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## 6.0 OTHER EVALUATIONS REQUIRED BY CEQA

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### 6.1 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

#### DEFINITIONS

According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(a), an environmental impact report must discuss cumulative impacts when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable, as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15065(c). CEQA Guidelines Section 15355 defines cumulative impacts as "two or more individuals effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts." A cumulative impact occurs with a change in the environment which results from the incremental impact of a project when added to other closely related past, present and reasonably foreseeable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time. Only cumulative impacts which result in part from this project should be discussed [CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(a)(1)].

Section 15130(b) of the CEQA Guidelines identifies the following elements that are necessary for an adequate discussion of significant cumulative impacts:

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

The CEQA Guidelines require the use of only one method of cumulative analysis - the list approach or the plan approach. For this EIR, a combination of the list approach and plan approach was utilized.

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### IMPACT ANALYSIS

For this EIR, both significant and less than significant cumulative impacts have been identified and are presented below. Cumulative impacts of the project on air quality and noise were considered potentially significant. All other cumulative impacts are less than significant. For an explanation of these impacts, and mitigation measures if applicable, refer to the appropriate technical section of this document.

#### *Aesthetics*

**Impact 4.2.4**            **The project would have no adverse cumulative effect on aesthetics and visual resources in the area. [LS]**

#### *Air Quality*

**Impact 4.3.5**            **The project, in conjunction with other proposed projects, may contribute to a degradation of air quality in the Burney Valley area. [PSM]**

#### *Biological Resources*

**Impact 4.4.4**            **The project is expected to have little significant effect on biological resources in the vicinity. [LS]**

#### *Geology and Soils*

**Impact 4.5.6**            **Geologic and soil impacts are site-specific and are generally not affected by cumulative development in the region. [LS]**

#### *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*

**Impact 4.6.4**            **Hazardous material usage in the vicinity would mainly be limited to the project site. [LS]**

#### *Hydrology and Water Quality*

**Impact 4.7.6**            **The cumulative impacts of the project on water supply in the Burney Creek watershed would be minimal. [LS]**

**Impact 4.7.7**            **The cumulative impacts of the project on water quality in the vicinity would be minimal. [LS]**

*Noise*

**Impact 4.8.9**            **The predicted noise levels generated by individual components of the project could have a significant impact when combined. [PSM]**

*Recreation*

**Impact 4.9.2**            **The project is expected to have only an incremental effect on recreation in the area. [LS]**

**6.2    GROWTH-INDUCING IMPACTS**

Public Resources Code Section 21100(a)(5) requires that the growth-inducing impacts of a project be addressed in the environmental impact report. As defined in the CEQA Guidelines, a project may be growth-inducing if it directly or indirectly fosters economic or population growth or the construction of additional housing. Included are projects which would remove obstacles to population growth, such as the expansion of a wastewater treatment plant. It must not be assumed that growth in any area is necessarily beneficial, detrimental or of little significance to the environment {CEQA Guidelines 15126.2(d)}.

The project proposes the establishment of industrial and commercial activities. Industrial activities have commonly been associated with economic growth, which in turn is generally believed to stimulate population growth in an area. However, the project does not require a large number of employees, as would other industrial activities such as a lumber mill. The small number of employees needed by the project would likely come from the resident local population, and would not likely require bringing in employees from outside the area. Thus, the project would at most have minimal growth-inducing impacts on the area, and most likely have no such impacts.

**6.3    SIGNIFICANT AND UNAVOIDABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

Public Resources Code Section 21100(b)(2)(A) requires an environmental impact report to include a detailed statement setting forth any significant effects on the environment that cannot be avoided if a project is implemented. CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.2(b) states that such impacts include those which can be mitigated but not reduced to a level of insignificance. Where there are impacts that cannot be alleviated without imposing an alternative design, their implications and the reasons why the project is being proposed, notwithstanding their effect, should be described. No significant and unavoidable impacts were identified in the environmental analysis of the project.

