

APPENDIX S

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Introduction

California Public Resources Code Section 21081.6 requires that, upon certification of an EIR, “the public agency shall adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes made to the Project or conditions of Project approval, adopted in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment. The reporting or monitoring program shall be designed to ensure compliance during Project implementation.” (PRC Section 21000–21177)

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program was developed in compliance with Section 21081.6 of the California Public Resources Code and Section 15097 of the CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR 15000–15387 and Appendices A–L), and includes the following information:

- A list of mitigation measures
- The timing for implementation of the mitigation measures
- The party responsible for implementing or monitoring the mitigation measures
- The date of completion of monitoring

The County of Riverside must adopt this Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, or an equally effective program, if it approves the proposed Project with the mitigation measures that were adopted or made conditions of Project approval.

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
Aesthetics				
<p>MM VIS-1 Project Design. To the extent possible, the Applicant or Project owner/operator shall implement proper design fundamentals to reduce the visual contrast to the landscape. Design strategies to address these fundamentals may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The boundaries of all areas to be disturbed shall be delineated with stakes and flagging before construction, in consultation with the Designated Biologist, County Visual specialist, and the Bureau of Land Management Visual Resource Management specialist. ▪ Spoils and topsoil where feasible shall be stockpiled in disturbed areas approved by the Designated Biologist. ▪ All disturbances, Project vehicles, and equipment shall be confined to the flagged areas. ▪ Where retention of vegetation is not possible, vegetation along roadways and boundaries of other disturbed areas shall be scalloped (refers to incorporating irregular [i.e., non-straight] edges of vegetation to make edges/transitions between managed and non-managed areas appear more natural) and feathered (refers to thinning edges of vegetation to make transitions from vegetated to non-vegetated area softer and less abrupt) to reduce the hard line visual impact, especially as seen from State Route 177, Interstate 10, and the North Chuckwalla Mountains Petroglyph District. ▪ New and existing roads that are planned for construction, widening, or other improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Roads shall not extend beyond the minimum necessary and shall be flagged as described above. – All vehicles passing or turning around shall do so within the planned impact area or in previously disturbed areas. – Where new access is required outside of existing roads or the construction zone, the route shall be clearly marked (i.e., flagged or staked) before the onset of construction. 	Prior to and during construction	County of Riverside		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Disturbed area will be minimized to the extent feasible and efforts will be made to blend the disturbed areas into the characteristic landscape. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Where feasible, replace soil, brush, rocks, and natural debris over disturbed area. 				
Air Quality				
<p>MM AQ-1: Construction Equipment Emission Reductions. Prior to Riverside County’s approval of any construction-related permits, the Project Applicant or its designee shall require its construction contractor to demonstrate that the following measures are implemented during construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All off-road, diesel-powered equipment shall be powered with California Air Resources Board-certified Tier 4 final engines. An exemption from this requirement may be granted if (1) the Applicant documents that equipment with Tier 4 final engines is not reasonably available, and (2) the required corresponding reductions in criteria air pollutant emissions can be achieved for the Project from other combinations of construction equipment. Before an exemption may be granted, the Applicant’s construction contractor shall: (1) demonstrate that at least two construction fleet owners/operators in the County were contacted and those owners/operators confirmed Tier 4 final equipment could not be located within the County during the desired construction schedule; and (2) the proposed replacement equipment has been evaluated using the California Emissions Estimator Model or other industry standard emissions estimation method and documentation provided to the County to confirm that necessary Project-generated emissions reduction are achieved. ▪ With the exclusion of pile drivers, ensure that no one piece of off-road, diesel-powered construction equipment is operating for more than 8 hours per day during construction. ▪ Require that all construction equipment shall be properly tuned and maintained in accordance with manufacturer specifications before and for the duration of construction. 	<p>Prior to approval of any construction-related permits</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce idling time of heavy-duty trucks either by shutting them off when not in use or by reducing the time of idling to no more than 3 minutes (thereby improving upon the 5-minute idling limit required by the state airborne toxics control measure 13 CCR Section 2485). 				
<p>MM AQ-2 Fugitive Dust Control Plan. Prior to Riverside County’s approval of any construction-related permits, the Project Applicant or its designee shall prepare a comprehensive Fugitive Dust Control Plan consistent with South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 403. The plan shall include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The name(s), addresses(es), and phone number(s) of person(s) responsible for the preparation, submission, and implementation of the plan ▪ A description and location of all construction-related activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A comprehensive list of all fugitive dust emission sources related to Project construction. - Identification of a Dust Control Supervisor for the Project that meets the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is employed by or contracted with the Project Applicant - Is on site or is available to be on site after initial contact. - Has the authority to expeditiously employ sufficient dust mitigation measure to ensure compliance with all Rule 403 and 403.1 requirements. - Has completed the SCAQMD Fugitive Dust Control Class and has been issued a valid Certificate of Completion for the class. ▪ At a minimum, the plan shall include the following dust control measures: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Unpaved Roads. All unpaved access roadways used for Project-related travel to the site shall be stabilized with a non-toxic, Bureau of Land Management-approved chemical stabilizer in sufficient quantity and frequency to maintain a stabilized surface for the duration of the construction period. It is assumed that Envirotac II/Rhino Snot, Earth 	<p>Prior to approval of any construction-related permits</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

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<p>Glue, and FSB 1000 palliatives will be approved for use during Project construction.</p> <p>b. Clearing and Grubbing. Prior to, during, and after site preparation where vegetation is cleared, soil stability shall be maintained through watering of the site. Live perennial vegetation shall be maintained where possible, and water shall be applied in sufficient quantities to prevent generation of dust plumes.</p> <p>c. Vehicle Speeds. Vehicle speeds shall be restricted to 15 miles per hour on all roads used for any vehicular traffic at the Project site. Speeds shall be restricted through worker notifications, signage, or any other necessary means.</p> <p>d. Disturbed Areas. All soil that is actively excavated or graded shall be watered or stabilized with a stabilizing agent in sufficient quantities to prevent the generation of visible dust plumes.</p> <p>e. Haul Trucks. All haul trucks shall use tarps or other suitable enclosures when transporting bulk materials to/from/throughout the Project site. Material shall be stabilized while loading, and maintain at least 6 inches of freeboard on haul vehicles. Haul trucks shall be washed prior to leaving the site to remove soil deposits and minimize track-out.</p> <p>f. Storage Piles. All open storage piles (i.e., any accumulation of bulk material) shall be watered on at least 80% of the surface area on a daily basis when there is evidence of wind-driven fugitive dust, or shall be covered with temporary coverings.</p> <p>g. Monthly Environmental Monitoring Reports. The Dust Control Supervisor for the Project shall prepare monthly compliance reports to be submitted for approval by the County that demonstrate compliance with the Fugitive Dust Control Plan and associated measures.</p>				
<p>MM AQ-3 Valley Fever Training. Prior to any Project grading activity, the primary Project construction contractor will prepare and implement a worker training program that describes potential health hazards associated with Valley Fever, common symptoms, proper</p>	Prior to grading activities	County of Riverside		

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<p>safety procedures to minimize health hazards, and notification procedures if suspected work-related symptoms are identified during construction. The worker training program will identify safety measures to be implemented by construction contractors during construction. At a minimum, safety measures will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide high efficiency particulate air (HEPA)-filtered air-conditioned enclosed cabs on heavy equipment. Train workers on proper use of cabs, such as turning on air conditioning prior to using the equipment. ▪ Provide communication methods, such as two-way radios, for use by workers in enclosed cabs. ▪ Provide personal protective equipment (PPE), such as half-mask and/or full-mask respirators equipped with particulate filtration, to workers active in dusty work areas. ▪ Provide separate, clean eating areas with hand-washing facilities for construction workers. ▪ Clean equipment, vehicles, and other items before they are moved off site to other work locations. ▪ Provide training for construction workers so they can recognize the symptoms of Valley Fever and promptly report suspected symptoms of work-related Valley Fever to a supervisor. ▪ Direct workers that exhibit Valley Fever symptoms to immediately seek a medical evaluation. ▪ Prior to initiating any grading, the construction contractor will provide the County with copies of all educational training material. 				
Biological Resources				
<p>MM BIO-1 Biological Monitoring. The Applicant shall assign at least one Designated Biologist (i.e., agency-approved Qualified Biologist), who will be approved by the lead agencies (BLM and County of Riverside) and relevant permitting agencies (e.g., California Department of Fish and Wildlife [CDFW], United States Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS], and Regional Water Quality Control Board, as applicable). The Designated Biologist will serve as the primary point of contact regarding biological resource compliance. The Designated</p>	<p>During construction</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

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<p>Biologist shall have demonstrated expertise with the biological resources within the Project area. The Designated Biologist duties will vary during the construction, operation, maintenance, and future decommissioning of the Project. Additionally, Authorized Biologist(s), and Biological Monitor(s), trained and supervised by the Designated Biologist, may be necessary to fulfill compliance with Mitigation Measures and permit conditions. Clear definitions of authorized and designated biologists are outlined below. In general, the duties of the Designated Biologist shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communication with representatives of lead and permitting agencies, as appropriate. ▪ Conduct or oversee Worker Environmental Awareness Program. ▪ Conduct or oversee pre-construction surveys, inspection, and monitoring duties as defined in all Mitigation Measures. ▪ Halt any activities in any area if it is determined that the activity, if continued, would cause an unauthorized adverse impact to biological resources. ▪ Clearly mark sensitive biological resource areas and inspect these areas at appropriate intervals for compliance with regulatory terms and conditions. ▪ During construction, prepare and submit monthly compliance reports. During operations, prepare and submit annual compliance reports for the first three (3) years of operations. <p>Definitions of Roles:</p> <p>BLM-approved Designated Biologist/Qualified Biologist: A biologist that the BLM has reviewed and determined has the skills and experience necessary to effectively survey and monitor for the biological resources that may be present in the project area. The BLM-approved Qualified Biologist shall be required to halt project activities to protect resources if necessary. The Applicant shall assign at least one BLM-approved Qualified Biologist as a Designated Biologist. BLM-approved Qualified Biologist(s) may also serve as Biological Monitor(s).</p>				

