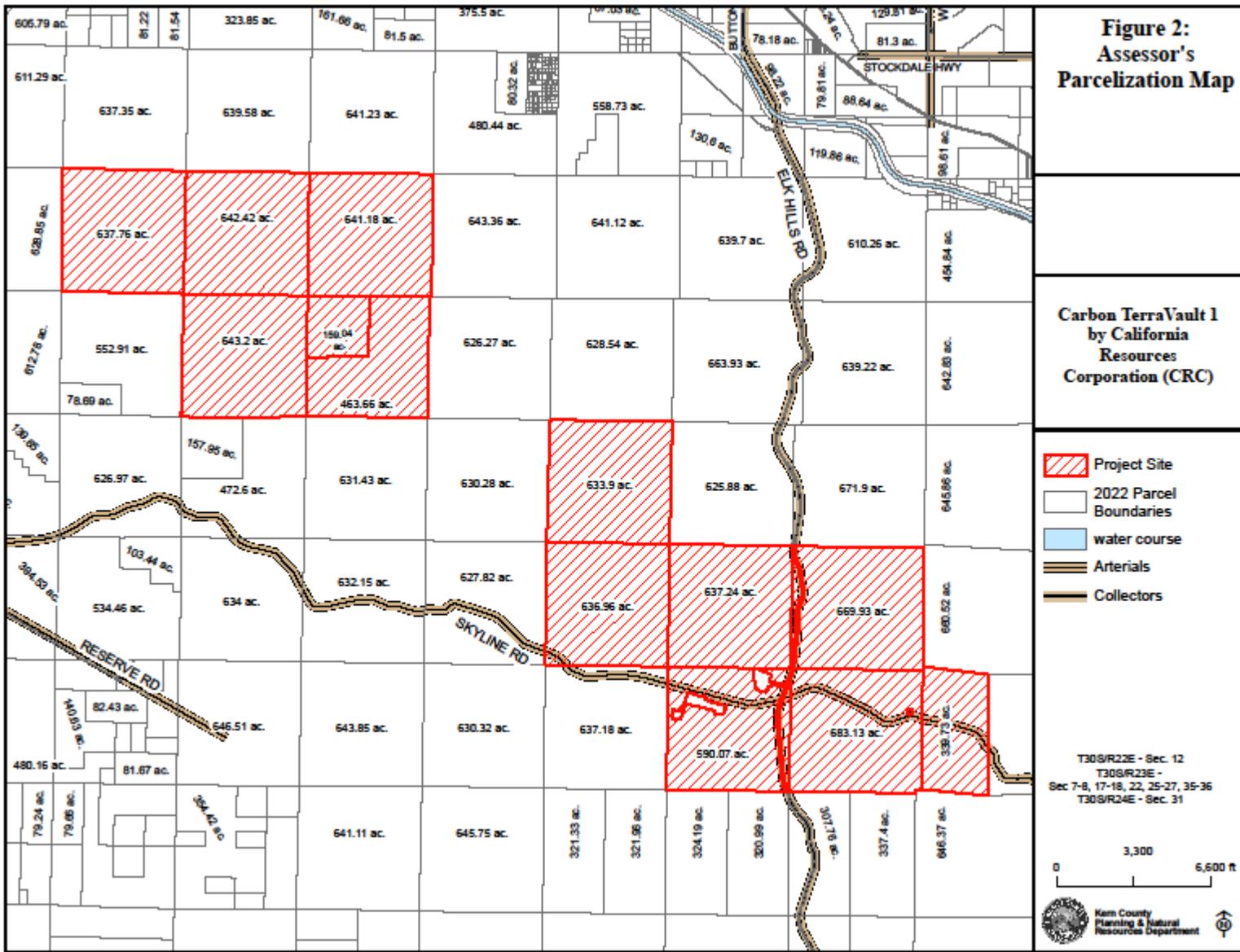


Figure 2: Existing Parcel Map
Carbon TerraVault 1 Project

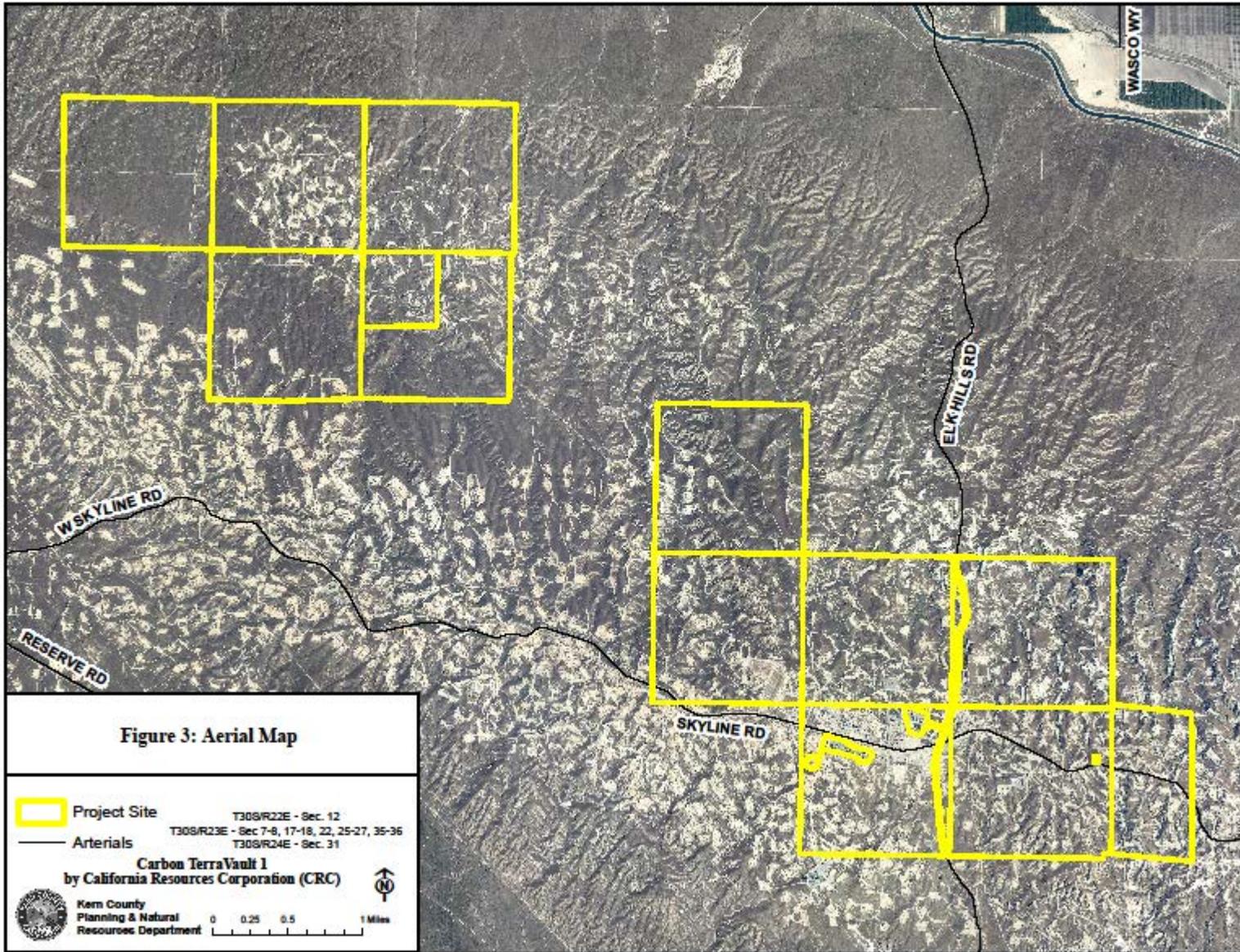


Figure 3: Aerial Map
Carbon TerraVault 1 Project

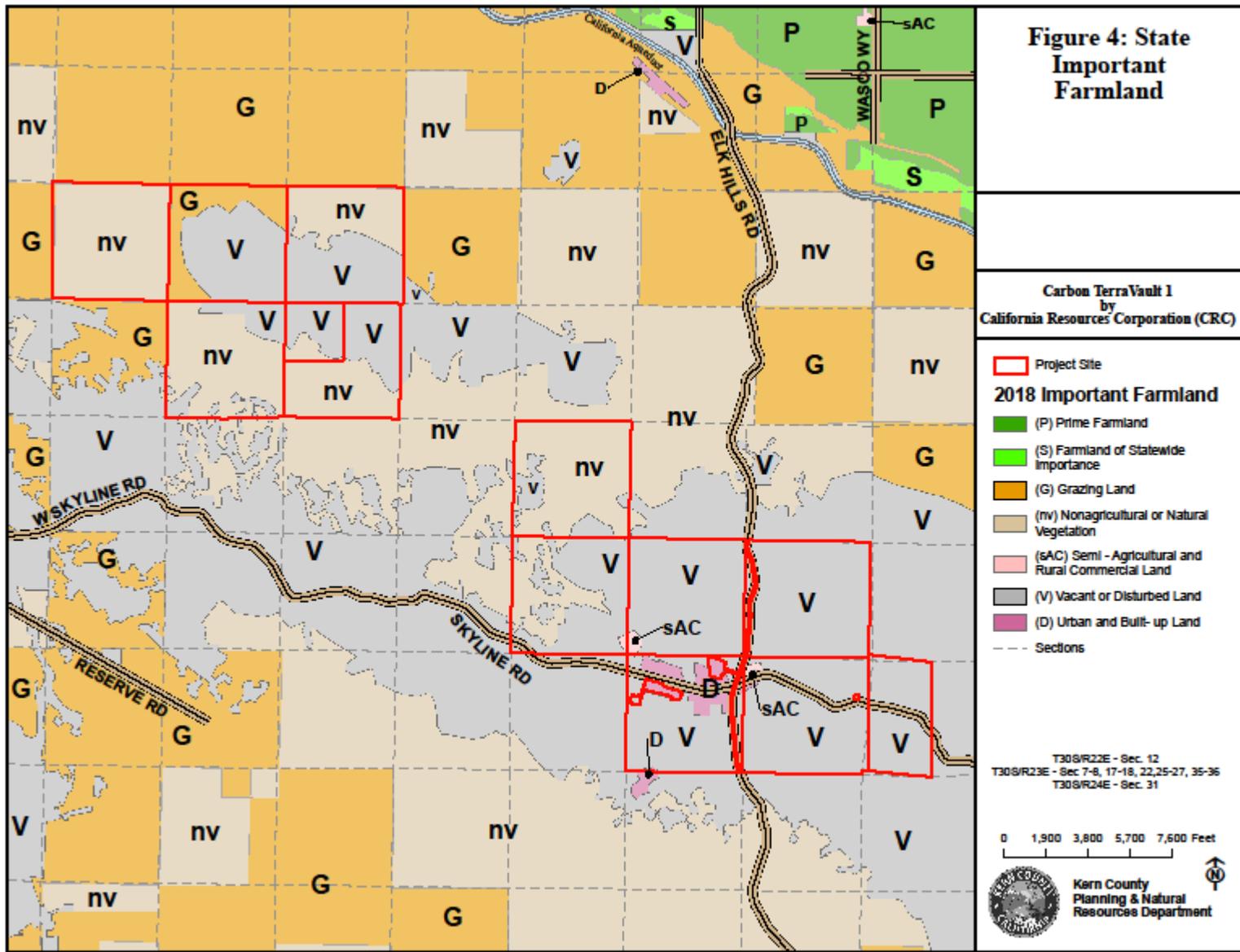


Figure 4: Important Farmland
Carbon TerraVault 1 Project

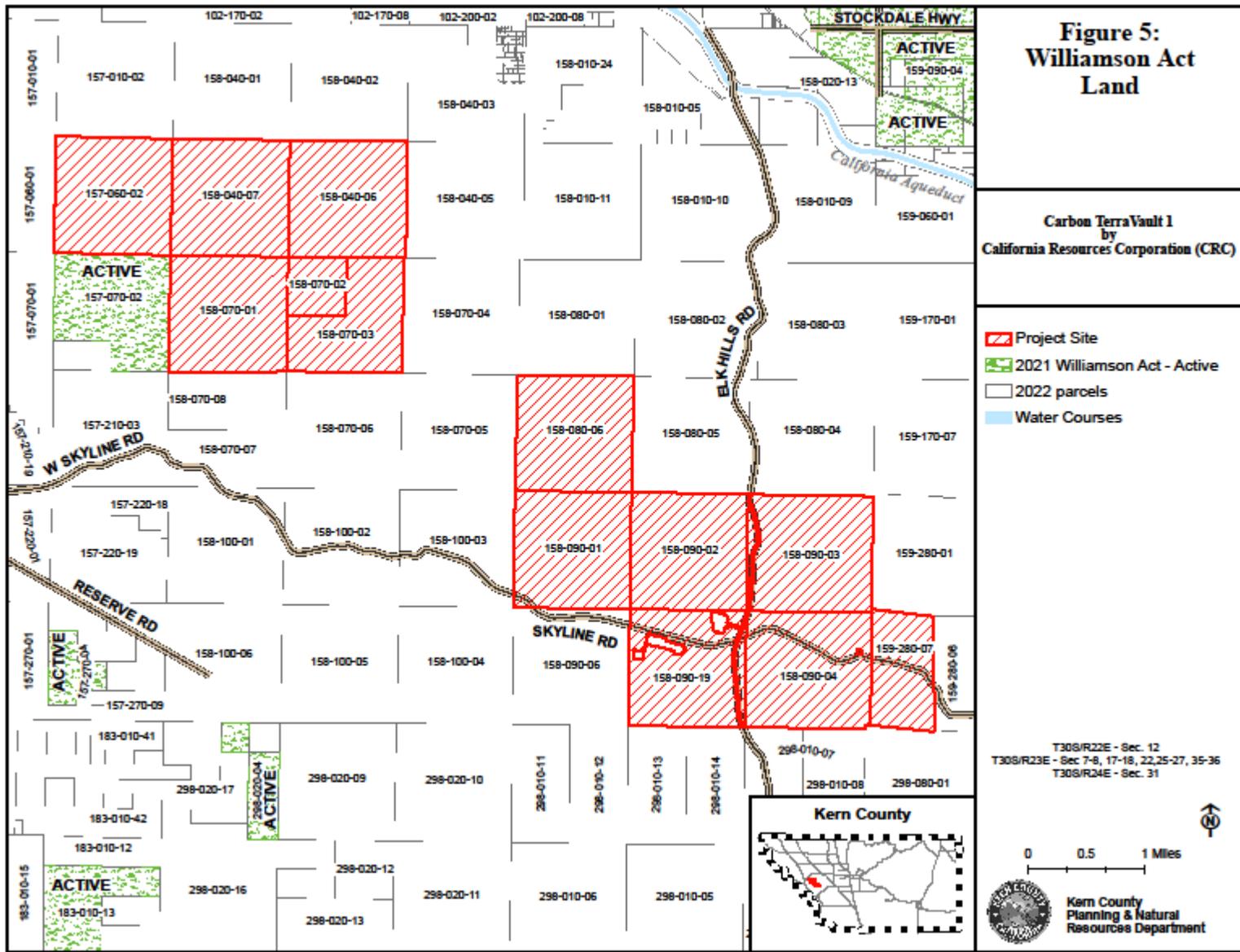


Figure 5: Williamson Act Land
Carbon TerraVault 1 Project

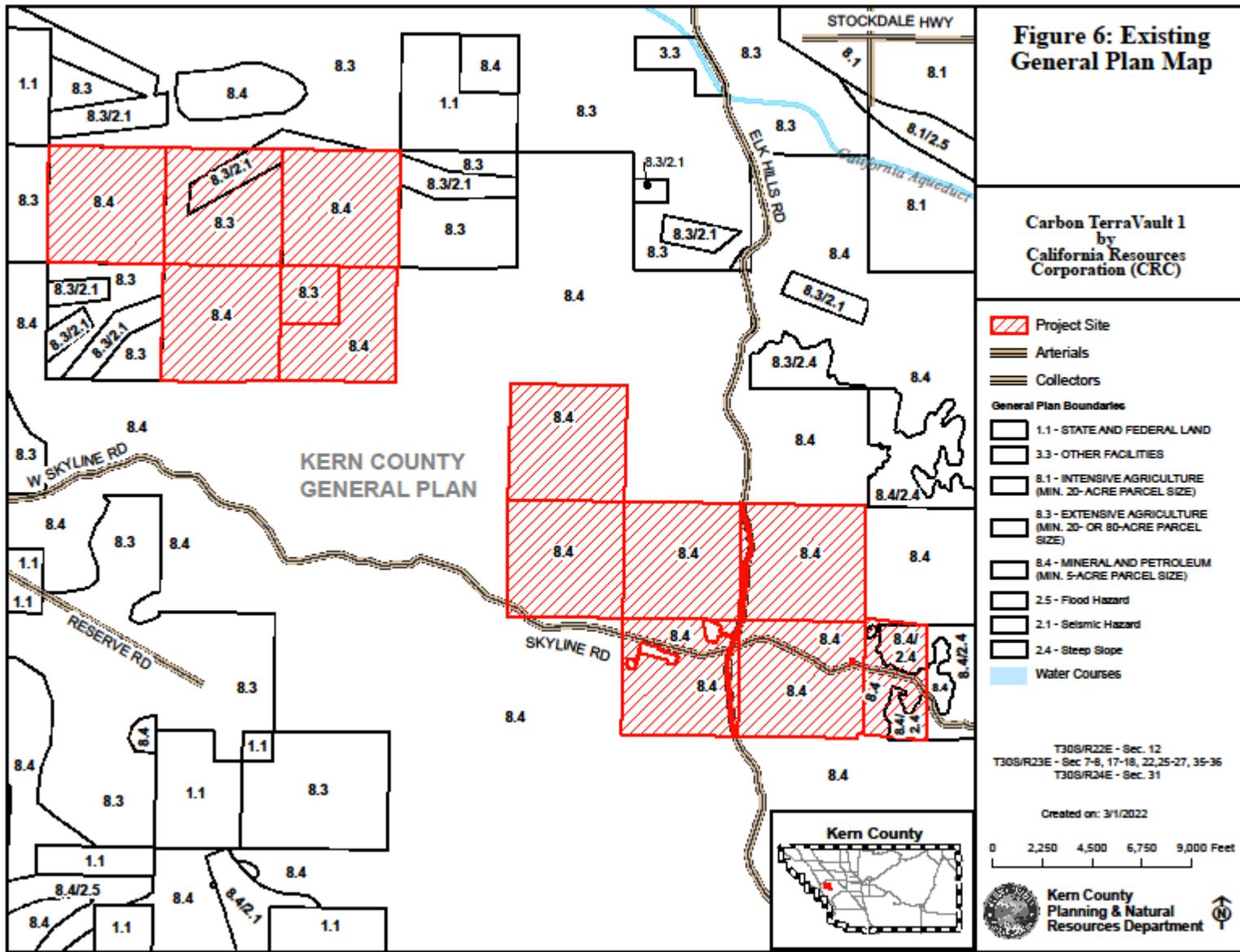


Figure 6: Existing General Plan Designation
Carbon TerraVault 1 Project

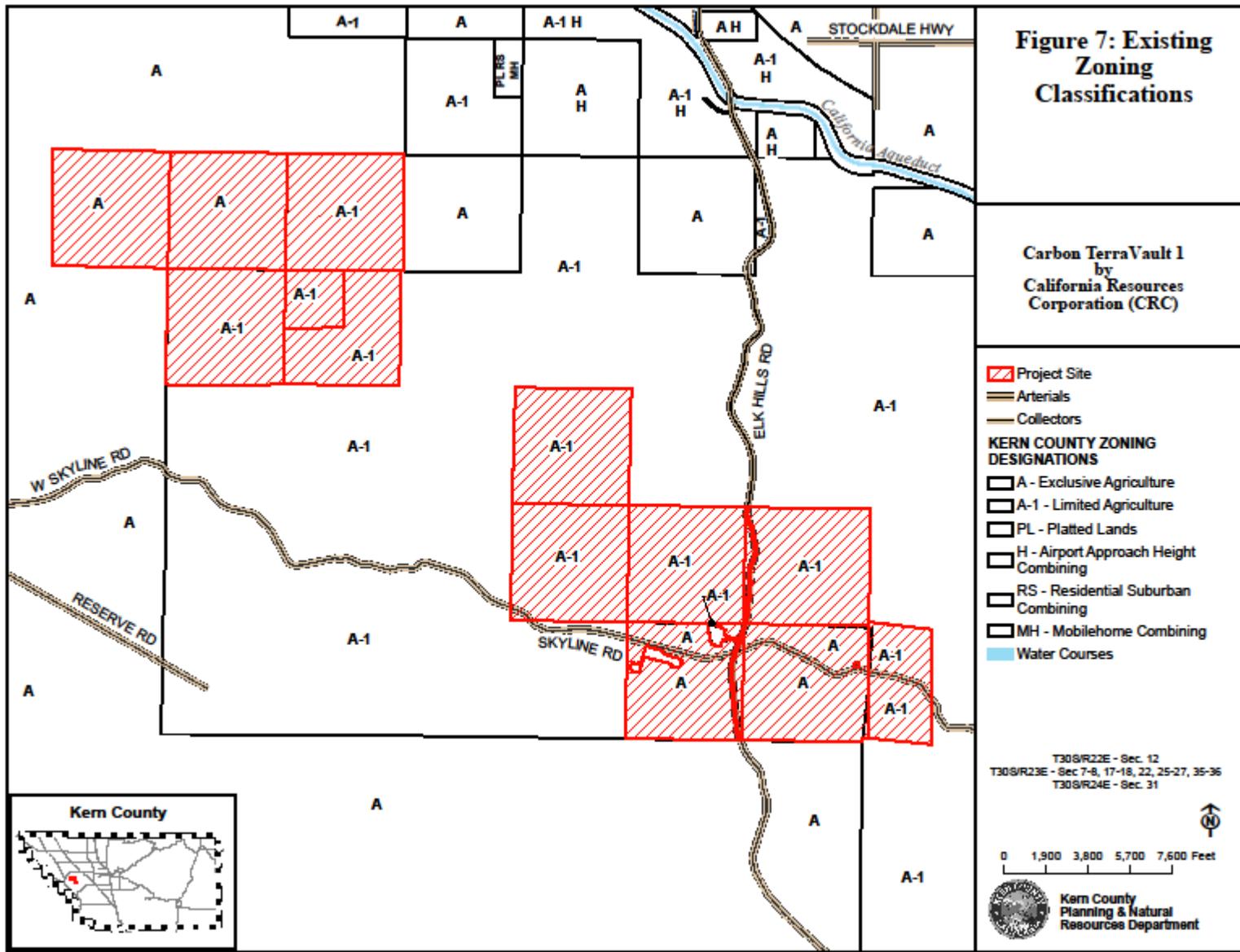


Figure 7: Existing Zoning Classifications
Carbon TerraVault 1 Project

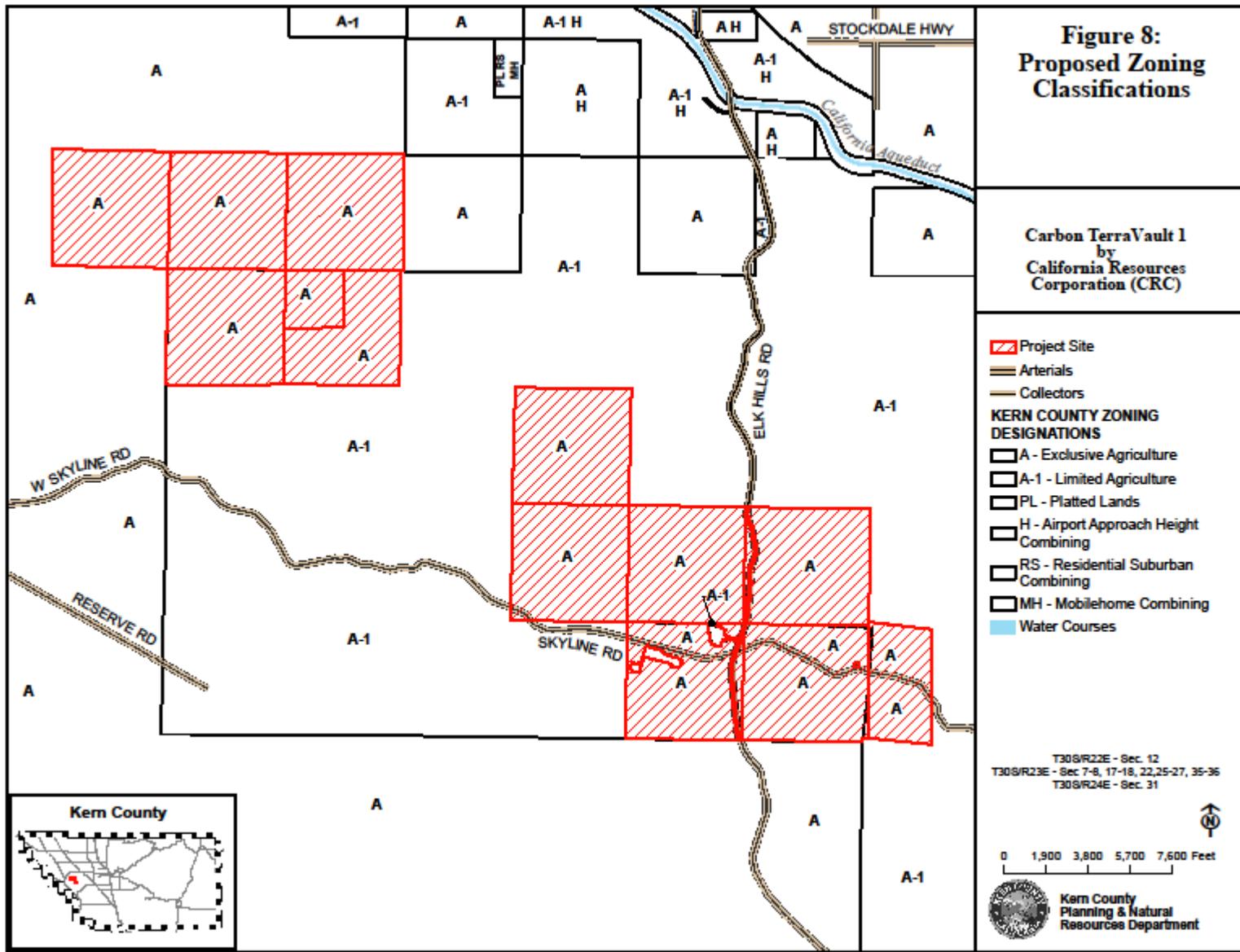


Figure 8: Proposed Zoning Classifications
Carbon TerraVault 1 Project



**KERN COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM**

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture/Forestry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use /Planning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildfire | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

DETERMINATION.

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that 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.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (a) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (b) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENT IMPACT REPORT (EIR) is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that 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.

Cindi Hoover

Signature
Cindi Hoover

Printed Name

March 4, 2022
Date
Supervising Planner

Title



Evaluation of Environmental Impacts:

- (1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a Lead Agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- (2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- (3) Once the Lead Agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required.
