

# SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY INITIAL STUDY 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>APN:</b>	3068-611-16
<b>APPLICANT:</b>	VERIZON WIRELESS
<b>PROPOSAL:</b>	MINOR USE PERMIT FOR AN UNMANNED TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY TO INCLUDE A 100' LATTICE TOWER WITH 12 PANEL ANTENNAS, A 6' PARABOLIC DISH AND TWO GPS ANTENNAS AND A 190 SQ.FT. EQUIPMENT SHELTER WITHIN A 900 SQ. FT. LEASE AREA ON 2.18 ACRES
<b>COMMUNITY:</b>	PINON HILLS / 1ST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT
<b>LOCATION:</b>	NORTH SIDE BUCKWHEAT ROAD, APPROXIMATELY 650' EAST OF SMOKE TREE ROAD
<b>PROJECT NO.:</b>	P201300025/CF
<b>STAFF:</b>	CHRIS CONNER
<b>REP:</b>	SPECTRUM SURVEYING – RANDI NEWTON

**USGS Quad:** Phelan

**T, R, Section:** T4N R7W Sec.10 NE 1/4

**Planning Area:** Phelan/Pinon Hills Community Plan

**LUZD:** PH/IC (Community Industrial)

**Overlays:** Biotic Resources (Desert Tortoise – Sparse Population)  
Fire Safety 2  
Flood Plain Overlay 1 And 2

## PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Lead agency:** County of San Bernardino  
Land Use Services Department, Planning Division  
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, First Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92415

**Contact person:** Chris Conner, Senior Planner  
**Phone No:** (909) 387-4425  
**E-mail:** cconner@lusrd.sbcounty.gov

**Project Sponsor:** Spectrum Surveying – Randi Newton  
8390 Maple Place, Suite 110  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed application is a Minor Use Permit to establish A 100-foot wireless telecommunications lattice tower 12 panel antennas, one 6-foot parabolic dish and two GPS antenna, and a 190 square foot equipment shelter within a 900 square foot lease area on 2.18 acres. Electrical and telco lines trenching is proposed from the tower location to existing sources approximately 1,900 feet east of the site. The lease area will be surrounded by an 8-foot high block wall. The project site lies within the unincorporated portion of the County of San Bernardino in the Phelan/Pinon Hills Community Plan area. It is located on the north side of Buckwheat Road approximately 650 feet east of Smoke Tree Road. The County's General Plan designates the project area as Phelan/Pinon Hills Community Plan / Community Industrial (PH/IC) Land Use Zoning District.

## ENVIRONMENTAL/EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS:

The proposed project site is undeveloped as are all adjacent properties. The project site is relatively flat and located within relatively undisturbed desert scrub habitat on an undeveloped parcel. Soils onsite are compacted and sandy. Vegetation on the project site primarily consists of native trees and shrub species typically observed in desert scrub habitats. Dominant species observed onsite include California juniper (*Juniperus californica*), chaparral yucca (*Hesperoyucca whipplei*), and Mojave buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum* var. *polifolium*). Other common native species observed include Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*), California ephedra (*Ephedra californica*), spiny saltbush (*Atriplex spinifera*), and goldenbush (*Isocoma* sp.). Non-native and/or ornamental species observed include red gum tree (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), single leaf pinyon (*Pinus monophylla*), pomegranate (*Punica granatum*), and cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*).

AREA	EXISTING LAND USE	LAND USE ZONING DISTRICT/OVERLAYS
Site	Vacant	PH/IC, FS-2, FP-1, FP-2
North	Vacant	PH/IC, FS-2, FP-1, FP-2
South	Vacant	PH/IC, FS-2
East	Vacant	PH/IC, FS-2, FP-1
West	Vacant	PH/IC, FS-2, FP-1

