

**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY  
INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM**

This form and the descriptive information in the application package constitute the contents of Initial Study pursuant to County Guidelines under Ordinance 3040 and Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

**PROJECT LABEL:**

<b>APNs:</b>	0589-213-18-0000	<b>USGS Quad:</b>	Joshua Tree
<b>Applicant:</b>	Greg Epperson	<b>T, R, Section:</b>	T01S R07E Sec. 8
<b>Location</b>	63777 Single Tree Road, Joshua Tree CA 92252		
<b>Project No:</b>	PROJ-2020-00151	<b>Community Plan:</b>	Community of Joshua Tree
<b>Rep</b>	Greg Epperson	<b>LUZD:</b>	Joshua Tree/Rural Living (JT/RL)
<b>Proposal:</b>	TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP (TPM) 20249 TO SUBDIVIDE 5 GROSS ACRES INTO TWO (2) 2.5 ACRE PARCELS ON A PROPERTY ZONED JOSHUA TREE/RURAL LIVING (JT/RL)	<b>Overlays:</b>	Biological Resource for Desert Tortoise – Medium Population

**PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Lead agency:** County of San Bernardino  
Land Use Services Department  
385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0182

**Contact person:** Azhar Khan, Planner  
**Phone No:** (909) 601-4667     **Fax No:** (909) 387-3223  
**E-mail:** [Azhar.khan@lus.sbcounty.gov](mailto:Azhar.khan@lus.sbcounty.gov)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

**Summary**

The proposed project is a Tentative Parcel Map 20249 to subdivide 5 gross acres into two (2) 2.5 acre parcels. The project lies in the unincorporated portion of the County of San Bernardino in the community of Joshua Tree at 63777 Single Tree Road, Joshua Tree (see Figure 2-Vicinity Map). The property has an existing single family residence to the north of the site. The County’s Land Use Category designates the project area as Rural Living (RL). The site is regulated by the Biotic Resources (BR) overlay and the FEMA Flood Zone D area.

**Surrounding Land Uses and Setting**

The Project Site is within the boundaries of the unincorporated Community of Joshua Tree, County of San Bernardino. As shown on the County of San Bernardino Land Use Map, the Project Site is within the Rural Living land use category. The following table lists the existing adjacent land uses and zoning.

<b>Existing Land Use and Land Use Category</b>			
<b>Location</b>	<b>Existing Land Use</b>	<b>Land Use Category</b>	<b>Zoning</b>
<b>Project Site</b>	Single-Family Residential	Rural Living (RL)	Rural Living (RL)
North	Single-Family Residential	Rural Living (RL)	Rural Living (RL)
South	Undeveloped and Vacant	Rural Living (RL)	Rural Living (RL)
East	Single-Family Residential	Rural Living (RL)	Rural Living (RL)
West	Single-Family Residential	Rural Living (RL)	Rural Living (RL)

**Project Site Location, Existing Site Land Uses and Conditions**

The Proposed Project requires the approval of a Tentative Parcel Map (TPM) subdivision application. The project site will remain with one single-family residence on the northern portion of the proposed Parcel 1; the remaining portion of the site is a relatively undisturbed mixed desert shrub community typical of this portion of the Joshua Tree desert landscape. The project site is dominated by Joshua trees, mesquite, yucca, creosote bush, several varieties of chollo and beavertail cactus, other small grasses and brush, and a small garden of barrel cacti near the residence. Elevations range from 3,370 to 3,400 feet. The site is bordered on the north, east and west by existing single-family homes, while the southern parcel remains vacant. A drainage traverses the northern portion of the project area in a northeast-southwest direction.

**ADDITIONAL APPROVAL REQUIRED BY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES**

Federal: None

State of California: Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board, Fish & Wildlife, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District

Initial Study PROJ-2020-00151  
Tentative Parcel Map 20249  
APN: 0589-213-18  
March 22, 2021

County of San Bernardino: Land Use Services Department-Building and Safety, Public Health-Environmental Health Services, Department of Public Works – Surveyor, and County Fire

Regional: Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District

Local: None

**Figure 1 Regional Map**



**Figure 2 Vicinity Map**





**CONSULTATION WITH CALIFORNIA NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES**

Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

On December 16, 2020, the County of San Bernardino mailed notification pursuant to AB52 to the following tribes: Colorado River Indian Tribes, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians and, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. Requests for consultations were due to the County by January 18, 2021. The table below shows a summary of comments and responses.

**AB 52 Consultation**

<b>Tribe</b>	<b>Comment Letter Received</b>	<b>Summary of Response</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>
Colorado River Indian Tribes	None	n/a	n/a
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	None	n/a	n/a
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	None	n/a	n/a
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe	None	n/a	n/a
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	None	n/a	n/a
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	None	n/a	n/a

Note: Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process. (See Public Resources Code section 21083.3.2.) Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission’s Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Please also note that Public Resources Code section 21082.3(c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality.

**EVALUATION FORMAT**

This Initial Study is prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq. and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Section 15000, et seq.). Specifically, the preparation of an Initial Study is guided by Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. This format of the study is presented as follows. The project is evaluated based on its effect on 20 major categories of environmental factors. Each factor is reviewed by responding to a series of questions regarding the impact of the project on each element of the overall factor. The Initial Study checklist provides a formatted analysis that provides a determination of the effect of the project on the factor and its

elements. The effect of the project is categorized into one of the following four categories of possible determinations:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
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Substantiation is then provided to justify each determination. One of the four following conclusions is then provided as a summary of the analysis for each of the major environmental factors.

1. **No Impact:** No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
2. **Less than Significant Impact:** No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
3. **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated:** Possible significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated and the following mitigation measures are required as a condition of project approval to reduce these impacts to a level below significant. The required mitigation measures are: (List of mitigation measures)
4. **Potentially Significant Impact:** Significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required to evaluate these impacts, which are (List of the impacts requiring analysis within the EIR).