- (4) Negative Declaration: “Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The Lead Agency must describe the mitigation measure and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level.
- (5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - (a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - (b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - (c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less Than Significant With Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- (6) Lead Agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- (7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- (8) The adopted guidelines state “ This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, Lead Agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected. “Kern County has adopted this format and included all questions from Appendix G.
- (9) The explanation of each issue should identify:



- (a) The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
- (b) The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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I. AESTHETICS.

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) In nonurbanized 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 points) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

RESPONSES:

a)–d) The proposed project is located within the Elk Hills Oil Field which is heavily developed with oil wells and associated infrastructure. The aesthetic features of the existing visual environment in the area are varied with agricultural and oil production/extraction equipment dominating the landscape. As such, there are no unique aesthetic features, identified scenic vistas, or designated scenic highways in the project vicinity. According to the California Department of Transportation’s (Caltrans’) California Scenic Highway Mapping System, the closest section of highway that would be eligible for State Scenic Highway designation are portions of State Routes 14 and 58 which are located many miles to the east of the project site within the desert region of the county. Portions of the project site may be visible from public roads or other publically accessible vantage points, however as stated previously the project site is currently dominated by oil and gas production facilities and associated infrastructure. The proposed project would introduce four to six CO₂ injection wells into the viewshed, however these would not be easily distinguishable in the viewshed from public roads or public vantage points. The proposed project would likely introduce new lighting features during construction and operations, similar to those currently existing within the project site, however the project would be required to conform to the Kern County Dark Skies Ordinance which would require the minimum lighting possible for safety, as well as shielding of light fixtures and a downward orientation to eliminate light spillover. Because oil and gas production activities and associated infrastructure, which are visually similar to the proposed project, currently dominate the existing



viewshed and no scenic vistas have been identified in the project area, impacts on aesthetic resources are anticipated to be less than significant. However, because the project will introduce a new source of light or glare, and because the project site is located in a non-urban area and may be visible from publicly accessible vantage points, potential impacts to aesthetic resources will be analyzed in the Environmental Impact Report.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES.				
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 nonagricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or Williamson Act contract?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)) or timberland (as defined in Public Resources Code section 4526) or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104 (g),	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) 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 forest land to non-forest use?