

4 Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures

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.

- c. *Potential of the proposed Project to conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production?*

The Rodeo Site is not zoned as forest land or timberland, and no forests are located on the site. No forest or timberland is located on or near the Santa Maria Site. The proposed Project also includes the Pipeline Sites that are located in a number of counties in California, including portions of the Los Padres National Forest. 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 forest resources. Therefore, no conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production would occur.

- d. *Potential of the proposed Project to result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?*

As stated above, the Project sites are not zoned as forest land, and no forests are located on the site. 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 forest resources; therefore, the Project would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest uses, and no impact would occur.

- e. *Potential of the proposed Project to 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.*

The Project would be constructed and operated entirely within the developed area of the Rodeo Site, and demolition at the Santa Maria Site would likewise occur on developed land. The Rodeo and Santa Maria Sites do not contain farmland, and no aspects of the Project would affect any identified agricultural land off site. The Rodeo and Santa Maria Sites do not contain forest land, and no aspects of the Project would affect any identified forest land off site. 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 involve other changes in the existing environment.

Therefore, the Project would have not involved 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.

4.1.2 Mineral Resources

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

- 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.*

The Rodeo Refinery, including the Carbon Plant, is considered a heavy industrial use and has operated on its present site for more than 100 years. Despite the potential for unknown mineral resources to be present beneath the site, the Rodeo Refinery is not delineated by the Contra Costa County General Plan as a significant mineral resource area (Contra Costa County 2010). All construction/demolition and operation and maintenance would be located entirely within the developed area of the Rodeo Refinery on land where access to mineral resources is already precluded.

The Santa Maria Site is not located in an area designated as a mineral resource by the state or the county. Accordingly, demolition activities would not preclude access to any mineral resource.

The nearest MRZ-2 zone, which is 0.6 mile from the Santa Maria Site, would likewise not be affected because all activities would take place within the existing Santa Maria Site.

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 mineral resources.

Therefore, no potential exists for the Project to result in the loss of availability of known mineral resources. No impact would occur.

- b. *Potential of the proposed Project to result in the loss of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan.*

The Rodeo Refinery is not delineated by the Contra Costa County General Plan as a significant mineral resource area (Contra Costa County 2010). In addition, the locations of construction and demolition activities of the Project are already developed and dedicated to refinery operations. The Santa Maria Site is not delineated by the state or the county as a significant mineral resource area. 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; therefore, the Project would not result in the loss of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. No impact would occur.

4.1.3 Population and Housing

Based on CEQA Guidelines Appendix G, a project would cause adverse impacts to population and housing if it would:

- 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)*

Operation and Maintenance

The Project does not include new offsite infrastructure or other improvements that could lead indirectly to population growth. No new long-term employees would be added to the Rodeo Refinery workforce, and because the Santa Maria Refinery would be demolished, workers would no longer be necessary, reducing the need for housing. Therefore, operation and maintenance of the proposed Project would not create new demand for long-term housing, and no impact would occur.

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. Placement of the “pigs” (pipe inspection gages) would be done at existing maintenance points along the pipeline routes by existing maintenance personnel. Neither of these potential scenarios would induce substantial population growth in the area that could affect housing.

Construction and Demolition

Potential impacts associated with the Project would be direct impacts caused by temporary, new employment opportunities (i.e., construction workers). Construction and demolition related to the proposed Project, including the transitional phase, would lead to temporary increases in population. At the Rodeo Refinery, approximately 500 construction workers would be required at its peak over the approximate 21-month construction period, and a smaller number to accomplish demolition at the Santa Maria Site. It is estimated that approximately 80 construction workers would be expected to relocate temporarily to the area, with fewer to the Santa Maria Refinery area.

Many of the construction jobs would be specific to certain construction skills or activities. Most of the construction workforce for both sites would be drawn from the construction labor pool available in the respective regions. These workers would commute to the work site rather than move closer to the site. Therefore, the portion of the new construction jobs that would be filled by current residents would have no impact on population or housing.

The estimated 80 construction workers that would be drawn to the sites on a temporary basis would need to locate suitable housing (assumed to be rental housing based on the temporary nature of Project construction). The Bay Area's housing vacancy rate as measured by the 2010 Census was 6.4 percent, totaling approximately 178,000 units (Association of Bay Area Governments/Metropolitan Transportation Commission [ABAG/MTC] 2020). In 2019, San Luis Obispo County had nearly 124,000 housing units, 61 percent of them owner-occupied. Vacancy rates are generally in the neighborhood of 10 percent, but this high rate can be attributed to the large number of vacation and seasonal rental units (San Luis Obispo County 2015). Because of the relatively low number of temporary workers and the number of vacant housing units, it is expected that adequate housing would be available to meet the temporary increase in demand. Therefore, no impact on housing resulting from the temporary population increase would occur.

