

## 4 Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures

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### 4.1 Resources Areas Eliminated from Further Analysis

Analysis shows that there is no possibility of impacts for several resource areas, and, accordingly, these resource areas can be eliminated from more detailed analysis. Baseline conditions generally reflect the 2019 operation and maintenance of the Project sites as a petroleum refinery (2017–2019 for marine vessels), including operation and maintenance activities. The remaining resource areas are addressed in detail throughout this chapter.

The following discussion addresses environmental resource topics that would not be affected by the proposed Project, resulting in a *No Impact* level of significance under CEQA.

#### 4.1.1 Agriculture and Forest Resources

Based on CEQA Guidelines Appendix G, a project would cause adverse impacts to agriculture and forest resources if it would:

- 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;*

The Project would be located entirely within the developed areas of the Rodeo Site, Carbon Plant, and the Santa Maria Site. The Rodeo Site, which is a heavy industrial use site, has operated on this site for more than 100 years. Both the Contra Costa County Zoning Map and the Land Use Element map of the Contra Costa County General Plan designate the site for heavy industrial use. The Rodeo Site is not identified as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide or Local Importance on the Contra Costa County Important Farmland Map (California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection 2020); it is designated as Urban and Built-Up Land.

Demolition activities at the Santa Maria Site would take place entirely on Urban and Built-Up land and, thus, would not convert farmland to non-agricultural use. The proposed Project also includes the Pipeline Sites that are located in a number of counties in California. The proposed changes include either the sale of the pipelines or the cleaning and decommissioning of the pipelines, neither of which would affect current land uses. No expansion or physical alteration would occur that could affect important farmland; therefore, no impact would occur.

- b. *Potential of the proposed Project to conflict with existing agricultural zoning, or a Williamson Act contract?*

The Rodeo Site is zoned for heavy industrial uses and is not covered by a Williamson Act contract. Thus, implementation of the Project would not interact with or conflict with existing agricultural zoning or a Williamson Act contract. Activities at the Santa Maria Site would not take place on agricultural lands and, thus, would not conflict with any Williamson Act contracted lands.

The sale of the pipelines or the cleaning and decommissioning of the pipelines would not affect current land uses. No expansion or physical alteration would occur that could affect agricultural zoning or Williamson Act contracts; therefore, no impact would occur.