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<p>Authorized Biologist: A biologist that has been approved, based on a combination of qualifications and experience, by the BLM and USFWS to handle listed species, or species proposed to be listed for movement purposes or to otherwise avoid harm or impacts to the species. An Authorized Biologist can fulfill the survey and monitoring duties similar to the BLM-approved Qualified Biologist. The BLM will complete an initial review of the Authorized Biologists and determine if they have appropriate qualifications and experience to handle desert tortoises. Then BLM will submit those credentials to the USFWS for review and approval at least 30 days prior to the need for the biologist to perform those activities in the field. The USFWS will provide approvals based on appropriate qualifications and experience to avoid and minimize adverse effects to the species.</p>				
<p>MM BIO-2 Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP). The Applicant shall conduct an education program for all persons employed or otherwise working in the Project area before performing any work on the Project site. The program shall consist of a presentation from the Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor(s) that includes a discussion of the biology and general behavior of special-status species, information about the distribution and habitat, sensitivity of the special-status species to human activities, its legal protection, recovery efforts, penalties for violations. All construction crews and contractors shall be required to participate in WEAP training prior to starting work on the Project. Applicant shall prepare and distribute a fact sheet handout containing this information for workers. WEAP training materials shall be provided in English and Spanish. Upon completion of the program, employees shall sign a form stating they attended the program and understand all protection measures. At a minimum, the WEAP shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include a review of Mitigation Measure and permit requirements. 	<p>After issuance of grading permits; prior to vegetation clearing activities</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

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Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include a review of the special-status species and other sensitive resources that may occur in the Project area, as well as the locations of the sensitive biological resources, their legal status and protections, and measures to be implemented for avoidance of these sensitive resources. ▪ Include desert tortoise specific training that includes detailed description of the desert tortoise, distribution and general behavior of the desert tortoise, sensitivity to human activities, regulatory status including prohibitions and penalties incurred for violation, mandatory conservation measures, and procedures if a desert tortoise is observed on-site. ▪ Provide an explanation of the function of flagging that designates authorized work areas and specify the prohibition of construction activities. ▪ Discuss general environmental and safety protocols such as vehicle speed limits, hazardous substance spill prevention and containment measures, and fire prevention and protection measures. ▪ Discuss the federal, state, and local regulatory setting (e.g., Endangered Species Acts, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act) and the consequences of non-compliance. ▪ Describe workers' responsibilities for avoiding the introduction of invasive weeds onto the Project site and surrounding areas. ▪ Provide contact information for the Designated Biologist and instructions for notification of any vehicle-wildlife collisions or dead or injured wildlife species encountered during Project-related activities. ▪ Include a training acknowledgment form to be signed by each worker indicating that they received training and shall abide by the guidelines. A record of all personnel trained shall be maintained throughout the construction period. Along with their signature, each worker shall receive a sticker for their hard hat indicating they received the training. 				

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be developed by or in consultation with the Designated Biologist and consist of an on-site or training center presentation with supporting written material and electronic media, including photographs of protected species, available to all participants. 				
<p>MM BIO-3 Minimization of Impacts to Native Vegetation. The Applicant shall undertake the following measures during construction and decommissioning to avoid or minimize impacts to natural vegetation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior to ground-disturbing activities, work areas (including, but not limited to, staging areas, access roads, and sites for temporary placement of construction materials and spoils) shall be delineated with construction fencing (e.g., the common orange vinyl material) or staking to clearly identify the limits of work. No paint or permanent discoloring agents shall be applied to rocks or vegetation (to indicate surveyor construction activity limits or for any other purpose). Fencing/staking shall remain in place for the duration of construction. All disturbances, access roads, staging areas, vehicles, and equipment shall be confined to the fenced/flagged authorized work areas. To the greatest extent practicable, construction activities shall minimize disturbance to soil and native vegetation. Use best management practices where applicable for prevention and control of soil erosion and to minimize the introduction and spread of invasive plant species. Hazardous materials including motor oil, fuel, antifreeze, hydraulic fluid, and grease shall be contained, and spills or leaks shall be promptly corrected and cleaned up according to applicable regulations. Any such spills or leaks that occur on BLM land shall be reported to the BLM. Vehicles and equipment shall be properly maintained to prevent spills or leaks and refueling shall not be conducted outside the authorized work areas or within 100 feet of any sensitive resource (e.g., wetland). 	<p>During construction and decommissioning</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Upon completion of construction activities, all unused materials, equipment, staking and flagging, and refuse shall be removed and properly disposed of, including but not limited to wrapping material, cables, cords, wire, boxes, rope, broken equipment parts, twine, strapping, buckets, and metal or plastic containers. 				
<p>MM BIO-4 Minimization of Impacts to Wildlife. The Applicant shall undertake the following measures, overseen by the Designated Biologist, during construction and decommissioning to avoid or minimize impacts to wildlife:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Wildlife avoidance.</i> Project activities shall avoid interference with wildlife (including ground-dwelling species, birds, and bats) by allowing animals to escape from a work site prior to disturbance. ▪ <i>Sensitive biological resources.</i> Sensitive biological resource areas near all work activities shall be clearly communicated and marked (e.g., flagged) in the field. Avoidance buffers shall be established and maintained by the Designated Biologist. ▪ <i>Minimize traffic impacts.</i> The Applicant shall specify and enforce maximum vehicle speed limits to minimize risk of wildlife collisions and fugitive dust. Vehicles shall not exceed a speed limit of 15 mph throughout the Project site on unpaved roads. To the extent possible, night-time construction-related activity shall be minimized, but if work must be conducted at night, the speed limit shall be 10 mph. Dust suppression shall occur during all construction activities as needed. ▪ <i>Minimize lighting impacts.</i> Night lighting, when in use, shall be designed, installed, and maintained to prevent side casting of light toward surrounding wildlife habitat. New light sources shall be minimized, and lighting shall be designed (e.g., using downcast lights) to limit the lighted area to the minimum necessary. 	<p>During construction and decommissioning</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Avoid use of toxic substances.</i> Use of chemicals, fuels, lubricants, or other toxic substances shall comply with all local, state, and federal regulations to minimize the possibility of contamination of habitat or primary or secondary poisoning of predators utilizing adjacent habitats. All uses of such compounds should observe label and other restrictions mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and other state and federal legislation. Soil bonding and weighting agents used for dust suppression on unpaved surfaces shall be nontoxic to wildlife and plants. ▪ <i>Minimize noise and vibration impacts.</i> The Applicant shall conform to noise requirements specified in the noise analysis of the Environmental Impact Report to minimize noise to off-site habitat. ▪ <i>Water.</i> Potable and non-potable water sources such as tanks, ponds, and pipes shall be covered or otherwise secured to prevent animals (including birds) from entering. Prevention methods may include storing water within closed tanks. Water sources (e.g., hydrants, tanks, etc.) shall be checked periodically by Biological Monitors to ensure they do not create longstanding ponded areas, which could attract wildlife and predators. ▪ <i>Food and Trash.</i> No deliberate feeding of wildlife shall be allowed. Further, to avoid indeliberate feeding of wildlife, all food-related trash items, including wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps (organic waste) shall always be contained and properly disposed of in self-closing, sealable containers, with lids that latch to prevent wind and wildlife (e.g., ravens and coyotes) from opening the containers. Particular attention will be paid to “micro-trash” (including such small items as screws, nuts, washers, nails, coins, rags, small electrical components, small pieces of plastic, glass or wire, and any debris or trash that is colorful or shiny). All trash receptacles shall be regularly inspected, emptied, and removed from the Project area at a minimum once a week to prevent spillage and maintain sanitary conditions. 				

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Firearms and Dogs.</i> All personnel and any other individuals associated with the Project shall be prohibited from bringing any firearms on the Project site, except those in the possession of authorized security personnel or local, state, or federal law enforcement officials. No pets shall be permitted on the Project site except dogs that may be used to aid in official and approved monitoring procedures/protocols or service dogs under Title II and Title III of the American with Disabilities Act. ▪ <i>Wildlife entrapment.</i> All pipes, culverts, or similar structures stored or installed aboveground shall be inspected by the Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor(s) before the material is moved, buried, or capped. The Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor(s) shall inspect all open holes and trenches a minimum of once a day and just prior to backfilling. If open holes or trenches remain overnight, an escape ramp shall be created every 100 feet to allow wildlife to exit. The ramp may be constructed of either dirt fill or wood planking or other suitable material that is placed at an angle no greater than 30 degrees. If any worker discovers an animal has become trapped, they shall halt activities and notify the Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor immediately. ▪ <i>Dead or injured wildlife.</i> Dead or injured special status wildlife species shall be reported to the lead agencies and permitting agencies, as applicable, within 24 hours of detection. The Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor shall complete a Wildlife Incident Form and safely move the carcasses out of the road or work area and dispose of the animal. Disposal of any special status species requires advance coordination with the BLM and USFWS. If an animal is entrapped, the Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor shall free the animal if possible, or work with construction crews to free it, in compliance with safety requirements, or work with applicable agencies to resolve the situation. Injured wildlife will be transported to an approved wildlife rehabilitation center noted below. The Applicant shall be responsible for paying the cost of transportation and rehabilitation of injured wildlife. 				