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

Construction, demolition, and operation and maintenance of the Project would occur entirely within the boundaries of the Rodeo Refinery and Santa Maria Site. No proposed uses would have the potential to remove housing or displace people, and no housing exists on these sites. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing. No impact would occur.

Environmental Justice

Although not required by CEQA, Contra Costa County is addressing Environmental Justice in this EIR to provide the public and decision-makers a better understanding of the Environmental Justice communities in or adjacent to the Project and the implications of the proposed Project on those communities. The analysis of the Project's effect on Environmental Justice communities is provided in Section 4.17, *Environmental Justice*.

4.1.4 Public Services

Based on CEQA Guidelines Appendix G, a project would cause adverse impacts to public services if it would:

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

Fire Protection?

Police Protection?

Schools?

Parks?

Other public facilities?

Operation and Maintenance

The Project does not include new offsite infrastructure or other improvements that lead indirectly to population growth and the need for additional public services. No new long-term employees would be added to the Rodeo Refinery workforce, and because the Santa Maria Refinery would be demolished, workers would no longer be necessary, reducing the need for public services. Therefore, operation and maintenance of the proposed Project would not create new demand for public services and no impact would occur.

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. Placement of the “pigs” (pipe inspection gages) would be done at existing maintenance points along the pipeline routes by existing maintenance personnel. Both of these potential scenarios would not induce substantial population growth in the area that could affect public services.

Construction and Demolition

Construction and demolition related to the proposed Project, including the transitional phase, would lead to temporary increases in population. At the Rodeo Refinery, approximately 500 construction workers would be required at its peak over the approximate 21-month construction period, and a smaller number to accomplish demolition at the Santa Maria Site. It is estimated that approximately 80 construction workers would be expected to relocate temporarily to the area, with fewer to the Santa Maria Refinery area.

Fire Protection

At both the Rodeo Refinery and Santa Maria Site, Phillips 66 currently provides internal fire protection and emergency services with adequate emergency personnel, equipment, and response times. The proposed Project would require a similar level of protection as under baseline conditions at the Rodeo Refinery and would not increase the demand for fire protection services. Therefore, it is not expected that the proposed Project would affect service ratios or response times or increase the use of existing fire protection or emergency facilities such that substantial physical deterioration, alteration, or expansion of these facilities would occur. No impacts related to fire protection would occur.

Police Protection

At both the Rodeo Refinery and Santa Maria Site, Phillips 66 currently provides internal police protection with adequate emergency personnel, equipment, and response times. The proposed Project would not increase the demand for police protection services compared to baseline conditions. Therefore, it is not expected that the proposed Project would affect service ratios or response times or increase the use of existing police protection or facilities such that substantial physical deterioration, alteration, or expansion of these facilities would occur. No impacts related to police protection would occur.

Schools

Any short-term increase in population due to construction activities at the Rodeo Refinery and Santa Maria Site would be considered minimal because the majority of required construction workers currently reside within commuting distance of the Project sites. Thus, the number of potential school-age children of these construction workers would similarly be minimal. No new school facilities would be necessary to serve the proposed Project, so no adverse environmental

impacts from facility construction and operation would occur. Therefore, no impacts would occur related to schools.

Parks

Any short-term increase in population due to construction activities at the Rodeo Refinery and Santa Maria Site would be considered minimal because the majority of required construction workers currently reside within commuting distance of the Project sites. Therefore, it is unlikely that the Project would contribute to any notable increase in use of local recreational facilities, including parks. Therefore, no impacts related to parks would occur.

Other Public Facilities

Any short-term increase in population due to construction activities would be considered minimal because the majority of required construction workers currently reside within commuting distance. Therefore, it is unlikely that the Project would contribute to any notable increase in need for other public services. In addition, the proposed Project would be constructed entirely within Rodeo Refinery boundaries and therefore would not require physical alteration of other public facilities. No impacts to public services would occur.