**Other public agencies whose approval may be required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.):**

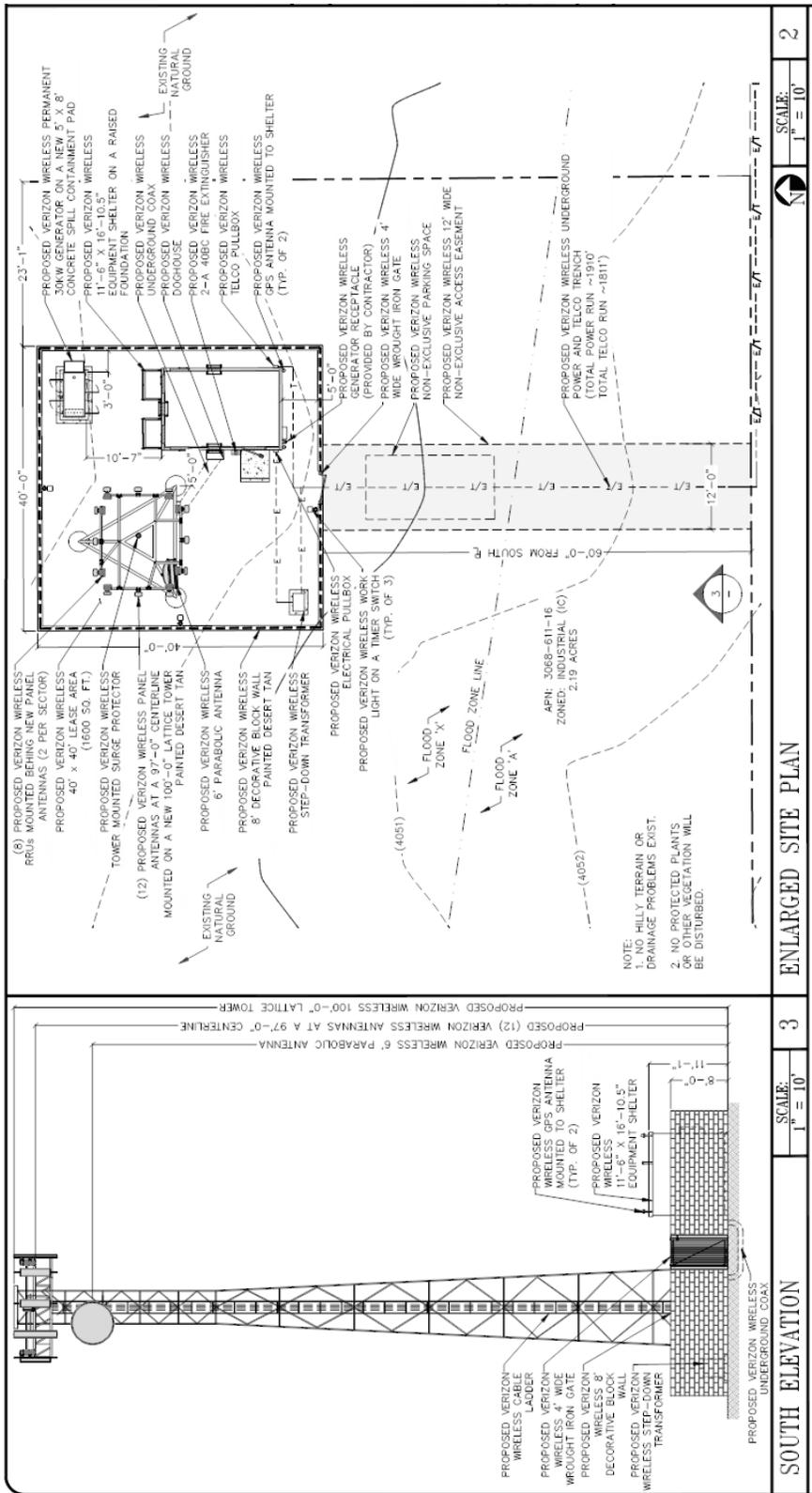
Federal: FCC, FAA, USFW

State of California: CDFW

County of San Bernardino: Land Use Services - Building and Safety, Code Enforcement; and County Fire, Information Services

Local: N/A

**SITE PLAN**



SITE PHOTOS

View of the site looking north



View of the site looking east



View of the site looking west



View of the site looking south



**EVALUATION FORMAT**

This initial study complies with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. This format of the study is as follows. This document evaluates the project based upon its effect on 18 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	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. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.
2. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.
3. 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 mitigation measures)
4. Significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required to evaluate these impacts, which are (Listing 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 would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

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

**DETERMINATION:** (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the following finding is made:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (prepared by) Chris Conner, Senior Planner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: Dave Prusch, Supervising Planner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>I. AESTHETICS</b> - Would the project				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