At the end of the analysis the required mitigation measures are restated and categorized as being either self- monitoring or as requiring a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

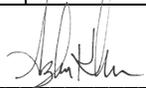
**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

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

**DETERMINATION:** Based on this initial evaluation, the following finding is made:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project <b>COULD NOT</b> have a significant effect on the environment, and a <b>NEGATIVE DECLARATION</b> shall be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there shall 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 <b>MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION</b> shall be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project <b>MAY</b> have a significant effect on the environment, and an <b>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT</b> is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project <b>MAY</b> have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An <b>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT</b> is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	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 <b>NEGATIVE DECLARATION</b> pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or <b>NEGATIVE DECLARATION</b> , including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

  
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 Signature: (Azhar Khan, Planner)

3.25.2021  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

*Chris Warrick*  
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 Signature: (Chris Warrick, Supervising Planner)

Date March 25, 2021  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>I. AESTHETICS</b> – Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which will adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check  if project is located within the view-shed of any Scenic Route listed in the County Wide Plan):

**San Bernardino Countywide Plan, adopted October 27, 2020; Bloomington Community Plan 2007; San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR; San Bernardino County Development Code**

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

**No Impact.** The Project Site is located within in the unincorporated Community of Joshua Tree, San Bernardino County. It is surrounded by mostly developed single-family residential uses. The proposed project is for the subdivision of one (1) 5-acre parcel to two (2) 2.5-acre parcel. There is no grading or development being proposed with this application. Therefore, the project will not have an impact on a scenic vista. The Countywide Plan (adopted October 27, 2020) does not identify a scenic vista within the vicinity of the Project Site.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan. Adopted October 27, 2020. [http://countywideplan.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/CWP\\_PolicyPlan\\_PubHrngDraft\\_HardCopy\\_2020\\_July.pdf](http://countywideplan.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/CWP_PolicyPlan_PubHrngDraft_HardCopy_2020_July.pdf). Accessed November 6, 2020.

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

**No Impact.** The Project Site is not adjacent to a state scenic highway. There are protected Joshua Trees on site, however as a minor subdivision of land, there will be no impacts. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the site and its surroundings. The proposed project would allow for future single family residential development pursuant to the current zoning/land use designation of RL. Project Applicant. The conditions of approval will include requirements for future development to comply with all County Development Codes and ordinances. Therefore, the current project would have no impact on the existing visual character and quality of the site and its surrounding.

- d) *Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which will adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?*

**No Impact.** The project does not propose any additional light-poles, or lighting. Any future proposed on-site lighting must comply with the Glare and Outdoor Lighting requirements in the Desert Region, which includes shielding. The project would result in no impact relative to light and glare. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

**No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required**

	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>II.</b>	<b>AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES</b> - In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<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 non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>SUBSTANTIATION:</b> (Check <input type="checkbox"/> if project is located in the Important Farmlands Overlay):					
<b>Countywide Plan; California Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program; San Bernardino County Agricultural Resources GIS Map; Submitted Project Materials</b>					

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

**No Impact.** The California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program does not identify the Project Site as to be part of the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program in its California Important Farmland Finder.<sup>2</sup> No prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide importance occurs at the Project Site or within the immediate vicinity.<sup>3</sup> The Proposed Project would not convert farmland to a non-agricultural use. No impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

**No Impact.** The Project Site is zoned Rural Living and not under or adjacent to any lands under a Williamson Contract<sup>45</sup> and therefore, the project would not conflict with either existing zoning for agricultural use, or Williamson Act contract. There is no impact and no further analysis warranted. No impact is expected.

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

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production. The proposed project has never been designated as forestland or timberland because the site is within the desert region, which does not contain forested lands. There will be no impact.

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

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not result in the loss of forestland or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. The proposed project site is within the desert region of the county and does not contain forested lands. There is no impact and no further analysis warranted.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/>. Accessed January 26, 2021

<sup>3</sup> San Bernardino County. San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Figure 5.2-1 "Agricultural Resources." Accessed November 11, 2020.

<sup>4</sup> San Bernardino County. San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Figure 5.2-1 "Agricultural Resources." Accessed November 6, 2020.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=fcb9bc427d2a4c5a981f97547a0e3688>. Accessed March 24, 2020.

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

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use. The proposed project site does not contain forested lands. There is no impact and no further analysis is warranted.

**No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>III. AIR QUALITY</b> - Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district might be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION:** *(Discuss conformity with the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management Plan, if applicable):*

**Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; CalEEMod Output**

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

**No Impact.** The Project Site is located in the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD). The Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) has jurisdiction over air quality issues and regulations within the MDAQMD. The Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) for the region establishes a program of rules and regulations administered by MDAQMD to obtain attainment of the state and federal air quality standards. The most recent AQMP (2016 AQMP) was adopted by the SCAQMD on March 3, 2017. The 2016 AQMP incorporates the latest scientific and technological information and planning assumptions, including transportation control measures developed by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) from the 2016 Regional

Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and updated emission inventory methodologies for various source categories.

A project is inconsistent with the AQMP if: (1) it does not comply with the approved County Wide Plan; or (2) it uses a disproportionately large portion of the forecast growth increment (change population or employment levels). The County of San Bernardino currently designates the Project Site as Rural Living (RL) under which the Proposed project is an allowable use.

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

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. Air quality impacts include construction exhaust emissions generation from diesel and gasoline-powered construction equipment, vegetation clearing, grading, fugitive dust, construction worker commuting, construction material deliveries, and operational activities upon project completion. As proposed, the project will not engage in any of the aforementioned activities. There will be no impact.

There is no proposed grading or construction associated with this project. As such, the project would not exceed MDAQMD criteria pollutant emission thresholds. Cumulative emissions are part of the emission inventory included in the AQMP for the project area. Therefore, there would be no cumulatively considerable net increase of the criteria pollutants that are in nonattainment status in the Mojave Desert Air Quality Region.

- c) *Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?*

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not expose sensitive receptors to any pollutant concentrations. No construction is proposed thus would not result in any air pollutant emissions.

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

**No Impact.** The proposed project does not contain land uses typically associated with emitting objectionable odors. As proposed potential odor sources associated with the project do not exist. Future development will be required to comply with all County Development Code and Ordinances that aim to mitigate objectionable odors that may result from a specific land use. There will be no impact.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project:</b>				
a) Have substantial adverse effects, 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>SUBSTANTIATION:</b> (Check if project is located in the Biological Resources Overlay or contains habitat for any species listed in the California Natural Diversity Database <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ):				
<b>Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; General Biological Assessment</b>				

- a) *Have substantial adverse effects, 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?*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** A General Biological Resources Assessment (BRA), dated October 1, 2020, was prepared for the Proposed Project by Jericho System Inc. (JSI) who completed a data search for information on common and protected plants and wildlife species known occurrences within the vicinity of the Project Site. The review included biological texts on general and specific biological resources, and those resources considered to be sensitive by various wildlife agencies, local government agencies and interest groups. JSI used the data to focus their survey efforts in the field.