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Result in the cancellation of an open space contract made pursuant to the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 or Farmland Security Zone Contract for any parcel of 100 or more acres (Section 15206(b)(3) Public Resources Code?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a)-f) The proposed project currently has a zone classification of A (exclusive Agriculture) and A-1 (Limited Agriculture), however is not designated Prime or Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, nor is any portion of the project site subject to the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 (Williamson Act Land Use Contract) or Farmland Security Zone Contract. The project site is not designated Timberland or forest land and as no Timberland or Forestland is in the project vicinity would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of land designated as Timberland or forest land to non-forest use. However, land adjacent to the project site is subject to a Williamson Act Land Use Contract and is designated non-prime



farmland pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. Portions of the project site are located with Agricultural Preserve number 3. Due to the project site's zone classification of A (Exclusive Agriculture) and adjacent land that is subject to a Williamson Act Land Use Contract, impacts to agricultural resources will be analyzed in the Environmental Impact report.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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III. AIR QUALITY.

The significance criteria established by the applicable Air pollution control district shall be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard? Specifically, would implementation of the project (in a specific location) exceed any of the following adopted thresholds: | | | | |

i. San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District:

Operational and Area Sources

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Reactive Organic Gases (ROG)
10 tons per year. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Oxides of Nitrogen (NO _x)
10 tons per year. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀)
15 tons per year. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Stationary Sources as determined by District Rules

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Severe Nonattainment
25 tons per year. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Extreme Nonattainment
10 tons per year. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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III. AIR QUALITY. (Continued)

ii. Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District.

Operational and Area Sources

Reactive Organic Gases (ROG) 25 tons per year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oxides of nitrogen (NO _x) 25 tons per year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀) 15 tons per year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Stationary Sources - determined by District

Rules

25 tons per year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a) The project would be located within the jurisdiction of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD), in the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin (SJVAB). The SJVAB is classified by the State as a severe nonattainment area with respect to the 1-hour ozone standard as well as a nonattainment area for the State standards pertaining to particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM₁₀) and particulate matter less than 2 ½ microns (PM_{2.5}). In addition, the SJVAB is classified as an extreme nonattainment area for the Federal 8-hour ozone standard, a nonattainment area for the Federal PM_{2.5} standard, and an attainment/maintenance area for the Federal carbon monoxide (CO) and PM₁₀ standards.

