

CHAPTER 5.0

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY

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This section identifies the cumulative impacts resulting from the proposed Project. Cumulative impacts are the result of combining the potential effects of the Project with other proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects in the City of Calexico. Full discussion of the cumulative impacts are provided in Sections 4.1 through 4.5 and 4.7 through 4.11 under subsections 4.1.4, 4.2.4, 4.3.4, 4.4.4, 4.4.5, 4.7.4, 4.8.4, 4.9.4, and 4.11.4. Section 4.11 had multiple discussions of cumulative impacts based on the number of public services and utilities (4.11.1.4, 4.11.2.4, 4.11.3.4, 4.11.4.4, 4.11.5.4 and 4.11.6.4). Due to the global nature of climate change and GHG emissions and their potential effects, GHG emissions generated by an individual project were evaluated on a cumulative basis in Section 4.6.

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) include a discussion of cumulative impacts that may be associated with the proposed project. According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(a), “an EIR shall discuss cumulative impacts of a project when the project’s incremental effect is cumulatively considerable.” The term, “cumulatively considerable” means that “the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects” (as defined by Section 15130).

As defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15355, a cumulative impact is an impact that results from the combination of the project evaluated in the EIR together with other projects causing related impacts. A cumulative impact occurs from:

... the change in the environment which results from the incremental impact of the project when added to other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time.

CEQA Section 15130(b) identifies the following three elements as necessary for adequate cumulative analysis:

- 1) Either:
 - a) A list of past, present, and probable future projects producing related or cumulative impacts, including, if necessary, those projects outside the control of the agency; or,
 - b) A summary of projections contained in an adopted general plan or related planning document, or in a prior environmental document which has been adopted or certified, which described or evaluated regional or area wide conditions contributing to the cumulative impact. Any such planning document shall be referenced and made available to the public at a location specified by the lead agency.
- 2) A summary of the expected environmental effects to be produced by those projects with specific reference to additional information stating where that information is available; and
- 3) A reasonable analysis of the cumulative impacts of the relevant projects. An EIR shall examine reasonable, feasible options for mitigating or avoiding the project’s contribution to any significant cumulative effects.

Where a lead agency is examining a project with an incremental effect that is not “cumulatively considerable,” a lead agency need not consider that effect significant, but shall briefly describe its basis for concluding that the incremental effect is not cumulatively considerable.

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This EIR uses the “list” approach described above in the cumulative analysis (refer to Table 3.0-1 in Chapter 3.0, Introduction to the Environmental Analysis and Assumptions Used).

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A summary of cumulative impacts that would result from the implementation of the project is provided below. Each cumulative impact is determined to have one of the following levels of significance: less than significant, significant, or significant and unavoidable. The reader is referred to Sections 4.1 through 4.11 for a complete discussion of the project’s cumulative impacts.

LAND USE

Cumulative Conflicts with Applicable Land Use Plans, Policies, or Regulations

Impact 4.1.2 Development of the proposed Project in combination with proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects in the City would not incrementally add to conflicts with applicable land use plans, policies and regulations. Each project would be required to be consistent with the applicable plans that apply to the area in which it is located. Thus, cumulative conflicts with applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations is considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

AIR QUALITY

Violate Air Quality Standard/Cause Air Quality Violation

Impact 4.2.5 The proposed Project would generate criteria pollutant emissions during construction. However, the short-term construction emissions exceedances of ICAPCD thresholds would be mitigated with implementation of mitigation measures. Project generated operational emissions could contribute, on a cumulative basis, to localized and/or regional air quality impacts. Therefore, the proposed Project’s contribution to violating an air quality standard is considered **cumulatively considerable**.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Cumulative Impacts to Biological Resources (Candidate, Sensitive, or Special Status Species and Nesting and Migratory Birds)

Impact 4.3.3 Implementation of the proposed Project in combination with other proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects in the City of Calexico, could have cumulative impacts on candidate, sensitive, or special status species and nesting and migratory birds. Biological surveys and mitigation measures are required on a project-specific basis to address impacts to biological resources including habitats and wildlife. Therefore, cumulative impacts to candidate, sensitive, or special status species and nesting and migratory birds are considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

CULTURAL & PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Cumulative Impacts to Historical, Archaeological and Paleontological Resources and Human Remains

Impact 4.4.5 Implementation of the proposed Project, in combination with proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects in the City of Calexico, has the potential to result in impacts to historical, archaeological and paleontological resources and human remains. However, impacts to these resources are addressed on a project-by-project basis. Therefore, a **less than cumulatively considerable impact** would occur with regard to historical, archaeological and paleontological resources and human remains.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Cumulative Geology and Soils Impacts

Impact 4.5.6 Development of the proposed Project, in conjunction with proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects within the City of Calexico would result in continued urbanization of the area by increasing the density of development and exposing more people and structures to geologic and seismic impacts. These impacts are reduced on a project-specific basis through design and engineering. Therefore, cumulative geology and soils impacts are considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREENHOUSE GASES

GENERATION OF GHG EMISSIONS/CONFLICT WITH APPLICABLE PLAN, POLICY OR REGULATION REDUCING GHGS

Impact 4.6.1 Implementation of the proposed Project would produce both short-term construction and long-term operational GHGs. Operational GHG emissions would exceed the threshold of 900 MTCO_{2e}/year. Generation of GHGs in excess of the threshold could conflict with GHG-reduction planning efforts. This is considered a **potentially significant impact**.