Currently, a total of 130 natural plant alliances have been documented within the Mojave Desert. Similarly, national databases (e.g., LandFire) describe nearly a hundred different ecological systems in the ecoregion. Creosote bush scrub, succulents, and yucca-blackbrush community types dominate the Mojave with dominant species including creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*), white bursage (*Ambrosia dumosa*), four-winged salt bush (*Atriplex canescens*), Mojave yucca (*Yucca schidigera*), blackbrush (*Coleogyne ramosissima*) and Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*). Upper elevation community types occur as 'sky islands' on mountains that rise to more than 11,000 feet in elevation. These areas contain some of the ecoregion's most isolated communities and species and harbor high levels of endemism.

On August 14, 2020, Jericho Biologists Shay Lawrey and Christian Nordal conducted a field survey of the Project site and survey buffer of 300 feet with binoculars since the survey buffer area was private property. Both surveyors are qualified biologist with advanced degrees in Biology and several years of experience surveying for the sensitive species known to in California. The surveyors conducted the survey by walking transects spaced approximately 30 feet apart, which provided 100 percent visual coverage of the ground surface (Figure 4). Weather conditions were sunny with clear skies. Survey hours of spanned from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. with temperatures ranging from 79 degrees Fahrenheit (° F) to 86° F and no wind. The surveyors focused on the sensitive species known to occur locally, including burrowing owl (BUOW), Mohave Ground Squirrel (MGS), and desert tortoise (DT) and the habitat elements specifically required by these species. The site survey included a review of reported occurrences of the BUOW and DT within 3-mile radius of the Project facility areas (CNDDDB 2020, Figure 4). They examined natural and non-natural substrates for burrows to determine size, shape, and aspect. They looked for scat, feathers, cast pellets, prey remains, white wash and carcasses. The site was also assessed for soil type and level of friability as well as habitat type and habitat structure. The desert tortoise survey was conducted in accordance with the protocols described in the USFWS's 2009 "Desert Tortoise (Mojave Population) Field Manual: (*Gopherus agassizii*)," the 2010 "Pre-Project Field Survey Protocol for Potential Desert Tortoise Habitats," and the August 31, 2017 survey protocol update, "Preparing for Any Action That May Occur Within the Range of The Mojave Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*)." Per the USFWS survey protocol, 100 percent visual coverage of the survey area was achieved by walking belt transects over the entire Project site wherever there was potentially suitable desert tortoise habitat present (i.e. creosote bush scrub and/or allscale scrub habitats), to provide sufficient coverage to find signs of desert tortoise use (e.g., scat, burrows, carcasses, courtship rings, drinking

depressions, etc. in addition to live tortoises). It should be noted that these “zone of influence” transects are no longer required as of the 2017 updated protocol. However, to provide additional sampling of the areas adjacent the Project facility areas, the 300-foot survey buffer around perimeter of the Project site with binoculars. Wildlife species were detected during field surveys by sight, calls, tracks, scat, or other signs. In addition to species observed, expected wildlife usage of the site was determined according to known habitat preferences of regional wildlife species and knowledge of their relative distributions in the area. Identification of mammals within the Project area was generally determined by physical evidence rather than direct visual identification. This is because: 1) many of the mammal species that potentially occur onsite are nocturnal and would not have been active during the survey; and 2) no mammal trapping was performed. The proposed project will not affect State or federally listed endangered, threatened species because none are present on site. In addition, the proposed project will not adversely affect Critical Habitat as none exist in the Project area.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** This project will not 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 US Fish and Wildlife Service because no such habitat has been identified or is known to exist on the project site. Information presented in the *General Biological Assessment* prepared by JSI does not identify any riparian corridor and/or habits along riparian corridor.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** This project will not have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means, because the project is not within an identified protected wetland as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

- 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?*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** This project will not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. The *General Biological Resources Assessment* conducted by Jericho Systems Inc. dated October 1, 2020 indicates that there are vegetation suitable for nesting birds on site.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The project will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance because future construction or land disturbance is required to adhere to the County's Tree & Plant Protection Ordinance. The project proponent will be required to obtain a Tree & Plant Removal Permit prior to any land disturbance for the removal of any Native Desert Plant listed in Chapter 88.01.060(c).

Joshua trees are now protected by the State of California as a candidate for listing as an endangered species. At this time, the County cannot issue a permit to remove or transplant any Joshua tree. Any proposal to remove, transplant or disturb the area within 10 feet of a Joshua Tree shall require approval from the State of California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

- 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?*

**No Impact.** The Project Site is not located within the planning area of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan as identified in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's California Natural Community Conservation Plans Map (April 2019).<sup>6</sup> No impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated with the implementation of mitigation measures.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>V. CULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:</b>				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=68626&inline>. Accessed January 21, 2021.

**SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check if the project is located in the Cultural  or Paleontologic  Resources overlays or cite results of cultural resource review):

**Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation**

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

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation, dated November 21, 2020, was prepared for the Proposed Project by CRM Tech. The purpose of the assessment was to identify and document any cultural resources that may potentially occur within the Project Site. The investigation was completed for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as amended, the San Bernardino County policies and guidelines. Historic land use data was compiled by CRM Tech through research conducted at the Bureau of Land Management General Land Office records (on-line); the San Bernardino County Archives, the San Bernardino County Assessor's Office and Recorder's offices, the San Bernardino County Surveyor's Office, and local historic data from the CRM Tech in-house library.

An archaeological records search was completed for this investigation at the California State University, Fullerton, South Central Coastal Information Center (September 29, 2020). The research was unable to be completed due to facility closure during COVID-19 pandemic. SCCIC cautions that the records search results "may or may not be complete".

According to SCCIC records, the project area had not been surveyed for cultural resources prior to this study, and no historical/archaeological resources had been recorded within or adjacent to the project boundaries. Within the one-mile scope of the records search, SCCIC records identify at least two existing studies carried out in 1973 and 2010 (Table 1). However, no previously recorded cultural resources, either prehistoric—i.e., Native American—or historical in origin, are identified within the scope of the records search.