Project construction activities would generate ozone precursor (i.e., oxides of nitrogen [NO_x] and reactive organic compounds [ROC]) emissions as well as CO, PM_{2.5}, and PM₁₀ emissions that could result in significant impacts on regional air quality. Emissions sources would include heavy equipment used for excavation and grading, cranes, drilling rigs and on-road motor vehicles for equipment and material deliveries as well as construction workers' vehicles. Long-term maintenance and operational activities are other emissions sources. Grading and activities on unpaved roads would contribute to fugitive PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} emissions. This impact is potentially significant. Further analysis of air quality impacts is warranted to determine whether the project



would conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable plans for attainment and, if so, the reasonable and feasible mitigation measures that could be adopted to reduce such impacts. These issues will be evaluated in the EIR.

- b) The project is located within the jurisdictional boundaries of SJVAPCD. The SJVAB is classified by the State as a severe nonattainment area with respect to the 1-hour ozone standard as well as a nonattainment area for the State standards pertaining to PM10 and PM2.5. In addition, the SJVAB is classified as an extreme nonattainment area for the Federal 8-hour ozone standard, a nonattainment area for the Federal PM2.5 standard, and an attainment/maintenance area for the Federal CO and PM10 standards.

SJVAPCD rules and regulations would apply to all project activities within the SJVAPCD. Construction and operational emissions will be analyzed in the EIR as well as long-term operational emissions. Some construction personnel may commute from outside the SJVAB. Cumulative contributions of emissions to the SJVAB are considered potentially significant and will be evaluated further in the EIR.

- c)-d) The project site is located within the administrative boundary of the Elk Hills Oil Field. There are no schools or hospitals located with the vicinity of the project site, however, the project site is located approximately 8.5 miles north of the City of Taft and approximately 4 miles west of the unincorporated community of Buttonwillow, additionally there may be sparse, rural residences located within the project vicinity. The closest disadvantaged community to the project site is the unincorporated community of Buttonwillow (population 1,445). California Environmental Protection Agency's "CalEnviroScreen 4.0" ranks Buttonwillow and the City of Taft as communities in the state, heavily impacted from pollution and other health and socio-economic indicators.

Therefore, impacts on sensitive receptors are potentially significant and further analysis is warranted to determine whether the project would expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations or a substantial number of people to other emissions, and, if so, the reasonable and feasible mitigation measures that could be adopted to reduce such impacts. These issues will be evaluated in the EIR.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.

Would 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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a)–f) The proposed Project site is located in the south-western portion of the San Joaquin Valley which hosts a variety of sensitive resources including several listed as threatened or endangered at the



state or federal level. Several conservation programs or mitigation requirements have been approved or proposed to comply with State and federal Endangered Species laws including the issuance of incidental take coverage through habitat conservation plans, federal Section 7 Consultations, Biological Opinions and mitigation measures that are a part of CEQA and NEPA environmental documents.

The proposed project would allow the construction of four to six Class VI injection wells, ancillary infrastructure and facilities, and the injection and storage of up to 48 million metric tons of CO₂ on approximately 5,332 acres.

Impacts could result from activities related to construction of injection and/or monitoring wells or from continued activities related to injection of CO₂ and maintenance of the injection wells and ancillary facilities. These impacts are considered potentially significant and will be discussed in the EIR. The EIR will assess impacts on known resources including protected wetlands, riparian areas and streams; impacts on resources that may occur in the future (e.g., foraging or nesting raptors); and impacts on landscape-level resources, such as wildlife corridors that could provide interconnectivity between existing higher value habitats. The EIR will also evaluate potential conflicts with regulatory policies or procedures for protection of biological resources.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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V. CULTURAL RESOURCES.

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15064.5? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

RESPONSES:

- a)–c) The potential for impacts on historical and prehistoric resources is considered potentially significant. Therefore, the EIR will more thoroughly address this issue. The EIR will set forth research criteria and report content needed to enable an evaluation of resource occurrence and possible significant impacts on sensitive historic and prehistoric cultural resources.



VI. ENERGY. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

RESPONSES:

- a)-b) Construction of the proposed project would involve on-site energy demand and consumption related to use of oil in the form of gasoline and diesel fuel for construction worker vehicle trips, hauling and materials delivery truck trips, and operation of off-road construction equipment. In addition, diesel-fueled portable generators may be necessary to provide additional electricity demands for temporary on-site lighting, welding, and for supplying energy to areas of the sites where energy supply cannot be met via a hookup to the existing electricity grid. Ongoing injection activities would result in energy consumption for the duration of the project. Additionally, perpetual storage of CO₂ within confined reservoirs would most likely be passive and would not require the use of energy, however ongoing monitoring activities could result in energy consumption. Impacts related to the consumption of energy resources and the potential for the project to obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency will be analyzed in the Environmental Impact Report.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (19914), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



RESPONSES:

- a)–f) Due to the location of active faults in the general region, strong seismic ground shaking could occur at the project site, resulting in damage to above and below ground structures and other site improvements if not properly designed to withstand strong ground shaking. Adherence to applicable regulations would minimize the potential impacts associated with the proposed project.

A geotechnical investigation of the project site may be conducted to determine the physical characteristics of the underlying soils and geologic formations and to identify if any unstable conditions exist that could be exacerbated by proposed construction activities. The results of these investigations will be provided in the EIR.

The above listed project impacts will be further evaluated in the EIR.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VIII GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

RESPONSES:

a)–b) Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions emitted by human activity are implicated in global climate change or global warming. The principal GHGs are CO₂, methane (CH₄), NO_x, ozone, water vapor, and fluorinated gases. The temporary construction activities associated with the proposed project, which would involve operation of heavy off-road equipment, on-road trucks (for deliveries and hauling), and construction worker commute trips, would generate GHGs through exhaust emissions. However, the proposed project is expected to capture traditional sources of CO₂ emissions that have historically been emitted into the environment. As such, the provision of carbon capture and sequestration in perpetuity by the proposed project would reduce GHG emissions and is anticipated to offset GHGs that would otherwise be emitted by traditional sources. The project’s GHG emissions generated during construction of the project and the potential GHG offsets resulting from operation of the project, as well as any potential conflicts with any applicable plan, policy or regulation will be identified and quantified in the EIR. Additionally, the project’s potential GHG impacts and the potential GHG offsets resulting from operation of the project will be examined in the EIR, with respect to the objectives of statewide programs to reduce GHGs associated with energy generation.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 1/4 mile of an existing or proposed school? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) For a project located within the adopted Kern County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IX HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. (Continued)

h) Would implementation of the project generate vectors (flies, mosquitoes, rodents, etc.) or have a component that includes agricultural waste?