- l a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project is not located within a designated Scenic Corridor and will not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista, as there are none identified within the vicinity of the project site that would be affected by the proposed development. Photo simulations prepared by Spectrum Services, Inc show the proposed tower will be painted to blend into the desert landscape. Additionally, the proposed lattice tower provides for a permeable viewing surface increasing the structure's ability to blend into the area.
- l b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would not substantially damage scenic resources including but not limited to rock outcroppings and historic buildings within a state scenic highway as none exist in the area.
- l c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. As mentioned in la above, the proposed lattice tower will be painted and constructed to blend into the existing desert landscape.
- l d) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed Project will not create a new source of substantial light or glare which will adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. As a requirement of development, the project conditions of approval will require adherence with County Code that allows only hooded lighting, directed downward in a diffused pattern. Due to the location of the project, lighting restrictions, and the nominal intensity of the lights, impacts from lighting are less than significant.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<p><b>II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST 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 Department 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 the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:</p>				
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 forestland or conversion of forestland 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 forestland to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION** (Check  if project is located in the Important Farmlands Overlay):

II a-e) **No Impact.** The proposed project will not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use. There are no agricultural uses currently on the site.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>III. AIR QUALITY</b> - Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) 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 (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors 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):

- III a) **No Impact.** The project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management Plan, because the proposed uses do not exceed the established air quality thresholds. Traffic increase will be minimal due to the unmanned nature of the proposed use, therefore no significant impact is anticipated and no mitigation measure is deemed necessary.
- III b) **Less than Significant.** The project will not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation, because the project consists of an unmanned telecommunications facility. This type of use is not anticipated to exceed thresholds of concern as established by the District. A Dust Control Plan is required to regulate construction activities that could create windblown dust. The lease area will be enclosed with an eight-foot high block wall developed with block building to house equipment cabinets leaving little to no areas exposed. The remainder of the site is required to be left in its natural state so there should be no increase in windblown particulate matter on-site.
- III c) **No Impact.** The project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors), because the proposed uses do not exceed established thresholds of concern.
- III d) **No Impact.** The project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations, because there are no identified concentrations of substantial pollutants associated with this project.
- III e) **No Impact.** The project would not create odors affecting a substantial number of people because there are no identified potential uses that would result in the production of objectionable odors.

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

	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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION** (Check if project is located in the Biological Resources Overlay or contains habitat for any species listed in the California Natural Diversity Database )

IV a) **Less than Significant with Mitigation.** The San Bernardino County General Plan Biotic Resources Map shows the project site to be within an area known to support a sparse population of Desert Tortoise. A Biological Resources Impact Analysis was prepared for the project by Michael Brandman Associates on June 26, 2013.

Sensitive Plant Species

The study notes that the area has potential to contain sensitive plant species including the Mojave paintbrush, Short-joint beavertail, and White pygmy poppy and that several occurrences of these species have been reported within the vicinity of the site. However, the Survey was conducted during the flowing season for these species and none were observed within the Project area and no impacts to sensitive plant species are anticipated.

Sensitive Wildlife

The Project has potential to impact sensitive wildlife species known to inhabit the area including Le Conte's thrasher, Coast horned lizard, and Desert tortoise. The project site lacks typical nesting habitat for Le Conte's thrasher however, the presence of these species cannot be completely ruled out. The coast horned

lizard typically inhabits areas containing friable soils and/or sandy washes that allow for digging and burying which the Project site lacks. Although no occurrences of desert tortoise have been reported within 5 miles of the site, the area does contain moderately suitable habitat to support the species.

In order to reduce potential impacts to sensitive plants and wildlife, Mitigation Measure BIO-1 requires preconstruction surveys to determine the presence or absence. If any protected plant or wildlife species is found to occur on site, the applicant will be required to stop work immediately and implement further mitigation in accordance with State and/or Federal guidelines.