The Project Site yielded no physical evidence of prehistoric archaeological resources, historic archaeological resources, built environments (standing structures), or ethnic resources. The three buildings on the property today, namely the residence, the garage/studio, and the Quonset hut, were all completed after Epperson acquired the property in 2000 (NETR Online 1983; Google Earth 1989-2009; County Assessor n.d.). The residence was built in 2001 (County Assessor n.d.). At the same time, the original 1959 cabin was remodeled with new cladding on the entire exterior to match the residence, and the interior was repartitioned to serve its current function as a combined garage and studio, but the overall framework remained unchanged (Epperson 2020). The final addition to the group, the Quonset hut, was built between 2006 and 2009 (Google Earth 2006; 2009). Since then, no further development has occurred on the

property (Google Earth 2011-2019). No significant historical events or persons have been associated with this property and there are no standing structures to evaluate. CRM Tech has concluded the current project area is clear of any physical evidence of historic or prehistoric archaeological resources. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- c) *Disturb any human remains, including those outside of formal cemeteries?*

**Less than Significant with Mitigation.** Construction activities, particularly grading, could potentially disturb human remains interred outside of a formal cemetery. Field surveys conducted as part of the Cultural Resource Investigation did not encounter any evidence of human remains. The Project Site is not located on or near a known cemetery. The Proposed Project would not have a significant impact on human remains. CRM Tech recommends that if buried cultural materials are encountered during future earth-moving operations on the property resulting from the subdivision, all work within 50 feet of the discovery should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

**CR-1: Mitigation Measure** If human remains or funerary objects are encountered during any activities associated with the project, work in the immediate vicinity (within a 100-foot buffer of the find) shall cease and the County Coroner shall be contacted pursuant to State Health and Safety Code §7050.5 and that code enforced for the duration of the project.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated with the implementation of mitigation measures.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>VI. ENERGY – Would the project:</b>				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b><i>SUBSTANTIATION: California Energy Consumption Database; Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards; Submitted Project Materials</i></b>				

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

**No Impact. Electricity:** Southern California Edison (SCE) provides electricity to the Proposed Project Site. Currently, the existing Project Site is vacant and does not use electricity. Therefore, development of the Proposed Project would cause a permanent increase in demand for electricity when compared to existing conditions. The increased demand is expected to be sufficiently served by the existing SCE electrical facilities. Total electricity demand in SCE's service area is estimated to increase by approximately 12,000 GWh— between the years 2015 and 2026. The increase in electricity demand from the project would represent an insignificant percent of the overall demand in SCE's service area. Therefore, projected electrical demand would not significantly impact SCE's level of service. The single-family homes that will be constructed on the newly created lots will be designed to comply with the 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards. The County San Bernardino would review and verify that the Proposed Project plans would be in compliance with the most current version of the Building and Energy Efficiency Standards. The Proposed Project would also be required adhere to CALGreen, which establishes planning and design standards for sustainable developments, and energy efficiency. These sustainable features would be incorporated into the Proposed Project in which shall include high energy efficiency insulation, wall assemblies and windows to maximize insulation of cool or warm temperature; Cool roof concrete roof tiles; Radiant barrier roof sheathing; energy efficiency heating and cooling systems; and Solar panels. The development of the Propose Project is not anticipated to affect with achievement of the 60 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard established in in the current SB 100. SCE and other electricity retailer's SB 100 goals include that end-user electricity use such as residential and commercial developments use would decrease from current emission estimates. The Proposed Project would not result in a significant impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation and no mitigation measures are recommended.

**Natural Gas:** The Proposed Project and surrounding area are serviced by Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas). The Project Site is currently vacant and has no demand on natural gas. Therefore, the development of the Proposed Project will create a permanent increase demand of natural gas. However, the existing SoCalGas facilities is expected to meet the increased demand of natural gas. The residential demand of natural gas is anticipated to decrease from approximately 236 billion cubic feet (bcf) to 186 Bcf between the years 2018 to 2035, while supplies remain constant at 3.775 billion cubic feet per day (bcfd) from 2015 through 2035. Therefore, the natural gas demand from the Proposed Project would represent an insignificant percentage to the overall demand in SoCalGas' service area. The Proposed Project would not result in a significant impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation and no mitigation measures are recommended.

**Fuel:** During construction of a single-family structures on the newly created parcel, the transportation energy consumption is dependent on the type of vehicle and number of vehicle trips, vehicle miles traveled, fuel efficiency of vehicles, and travel mode. Temporary transportation fuel use such as gasoline and diesel during construction

would come from the transportation and use of delivery vehicles and trucks, construction equipment, and construction employee vehicles. Additionally, most construction equipment during grading would be powered by gas or diesel. Electric powered equipment shall be implemented as development furthers. Impacts related to transportation energy use during construction would be temporary and would not require the use of additional use of energy supplies or the construction of new infrastructure; therefore, impacts would not be significant. During operations of the Proposed Project, the use of fuel would be generated by residents, visitors, trips by maintenance staffs, employee vehicle trips and delivery trucks. Since there is only a potential for four homes, the Proposed Project is not expected to result in a substantial demand for energy that would require expanded supplies or the construction of other infrastructure or expansion of existing facilities. The fuel use related with vehicle trips produced by the Proposed Project would not be considered inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary. The Proposed Project would not result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. Impacts are less than significant, and no mitigation is recommended.

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

**No Impact.** The Proposed Project would be designed to comply with the County of San Bernardino Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan, and the State Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24). Project development would not cause inefficient, wasteful and unnecessary energy consumption, and no adverse impacts would occur.

The Proposed Project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted to reduce GHG emissions, including Title 24, AB 32, and SB 32; therefore, the Project is consistent with AB 32, which aims to decrease emissions statewide to 1990 levels by to 2020. The Proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are recommended.

**Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>VII.</b>	<b>GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Would the project:</b>				

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.

ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?

iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

iv. Landslides?

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

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?

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

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?

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

**SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check  if project is located in the Geologic Hazards Overlay District):

**Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; Fault Activity Map of California, 2010; California Important Land Finder; Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation**

- 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*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The project will not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving; i) rupture of a known earthquake fault, ii) strong seismic ground shaking, iii) seismic related ground failure, including liquefaction or iv) landslides. The nearest earthquake fault zone is the Aquist-Priolo Fault Zone approximately 3.6 miles to the north and the project site is not located in any area known to be susceptible to liquefaction or landslide. Most of southern California is susceptible to strong earthquakes and ground shaking; however, California Building Code standards are meant to protect buildings and individuals from loss of life and property related to earthquakes. Any new development will be required to meet the latest adopted California Building Code prior to the issuance of building permits for new construction and materials. Therefore, impacts from proximity to fault zones are considered less than significant.

*ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** No active faults pass through the subject property.<sup>7</sup> As is the case for most areas of Southern California, ground shaking resulting from earthquakes associated with nearby and more distant faults may occur at the Project Site. The design of any structures on-site would incorporate measures to accommodate projected seismic ground shaking in accordance with the California Building Code (CBC) and local building regulations. The CBC is designed to preclude significant adverse effects associated with strong seismic ground shaking. Compliance can ensure that the Proposed Project would not expose people or structures to substantial adverse effects, including loss, injury or death, involving seismic ground shaking.

*iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?*

**No Impact.** Liquefaction is a process in which cohesion-less, saturated, fine-grained sand and silt soils lose shear strength due to ground shaking and behave as fluid. Areas overlying groundwater within 30 to 50 feet of the surface are considered susceptible to liquefaction hazards. Ground failure associated with liquefaction can result in severe damage to structures. The Project Site is not located in an area susceptible to

<sup>7</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Geology and Soils. Figure 5.6-1 "Alquist-Priolo Fault Zones and County Fault Hazard Zones.

liquefaction.<sup>8</sup> Therefore, no impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

*iv) Landslides?*

**No Impact.** Seismically induced landslides and other slope failures are common occurrences during or soon after earthquakes. The Project Site is not located within an area susceptible to landslides.<sup>9</sup> Furthermore, the Project Site is near level with the surrounding area. As concluded in the soils report, the potential for seismically induced landslides to occur is considered low. Therefore, no impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The project will not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil because no development is proposed at this time. At the time any development occurs, on-site erosion and sediment control measures will be in place as required by the County Development Code and the Building and Safety Division. As discussed in Section III b) of this document, the MDAQMD requires measures be in place during grading and land disturbance activities to minimize fugitive dust in the form of a Dust Control Plan (DCP). Grading plans, an approved grading permit, Dust Control Plan (DCP) and erosion and sediment control plan is required prior to any land disturbance from the Building and Safety Division, in addition, an erosion and sediment control plan must be approved and implemented during grading activity with regular inspections by the County's Land Development Division. A condition of approval from the Building and Safety Division will require a note be placed on the Composite Development Plan (CDP) stating, "An Erosion and Sediment Control plan must be submitted and approved by the Building official prior to any land disturbance". The County's Landscape & Irrigation design element of the Development Code will require at a minimum landscaping on disturbed portions of the future developed parcels to ensure minimal soil erosion, the County prohibits the clearing of natural vegetation in the Desert Region for no purpose.

*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?*

**No Impact.** The Project Site is relatively flat with no prominent geologic features occurring on or within the vicinity of the Project Site. The elevation of the Project Site averages about 3,400 feet. The Project Site is not within an area susceptible to liquefaction or landslides<sup>10</sup>. The Geologic Hazard Overlay includes any areas of adverse soil conditions, such as those underlain by hydrocollapsible, expansive,

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<sup>8</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Geology and Soils. Figure 5.6-3 "Liquefaction and Landslide Susceptibility."

<sup>9</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Geology and Soils. Figure 5.6-3 "Liquefaction and Landslide Susceptibility."

<sup>10</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Geology and Soils. Figure 5.6-3 "Liquefaction and Landslide Susceptibility."

and/or corrosive soils. The project site is not mapped as being in the Geologic Hazard Overlay. Any new construction will be required to meet the latest adopted California Building Code and all measures required by the County's Geologist.

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

**No Impact.** The project is not located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the California Building Code (1994) creating substantial risks to life or property. As mention in section c) above, the project site is not within the County's mapped Geologic Hazard Overlay, including areas as having expansive soils. Any future construction on the newly created parcels must meet the requirements of the latest adopted California Building Code and any requirements set forth by the County's Geologist. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- 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?*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The site will require future single-family residences to have an Environmental Health Services approved wastewater treatment device or connect to sewer service. The County's Environmental Health Services Department reviewed the subject project and will require, as a condition of approval, a percolation test to be completed prior to recordation. A note placed on the Composite Development Plan will state "An approved percolation report, (EHS reference number) prepared by (person/firm name & credentials) on (date prepared), is on file with EHS. A plot plan showing the location of the septic system shall be submitted to EHS prior to the issuance of building permits for the individual lots." If the percolation report indicates that soils exist that are incapable of adequately supporting the use of onsite waste water treatment, septic permits will not be issued and development of the subject parcels will not be allowed until an alternative form of wastewater treatment is available.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The site does not contain unique geologic features and is not expected to contain unique paleontological resources.

**Therefore, potential impacts can be reduced to less than significant level with implementation of mitigation measures above.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the project:</b>				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

***SUBSTANTIATION:  
Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials***

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** On December 6, 2011, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors adopted the County Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction Plan. The GHG Plan establishes a GHG emissions reduction target for the year 2020 that is fifteen (15) percent below 2007 emissions. The plan is consistent with AB 32 and sets the County on a path to achieve more substantial long-term reductions in the post-2020 period. Achieving this level of emissions will ensure that the contribution to greenhouse gas emissions from activities covered by the GHG plan will not be cumulatively considerable.

CEQA Guidelines provide that the environmental analysis of specific projects may be tiered from a programmatic GHG plan that substantially lessens the cumulative effect of GHG emissions. If a public agency adopts such a programmatic GHG Plan, the environmental review of subsequent projects may be streamlined. A project's incremental contribution of GHG emissions will not be considered cumulatively significant if the project is consistent with the adopted GHG Plan.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The Proposed Project would comply with applicable County GHG Plan strategies. Any project that does not exceed 3,000 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e per year will be considered to be consistent with the SCAQMD's AQMP and determined to have a less than significant individual and cumulative impact for GHG emissions. With implementation of Mitigation Measures GHG-1 to GHG-5, the Proposed Project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – Would the project:</b>				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

***SUBSTANTIATION:***  
***Submitted Project Materials; EnviroStor Database; San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR: Hazards and Hazardous Materials***

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

**No Impact.** The project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials, because allowed uses in the RL zone will not transport, use or dispose of hazardous materials. If a use is proposed in the future that transports, uses or disposes of hazardous materials a permit and inspection by the Hazardous Materials Division of the County Fire Department is required.

- 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?*

**No Impact.** The project will not 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, because the project is a residential subdivision and no hazardous materials will be on site. Any proposed future use or construction activity that might use hazardous materials is subject to permit and inspection by the Hazardous Materials Division of the County Fire Department.

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

**No Impact.** The project uses will not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 1/4 mile of an existing or proposed school, because the project does not propose the use of hazardous materials and all existing and proposed schools are more than 1/4 mile away from the project site.

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

**No Impact.** The project site is not included on the San Bernardino County list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code 65962.5 and therefore, will not create a significant hazard to the public or environment.