Specifically, would the project exceed the following qualitative threshold:

The presence of domestic flies, mosquitoes, cockroaches, rodents, and/or any other vectors associated with the project is significant when the applicable enforcement agency determines that any of the vectors:

i. Occur as immature stages and adults in numbers considerably in excess of those found in the surrounding environment; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Are associated with design, layout, and management of project operations; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Disseminate widely from the property; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Cause detrimental effects on the public health or well-being of the majority of the surrounding population.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

a)-e) The proposed CO₂ capture and storage activities could create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials; 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. A small portion of the proposed project site is located within Zone C, as identified in the Elk Hills – Buttonwillow Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). These impacts are considered potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the Environmental Impact Report.

The project is not anticipated to emit hazardous emissions or involve handling hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school, however the nearest schools are Buttonwillow Elementary and McKittrick Elementary, which are approximately 4.5 miles from the project site and Elk Hills Elementary, which is approximately 6.5 miles from the project site. Because the project proposes the transport of CO₂



by pipeline, truck, and/or rail, CO₂ could pass within one quarter mile of a school(s) during transport. Therefore, impacts are potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the Environmental Impact Report.

- f) The project would generate construction trips, worker construction and maintenance trips, and CO₂ transport trips. The potential for roadway lane closures also exists, which could temporarily affect an emergency response or evacuation plan. This impact is considered potentially significant and will be addressed in the EIR.

- g) According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire), Kern County Fire Hazards Severity Zone Maps for the Local Responsible Areas, the project site is classified as State Responsibility Area (SRA) Moderate (Calfire 2021). Moderate zones are typically wildland supporting areas of low fire frequency and relatively modest fire behavior. The proposed project would comply with all applicable wildland fire management plans and policies established by CalFire, and Kern County Fire Department. Accordingly, the project is not expected to expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. Nonetheless, potential impacts involving wildfires will be discussed in the EIR--please refer to the responses to the Checklist topic concerning Wildfire, later in this Initial Study.

- h)i.-iv. Project construction and injection/storage activities are not expected to result in the generation of vectors (flies, mosquitoes, rodents, etc.) or have a component that includes agricultural waste. However, this issue will be addressed in the EIR.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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X HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.

Would the project:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) result in a substantial erosion or siltation on – or off-site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-or offsite;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) impede or redirect flood flows ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a) The construction of injection wells and ancillary facilities could potentially fail to comply with water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. The potential to create substantial erosion and siltation or violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements is considered significant and will be discussed in the EIR.



- b) The construction of injection wells and ancillary facilities could potentially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level. This impact is considered potentially significant and will be addressed in the EIR.
- c) The construction of injection wells and ancillary facilities could potentially result in alteration of drainage patterns and lead to substantial erosion and siltation. The potential to create substantial erosion and siltation is considered significant and will be discussed in the EIR.

The construction of injection wells and ancillary facilities and production facilities could potentially result in alteration of drainage patterns and lead to flooding. The potential to create flooding is considered significant and will be discussed in the EIR.

There are no stormwater drainage systems in the agricultural areas under consideration. It is not considered likely that future oil and gas exploration and production activities would create or contribute sufficient runoff water such that the capacity of existing stormwater drainage systems would be exceeded. Nonetheless, this impact is considered potentially significant and will be addressed in the EIR.

- d) None of the injection well construction or storage activities occurs or would occur in locations where tsunamis, mudflows or seiche-related inundation would occur. This impact is considered no impact; however it will be discussed further in the EIR.
- e) The proposed project is located with the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin, in the Kern County sub-basin. The construction of injection wells and ancillary facilities could potentially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that it would conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan, the State Groundwater Management Act, or a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) as adopted by the West Kern Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). This impact is considered potentially significant and will be analyzed in the EIR.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING.

Would the project:

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|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Physically divide an established community? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

RESPONSES:

- a) Construction of injection wells and CO₂ capture and storage activities are not expected to result in the division of established communities. There would be no impact.
- b) The impacts of the proposed project and potential conflicts with County ordinances and policies, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect are not expected to be significant; however they will be addressed in the EIR.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XII. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

RESPONSES:

a)–b) The proposed project is located within the administrative boundary of the Elk Hills Oilfield, however the project site is not a designated mineral resource zone. The project could potentially result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource of value to the region and the residents of the state. Impacts to mineral resources will be addressed further in the Environmental Impact Report.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIII. NOISE. Would the project result in:

a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in the 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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of, excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) For a project located within the Kern County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a)–c) Construction activities, including injection well pad preparation, drilling, completion and testing of new injection wells, construction of necessary infrastructure, and general maintenance activities could result in temporary or periodic increases in noise and groundborne vibration. The Kern County General Plan Noise Element sets a 65-decibel limit on exterior noise levels from stationary sources (i.e., non- transportation sources) at sensitive receptors. The Noise Control Ordinance in the Kern County Code (Section 8.36.020 et seq.) prohibits a variety of nuisance noises. Construction-related noise is regulated by means of a limitation on the hours of construction activity for projects located within 1,000 feet of an occupied residential dwelling. In such cases, construction is prohibited between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. on weekdays and 9 p.m. and 8 a.m. on weekends. The project proponent would adhere to the provisions of Kern County Ordinance Section 8.36.020. Nonetheless, the project could expose persons to or generate noise levels in excess of established standards. This impact is considered potentially significant and will be discussed further in the EIR.
- d) A small portion of the project site is located within Zone C of the Elk Hills- Buttonwillow Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. Depending on the final location of injection wells the project could potentially expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels. This impact is considered potentially significant and will be further addressed in the Environmental Impact Report



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING.

Would 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)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

RESPONSES:

a)-b) Construction of the proposed project and ongoing storage, maintenance and monitoring activities could provide new employment opportunities consistent with adopted Kern County General Plan goals, plans, and policies. If temporary housing should be necessary, it is expected that accommodations would be available in the nearby communities. While the proposed project is not expected to induce substantial population growth in Kern County, displace a substantial number of existing homes or people, or necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere, these issues will be evaluated in the EIR.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XV. PUBLIC SERVICES.