HAZARDOUS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Impact 4.7.4 The proposed Project, in combination with other proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects in the City of Calexico, would increase the density of development in the Portico Industrial Park, thus potentially increasing the potential for the presence hazards and use of hazardous materials. However, this is considered to be a **less than cumulatively considerable impact**.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Cumulative Impact to Hydrology and Water Quality

Impact 4.8.4 The proposed Project, in combination with existing, approved, proposed and other reasonably foreseeable projects in the Salton Sea watershed may contribute to the cumulative effects of degradation of water quality and changes in runoff patterns ultimately discharging to the Salton Sea. The proposed Project would not have any effect on flows to the Salton Sea. Therefore, cumulative impacts to hydrology and water quality are considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

NOISE

Contribution to Cumulative Noise Levels

Impact 4.9.5 Due to the distance between the proposed Project and other proposed projects within one mile, the proposed Project would not result in a substantial contribution to cumulative noise levels. Therefore, cumulative noise impacts would be considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES

Fire Protection

Cumulative Impacts to City of Calexico Fire Department Services

Impact 4.10.2 Development of the proposed Project, in combination with the other proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects in the City of Calexico, would increase demand for fire protection in a community that is already understaffed. However, each

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individual project would be required to incorporate fire safety features and worker safety protocols in compliance with all applicable fire and occupational safety standards and codes. Therefore, cumulative impacts to CFD services are considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Law Enforcement

Cumulative Impacts to CPD Services

Impact 4.10.4 Development of the proposed Project, in combination with the other proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable renewable projects in City of Calexico would result in an increased cumulative demand for law enforcement. However, each individual project would be required to incorporate security measures into their project. This Project would not result in an increase in population in the City of Calexico, therefore, cumulative impacts to the CPD services are considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Water Service

Cumulative Water Distribution and Water Supply Impacts

Impact 4.10.6 Development of the proposed Project, in combination with other proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in an increased demand for water from the City of Calexico. The estimated water demand for the Project is 8,000 GPD for construction and 5,655 GPD for operation. When considered cumulatively with the other projects, the water demand of the proposed Project would not exceed the capacity of the existing water distribution system nor result in the need for new water supply entitlements. Therefore, cumulative water distribution and water supply impacts are considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Wastewater

Cumulative Wastewater Treatment and Conveyance Infrastructure Impacts

Impact 4.10.8 Development of the proposed Project, in combination with other proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects, would result in an increased demand for wastewater conveyance and treatment from the City of Calexico. The estimated wastewater generation for the Project is 1,612 GPD. When considered cumulatively with the other projects, the wastewater generation of the proposed Project would not exceed the capacity of the existing wastewater conveyance system nor result in the need for new wastewater treatment. Therefore, cumulative wastewater conveyance and treatment impacts are considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Solid Waste

Cumulative Impacts to Solid Waste Service and Landfill Capacity

Impact 4.10.11 Implementation of the proposed Project, in combination with other proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects in the City of Calexico, would result in cumulative demand for solid waste service and landfill capacity. However, the proposed Project would not generate a substantial quantity of waste, pick-up service is available to serve the Project and sufficient landfill capacity is available. Therefore, cumulative impacts to solid waste service and landfill capacity would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Electricity

Cumulative Impacts to Electric Service

Impact 4.10.13 Implementation of the proposed Project, in combination with other proposed, approved and reasonably foreseeable projects in the City of Calexico, would result in an increase in demand for electricity. The IID would need to construct a new substation in order to serve Phase 2 of the proposed Project as well as other cumulative development proposed nearby. Therefore, cumulative impacts to electrical service are considered **cumulatively considerable**.

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

Cumulative Conflicts to Applicable Plan/Level of Service Standard

Impact 4.11.3 Implementation of the proposed Project, in combination with other cumulative project traffic, would add traffic to the segment West Cole Boulevard between Enterprise Boulevard and SR 111 as well as the intersections along this segment. The segment has adequate capacity remaining before it reaches LOS D and the intersections are currently above LOS C. Therefore, conflicts with the General Plan Circulation Element and impacts to LOS standards are considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

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