- IV b) **No Impact.** This project would not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service because no such habitat has been identified or is known to exist on the project site.
- IV c) **No Impact.** According to the Biological report prepared for the Project, no waters or wetlands that fall under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and/or CDFW are found on the proposed Project area. No indicators of hydrologic activity (topographical or geological), hydric soils, or hydrophytic vegetation were observed onsite. In addition, no blue-line streams are found on the Phelan U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle in the vicinity of the project area.
- IV d) **Less than Significant with Mitigation.** The proposed project is not anticipated to 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 Biological Resources Impact Analysis prepared by Michael Brandman Associates concluded that no nests were observed on-site, however the trees and shrubs on and within the immediate vicinity of the project site contain suitable nesting habitat for a number of avian species. Mitigation measures (BIO-2) have been identified to reduce the impacts to a less than significant level.
- IV e) **Less than Significant with Mitigation.** The County Development Code Section 88.01.060 (Desert Native Plant Protection) provides regulations for the removal or harvesting of specified desert native plants in order to preserve and protect the plants and to provide for the conservation and proper use of desert resources. According to the Biological Report prepared by RCA Associates the site supports creosote bush community, Mojave yuccas and Joshua trees. The Joshua trees and the Mojave yuccas are listed in 88.01.060 (c) of the County Development Code as protected trees. Several Joshua Trees exist on site.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3 requires pre-construction inspection to determine any impacts to Joshua Trees related to the proposed construction. If any Joshua Trees will be impacted, the applicant shall be required to prepare and submit a native tree removal plan indicating exactly which trees or plants are proposed to be removed or relocated. The plan shall be prepared by a Desert Native Plant Expert in accordance with the County's Plant Protection and Management Ordinance.

- IV f) **No Impact.** This project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan, because no such plan has been adopted in the area of the project site.

**Possible significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated and the following mitigation measure is required as a condition of approval to reduce potential impacts to below level of significance.**

**MITIGATION MEASURES:**

- BIO-1 *Pre-Construction Surveys and Avoidance.* Within 14 days prior to construction-related ground clearing and/or grading, the Applicant shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct surveys for signs of occupancy by the Mojave desert tortoise and Le Conte's thrasher. Surveys shall cover the entire area proposed for disturbance, shall be conducted by walking parallel transects spaced no more than 10 meters apart, and shall focus on detecting any signs of both species including carcasses, burrows, palates, tracks, and scat. Should any sign indicating the presence of Mojave desert tortoise or Le Conte's Thrasher be detected, the Applicant shall not proceed with ground clearing and/or grading activities in the area of the find, and shall instead contact the

*USFWS and CDFW to develop an avoidance strategy and/or seek authorization for incidental take of Mojave desert tortoise and/or Le Conte's thrasher.*

*The results of the pre-construction surveys shall be submitted to the County of San Bernardino within 14 days of completion of the pre-construction surveys. [Mitigation Measure BIO-1 – Prior to Grading/Land Disturbance]*

- BIO-2 Nesting Birds. In order to minimize any potential impact on nesting birds, installation of the proposed facility should be conducted outside the nesting season. The nesting season generally extends from early February through August, but can vary slightly from year to year based upon seasonal weather conditions. If facility installation must occur during the nesting season, a qualified biologist should conduct a nesting bird survey to identify any potential nesting activity. If active nests are observed, construction activity must be prohibited within a 500-foot (~160-meter) buffer around the nest until the nestlings have fledged. All construction activity within the vicinity of active nests must be conducted in the presence of a qualified biological monitor. Construction activity may encroach into the buffer area at the discretion of the biological monitor. [Mitigation Measure BIO-2 – Prior to Grading/Land Disturbance]*
- BIO-3 Joshua Trees. A preconstruction inspection shall be performed by County Building and Safety to determine impacts to Joshua Trees onsite. If Joshua Trees will be impacted, the applicant shall prepare a tree removal plan identifying which trees are proposed to be removed. Joshua Trees that are proposed to be removed shall be transplanted or stockpiled for future transplanting wherever possible. [Mitigation Measure BIO-3 – Prior to Grading/Land Disturbance]*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>V. CULTURAL RESOURCES</b> - Would the project				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