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ramona Wildlife Shelter, 18740 Highland Valley Rd, Ramona CA, (619) 299-7012 ▪ El Paseo Animal Hospital in Palm Desert, CA, (760) 491-1008 ▪ <i>Pest control.</i> No anticoagulant rodenticides, such as Warfarin and related compounds (indandiones and hydroxycoumarins), may be used within the Project site or in support of any other Project activities. If rodent control must be conducted, the use should be restricted to interiors of buildings and zinc phosphide should be used because of the lower risk of poisoning burrowing mammals. ▪ <i>California Natural Diversity Database.</i> All observations of special status species, alive or dead, shall be recorded and reported to the California Natural Diversity Database by the Biological Monitor or the Authorized Biologist. 				
<p>MM BIO-5 Integrated Weed Management Plan. The Applicant shall prepare and implement an Integrated Weed Management Plan to minimize or prevent noxious, non-native and invasive weeds from infesting the site or spreading into surrounding habitat. The Integrated Weed Management Plan shall identify weed species occurring or potentially occurring in the Project area, means to prevent their introduction or spread (e.g., vehicle cleaning and inspections), monitoring methods to identify infestations, and timely implementation of manual or chemical (as appropriate) suppression and containment measures to control or eradicate invasive weeds. All construction vehicles (e.g., trucks, trailers, machinery) will be washed (either by water or pressurized air) off-site before entering the Project area to limit the spread of weeds. All wattles or bales will be certified weed-free and will be removed at the completion of activities. The Integrated Weed Management Plan shall also include a reporting schedule to be implemented by the Designated Biologist.</p> <p>The Integrated Weed Management Plan shall identify herbicides proposed for use and include conditions to avoid application of herbicides in or around any environmentally sensitive areas. For Project components on BLM administered lands (i.e. Linear Facility Routes), the Integrated Weed Management Plan must comply with</p>	<p>Prior to and during construction</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

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<p>BLM guidelines and incorporate relevant conservation measures found in the 2007 Vegetation PEIS (BLM 2007), 2016 Vegetation PEIS (BLM 2016), and 2024 Vegetation PEIS (BLM 2024) to minimize potential adverse effects to special status plants and wildlife species. In addition, the conservation measures and standard operating procedures specified in the USFWS Biological Opinion (FWS/AES/DCHRS/027171) for the 2007 Vegetation PEIS, as well as the USFWS Concurrence Letter (FWS/AED/DER/BCH/061446) for the 2016 Vegetation PEIS, will be followed. The Applicant shall avoid use of products containing the active ingredients 2,4-D, diquat, glyphosate, hexazinone, or triclopyr.</p>				
<p>MM BIO-6 Vegetation Resources Management. The Applicant shall undertake the following measures during construction to minimize impacts to vegetation resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Applicant shall assign a Vegetation Specialist to oversee and implement salvage and transplantation of plant species protected pursuant to BLM policy (conformance with DRECP Conservation and Management Action LUPA-BIO-7) and the California Desert Native Plants Act, as applicable, and implement revegetation of temporarily disturbed areas. On the private lands under the jurisdiction of the County of Riverside, the Applicant shall obtain a permit from the County of Riverside pursuant to the California Desert Native Plants Act for the purposes of salvage or removal of protected species during construction if required. ▪ Revegetation of temporarily disturbed areas shall occur within BLM administered lands (i.e., Linear Facility Routes) and will not be implemented on private lands within the Project area (i.e., Solar Site). The nature of revegetation will differ according to each site, its pre-disturbance condition, and the nature of the construction disturbance (e.g., drive and crush versus blading). Revegetation techniques may include soil contouring, replanting of succulents, placing of vertical mulch as crushed, horizontal, or vertical mulch to reduce sun and wind exposure to the soil surface and facilitate plant germination. Areas may also be watered based on the guidance of the Vegetation Specialist. 	During construction	County of Riverside		

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<p>MM BIO-7 Special-Status Plant Species Mitigation. To reduce potentially significant impacts to special status plant species, the Applicant shall implement one or a combination of the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pre- and post-construction surveys. Potential habitat for special status plant species shall be surveyed during the appropriate season prior to site preparation disturbance; any special status plant species populations or occurrences or suitable habitat would be mapped. Areas that supported special status plant populations or occurrences will be resurveyed during the appropriate season (e.g., spring or summer) for up to two years following the completion of construction to determine natural reestablishment. ▪ Off-site compensation. The Applicant shall provide compensation lands consisting of suitable habitat at a 1:1 ratio for occupied habitat affected by the Project. Occupied habitat acreage shall be calculated on the Project site based on including each special-status plant occurrence and a surrounding 100-foot buffer area. Off-site compensation lands would be considered suitable if in proximity to historical occurrence and suitable habitat is present. Off-site compensation lands shall be located within 5 miles of a historical occurrence and include creosote bush scrub. ▪ Seed collection and propagation. Mitigation shall include seed collection from the affected plant population on the site prior to construction to conserve the germplasm and provide a seed source for restoration efforts. Seed shall be collected under the supervision or guidance of a reputable seed storage facility such as the California Botanical Garden. The costs associated with the long-term storage, seed bulking, and propagation of the seed shall be the responsibility of the Applicant for up to five (5) years. Seed and/or germinated plants can be used for restoration within the Project site, off-site mitigation lands, or other conservation lands as approved by the County of Riverside and applicable permitting agencies. 	<p>Prior to and after construction</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

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<p>MM BIO-8 Minimization of Impacts to Birds and Bats. The Applicant shall undertake the following measures to avoid or minimize impacts to birds and bats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy.</i> The Applicant shall prepare a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy (BBCS) for review and approval by the applicable lead and permitting agencies. The BBCS shall include baseline data on the distribution of bird and bat species within the Project area, risk assessment, measures to avoid and minimize adverse impacts, description of relevant monitoring and reporting, and framework for adaptive management. The BBCS shall include design requirements consistent with the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC) guidelines. ▪ <i>Nesting Bird Protection.</i> If vegetation removal or ground disturbance occurs during the nesting season (February 1 to August 31), pre-construction surveys for active nests shall be conducted by qualified biologists at the direction of the Designated Biologist. Nest surveys shall be completed no more than 7 days prior to initiation of vegetation removal or ground disturbance and shall be repeated every two weeks in areas of ongoing construction activity. If an active nest is found, an exclusion buffer shall be established and marked in the field by the Designated Biologist. The Project shall maintain a buffer adequate to avoid otherwise prohibited take, possession, or destruction of any bird, nest, or egg. Nesting bird management shall be described further in a Nesting Bird Management Plan or incorporated in the BBCS and submitted to the applicable lead and permitting agencies for review and approval. 	<p>If site preparation and grading activities commence between February 1 and August 31, the avian nesting survey shall be performed by a qualified biologist within 7 days prior to initiation of vegetation removal or ground disturbance</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

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Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Burrowing Owl Protection.</i> The Applicant shall prepare and implement a plan to avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential impacts to burrowing owl. The plan shall include pre-construction surveys, protection, and passive relocation consistent with guidelines in the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG 2012). Burrowing owl protection shall be described further in a Burrowing Owl Avoidance and Relocation Plan or incorporated in the BBCS and submitted to the applicable lead and permitting agencies for review and approval. The Applicant shall seek incidental take authorization from CDFW if incidental “take” of burrowing owl as defined by California Fish & Game Code Section 86 is determined to be unavoidable and the species is a candidate, threatened or endangered species under CESA at such time. The plan shall include the following measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Take Avoidance Pre-Construction Surveys.</i> A qualified avian biologist shall conduct pre-construction surveys for burrowing owls no more than 14 days prior to initiation of construction activities. Surveys focused exclusively on detecting burrowing owls shall be conducted within the Project site and along all linear facilities in accordance with the most current CDFW guidelines (CDFG 2012, or updated guidelines as they become available). Burrowing owl surveys shall be completed by walking parallel transects 7 to 20 meters apart, adjusting for vegetation height and density as needed, and noting any potential burrows with fresh burrowing owl sign or presence of burrowing owls within the Project area and within 150 meters (500 feet) of the Project. ▪ <i>Implement Avoidance Measures.</i> If an active burrowing owl burrow is detected within any Project disturbance area, or within a 150-meter buffer of the disturbance area, a setback will be established based on the level of disturbance as directed in the 2012 CDFG Staff Report or in accordance with the most current CDFW guidelines and may be adjusted in the field by the Designated Biologist/Authorized Biologist after conferral with CDFW. The 2012 guidelines are as follows: 				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure					Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
Location	Time of Year	Level of Disturbance						
		Low	Med	High				
Nesting sites	April 1 – Aug 15	200 meters	500 meters	500 meters				
Nesting sites	Aug 16 – Oct 15	200 meters	200 meters	500 meters				
Nesting sites	Oct 16 – Mar 31	50 meters	100 meters	500 meters				

**Level of Disturbance: Low = drive by, low use, once per week; Medium = 15 minutes of 2 hours of activity, less than 49 decibels, one or two passes per day; High = more than 2 hours of activity, more than 49 decibels.*

- *Unoccupied Burrows.* Any unoccupied suitable burrows within the direct disturbance area shall be excavated and filled in under the supervision of the Designated Biologist/Authorized Biologist prior to site preparation. Any unoccupied burrows located outside the construction activity zones shall be left in their current condition.
- *Passive Relocation.* Passive relocation shall only be used during the non-breeding season, generally September 1 to February 1, to exclude burrowing owls from the Project site. Passive relocation shall be implemented to provide replacement burrows off site (if needed); collapse all unoccupied burrows within the construction site; and install a one-way door on the occupied burrow to evict the burrowing owl without handling it. Prior to any passive relocation, biologists shall survey nearby habitats to identify and inventory suitable unoccupied natural burrows for relocation. If none are available, artificial burrows shall be constructed based on the number of burrowing owls in need of relocation.