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

**No Impact.** The Project Site is not within an airport safety review area or Airport Runaway Protection Zone.<sup>11</sup> The Project Site is not located within the vicinity of a private or public airstrip. The nearest airport to the Project Site is Hi Desert Airport/Roy Williams Airport, approximately 4.17 miles northeast of the Project Site. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

**No Impact.** The project will not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, because the project

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<sup>11</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Figure 5.8-2 "Airport Safety Zones."

has adequate access from two or more directions via Single Tree Road to the north and a future road dedication at Clear View Road to the south. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

**No Impact.** The project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wild land fires, including where wild lands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with lands because prior to any construction occurring on any parcel, the applicant shall contact the County Fire Department for verification of current fire protection requirements. All new construction shall comply with the current Uniform Fire Code requirements and all applicable statutes, codes, ordinances and standards of the Fire Department. The County Wide Plan does not designate the project site as being within a Fire Safety Review Area 1 (FS1) Overlay.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project:</b>				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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:				
i. result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii. substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or offsite;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii. create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- |    |  |                          |                          |                                     |                                     |
|----|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|    | or provide substantial additional sources of runoff; or  |                          |                          |                                     |                                     |
|    | iv. impede or redirect flood flows?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| d) | In flood hazard, tsunami, or 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

**Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; Preliminary WQMP; Hydrology and Hydraulics Report**

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

**No Impact.** The project will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements because the approved single-family home on site has an approved on-site wastewater treatment device. Any future on-site wastewater treatment systems associated with residential development must be approved by the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health -Environmental Health Services Division based on requirements set by the Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board. The standards enforced by the Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board require that any wastewater treatment system be designed in a manner so as not to violate the region’s water quality standard. The parcels meet the minimum size requirements of the Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board for onsite wastewater treatment systems.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The project will not substantially 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. The project site has been authorized by the Department of Public Health – Environmental Health Services Division for individual wells on each parcel. EHS will require documentation that substantiates sufficient well water of acceptable quality to serve the project prior to map recordation.

- 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:*

- i) *Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;*

**No Impact.** The project will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off-site because the

project does not propose any alteration to a drainage pattern, stream or river. The project will not require the alteration of any drainage pattern of the site or area as indicated in the preliminary drainage report approved by the County's Land Development Division – Drainage Section

- ii) *Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on or offsite;*

**No Impact.** The current development of one (1) single-family residence and the future development of another will not create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems because the drainage of the residences will be handled by the natural drainage courses on the property. County Land Development Division has reviewed the proposed project drainage and has determined that the existing systems are adequate to handle anticipated flows. There will be adequate capacity in the local and regional drainage systems, so that downstream properties are not negatively impacted by any increases or changes in volume, velocity or direction of stormwater flows originating from or altered by the project.

- iii) *Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of runoff; or*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The current development of one (1) single-family residence and the future development of another will not create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems because the drainage of the residences will be handled by the natural drainage courses on the property. County Land Development Division has reviewed the proposed project drainage and has determined that the existing systems are adequate to handle anticipated flows. There will be adequate capacity in the local and regional drainage systems, so that downstream properties are not negatively impacted by any increases or changes in volume, velocity or direction of stormwater flows originating from or altered by the project

- iv) *Impede or redirect flood flows?*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The Project Site is not within a 100-Year Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood zone, 100-year Department of Water Resources Awareness Zone, or a 500-year FEMA flood zone.<sup>12</sup> Under existing conditions, the site generally flows to the north. Under proposed conditions, water would flow northwesterly. Development of the Proposed Project would not substantially impede or redirect flood flows. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

**No Impact.** The project will not be impacted by inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. The project is not adjacent to any body of water that has the potential of seiche

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<sup>12</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hydrology and Water Quality. Figure 5.9-2 "Flood Hazard Zones in the Valley and Mountain Regions."

or tsunami or is the project site in the path of any potential mudflow according to the County's Flood Hazard Overlay map.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** Upon submittal of a building permit for the construction of a single-family residence, the Proposed Project would be subject to the NPDES permit. Requirements of the permit would include development and implementation of a SWPPP, which is subject to RWQCB review and approval. The purpose of an SWPPP is to: 1) identify pollutant sources that may affect the quality of discharges of stormwater associated with construction activities; and 2) identify, construct and implement stormwater pollution control measures to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges from the construction site during and after construction. The SWPPP would include BMPs to control and abate pollutants, and treat runoff that can be used for groundwater recharge. The Proposed Project would not otherwise substantially degrade water quality as appropriate measures relating to water quality protection. Appropriate BMPs will be reviewed and approved by the County. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:</b>				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

***SUBSTANTIATION:***

***Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials***

- a) *Physically divide an established community?*

**No Impact.** The project will not physically divide an established community, because the project is a logical and orderly extension of the planned land uses and development that are established within the surrounding area. The proposed subdivision will create residential parcels that conform to the Rural Living minimum parcel size development standards and the residential density of the County Wide Plan. The subject property is surrounded by public rights-of-way that allow continued access to adjacent and neighboring property and neighborhoods.

- 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?

**No Impact.** The project will not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. The project is consistent with all applicable land use policies and regulations of the County Code, County Wide Plan, and the plans, policies, laws and regulations of responsible agencies. The project complies with all hazard protection, resource preservation and land use modifying Overlay District regulations

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XII. MINERAL RESOURCES - Would the project:</b>				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that will be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local County Wide Plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check  if project is located within the Mineral Resource Zone Overlay):

**Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; Mineral Land Classification**

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

**No Impact.** The project will not 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 because no known mineral resources are on site. The project site is not located in the any Mineral Resources overlay for metallic mineral resources as indicated in the *Mineral Land Classification of a Part of Southwestern San Bernardino County, California*: The project site is not currently mined, is not mapped as an area for a potential future mining operation and has no known mineral resources of significance or value.