- V a) **No Impact.** This project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, because there are no such resources that have been identified in the vicinity of the project. To further reduce the potential for impacts, a condition of approval shall be added that requires the developer to contact the County Museum for determination of appropriate excavation and recovery action measures, if any finds are made during project construction.
- V b) **No Impact.** This project will not cause a substantial adverse change to an archaeological resource, because there are no such resources that have been identified in the vicinity of the project. To further reduce the potential for impacts, a condition of approval shall be added that requires the developer to contact the County Museum for determination of appropriate excavation and recovery action measures, if any finds are made during project construction.
- V c) **No Impact.** This project will not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature, because there are no such resources that have been identified in the vicinity of the project. To further reduce the potential for impacts, a condition of approval shall be added that requires the developer to contact the County Museum for determination of appropriate excavation and recovery action measures, if any finds are made during project construction.
- V d) **No Impact.** This project will not disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries, because there are no such burial grounds that have been identified in the vicinity of the project. If any human remains are discovered, during construction of this project, the developer is required to contact the County Coroner and County Museum for determination of appropriate excavation and recovery actions; and a Native American representative, if the remains are determined to be of Native American origin.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS</b> - Would the project:				
a) 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, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map Issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on or off site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the California Building Code (2001) creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

- VI a) **Less than Significant Impact.** (i-iv) The project would 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, or iii) seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction, because there are no such geologic hazards identified in the immediate vicinity of the project site.
- VI b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project would not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil because of the minimal land disturbance associated with the project.
- VI c) **No Impact.** The project is not located on a geologic unit or soil that has been identified as being unstable or having the potential to result in on or off site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse.
- VI d) **No Impact.** The project site is not located in an area that is identified by the County Geologist as having the potential for expansive soils.
- VI e) **No Impact.** There is no wastewater associated with the proposed cell tower. There will be no wastewater facilities as part of the project.

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

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
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**VII GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS - Would the project:**

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

VII a, b) **Less than Significant Impact.** As discussed in Section III of this document, the proposed project's primary contribution to air emissions is attributable to construction activities. Project construction shall result in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the following construction related sources: (1) construction equipment emissions and (2) emissions from construction workers personal vehicles traveling to and from the construction site. Construction-related GHG emissions vary depending on the level of activity, length of the construction period, specific construction operations, types of equipment, and number of personnel.

The primary emissions that would result from the proposed project occur as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from gasoline and diesel combustion, with more limited vehicle tailpipe emissions of nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), as well as other GHG emissions related to vehicle cooling systems. Although construction emissions are a one-time event, GHG emissions such as CO<sub>2</sub> can persist in the atmosphere for decades.

On December 6, 2011, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors adopted the County Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction Plan. Once built and operational this project will be an unmanned site, with periodic maintenance trips. The project must adhere with the standard requirements contained within the GHG Emissions Reduction Plan. For these reasons, it is unlikely that this project would impede the state's ability to meet the reduction targets of AB32.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>VIII. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) 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"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- VIII a) **Less than Significant 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 the use proposed is not anticipated to involve such activities. If such uses are proposed on-site in the future, they will be subject to permit and inspection by the Hazardous Materials Division of the County Fire Department, and in some instances, to additional land use review.
- VIII b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project would 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 any proposed 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.
- VIII c) **No Impact.** The project uses would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter 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 ¼ mile away from the project site.

- VIII d) **No Impact.** The site is not on the CAL/EPA Facility Inventory Data Base Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List dated April 15, 1998, as summarized by San Bernardino Land Use Services Department.
- VIII e) **No Impact.** The project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. It would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.
- VIII f) **No Impact.** The project site is not within the vicinity or approach/departure flight path of a private airstrip.
- VIII g) **No Impact.** The project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The site has adequate access existing from Smoke Tree Road along the southern property line and Minero Road on the eastern property line.
- VII h) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. Any construction must meet the requirements of the Fire Department and shall comply with the current Uniform Fire Code requirements and all applicable statutes, codes, ordinances, and standards (such as use of specific building materials, fuel modification areas, building separations, etc.). These requirements will reduce fire hazard risk to below a level of significance.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project:</b>				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) 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 (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level, which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner, which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water, which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structure, which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- IX a) **No Impact.** The project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. The project will not consume or create a demand for any water. It will not generate any wastewater. There will be no impacts.
- IX b) **No Impact.** The project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. The project will not consume or create a demand for any water. It will not generate any wastewater. There will be no impacts.