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Artificial burrows shall be located at least 50 meters outside any temporary or permanent Project impact areas, but as close as possible to the original burrow and no more than one mile from the original burrow location if possible. Artificial burrows will be designed, constructed, and installed following guidelines provided in CDFW (2012). All artificial burrows and mapped natural burrows shall be monitored for burrowing owl use at least once per quarter throughout the construction phase of the Project. - Following the excavation of all suitable inactive burrows within the construction area and installation of artificial burrows, burrowing owls will be passively excluded from occupied burrows. Burrow exclusion will involve the installation of one-way doors in burrow openings during the non-breeding season. Burrowing owls will not be handled during the excavation process, unless necessary to prevent injury and consistent with the California Endangered Species Act. Following confirmation that passive exclusion burrows are unoccupied, the burrows shall be carefully excavated using hand tools, or small tracked equipment, and backfilled to ensure that they are no longer suitable for burrowing owl use. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Compensatory Mitigation.</i> Compensatory mitigation for burrowing owl shall be provided as specified in the Burrowing Owl Survey Protocol and Mitigation Guidelines of the California Burrowing Owl Consortium (1993). 				
<p>MM BIO-9 Desert Kit Fox and American Badger Relocation. The Applicant shall implement the following measures to protect desert kit fox and American badger:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Biological Monitors shall perform pre-construction surveys for kit fox/badger dens in the Project disturbance area and a 100 ft (30 m) buffer beyond the Project disturbance area, with landowner permission to access, within 30 days of initiation of construction activities. 	Prior to construction	County of Riverside		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All potential desert kit fox/badger dens identified during pre-construction surveys shall be monitored for a minimum of three consecutive nights (between August 1 and January 14) or five consecutive nights (between January 15 and July 31) to determine occupancy status. Occupancy monitoring shall be performed using a tracking medium (such as diatomaceous earth or fire clay) and/or infrared camera stations at the entrance(s). Each den shall be classified as inactive or active following the evaluation period. ▪ If no tracks are observed in the tracking medium or no photos of the target species are captured after the monitoring period, the den shall be classified as inactive. Inactive dens in the direct path of disturbance may be excavated by hand and backfilled to reduce the likelihood of reuse by badgers or kit fox. An Authorized Biologist shall ensure that desert tortoises are not present prior to excavation of inactive desert kit fox dens. If a desert tortoise is present, the Authorized Biologist shall implement protective measures described in MM BIO 11 (Desert Tortoise Protection). Dens not directly impacted by construction shall not be excavated. ▪ If an active den is found outside the natal season (between August 1 and January 14), the den may be subject to passive relocation by progressively blocking the den with natural materials (e.g., rocks, dirt, sticks, or vegetation) or artificial, non-injurious materials placed in front of the entrance for a minimum of five consecutive nights to discourage continued use. Additional deterrents such as natural mixtures of aromatic organics (e.g., onions, garlic, and essential oils), transistor radios, and ultrasonic emitters may be used. The use of one-way doors may be used. Installation of one-way doors shall take place in the afternoon while desert kit fox/badgers are inactive and deep within the den complex. After verification that passive relocation has been successful and the den has been unoccupied for a total of five consecutive nights, the den may be fully excavated. 				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If an active den is found during the natal season (January 15 and July 31), a 500-foot (150 m) no-disturbance buffer shall be established. All active dens found during the natal season shall be presumed natal and shall not be subject to passive relocation activities unless approval is obtained from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. ▪ Buffers may be reduced, expanded, or temporarily modified to allow certain low-impact activities (e.g., vehicle access) to occur as determined feasible by the Designated Biologist without adversely affecting the den. All modifications to the size of exclusion buffers or allowance of certain Project activities within the exclusion buffer shall be documented by the Designated Biologist. ▪ Current guidelines from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding minimizing transmission of canine distemper virus shall be followed. 	<p>Prior to initiation of ground disturbance</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		
<p>MM BIO-10 Stream Protection and Compensation. Prior to ground-disturbing activities in waters potentially regulated by the state, the Applicant shall confer with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and, if required, obtain appropriate authorization. The Applicant shall implement all conditions associated with regulatory agency agreements and authorizations including compensatory mitigation and, unless otherwise specified by CDFW and/or the RWQCB, shall implement the best management practices identified below to minimize adverse impacts to streams and watersheds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construction crews shall minimize disturbance to wetlands, streambeds, and banks of any state-jurisdictional waters to the extent feasible. ▪ Vehicles and equipment shall not be operated in standing or flowing water. ▪ The Applicant shall prevent water containing mud, silt, or other pollutants from grading or other activities from entering ephemeral drainages or being placed in locations that may be subjected to high storm flows. 				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raw cement/concrete or washings thereof, asphalt, paint or other coating material, oil or other petroleum products, or any other substances that could be hazardous to vegetation or wildlife resources resulting from Project-related activities shall be prevented from entering ephemeral drainages. ▪ No petroleum products or other pollutants from the equipment shall be allowed to enter any state-jurisdictional waters. ▪ No broken concrete, debris, soil, silt, sand, bark, slash, sawdust, rubbish, or other organic or earthen material from any construction or associated activity shall be allowed to enter into or be placed where it may be washed by rainfall or runoff into off-site state-jurisdictional waters. ▪ Stationary equipment such as motors, pumps, generators, and welders shall be positioned over drip pans. Stationary heavy equipment shall have suitable containment to handle a catastrophic spill/leak. Cleanup equipment such as brooms, absorbent pads, and skimmers shall always be on site. The cleanup of all spills shall begin immediately. ▪ All excess materials or debris shall be removed from the work area after completion of construction. ▪ Project impacts to desert dry wash woodland and unvegetated ephemeral dry wash shall be mitigated by providing compensatory mitigation consistent with MM BIO-13. 				
<p>MM BIO-11 Desert Tortoise Protection. No desert tortoise may be handled or relocated without authorization from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The Applicant shall employ Authorized Biologists and Biological Monitors qualified desert tortoise biologist(s) for purposes of implementing desert tortoise protection measures identified below. The Designated Biologist noted in MM BIO-1 may also serve as qualified desert tortoise biologist if they meet the following qualifications. The Authorized Biologists and Biological Monitors desert tortoise biologist(s) qualifications shall be subject to review and approval by the applicable lead and permitting agencies. Minimum qualifications shall include prior approval by CDFW and USFWS as an Authorized Desert Tortoise Biologist and/or at least two years of experience on trend plots or transect surveys,</p>	<p>Prior to construction - For pre-construction surveys no more than 7 days prior to initiation of ground disturbance</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>conducting surveys for desert tortoise, or other research or field work on desert tortoise. Attendance at a training course endorsed by CDFW and USFWS (e.g., Desert Tortoise Council tortoise training workshop) is required.</p> <p>The Biological Monitor will monitor project activities within desert tortoise habitat, ensure proper implementation of protective measures, and report incidents of non-compliance in accordance with the biological opinion and/or permits. Monitors should have sufficient desert tortoise training and field experience to detect the presence of desert tortoises through observations of animals and sign including scat and burrows. A Biological Monitor is typically not authorized to handle desert tortoises, or determine presence/absence of desert tortoises or conduct clearance surveys.</p> <p>The Authorized Biologist is approved to conduct activities that may result in “take” of the desert tortoise including locating tortoises and their sign, recording and reporting tortoise and sign observations in accordance with approved protocol, and ensuring that the effects of the project on the desert tortoise and its habitat are minimized in accordance with a Biological Opinion or permit. For purposes of the federal Endangered Species Act, “take” means to “harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct.” An Authorized Biologist should have thorough knowledge of desert tortoise behavior, natural history, and ecology, and demonstrate substantial field experience and training to successfully: -handle desert tortoises -excavate burrows to locate desert tortoise or eggs -relocate desert tortoises -reconstruct desert tortoise burrows -unearth and relocate desert tortoise eggs -locate, identify, and record all forms of desert tortoise sign.</p> <p>The Authorized Biologist (s) shall be responsible for overseeing compliance with desert tortoise protective measures, conducting pre-construction surveys for all work areas, monitoring for evidence of tortoises in construction areas, checking under vehicles and equipment, inspecting excavations and other potential entrapments, and ensuring worker compliance with all desert tortoise protection measures. Any incident that is considered by the Authorized Biologist</p>				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>(s) to be in noncompliance with desert tortoise protective measures shall be documented.</p> <p>The qualified desert tortoise biologist(s) shall have the authority to halt any Project activity that is in violation of desert tortoise protective measures or that may result in take of a desert tortoise. The following incidents shall require immediate cessation of any Project activities: (1) location of a desert tortoise within 100 feet (30 m) of an active work area during the non-active season and at least a 250-foot buffer during the active season (September-October and April-May); (2) imminent threat of injury or death to a desert tortoise; (3) unauthorized handling of a desert tortoise, regardless of intent; and (4) operation of construction equipment or vehicles outside authorized work areas. Work activities may resume once the DB or Authorized Biologist (s) determines there is no threat to the desert tortoise and/or the tortoise has walked more than 100 feet (30 m) away during the non-active season and at least a 250-foot buffer during the active season from the work area and the tortoise will be visually monitored so that if it returns to the work site, it will not be injured, or killed. The Applicant shall be responsible for implementing the following requirements, under direction by the Authorized Biologist (s) where appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Worker Training. The Worker Environmental Awareness Program described in MM BIO-2 shall incorporate desert tortoise specific training. 				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p>▪ Exclusion Fencing. Prior to construction of the Solar Site, it shall be fully enclosed by temporary, or permanent desert tortoise exclusion fencing. All exclusion fencing shall adhere to USFWS design guidelines (USFWS 2009). To the extent feasible and permissible by County flood control design guidelines, permanent exclusion fence shall be integrated with the site security fence for maximum durability. Temporary desert tortoise exclusion fencing may be installed along the Linear Facility Routes, within the approved right-of-way. Temporary fence would be removed after completion of construction. The qualified desert tortoise biologist(s) shall monitor the installation of all fence. Once installed, exclusion fencing shall be inspected at least monthly until construction completion and following all rain events, and corrective action taken if fence maintenance is needed. After an area is fenced, and until desert tortoises are removed, the designated biologist is responsible for ensuring that desert tortoises are not being exposed to extreme temperatures or predators as a result of their pacing the fence. Remedies may include the use of shelter sites placed along the fence, immediate translocation, removal to a secure holding area, or other means determined by the BLM, USFWS, and CDFW, as applicable. Exclusion fencing shall incorporate the installation of tortoise guards, or cattle guards, and/or gates at each road entry point. Gates shall always remain closed, except when vehicles are entering or leaving the Project area. If it is deemed necessary to leave the gate open for extended periods of time (e.g., during high traffic periods), the gate may be left open if a qualified desert tortoise biologist is present to monitor potential tortoise activity.</p> <li> <p>▪ Shade Structures. Shade structures shall be installed every 1,000 ft (300 m) along the exterior of the perimeter fence where tortoises may encounter newly installed fence (USFWS 2018). Shade structures shall be maintained for two years following completion of the perimeter fence.</p> 				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pre-construction Survey. Pre construction surveys shall be performed prior to ground disturbance to ensure no desert tortoises are present within the direct disturbance area. Pre-construction surveys shall be conducted in unfenced Project areas no more than 7 days prior to ground disturbance. Clearance surveys shall also be conducted after the Solar Site has been fully enclosed by temporary, or permanent desert tortoise exclusion fencing. ▪ Avoidance. Any potentially occupied burrows shall be avoided until monitoring or field observations (e.g., with a motion-activated camera or fiber-optic mounted video camera) determines absence. If a live tortoise or an occupied tortoise burrow is identified in the work area, all Projects activities that may result in take shall cease. The tortoise shall be allowed to leave on its own accord without handling or harassment. ▪ Unfenced Work Areas. If a tortoise is observed on or near the road accessing a work area, vehicles shall stop to allow the tortoise to move off the road on its own. The ground beneath vehicles parked outside of cleared areas within desert tortoise exclusion fencing shall be inspected immediately prior to the vehicle being moved. If a tortoise is found beneath a vehicle, the vehicle shall not be moved until the desert tortoise leaves of its own accord. Any work conducted in an area that is not fully enclosed by exclusion fencing must be monitored by a qualified desert tortoise biologist who shall stop work if a tortoise enters the work area. Work activities shall only proceed when the tortoise has moved away of its own accord and there is no threat of injury or death. Work sites with potential hazards to desert tortoise (e.g., auger holes, steep-sided depressions) shall be enclosed by temporary exclusion fence and not left open overnight. 				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dead or Injured Tortoises. If a dead or injured desert tortoise is found within the Project area, the Applicant or Designated Biologist shall notify by phone and email the USFWS, CDFW, and BLM within 24 hours of detection. The information provided must include the date and time of the finding or incident (if known), location of the carcass or injured animal, a photograph, possible cause of death or injury, if known, and other pertinent information. 	<p>Prior to initiation of ground disturbance</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		
<p>MM BIO-12 Raven Management. The Applicant shall provide funding to the Renewable Energy Action Team (REAT) Account held by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to support the USFWS Regional Raven Management Program. The one-time fee shall be \$105 per acre of direct impacts, which is expected to total \$117,915 for direct impacts to 1,123 acres. The actual fee would be determined based upon final calculation of impacted acreage. The Applicant shall also implement the following requirements, under direction by the Designated Biologist where appropriate:</p> <p>The Applicant will incorporate Raven Management into the BBCS to address activities that may occur during the pre-construction, construction, decommissioning, and O&M phases of the Project that may attract common ravens (<i>Corvus corax</i>), a nuisance species that is a subsidized predator of desert tortoises and other sensitive species in the Project vicinity. The measures contained in the BBCS specific to Raven Management will be designed to:</p> <p>(a) Identify conditions associated with the Project that might provide raven subsidies or attractants.</p> <p>(b) Describe management practices to avoid or minimize conditions that might increase raven numbers and predatory activities.</p> <p>(c) Describe monitoring during construction and operations, including methods to identify individual ravens that prey on desert tortoises.</p>				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Worker Environmental Awareness Program described in MM BIO-2 shall incorporate discussion of ravens and responsibilities to control subsidies. ▪ Reduce raven food sources by managing waste. Trash and food items shall always be contained in closed containers. ▪ Reduce raven food sources by managing surface disturbance and dead wildlife. The Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor(s) shall to the extent authorized relocate wildlife from harm's way during ground-disturbing activities to minimize incidental kill to the extent feasible. Vehicle traffic speeds shall adhere to posted limits and not exceed 15 mph on all unpaved roads. If dead wildlife remains and roadkill are found, they shall be collected and disposed of (e.g., buried, when possible). ▪ Reduce water availability. Do not use excess water for fugitive dust control and correct standing water issues promptly. Water tanks shall be maintained in proper operating condition. Designated Biologist and Biological Monitors will monitor raven activity during construction. All raven sightings/encounters shall be documented in daily logs. ▪ All inactive raven nests (i.e., no eggs or nestlings present) shall be removed. ▪ The Designated Biologist shall notify the BLM, CDFW, and USFWS [Palm Springs Fish and Wildlife Office at (760) 322-2070] of any active raven nests encountered within the Project area. Nests within 100 feet of active work areas will be monitored weekly to identify any evidence of predation on desert tortoises and results will be reported to the BLM, CDFW, and USFWS accordingly. Access shall be granted to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) contractors responsible for surveying and treating active raven nests. Treatment shall consist of flying to within 3 ft (1 m) of a target nest with an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (U.S. made) outfitted with a remote fluid applicator. The fluid applicator system would apply a few milliliters of low viscosity food grade oil, which will halt egg development due to oxygen deprivation. 				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contractors visiting the Project on future maintenance or compliance monitoring visits shall check for evidence of predation of desert tortoise (juvenile or hatchling desert tortoise carcasses). If carcasses are found, the contractors shall contact the Palm Springs Fish and Wildlife Office (760 322-2070) to report the matter. ▪ Adaptive management actions shall be implemented if ravens are found to roost or nest on project infrastructure. These may include increased monitoring and reporting; refined strategies for refuse management; as well as design strategies and passive repellent methods. 				