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

**No Impact.** The project will not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local County Wide Plan, specific plan or other land use plan, because the project site is not identified as a recourse recovery site on the County Wide Plan, specific plan or other land use plan. The County Wide Plan has mapped sites that are existing surface mining activities, areas where mining activity is expected to take place in the future and areas adjacent to current or proposed mining activity as the Mineral Resource (MR) Overlay. The project site is not within the MR Overlay of the County Wide Plan; therefore, no impact is anticipated in this area.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XIII. NOISE - Would the project result in:</b>				
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local County Wide Plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check if the project is located in the Noise Hazard Overlay District  or is subject to severe noise levels according to the County Wide Plan Noise Element ):

**Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; Noise Impact Analysis**

- a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local County Wide Plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

**No Impact.** The project will not expose persons to or generate noise levels in excess of standards established in the local County Wide Plan or noise ordinance, or applicable

standards of other agencies because development of two single-family homes must comply with the County's noise ordinance for residential zones. Noise exceeding these standards is not anticipated to be generated by the allowed uses of the Rural Living land use district and future construction activities. The subject site is not located near any activity that generates noise levels in excess of the Rural Living land use zoning district standards. A note will be placed on the CDP that future residences, "shall submit an acoustical information sheet demonstrating that the County's exterior and interior residential noise standards will not be exceeded and if exceeded, the manner in which those levels will be mitigated to an acceptable level". This information is to be submitted to the County's Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Services Division for review and approval.

b) *Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?*

**No Impact.** The project will not create exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels. Any land disturbance conducted in the future, as part of a residential development will have to adhere to the County Development Code for grading and construction noise. The project location is not in the surrounding area of any industries or activities that generate excessive ground borne vibration.

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

**No Impact.** The project is not located within an airport land-use plan area or within two miles of a public/public use airport.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING - Would the project:</b>				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>

***SUBSTANTIATION:***  
***Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Material***

- 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)?*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The project will not induce substantial population growth in an area either directly or indirectly. The proposed subdivision will create an additional parcel that is allowed one primary dwelling unit, and accessory dwelling unit and a junior accessory dwelling unit. The County Wide Plan has anticipated and planned for this level of development on the project site.

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

**No Impact.** The proposed use will not displace any people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere, because the project will not displace any existing housing or existing residents.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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**XV. PUBLIC SERVICES**

- a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

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

***SUBSTANTIATION:***

***Countywide Plan, 2020; Submitted Project Materials***

- a) *Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:*

*Fire Protection?*

**No Impact.** There are two fire stations located within the Project’s vicinity. San Bernardino County Fire Station 36, at 6715 Park Boulevard, is located approximately 4.6 miles north of the Project Site. Fire Station 35, at 6562 Sierra Avenue, is located approximately 9.6 miles northeast of the Project Site.

Comprehensive safety measures that comply with federal, state, and local worker safety and fire protection codes and regulations would be implemented into project design to minimize the potential for fires to occur during construction and operations. The Proposed Project would be required to comply with County fire suppression standards, provide adequate fire access and pay required development impact fees. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated.

*Police Protection?*

**No Impact.** The San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department (SBCSD) serves the Community of Joshua Tree and other unincorporated portions of the County. The nearest police station to the Project Site is the SBCSD Morongo Basin station located at 6527 White Feather Road, approximately 7.0 miles north of the Project Site. The SBCSD reviews staffing needs on a yearly basis and adjusts service levels as needed

to maintain an adequate level of public protection. Additionally, development impact fees are collected at the time of building permit issuance to offset project impacts. Therefore, no are identified or anticipated.

*Schools?*

**No Impact.** The Project Site is served by the Morongo Unified School District. The Proposed Project would not result in substantial population growth. The Proposed Project is not expected to draw any new residents to the region that would require expansion of existing schools or additional schools. With the collection of development impact fees, impacts related to school facilities are expected to be less than significant. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated.

*Parks?*

**No Impact.** The Proposed Project would not induce residential development nor significantly increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities, such that substantial physical deterioration of any facilities would result. Operation of the Proposed Project would place no demands on parks because it would not involve the construction of housing and would not involve the introduction of a permanent human population into the area. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated.

*Other Public Facilities?*

**No Impact.** The Proposed Project would not result in an increased residential population or a significant increase in the work force. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not adversely affect other public facilities or require the construction of new or modified facilities. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XVI. RECREATION</b>				
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 will occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>

***SUBSTANTIATION:***  
***Submitted Project Materials***

- 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 will occur or be accelerated?*

**No Impact.** This project will not 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. Any impacts from this proposed minor subdivision will be minimal because only approximately three (3) residential units may be generated at final build-out. The County Wide Plan requires new residential development to provide a local park and recreation facilities at a rate of not less than 3 acres per 1,000 residents.. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in an increase in the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks, or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated. The Project Applicant’s payment of required fees will serve to mitigate any potential impacts related to the use of existing parks and other recreational facilities from the Proposed Project. No impacts are identified or anticipated.

- 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?*

**No Impact.** This project does not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment, because the type of project proposed will not result in an increased demand for recreational facilities. No development of new parkland is required per the County Wide Plan and discussed in section XVI a), above.

**Therefore, no adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XVII. TRANSPORTATION – Would the project:</b>				
a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3 subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

***SUBSTANTIATION:***

***Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; Traffic Analysis***

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The future development of two (2) parcels will not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. Local roads are currently operating at a Level Of Service (LOS) at or above C the standard established by the County Wide Plan. As required by the County’s Development Code, the applicant is required to provide roadway dedication to the east of the parcel.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The Proposed Project is anticipated to add a maximum of three additional dwelling units upon completion and approval of a Building Permit. Therefore, the proposed subdivision meets the Project Type and Low VMT Area screening and would therefore be presumed to result in a less than significant VMT impact. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

**No Impact.** The Project Site is almost perfectly rectangular-shaped and will be square after subdivision is recorded and is not adjacent to windy roads. Moreover, the Proposed Project is the subdivision of a parcel into two (2) parcels. It does not include a geometric design or incompatible uses that would substantially increase hazards. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- d) *Result in inadequate emergency access?*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** Access into the site would be via a road dedication on the east side of the parcel. The San Bernardino County Fire Department requires the access road to be paved or an all-weather surface to be installed with turnouts. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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**XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES**

- a) Would the Project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

- |     |  |                          |                          |                                     |                          |
|-----|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| i)  | Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ii) | A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

**Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation**

- a) *i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or;*
- ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** California Assembly Bill 52 (AB52) was approved by Governor Brown on September 25, 2014. AB52 specifies that CEQA projects with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource may have a significant effect on the environment. As such, the bill requires lead agency consultation with California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of a proposed project, if the tribe requested to the lead agency, in writing, to be informed of proposed projects in that geographic area. The legislation further requires that the tribe-requested consultation be completed prior to determining whether a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report is required for a project.