- IX c) **No Impact.** The project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in erosion or siltation on- or off-site. The project does not propose any alteration to a drainage pattern, stream, or river.
- IX d) **No Impact.** The project would not substantially alter any existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site. The project does not propose any alteration to a drainage pattern, stream, or river.
- IX e) **No Impact.** The site is outside of any natural flows, flood prone areas, or other hazards associated with water resources.
- IX f) **No Impact.** The project would not otherwise substantially degrade water quality, because appropriate measures relating to water quality protection, including erosion control measures are required.
- IX g) **No Impact.** The project would not place unprotected housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map because the project is not in a flood hazard area.
- IX h) **No Impact.** The project would not place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows, because the site is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area.
- IX i) **No Impact.** The project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding because of the failure of a levee or dam. The project site is not within any identified path of a potential inundation flow that might result in the event of a dam or levee failure or that might occur from a river, stream, lake, or sheet flow situation.
- IX j) **No Impact.** The project would not be impacted by inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow, because the project is not adjacent to any body of water that has the potential of seiche or tsunami nor is the project site in the path of any potential mudflow.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>X. LAND USE AND PLANNING</b> - Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- X a) **No Impact.** This use is subject to the County Ordinance regarding the siting and design of telecommunications facilities. The design and location are consistent with the ordinance and the County Development Code. The Phelan/Pinon Hills Community Plan is silent on wireless communication facilities.
- X b) **No Impact.** The project would 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 because the project is consistent with all applicable land use policies and regulations of the Phelan/Pinon Hills Community Plan, the County Development Code, and the General Plan. The project complies with all hazard protection, resource preservation, and land-use-modifying Overlay District regulations.
- X c) **No Impact.** The project would not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan, because there is no habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan within the area surrounding the project site. No habitat conservation lands are currently required to be purchased as mitigation for the proposed project.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>XI. MINERAL RESOURCES</b> - Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input 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 general 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): MRZ-4

- XI a) **No Impact.** The project would 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 there are no identified important mineral resources on the project site. The classification of MRZ-4 designates 'Areas of Unknown Mineral Resource Significance with no known mineral occurrence'.
- XI b) **No Impact.** The project would not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan, because there are no identified locally important mineral resources on the project site. The classification of MRZ-4 designates 'Areas of Unknown Mineral Resource Significance with no known mineral occurrence'.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>XII. NOISE</b> - Would the project:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 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"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, 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 General Plan Noise Element ):

- XII a) **No Impact.** The project would not expose persons to or generate noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies, because the project will be conditioned to comply with the noise standards of the County Development Code.
- XII b) **No Impact.** The project would not create exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels, because the project must comply with the vibration standards of the County Development Code and no vibration exceeding these standards is anticipated to be generated by the proposed uses.
- XII c) **No Impact.** The project would not generate a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing or allowed without the project, because the project must comply with the noise standards of the County Development Code and no noise exceeding these standards is anticipated to be generated by the project.
- XII d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Any noise associated with the cell tower would be temporary construction noise impacts. The project would not generate a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project because adherence with the noise standards of the County Development Code is required as part of the conditions of approval. Subsequent noise from maintenance vehicles and any associated repair activity will be periodic and minor.
- XII e) **No Impact.** The project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport.
- XII f) **No Impact.** The project is not within the vicinity of a private airstrip.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING</b> - Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial 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 housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- XIII a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project will not induce population growth in the area either directly or indirectly because the project will only expand specific cellular use capabilities in the region. The project is not proposing any new residential development and will make use of the existing roads and infrastructure, therefore, no significant impact is anticipated.
- XIII b) **No Impact.** The proposed use would not displace any housing units, necessitating the construction of replacement housing because the site is currently vacant. The project does not propose to demolish any housing units.
- XIII c) **No Impact.** The proposed use would not displace any people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere, because the project would not displace any existing residents.

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

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
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**XIV. 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**

XIV a) **No Impact.** The project has no identifiable impacts upon any of these public services. The proposed telecommunications facility does not increase the need for any public service. There are no significant impacts to any public service anticipated because of this project.