MM BIO-13 Compensation for Impacts to Native Vegetation. Table 1 provides an estimate of compensation acreages; however, final compensation shall be based upon final calculation of impacted acreage.

Prior to initiation of ground disturbance

County of Riverside

Table 1: Estimated Impacts to Native Vegetation and Habitat Compensation (Acres).

Natural Vegetation Community ¹	Estimated Total Disturbance (ac) ²	Compensation Ratio	Compensation Acres (ac)
LFRs (BLM Land)			
Sonoran creosote bush scrub ³	32.5	1:1	32.5
Ephemeral dry wash	2.6	1:1	2.6
Desert dry wash woodland	1.1	5:1	5.5
Solar Site (Private Land)			
Disturbed Sonoran creosote bush scrub	0.4	0.5:1	0.2

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure				Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
Disturbed ephemeral dry wash	31.6	0.5:1	15.8				
Disturbed desert dry wash woodland	6.7	1.5:1	10.1				
<p><i>1 Nonnative vegetation types have been excluded (i.e., non-native riparian, fallow agriculture, and developed/disturbed)</i> <i>2 Actual disturbance acreage within LFRs will be less; entire ROW will not be disturbed.</i> <i>3 No impacts to desert tortoise critical habitat or desert pavement.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Summary of Compensatory Mitigation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Total compensation acreage: 66.7 ac ▪ Sonoran creosote bush scrub: 32.7 ac ▪ Unvegetated ephemeral wash: 18.4 ac ▪ Desert dry wash woodland acreage: 15.6 ac ▪ - Linear Facility Routes (BLM-Administered Lands). Habitat compensation ratios on BLM-administered lands shall be subject to the DRECP and be consistent with Table 18 of the DRECP LUPA, including the 5:1 ratio for desert dry wash woodland. The acreages and ratios shall be based upon final calculation of impacted acreage. ▪ Solar Site (Private Lands). Habitat compensation ratios for disturbance on private lands are not subject to the DRECP. No compensation would be required for impacts to anthropogenic land use or fallow agriculture. The compensation acreage shall be based upon final calculation of impacted acreage. Compensation shall be provided for impacts to the following resources, at the specified ratios (acres acquired and preserved to acres impacted): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Disturbed Desert dry wash woodland: 1.5:1 – Disturbed Ephemeral Wash: 0.5:1 							