In November 2020, CRM Tech completed a Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the Project Site (available at the County offices for review). The investigation has been completed for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended, the San Bernardino County policies and guidelines. The Native American groups living near the project location in recent centuries were the Serrano and the Chemehuevi. The Serrano's homeland was centered in the nearby San Bernardino Mountains but also included lowlands along both flanks of the mountain range. The Chemehuevi, a subgroup of the Southern Paiute, traditionally occupied the portion of the Mojave Desert extending east to the Colorado River. Both groups belong to the larger Shoshonean language stock, which in turn is part of the Uto-Aztecan linguistic family. The leading anthropological works on the Chemehuevi include Kroeber (1925), Laird (1976), and Kelly and Fowler (1986), while the basic references on the Serrano are Kroeber (1925), Strong (1929), and Bean and Smith (1978).

Prior to European contact, native subsistence practices were defined by the surrounding landscape and were based primarily on the cultivating and gathering of wild foods and hunting, exploiting nearly all of the resources available. The Serrano settled mostly on elevated terraces, hills, and finger ridges near where flowing water emerged from the mountains, while the Chemehuevi, with fewer people spread over a much wider area, cultivated, gathered, and hunted in the open deserts, but were also known for their agricultural practices, in particular the cultivation of corn, beans, squash, and melons.

On December 16, 2020, the County of San Bernardino E-mailed notification pursuant to AB-52 and SB-18 to the following tribes: the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Colorado River Indian tribes, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians and Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians. The AB-52 consultation concluded on January 18, 2021.

Consultation with the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Colorado River Indian tribes, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians and Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians. Planning Staff has not received any feedback from the local tribes.

**No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required at this time.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS - Would the project:</b>				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the Project that it has adequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

***SUBSTANTIATION:***

***Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; California Energy Commission Energy Report***

- 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?*

**No Impact.** The proposed subdivision project will not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. There is no water or wastewater treatment provider serving the project area.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project will have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, as the demand on ground water supplies for two (2) future single-family dwellings is not significant.

- c) *Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the Project that it has adequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?*

**No Impact.** The Proposed Project would not require use of a wastewater treatment plant but would utilize an on-site septic system. Since the Proposed Project would not connect to an existing wastewater treatment facility, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- 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?*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** Waste generated from the Proposed Project is not expected to significantly impact solid waste collection systems. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

**No Impact.** The mandatory requirement to prepare a Construction and Demolition Solid Waste Management Plan would ensure that impacts related to construction waste would be less than significant. The Proposed Project would comply with all federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste as there are no proposal for demolition or construction at this time. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.**

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XX. WILDFIRE:</b> 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water resources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

***SUBSTANTIATION:***

***County of San Bernardino Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; CalFire VHFHSZ in LRA***

- a) *Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*
- Less Than Significant Impact.** The Project Site is not located within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone,<sup>13</sup> nor will it impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
- b) *Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?*

<sup>13</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Figure 5.8-5 "Fire Severity and Growth Areas in the Desert Regions."

**Less Than Significant Impact.** With no major slopes, elevations on-site range from approximately 3,370 feet to 3,400 feet. The Project Site is not located within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.<sup>14</sup>

The Project Site is currently vacant. It is surrounded by residential development to the, east, west and north. The property to the south remains vacant. Natural vegetation occurs on-site and could be potential for wildfire fuel factors within the Project Site, the risk of wildfires could be moderate. Therefore, less than significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

**No Impact.** The Proposed Project does not include the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure that would exacerbate fire risk. Implementation of the Proposed Project would reduce the risk of wildfires by eliminating some natural vegetation at and around building footprint and provide some hardscape. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

- 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?*

**Less Than Significant Impact.** Elevations on the Project Site range from 3,370 feet to 3,400 feet. Therefore, the Project Site is not subject to post-fire slope instability. The Project Site is not within a 100-Year Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood zone, 100-year Department of Water Resources Awareness Zone, or a 500-year FEMA flood zone.<sup>15</sup> Moreover, there are no dams, reservoirs, or large bodies of water near the Project Site. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not 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. No significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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<sup>14</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Figure 5.8-5 "Fire Severity and Growth Areas in the Desert Regions."

<sup>15</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hydrology and Water Quality. Figure 5.9-2 "Flood Hazard Zones in the Valley and Mountain Regions."

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
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**XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

- |    |  |                          |                          |                                     |                          |
|----|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) | Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" 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 considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) | Does the project have environmental effects, which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| a) | <i>Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?</i> |                          |                          |                                     |                          |

**Less Than Significant Impact.** Potential impacts to biological resources would be less than significant level as the desert tortoise species and burrowing owls were not found in the project area. The desert tortoise or burrowing owls signs of habitat were not found.

No significant impacts to cultural resources were identified in the Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation prepared for the Proposed Project. CRM Tech did find a late-historic-period cabin built in 1959, however significantly remodeled in 2001. The structure is not considered a potential ‘historical resource’. Otherwise, no further evidence of historical or prehistorical resources on the Project Site. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not eliminate important examples of the major periods of

California history or prehistory. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** The project does not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable. Special studies prepared to analyze impacts of the proposed project consider and evaluate existing and planned conditions of the surrounding area and the region. Existing and planned infrastructure in the surrounding area has been planned to accommodate planned build out of the area, including the project site.

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

**Less Than Significant Impact.** All potential impacts have been thoroughly evaluated and have been deemed to be neither individually significant nor cumulatively considerable in terms of any adverse effects upon the region, the local community or its inhabitants. At a minimum, the project will be required to meet the conditions of approval for the project to be implemented. It is anticipated that all such conditions of approval will further ensure that no potential for adverse impacts will be introduced by construction activities, initial or future land uses authorized by the project approval.

The incorporation of design measures, County of San Bernardino policies, standards, and guidelines and proposed mitigation measures as identified within this Initial Study would ensure that the Proposed Project would have no significant adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly on an individual or cumulative basis.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated with incorporation of mitigation measures.**

## **XXII. MITIGATION MEASURES**

(Any mitigation measures, which are not 'self-monitoring' shall have a Mitigation Monitoring and prepared and adopted at time of project approval. (Compliance monitoring will be verified by for condition compliance)

### **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**CR-1: Mitigation Measure** If human remains or funerary objects are encountered directly associated with the project, work in the immediate vicinity (within a 100-foot buffer of the project) and the County Coroner shall be contacted pursuant to State Health and Safety Code §71000 enforced for the duration of the project.

Initial Study PROJ-2020-00151  
Tentative Parcel Map 20249  
APN: 0589-213-18  
March 22, 2021

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Initial Study PROJ-2020-00151  
Tentative Parcel Map 20249  
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