4.1.5 Recreation

CEQA Guidelines Appendix G states that a project would have adverse impacts to recreation resources if it would:

- a. *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.*

Operation and Maintenance

The Project does not include new offsite infrastructure or other improvements that could lead indirectly to population growth. No new long-term employees would be added to the Rodeo Refinery workforce, and because the Santa Maria Refinery would be demolished, workers would no longer be necessary, reducing the need for recreational facilities. Therefore, operation and maintenance of the proposed Project would not create new demand for long-term recreational facilities, and no impact would occur.

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. Placement of the “pigs” (pipe inspection gages) would be done at existing maintenance points along the pipeline routes by existing maintenance personnel. Both of these potential scenarios would not induce substantial population growth in the area that could affect recreational facilities.

Construction and Demolition

Construction and demolition related to the proposed Project, including the transitional phase, would lead to temporary increases in population. At the Rodeo Refinery, approximately 500 construction workers would be required at its peak over the approximate 21-month construction period, and a smaller number to accomplish demolition at the Santa Maria Site. It is estimated that approximately 80 construction workers would be expected to relocate temporarily to the area, with fewer to the Santa Maria Refinery area.

Major infrastructure improvements such as parks and recreational facilities are generally planned and constructed to serve hundreds or thousands of people. The temporary population increase

resulting from the proposed Project would be minor in relation to the overall population of the area. It is expected that the new temporary residents would be dispersed throughout multiple communities. Thus, the actual increase in users at each park or recreational facility would be insignificant in relation to the design capacity.

Therefore, minor increases in usage those associated with the proposed Project would not result in substantial or accelerated physical deterioration of parks and recreational facilities. No impact would occur.

- b. *Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.*

The proposed Project does not include parks or recreational facilities. Additional parks and recreational facilities would not be necessary as a result of the proposed Project. As explained previously, the temporary population increase associated with the proposed Project would not be large enough to require the construction of parks and recreational facilities. Therefore, no impact would occur related to construction or expansion of recreation facilities.

4.1.6 Utilities and Service Systems

CEQA Guidelines Appendix G states that a project would have adverse impacts to utilities and service systems if it would:

- a. *Would the project require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?*

The proposed Project does not involve any uses that would require new or expanded utilities and service systems, including water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities, or the relocation of these facilities. The Project would not generate new long-term populations that could result in the need for new or expanded services.

Because the Santa Maria Refinery and Carbon Plant would be demolished, utilities would no longer be required. It is speculative to assume a future land use at the Santa Maria Site; therefore, it is unknown whether any onsite utilities would be maintained or relocated at this time. Any proposed reuse of the site would be subject to separate permitting and approval processes. 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, which would not relocate or require expanded utilities services.

Therefore, operation and maintenance of the proposed Project at the Rodeo Refinery and Santa Maria Site would not result in an increase in demand for new or expanded water or wastewater treatment facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects. No impact would occur.

- b. *Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?*
- c. *Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that 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?*

Construction and Demolition

Water use during construction of the Project would be temporary and would be primarily related to dust suppression and concrete production. This short-term and temporary use of water would not affect available water supplies. No impact would occur.

All wastewater generated during construction and demolition at the Rodeo Site and the Carbon Plant would be routed to the refinery's Wastewater Treatment Plant. That facility has a maximum treatment capacity of approximately 10 mgd but under baseline conditions treats approximately 2.8 mgd. Therefore, wastewater generated by construction and demolition activities would be accommodated by the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant. Wastewater generated during demolition of the Santa Maria Site would be handled by that facility's treatment plant until it is demolished, after which any wastewater requiring treatment (which would be small amounts associated with demolition activities) would be contained and transported offsite for treatment in municipal facilities. No impact would occur.

- d. *Would the project 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?*
- e. *Would the project comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?*

Refer to Section 4.16, *Solid Waste*, for discussion of solid waste impacts related to operation, maintenance, construction, and demolition of the Project.

4.1.7 References

ABAG/MTC (Association of Bay Area Governments/Metropolitan Transportation Commission). 2020. Bay Area Census. Available at: <http://www.bayareacensus.ca.gov/bayarea.htm>.

California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection. 2020. Contra Costa County Important Farmland Data Availability Web Page. Available at: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/ContraCosta.aspx>.

Contra Costa County. 2010. Contra Costa County General Plan 2005–2020. Contra Costa County, Department of Conservation and Development. Published January 18, 2005; Reprinted July 2010. Available at: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/4732/General-Plan>.

San Luis Obispo County. 2015. Phillips 66 Company Rail Spur Extension and Crude Unloading Project Final Environmental Impact Report and Vertical Coastal Access Project Assessment. SCH No. 2013071028. Prepared by Marine Research Specialists. December.