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Applicant shall provide funding or bonding for the acquisition and conservation of compensation lands. Conservation instruments, associated documentation, and/or securities shall be submitted to the applicable agencies for review and approval, prior to initiating ground disturbance, pursuant to the requirements of permits and authorizations issued by lead, responsible, and permitting agencies. 				
Cultural Resources				
<p>MM CUL-1 Project Archaeologist. Prior to issuance of grading permits: The applicant/developer shall provide evidence to the County of Riverside Planning Department that a County certified professional archaeologist (Project Archaeologist) has been contracted to implement a Cultural Resource Monitoring and Treatment Plan (CRMTP). The CRMTP shall be developed to address the details of all activities and provides procedures that must be followed in order to reduce the impacts to cultural and historic resources to a level that is less than significant as well as address potential impacts to undiscovered buried archaeological resources associated with this project. A fully executed copy of the contract and a wet-signed copy of the Monitoring Plan shall be provided to the County Archaeologist to ensure compliance with this condition of approval.</p>	Prior to issuance of grading permits	County of Riverside		
<p>Working directly under the Project Archaeologist, an adequate number of qualified Archaeological Monitors shall be present to ensure that all earth moving activities are observed and shall be on-site during all grading activities for areas to be monitored including off-site improvements. Inspections will vary based on the rate of excavation, the materials excavated, and the presence and abundance of artifacts and features. The frequency and location of inspections will be determined by the Project Archaeologist.</p>				
<p>MM CUL-2 Develop and Implement Cultural Resources Environmental Awareness Training. Prior to issuance of a Notice to Proceed by the County and for the duration of ground disturbance (as defined in MM CUL-4), the Applicant shall provide Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training to all workers</p>	Prior to issuance of a Notice to Proceed by the County and for the duration of ground disturbance	County of Riverside		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>prior to beginning work at the Project site. The training shall be prepared by the Project Archaeologist, may be conducted by any member of the archaeological team, and may be presented in the form of an annotated and narrated digital slide show. The training shall be prepared in consultation with culturally affiliated Native Americans to incorporate the tribal knowledge and perspectives from these Native American groups into the presentation. Tribal representatives will also be given the opportunity to participate in the WEAP training. The Project Archaeologist shall be available (by telephone or in person) to answer questions posed by employees. The training may be discontinued when ground disturbance is completed or suspended but must be resumed if ground disturbance resumes. Training shall include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A discussion of applicable laws and penalties under the law ▪ Samples or visuals of artifacts that might be found in the Project vicinity ▪ A brief review of the cultural sensitivity of the Project and the surrounding area. ▪ A discussion of what such artifacts may look like when partially buried, or wholly buried and then freshly exposed. ▪ A discussion of what prehistoric and historical archaeological deposits look like at the surface and when exposed during construction, and the range of variation in the appearance of such deposits. ▪ Instruction that employees are to halt work on their own in the vicinity of a potential cultural resources discovery and shall contact their supervisor and the Project Archaeologist or supervisory cultural resource field staff, and that redirection of work would be determined by the construction supervisor and the Project Archaeologist. ▪ Instruction that the Project Archaeologist, alternate Project Archaeologist, and supervisory cultural resource field staff have the authority to halt ground disturbance in the area of a discovery to an extent sufficient to ensure that the resource is protected from further impacts, as determined by the Project Archaeologist. 				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An informational brochure that identifies reporting procedures in the event of a discovery ▪ An acknowledgment form signed by each worker indicating that they have received the training. ▪ A sticker that shall be placed on hard hats indicating that WEAP training has been completed. <p>This is a mandatory training, and all construction personnel must attend prior to beginning work on the Project site. A copy of the sign-in sheet shall be kept ensuring compliance with this measure. No ground disturbance shall occur prior to implementation of the WEAP training unless such activities are specifically approved by the County.</p>				
<p>MM CUL-3 Cultural Resources Monitoring and Treatment Plan. Prior to the start of construction, the Project Archaeologist shall develop a Cultural Resources Monitoring and Treatment Plan (CRMTP) that addresses the details of all activities and provides procedures that must be followed to reduce the potential impacts to undiscovered buried archaeological resources associated with the Project.</p> <p>The CRMTP shall describe a program for avoiding and monitoring undiscovered National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) eligible cultural resources that can be avoided during Project construction. The CRMTP may require that protective fencing or other markers, at the discretion of the County, be erected and maintained to protect these resources from inadvertent adverse effects during construction. The CRMTP shall also include maps and narrative discussion of areas considered to be of high sensitivity for discovery of buried archaeological resources, if any. The CRMTP shall detail provisions for monitoring construction activities in these high-sensitivity areas. It shall also detail the methods, consultation procedures, and timelines for addressing all post-review discoveries.</p> <p>Pursuant to 14 C.C.R 15126.4(b), the CRMTP shall specify that preservation in place is the preferred method of mitigating impacts in the event of an unanticipated discovery of an archaeological site determined to be a historical resource. Potential means of preservation in place include but are not limited to:</p>	<p>Prior to construction</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning construction to avoid the archaeological site 2. Deeding the archaeological site to a permanent conservation easement 3. Capping or covering the archaeological site with a layer of chemically stable soil before building facilities on it; or 4. Incorporating the site within parks, green space, or other open space. <p>When data recovery through excavation is the only feasible mitigation, a data recovery plan, which makes provision for adequately recovering the scientifically consequential information from and about the historical resource, shall be prepared and adopted prior to any excavation being undertaken, as further specified below.</p> <p>The CRMTP shall identify person(s) expected to perform any monitoring tasks, their responsibilities, and the reporting relationships between Project construction management and the mitigation and monitoring team. It shall also specify monitoring reporting and what forms/documentation needs to be completed daily during monitoring.</p> <p>The Project Archaeologist shall manage all monitoring, mitigation, curation, and reporting activities under the CRMTP. The Applicant shall ensure that the Project Archaeologist makes recommendations regarding the eligibility for listing in the NRHP and CRHR of any cultural resources that are newly discovered or that may be affected in an unanticipated manner.</p> <p>The CRMTP shall address the authority to halt ground disturbance during construction. If a cultural resource over 50 years of age is found, or impacts to such a resource can be anticipated, ground disturbance shall be halted or redirected in the immediate vicinity of the discovery sufficient to ensure that the resource is protected from further impacts. Monitoring and reporting shall continue during the Project’s ground-disturbing activities elsewhere. Additional procedures regarding halting ground disturbance to address a post-review discovery or unanticipated effects shall be described in the CRMTP.</p>				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>The CRMTP shall include, but not be limited to, the following elements, and shall be consistent with all other mitigation measures contained in this document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and implementation of a data recovery plan to be used to guide the data recovery and disposition of any historical or Tribal Cultural Resource (as defined under the California Environmental Quality Act) that may be encountered during construction and that cannot be avoided or preserved in place. The data recovery plan shall include, minimally, a regional cultural setting, appropriate regional research questions, field and laboratory methods for the data recovery effort, and analysis and reporting requirements. The data recovery plan shall include treatment measures that focus on recovering information related to tribal values as they are conveyed through archaeological data. The treatment measures shall be developed through consultation among traditionally culturally affiliated tribes and the County. Treatment measures may include detailed resource documentation, preparation of interpretative or educational materials, reburial of artifacts that convey tribal values, or other measures identified in coordination with the tribes and the landowner. <p>Following implementation of data recovery and other treatment protocols, a report documenting the methods and results of the data recovery and treatment program shall be prepared by a Secretary of the Interior-qualified archaeologist and shall be submitted to the County for review and approval.</p>				
<p>MM CUL-4 Archaeological Monitoring. A qualified lead archaeological monitor that meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications Standards (as defined in Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 61), shall be present for initial grading activities in undisturbed soil. If additional archaeological monitors are needed, they do not need to have the same qualifications, but may work under the supervision of the lead archaeological monitor; in such cases the lead archaeological monitor must be on site. Any additional archaeological monitors will meet the qualifications of a bachelor’s degree in anthropology/archaeology or completion of an</p>	<p>During grading activities</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>archaeological field school and two or more years of archaeological project experience. Daily monitoring forms will be completed by the archaeological monitor(s) and the Project Archaeologist will be responsible for retaining, editing, and compiling them. Agencies will be provided with a compilation of the daily reports monthly. The lead archaeological monitor will have the authority to increase or decrease the monitoring effort should the monitoring results indicate that a change is warranted.</p>				
<p>MM CUL-5 Unanticipated Resources. The developer/permit holder or any successor in interest shall comply with the following for the life of this permit.</p> <p>If during ground disturbance activities, unanticipated cultural resources* are discovered, the following procedures shall be followed:</p> <p>All ground disturbance activities within 100 feet of the discovered cultural resource shall be halted and the applicant shall call the County Archaeologist immediately upon discovery of the cultural resource. A meeting shall be convened between the developer, the Project Archaeologist**, the Native American tribal representative (or other appropriate ethnic/cultural group representative), and the County Archaeologist to discuss the significance of the find. At the meeting with the aforementioned parties, a decision is to be made, with the concurrence of the County Archaeologist, as to the appropriate treatment (documentation, recovery, avoidance, etc.) for the cultural resource. Resource evaluations shall be limited to nondestructive analysis.</p> <p>Further ground disturbance shall not resume within the area of the discovery until the appropriate treatment has been accomplished.</p> <p>* A cultural resource site is defined, for this condition, as being a feature and/or three or more artifacts in close association with each other.</p> <p>** If not already employed by the project developer, a County approved archaeologist (Project Archaeologist) shall be employed by the project developer to assess the significance of the cultural</p>	<p>Prior to and during ground disturbance</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
resource, attend the meeting described above, and continue monitoring of all future site grading activities as necessary.				
MM CUL-6 Human Remains. If human remains are found on this site, the developer/permit holder or any successor in interest shall comply with State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5.	During construction and all ground disturbing activities	County of Riverside		
MM CUL-7 Phase IV Monitoring Report. Prior to Grading Permit Final Inspection, a Phase IV Cultural Resources Monitoring Report shall be submitted that complies with the Riverside County Planning Department’s requirements for such reports for all ground disturbing activities associated with this grading permit. The report shall follow the County of Riverside Planning Department Cultural Resources (Archaeological) Investigations Standard Scopes of Work posted on the Transportation and Land Management Agency’s (TLMAs) website. The report shall include results of any feature relocation or residue analysis required as well as evidence of the required cultural sensitivity training for the construction staff held during the required pre-grade meeting and evidence that any artifacts have been treated in accordance with procedures stipulated in the CRMTP.	Prior to Grading Permit Final Inspection	County of Riverside		
MM CUL-8 Establish Environmentally Sensitive Area Around Site P-33-018392/CA-RIV-11904. If the access road ROW cannot be redesigned to avoid site P-33-018392/CA-RIV-11904, the project proponent will establish an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) around the site, which would result in avoidance and protection of the site during project construction.	At least 10 days in advance of construction	County of Riverside		
The ESA will be established around the extent of site P-33-018392/CA-RIV-11904 within the surface-disturbing APE plus a 10-meter (30-foot) buffer. The ESA will be labeled in the Project’s plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E). Construction fencing set in place with rebar will be placed around the delineated ESA to act as a physical barrier protecting the site. It is assumed that, in the normal course of work for the Project, the ESA fencing would act as a barrier and the site would not be entered. The ESA delineation in the PS&E is a precautionary measure to ensure that construction crews remain outside of the site boundary.				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>All responsible parties will ensure that ESAs are discussed during the cultural resources WEAP training. The importance of the Project’s ESA will be discussed with construction personnel. It will be stressed that no construction activity occur within the ESA and that workers must remain outside of the ESA at all times.</p> <p>The project proponent will allow at least 10 days in advance of construction to provide time for a BLM archaeologist or other professionally qualified archaeologist to field review the ESA location to assess current conditions prior to the start of work. A BLM archaeologist or other professionally qualified archaeologist will periodically inspect the ESA fencing during project construction to ensure the site is avoided and protected.</p>				
Hazards and Hazardous Materials				
<p>MM HAZ-1 Worker Environmental Awareness Program. A Worker Environmental Awareness Program shall be prepared, and all construction crews and contractors shall be briefed on the plan prior to starting work on the Project. The plan shall address health and safety issues associated with normal and unusual (emergency) conditions. The program shall include, but not be limited, to the following information and guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environmental health and safety protocol (including, but not limited to, hazards of valley fever, including the symptoms, proper work procedures, when and how to use personal protective equipment, and informing supervisors of suspected symptoms of work-related valley fever) ▪ An emergency response plan ▪ Environmental awareness training, which shall include environmental, cultural, health, and safety training ▪ Noise/ear protection protocol ▪ First aid training ▪ Fire protection and extinguisher maintenance, guidance, and documentation ▪ Disposal of hazardous materials and waste guidance in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations 	Prior to construction	County of Riverside		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>MM HAZ-2 UXO Identification, Training, and Reporting Plan. Where ground disturbance work is involved, the construction contractor shall have a representative that is OSHA HAZWOPER-trained in accordance with standard 29CFR1910.120 on-call during construction activities to evaluate potential UXO findings. A UXO Identification, Training, and Reporting Plan will be developed and will be incorporated in the WEAP training. The UXO Identification, Training, and Reporting Plan will properly train all site workers in the recognition, avoidance, and reporting of military waste debris and ordnance. The Applicant shall submit the plan, incorporated in the WEAP training, to the County and BLM for review and approval prior to the start of construction. The plan shall contain, at a minimum, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A description of the training program outline and materials, and the qualifications of the trainers; ▪ Identification of available trained experts that will respond to notification of discovery of any ordnance (unexploded or not); and ▪ Work plan to recover and remove discovered ordnance. 	During construction	County of Riverside		