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

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>XV. 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 would 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**

- XV a) **No Impact.** The proposed project will not increase use of any existing parks or recreational facilities. The project proposes to provide cellular phone service for desert residents, commuters, and tourists.
- XV b) **No Impact.** This project proposes no recreational facilities as a part of the proposal. The project proposes to provide cellular phone service for desert residents, commuters, and tourists.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would the project:</b>				
a) Cause an increase in traffic, which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- XVI a) **No Impact.** The propose project will not cause an increase in traffic, which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections because County Traffic Division has reviewed and determined that the minimal increase in traffic will fall short of County thresholds of impact.
- XVI b) **No Impact.** Most roads within the plan area are currently operating at a LOS at or above the standard established by the County General Plan. The facility would be unmanned; a maintenance worker would conduct periodic visits to the site. This would not constitute a significant number of new traffic trips on area roadways, nor interfere with emergency routes or alternative transportation opportunities.
- XVI c) **No Impact.** The project would not result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks. There are no airports in the immediate vicinity of the project and there is no anticipated notable impact on air traffic volumes by passengers or freight generated by the proposed use.
- XVI d) **No Impact.** The project will not substantially increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses, because the project site is adjacent to established roads, Smoke Tree Road to the south and Minero Road to the east, and has adequate physical access with appropriate sight distance and properly controlled intersections. Only periodic maintenance vehicles would visit the unmanned site.

- XVI e) **No Impact.** The project would not result in inadequate emergency access because there is access from a minimum of two directions.
- XVI f) **No Impact.** The project would not result in inadequate parking capacity. The project is unmanned. Periodic maintenance vehicles would visit the site, using Smoke Tree Road.
- XVI g) **No Impact.** The project will not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks), because the scope and nature of the proposed project will not add any substantial transportation needs and/or burden to the existing infrastructure, therefore, no impact is anticipated and no mitigation measures are deemed necessary.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS - Would the project:</b>				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) 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"/>
f) Be served by a landfill(s) with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- XVII a) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not produce wastewater. There will be no impacts.
- XVII b) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not use water. There will be no impacts.
- XVII c) **No Impact.** The proposed project would not require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities that would cause significant environmental effects. All construction must meet the requirements from the County Public Works, Land Development Division (Roads/Drainage).
- XVII d) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not use water. There will be no impacts.
- XVII e) **No Impact.** The proposed project will not have any wastewater needs due to the nature of its development. Any future development or expansion that will demonstrate such needs will be subject to DEHS approval; therefore no impact is anticipated.
- XVII f) **No Impact.** The proposed project would not generate on-going solid waste. Verizon must divert construction related waste as required by County Solid Waste. There will be no impacts.
- XVII g) **No Impact.** The proposed project is required to comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
<b>XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:</b>				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

XVIII a) **Less than Significant with Mitigation.** The San Bernardino County General Plan Biotic Resources Map shows the project site to be within an area known to support a sparse population of Desert Tortoise. A Biological Resources Impact Analysis was prepared for the project by Michael Brandman Associates on June 26, 2013.

The study notes that the area has potential to contain sensitive plant species including the Mojave paintbrush, Short-joint beavertail, and White pygmy poppy and that several occurrences of these species have been reported within the vicinity of the site. However, the Survey was conducted during the flowing season for these species and none were observed within the Project area and no impacts to sensitive plant species are anticipated.

The Project has potential to impact sensitive wildlife species known to inhabit the area including Le Conte's thrasher, Coast horned lizard, and Desert tortoise. The project site lacks typical nesting habitat for Le Conte's thrasher however, the presence of these species cannot be completely ruled out. The coast horned lizard typically inhabits areas containing friable soils and/or sandy washes that allow for digging and burying which the Project site lacks. Although no occurrences of desert tortoise have been reported within 5 miles of the site, the area does contain moderately suitable habitat to support the species.

In order to reduce potential impacts to sensitive plants and wildlife, Mitigation Measure BIO-1 and BIO-2 requires preconstruction surveys to determine the presence or absence. If any protected plant or wildlife species is found to occur on site, the applicant will be required to stop work immediately and implement further mitigation in accordance with State and/or Federal guidelines.

Several protect Joshua Trees exist onsite. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-3 which requires preconstruction surveys will reduce impacts to a level below significant.

There are no identified historic or prehistoric resources identified on this site. There are no archaeological or paleontological resources identified in the project area.