Would the project :

- a) 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 to other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire Protection?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police Protection?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Public Facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a)i. - v. The demand for fire protection, police protection, schools, parks and other public facilities could be affected by the proposed project. Impacts on public services are considered potentially significant and will be addressed in the EIR.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVI. RECREATION.

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

RESPONSES:

a)–b) The project would not include the construction or expansion of new recreational facilities. However, an increase in population that might result from an influx of workers and the associated increase in the use of parks or recreational facilities could require the expansion of recreational facilities. This impact is considered potentially significant and will be evaluated in the EIR.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVII. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

Would the project:

a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3 (b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

- a) There are no dedicated pedestrian or bicycle facilities in the immediate vicinity of the project site or along the surrounding roadways. Due to the rural nature of the project area, pedestrian and bicycle traffic is limited. The project is not located along an existing bus route and few bus stops exist on roadways that are likely to be used during construction and operation of the proposed project.

Further analysis in the EIR is required to determine whether construction traffic could disrupt normal traffic flows or otherwise conflict with the County’s roadway performance policies and programs.

- b) CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b) was adopted in December 2018 by the California Natural Resources Agency. These revisions to the CEQA Guidelines criteria for determining the significance of transportation impacts are primarily focused on projects within transit priority areas and shift the focus from driver delay to reduction of vehicular greenhouse gas emissions through creation of multimodal networks, and creation of a mix of land uses that can facilitate fewer and shorter vehicle trips. Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) is a measure of the total number of miles driven for various purposes and is sometimes expressed as an average per trip or per person. Construction traffic would be temporary and would not permanently affect VMT characteristics in this part of Kern County or elsewhere. Long-term, operational traffic related to the CO₂ storage, maintenance, and monitoring activities would be limited. It is not known where the employees would live or how long their commuting trips would be but is assumed that they would commute from nearby communities. According to technical guidance issued by the Office of Planning and Research, projects generating less than 110 or fewer daily vehicle trips may be presumed to have a less than significant impact involving VMT. Further analysis of the operational VMT characteristics of the project is required to determine whether the project is considered a “low-VMT” project due to small daily traffic volumes alone, or whether more extensive analysis is warranted. An assessment of the project’s VMT characteristics will be provided in the EIR, to ensure consistency with state and local guidance.



- c) No new roadway design or features (i.e., sharp curves, dangerous intersections, or other hazardous features) that could result in transportation-related hazards or safety concerns are anticipated. The project injection wells and other infrastructure and facilities would be set back from roadways as required by the Kern County Zoning Ordinance. The types and numbers of vehicles utilized during injection well construction and for storage, maintenance, and monitoring activities would be similar to existing activities in the vicinity and therefore would not likely be incompatible. Given these considerations, significant impacts related to increased hazards are not anticipated to occur; however, additional analysis will be included in the EIR.

- d) The project would generate construction trips and the potential for roadway lane closures exists during construction of ancillary infrastructure and during transport of CO₂ to the site, which could temporarily increase the daily traffic volumes on local roadways and at intersections. It is anticipated that emergency access would be maintained at all times, and appropriate detours would be provided, as necessary. Nonetheless, impacts related to emergency access are considered potentially significant and will be addressed in the EIR.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES.

Would the project:

a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code § 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:

i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources 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 America tribe.

RESPONSES:

a)i.-ii. The proposed project site is currently highly disturbed with oil and gas production and ancillary infrastructure, however because the injection well sites may not be on previously disturbed land there is a potential for tribal cultural resources to exist on-site and on surrounding lands. Therefore, the proposed project has the potential to impact tribal cultural resources during injection well pad constructions and drilling as well as during the construction of ancillary infrastructure. All tribes with possible cultural affiliation and interest within the project area will be notified pursuant to the requirements of Assembly Bill 52, and consultation with the potentially affected tribes will occur, as appropriate, between the County and the tribes. Further evaluation in the EIR is warranted to identify potential impacts to tribal cultural resources and to formulate avoidance or mitigation measures, if applicable.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.

Would 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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a determination by the waste water 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, State, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

a) The proposed project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded municipal wastewater facilities, and no connection to a public wastewater system is required or proposed. Impacts would be less than significant in this regard; however, further analysis in the EIR will be provided. The proposed project does not require expanded or new storm drainage facilities because the proposed project is not anticipated to generate a significant increase in the amount of impervious surfaces that would increase runoff during storm events. The proposed project is not anticipated to result in a significant increase in water demand/use; however, water will be needed for dust suppression and injection well drilling. Impacts associated with construction of the electrical lines and telecommunication lines will be evaluated in the EIR.

Impacts would be potentially significant and further analysis in the EIR is warranted.

b) Water consumption during construction would primarily be used for dust-suppression purposes. Water is anticipated to be obtained from existing on-site wells. A water supply assessment will be completed for the project to analyze potential water sources and potential impacts to water supplies.



This potentially significant impact will be addressed further in the EIR.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XX. WILDFIRE. If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, or other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

RESPONSES:

a)-d) According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire), Kern County Fire Hazards Severity Zone Maps, the project site is located within a Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone in a State Responsibility Area. Therefore, the potential for wildfire on the project site exists. The site is located in a rural area with limited population, primarily developed with oil and gas production facilities and agricultural land. The project site is not identified for any purpose in an adopted emergency evacuation plan to address wildfires or other types of emergencies. Further analysis of prevailing winds is required to determine if there are periodic high winds that could influence the spreading and velocity of wildfires. Adherence to applicable regulations would reduce wildfire ignitions and prevent the spread of wildfires. The proposed project involves the development of a carbon capture and sequestration facility. The proposed project would include the construction of injection wells, internal roads, power transmission lines, and ancillary infrastructure including CO₂ transport pipelines.



Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Does the project have the potential to 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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

RESPONSES:

- a) The EIR's biological, cultural, and tribal cultural resources sections will discuss specific project impacts on plants and wildlife including avian species and impacts to cultural and tribal cultural resources. The document will also evaluate the project's contribution to cumulative biological, cultural and tribal cultural resources impacts and propose mitigation that will reduce the impacts to less than significant levels, where feasible.
- b) The project has the potential to contribute to cumulatively significant air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, tribal cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions, traffic, and wildfire impacts. Such impacts could occur during the construction phases and/or as a result of the fully built and operational project. The EIR will evaluate the project's contribution to cumulative impacts in these and other areas.
- c) The Project could potentially result in environmental effects that have adverse impacts on human beings, either directly or indirectly. These impacts will be fully addressed in the EIR.