Hydrology and Water Quality				
<p>MM WAT-1 Groundwater Monitoring, Reporting and Mitigation Plan. Prior to the Project’s use of water from any well that extracts groundwater from the Chuckwalla Valley Groundwater Basin, the Applicant shall prepare and implement a Groundwater Monitoring, Reporting, and Mitigation Plan (GMRMP) for the Project. The GMRMP shall be prepared by a certified hydrogeologist registered in the State of California and submitted by the Applicant to the County for review and approval prior to the start of Project construction.</p> <p>The GMRMP shall provide detailed methodology for monitoring groundwater levels and water quality in the Project production well(s) and closest accessible private well(s). Monitoring shall be performed prior to construction to establish pre-construction groundwater levels that can be used as a baseline against which later measurements can be compared, and to establish provisional</p>	Prior to the Project’s use of water from any well that extracts groundwater from the Chuckwalla Valley Groundwater Basin and during construction	County of Riverside		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>significance thresholds that shall be used to determine the need for additional monitoring, investigation, and/or mitigation.</p> <p>Monitoring of groundwater levels and water quality shall be conducted on a quarterly basis during Project construction and a semi-annual basis during Project operations and maintenance for at least the first 5 years of the Project (including the construction period). All Project production wells shall be metered, and total monthly and annual usage in gallons recorded for the life of the Project. Monitoring reports shall be prepared and submitted to the County for review and comment following each monitoring event. The reports shall include at a minimum the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tabulated groundwater level, quality, and production data ▪ Total monthly water use in gallons and acre-feet ▪ Hydrographs that show groundwater level trends ▪ Trend analysis of water quality data ▪ Comparison of monitoring results to baseline conditions ▪ Identification of any exceedance of provisional significance thresholds <p>If groundwater monitoring results indicate that Project-related pumping has resulted in a static groundwater level decline of 5 feet or more below the baseline trend, determined by the past 5 years of static groundwater level data, at any of the nearby private monitoring wells, the Project Applicant shall consult with the County to determine what remedial activities are needed, which could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cessation or reduction of pumping until groundwater levels recover to within 5 feet from the baseline trend ▪ Compensation for whatever additional equipment is necessary to lower nearby well pumps to levels that can adequately continue pumping ▪ Compensation to repair or replace wells found to be damaged or inoperable due to lowered groundwater levels ▪ Compensation for increased energy cost due to Project-related groundwater level drawdown in wells 				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>If groundwater level declines are occurring, pumping by other local users will be evaluated in the monitoring reports and, if possible, differentiated from Project-related pumping. This analysis could include comparing changes in the timing and amounts of groundwater level fluctuations to pre-Project baseline data, production at other locations, and seasonal changes.</p>				
Noise				
<p>MM N-1 Construction Noise Equipment Controls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The use of noise-producing signals, including horns, whistles, alarms, and bells, will be for safety warning purposes only. ▪ Construction equipment will be muffled per manufacturer’s specifications. Electrically powered equipment will be used instead of pneumatic- or internal combustion–powered equipment, where feasible. ▪ All stationary construction equipment will be placed in a manner so that emitted noise is directed away or blocked from sensitive receptors nearest the Project site where possible. 	During construction	County of Riverside		
<p>MM N-2 Public Notification Process. At least 15 days prior to the start of ground disturbance, the Project Applicant shall notify all residents within 1 mile of the Project site and the Linear Facility Routes, by mail or by other effective means, of the commencement of Project construction. At the same time, the Project Applicant shall establish a telephone number for use by the public to report any undesirable noise conditions associated with the construction and operation of the Project. If the telephone is not staffed 24 hours a day, the Project Applicant shall include an automatic answering feature, with date and time stamp recording, to answer calls when the phone is unattended. This telephone number shall be posted at the Project site during construction where it is visible to passersby. This telephone number shall be maintained until the Project has been operational for at least 1 year.</p>	At least 15 days prior to the start of ground disturbance	County of Riverside		
<p>MM N-3 Noise Complaint Process. Throughout the construction and operation of the Project, the Project Applicant shall document, investigate, evaluate, and attempt to resolve all Project-related noise complaints.</p>	During construction and operation of the Project	County of Riverside		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
Paleontological Resources				
<p>MM PALEO-1 Paleontological Resources Impact Mitigation Program. Prior to commencement of any grading activity on site, the Applicant shall retain a qualified paleontologist per the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2010) guidelines. The paleontologist shall prepare a Paleontological Resource Impact Mitigation Program for the Project. The Paleontological Resource Impact Mitigation Program shall be consistent with the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2010) guidelines and should outline requirements for pre-construction meeting attendance and worker environmental awareness training where monitoring is required within the Project site based on construction plans and/or geotechnical reports, procedures for adequate paleontological monitoring and discoveries treatment, and paleontological methods (including sediment sampling for microvertebrate fossils), reporting, and collections management. The qualified paleontologist shall attend the pre-construction meeting and a qualified paleontological monitor shall be on site during all rough grading and other significant ground-disturbing activities (including augering) in previously undisturbed, fine-grained Quaternary alluvial deposits of Pleistocene age. In the event that paleontological resources (e.g., fossils) are unearthed during grading, the qualified paleontological monitor will temporarily halt and/or divert ground disturbing activity to allow recovery of paleontological resources. The area of discovery will be roped off with a 50-foot-radius buffer. Once documentation and collection of the find is completed, the qualified paleontological monitor will remove the rope and allow grading to recommence in the area of the find.</p> <p>Paleontological specimens recovered from the Project site, if any, will be processed in the laboratory. Processing will include removal of any matrix so that the fossil can be identified to the lowest possible taxonomic level. The specimens will then be identified and cataloged into a paleontological database. Specimens will need to be prepared for curation prior to repository accessioning.</p> <p>The qualified paleontologist will produce a Paleontological Monitoring Report describing the paleontological discoveries in their</p>	<p>Prior to commencement of any grading activity on site</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>stratigraphic and geographic context and detailing the procedures for preparing, curating, and accessioning the paleontological collection into a suitable repository. The report of monitoring results shall be submitted to the lead agency. If no significant paleontological resources are recovered during Project ground-disturbing activities, a final Monitoring Memorandum shall be produced and submitted to the lead agency. Completion of the aforementioned tasks will finalize the paleontological mitigation process.</p>				
Transportation				
<p>MM TRAF-1 Construction Traffic Management Plan. Prior to initiation of construction activities, a Construction Traffic Management Plan will be prepared by the contractor and filed with the County. Potential traffic management measures may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Warning signage to meet County and California Department of Transportation requirements for driver awareness of construction activity in the vicinity. ▪ Staggering work shifts to reduce peak periods of congestion. ▪ Limiting time for heavy truck deliveries. ▪ Using flaggers at key locations to alert motorists to slow-moving trucks. ▪ Providing an information packet for affected residents to bring awareness to the Project activities and measures to minimize impacts. <p>Informing emergency service providers of construction traffic schedule.</p>	Prior to construction	County of Riverside		
Tribal Cultural Resources				
<p>MM TCR-1 Native American Monitor. Prior to the issuance of grading permits, the developer/permit applicant shall enter into an agreement with the consulting tribe(s) for a Native American Monitor*. The Native American Monitor(s) shall be on-site during all initial ground disturbing activities and excavation of each portion of the project site including clearing, grubbing, tree removals, grading and trenching. In conjunction with the Archaeological Monitor(s), the Native American Monitor(s) shall have the authority to temporarily divert, redirect or halt the ground disturbance activities to allow</p>	Prior to the issuance of grading permits	County of Riverside		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>identification, evaluation, and potential recovery of cultural resources. The developer/permit applicant shall submit a fully executed copy of the agreement to the County Archaeologist to ensure compliance with this condition of approval. Upon verification, the Archaeologist shall clear this condition.</p> <p>* A “Native American Monitor” is an individual who is presented as a representative of a tribal government for one of the culturally affiliated tribes for the Sapphire Solar Project and who has received specialized training approved by that tribal government to serve as a monitor.</p> <p>This agreement shall not modify any condition of approval or mitigation measure.</p>				
<p>MM TCR-2 Artifact Disposition. Prior to Grading Permit Final Inspection, the landowner(s) shall relinquish ownership of all cultural resources that are unearthed on the Project property during any ground-disturbing activities, including previous investigations and/or Phase III data recovery.</p> <p>Historic Resources- all historic archaeological materials recovered during the archaeological investigations (this includes collections made during an earlier project, such as testing of archaeological sites that took place years ago), shall be curated at the Western Science Center, a Riverside County curation facility that meets State Resources Department Office of Historic Preservation Guidelines for the Curation of Archaeological Resources ensuring access and use pursuant to the Guidelines.</p> <p>Prehistoric Resources - One of the following treatments shall be applied.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Reburial of the resources on the Project property. The measures for reburial shall include, at least, the following: Measures to protect the reburial area from any future impacts. Reburial shall not occur until all required cataloguing, analysis and studies have been completed on the cultural resources, with an exception that sacred items, burial goods and Native American human remains are 	<p>Prior to Grading Permit Final Inspection</p>	<p>County of Riverside</p>		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>excluded. Any reburial processes shall be culturally appropriate. Listing of contents and location of the reburial shall be included in the confidential Phase IV Report. The Phase IV Report shall be filed with the County under a confidential cover and not subject to a Public Records Request.</p> <p>b. If reburial is not agreed upon by the Consulting Tribes then the resources shall be curated at a culturally appropriate manner at the Western Science Center, a Riverside County curation facility that meets State Resources Department Office of Historic Preservation Guidelines for the Curation of Archaeological Resources ensuring access and use pursuant to the Guidelines. The collection and associated records shall be transferred, including title, and are to be accompanied by payment of the fees necessary for permanent curation. Evidence of curation in the form of a letter from the curation facility stating that subject archaeological materials have been received and that all fees have been paid, shall be provided by the landowner to the County. There shall be no destructive or invasive testing on sacred items, burial goods and Native American human remains.</p>				
Wildfire				
<p>MM FIRE-1 County Fire Department Technical Policy (TP) 15-002 Compliance. The Applicant shall ensure that circulation and access for fire protection purposes within the site and at the entrance are provided, with roads not less than 20 feet consistent with County Fire Department Technical Policy TP 15-002. Compliance with the requirement shall be documented in the construction documents.</p>	Prior to construction	County of Riverside		
<p>MM FIRE-2 Water Tank Installation—Riverside County Fire Department Compliance. The Applicant shall install water tanks if required by the Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD). The required volume of water for fire use shall be based on the County Fire Marshall’s requirement following review of the Project plans. The RCFD-approved number of water tanks and volume shall be included in the construction documents.</p>	Prior to construction	County of Riverside		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<p>MM FIRE-3 Maintenance Truck Equipment. The Applicant shall ensure all maintenance trucks are equipped with a fire extinguisher or other firefighting equipment in accordance with state and federal regulations. Compliance with this measure shall be documented in monitoring logs provided to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Bureau of Land Management.</p>	Prior to construction	County of Riverside		
<p>MM FIRE-4 Occupational Safety and Health Administration and California Code of Regulations Compliance. The Applicant shall ensure that welding and all construction hot work abides by the appropriate Occupational Safety and Health Administration and California Code of Regulations standards (8 CCR 4846). Compliance with this measure shall be documented in monitoring logs provided to California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Bureau of Land Management.</p>	Prior to construction	County of Riverside		
<p>MM FIRE-5 Fire Prevention and Safety Plan. The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Fire Prevention and Safety Plan to ensure the safety of workers and the public during construction, operation and maintenance, and future decommissioning activities for the Project. The owner must provide the Fire Prevention and Safety Plan to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for review and approval and to the Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD) for review and comment before construction. The Fire Prevention and Safety Plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Procedures shall be in place for minimizing potential ignition, including, but not limited to, vegetation clearing, parking requirements/restrictions, idling restrictions, smoking restrictions, proper use of gas-powered equipment, and hot work restrictions. ▪ Work restrictions shall be in place during Red Flag Warnings and High to Extreme Fire Danger days. ▪ All internal combustion engines used at the Project’s site shall be equipped with spark arrestors. Spark arrestors shall be in good working order. 	Prior to construction	County of Riverside		