XVIII b) **No Impact.** The project does not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable. The proposed project would fill a gap in the exiting telecommunication coverage in Verizon's network. Other telecommunication facilities within the area have conducted environmental reviews and complied with

conditions of approval, including required mitigation measures. There are no known projects planned to occur within the vicinity of the project site that, when coupled with this proposed project, would result in significant environmental impacts.

- XVIII c) **No Impact.** The project will not have other environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly, as there are no such impacts identified by the studies conducted for this project or identified by review of the design of the proposed project. The project will be conditioned to ensure that all necessary mitigation measures are followed prior to occupancy.

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

### XVIII. MITIGATION MEASURES

(Any mitigation measures, which are not 'self-monitoring shall have a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program prepared and adopted at time of project approval)

**SELF MONITORING MITIGATION MEASURES:** (Condition compliance will be verified by existing procedure)

#### **MM# Mitigation Measures**

BIO-1 Pre-Construction Surveys and Avoidance. Within 14 days prior to construction-related ground clearing and/or grading, the Applicant shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct surveys for signs of occupancy by the Mojave desert tortoise and Le Conte's thrasher. Surveys shall cover the entire area proposed for disturbance, shall be conducted by walking parallel transects spaced no more than 10 meters apart, and shall focus on detecting any signs of both species including carcasses, burrows, palates, tracks, and scat. Should any sign indicating the presence of Mojave desert tortoise or Le Conte's Thrasher be detected, the Applicant shall not proceed with ground clearing and/or grading activities in the area of the find, and shall instead contact the USFWS and CDFW to develop an avoidance strategy and/or seek authorization for incidental take of Mojave desert tortoise and/or Le Conte's thrasher.

The results of the pre-construction surveys shall be submitted to the County of San Bernardino within 14 days of completion of the pre-construction surveys. [Mitigation Measure BIO-1 – Prior to Grading/Land Disturbance]

BIO-2 Nesting Birds. In order to minimize any potential impact on nesting birds, installation of the proposed facility should be conducted outside the nesting season. The nesting season generally extends from early February through August, but can vary slightly from year to year based upon seasonal weather conditions. If facility installation must occur during the nesting season, a qualified biologist should conduct a nesting bird survey to identify any potential nesting activity. If active nests are observed, construction activity must be prohibited within a 500-foot (~160-meter) buffer around the nest until the nestlings have fledged. All construction activity within the vicinity of active nests must be conducted in the presence of a qualified biological monitor. Construction activity may encroach into the buffer area at the discretion of the biological monitor. [Mitigation Measure BIO-2 – Prior to Grading/Land Disturbance]

BIO-3 Joshua Trees. A preconstruction inspection shall be performed by County Building and Safety to determine impacts to Joshua Trees onsite. If Joshua Trees will be impacted, the applicant shall prepare a tree removal plan identifying which trees are proposed to be removed. Joshua Trees that are proposed to be removed shall be transplanted or stockpiled for future transplanting wherever possible. [Mitigation Measure BIO-3 – Prior to Grading/Land Disturbance]

**GENERAL REFERENCES**

Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zone Act Map Series (PRC 27500)

California Department of Water Resources Bulletin #118 (Critical Regional Aquifers), 2003 Update

CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G

California Standard Specifications, July 1992

California Department of Conservation, San Bernardino County Important Farmland Maps

County Museum Archaeological Information Center

County of San Bernardino, Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, March 1995

County of San Bernardino Development Code, 2007, amended 2010

County of San Bernardino General Plan, 2007, amended 2010

County of San Bernardino, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan, September 2011

County of San Bernardino Hazard Overlay Map FH23-B

County of San Bernardino Identified Hazardous Materials Waste Sites List, April 1998

County of San Bernardino, June 2004, *San Bernardino County Stormwater Program, Model Water Quality Management Plan Guidance*.

County of San Bernardino Road Planning and Design Standards

Environmental Impact Report, San Bernardino County General Plan, 2007

Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Map and Flood Boundary Map

South Coast Air Quality Management District, *CEQA Air Quality Handbook*, November 1993

South Coast Air Quality Management District, *Air Quality Significance Thresholds*, March 2009

**PROJECT SPECIFIC REFERENCES**

Biological Resources Impact Analysis, Michael Brandman Associates, June 27, 2013

Photo Simulations, Spectrum Services, June, 2013