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Light trucks and cars shall be used only on roads where the roadway is cleared of vegetation, have been cut, and initial fencing completed. Mufflers on all cars and light trucks shall be maintained in good working order. ▪ Fire rules shall be posted on the project bulletin board at the contractor’s field office and areas visible to employees. ▪ Equipment parking areas and small stationary engine sites shall be cleared of all flammable materials. ▪ Smoking shall be prohibited in all vegetated areas and within 50 feet of combustible materials storage and shall be limited to paved areas or areas cleared of all vegetation. ▪ Each construction site (if construction occurs simultaneously at various locations) shall be equipped with fire extinguishers and firefighting equipment sufficient to extinguish small fires. ▪ The Applicant shall coordinate with BLM and RCFD to create a training component for emergency first responders to prepare for specialized emergency incidents that may occur at the Project’s site. ▪ All construction workers, plant personnel, and maintenance workers visiting the plant and/or transmission lines to perform maintenance activities shall receive training on fire prevention procedures, the proper use of firefighting equipment, and procedures to be followed in the event of a fire. Training records shall be maintained and be available for review by BLM and RCFD. Fire prevention procedures shall be included in the Project’s Worker Environmental Awareness Training (Mitigation Measure BIO-2). ▪ Vegetation near all solar panel arrays, ancillary equipment, and access roads shall be controlled through periodic cutting and spraying of weeds, in accordance with the Weed Management Plan. ▪ BLM and RCFD shall be consulted during plan preparation and fire safety measures recommended by these agencies included in the plan. ▪ The plan shall list fire prevention procedures and specific emergency response and evacuation measures that would be required to be followed during emergency situations. 				

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Agency Responsible for Monitoring	Initials	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All on-site employees shall participate in annual fire prevention and response training exercises with BLM and RCFD. ▪ The plan shall list all applicable wildland fire management plans and policies established by state and local agencies and demonstrate how the Project shall comply with these requirements. ▪ The Applicant shall designate an emergency services coordinator from among the full-time on-site employees who shall perform routine patrols of the site during the fire season equipped with a portable fire extinguisher and communications equipment. The Applicant shall notify BLM and RCFD of the name and contact information of the current emergency services coordinator in the event of any change. ▪ Remote monitoring of all major electrical equipment (transformers and inverters) shall screen for unusual operating conditions. Higher than nominal temperatures, for example, can be compared with other operational factors to indicate the potential for overheating, which under certain conditions could precipitate a fire. Units could then be shut down or generation curtailed remotely until corrective actions are taken. ▪ Fires ignited on site shall be immediately reported to BLM and RCFD. ▪ The engineering, procurement, and construction contract(s) for the Project shall provide reference to or clearly state the requirements of this measure. 				

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