

# 3 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

## PROJECT INFORMATION

**1. Project Title:**

Newcastle Arrow Route Project

**2. Lead Agency Name and Address:**

City of Rancho Cucamonga Planning Department  
10500 Civic Center Drive  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

**3. Contact Person and Phone Number:**

Sean McPherson | Principal Planner  
City of Rancho Cucamonga | Planning Department  
10500 Civic Center Dr, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730  
Ph: (909) 774-4307 | Email: sean.mcpherson@cityofrc.us

**4. Project Location:**

12459 Arrow Route  
Rancho Cucamonga, California 91730

**5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:**

Newcastle Partners  
4740 Green River Road  
Corona, CA 92878

**6. General Plan Designation:**

Industrial Employment

**7. Zoning:**

Industrial Employment

**8. Description of Project:**

Newcastle Partners is proposing to develop the project site which would include the demolition and site clearing of existing industrial buildings and surface parking lot and construction, use, and maintenance of one concrete tilt-up industrial warehouse building totaling approximately 334,776 gross square feet of building floor area comprised of 322,776 square feet of warehouse space, 6,000 square feet of ground floor office space, and 6,000 square feet of mezzanine office space. The building would be approximately 55 feet in height supported by a slab-on-grade foundation and surrounded by 8-foot-high security fencing with two gated access points at the northeast and northwest corners of the property. Other improvements would include asphalt and concrete pavement areas, hardscape, and landscaping. Trash enclosures and transformers and other ground-mounted equipment would be screened from view. There would be approximately 80,457 square feet of landscaped area, which is approximately 13 percent of the project site. Vehicle access to the project site would be provided by public roadways connecting the project site to Arrow Route

**9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:**

The project site is currently occupied by an industrial facility (Tree Island Wire) used for manufacturing steel wire and steel wire products. The project site consists of two large buildings (approximately 157,221 square feet and 20,000 square feet), an outdoor storage yard, and a 100-space surface parking lot with surrounding

concrete/asphalt and gravel pavement and minimal vegetation. Ornamental trees line the dirt space between the surface parking lot and western-most drive aisle of the project site's internal circulation route.

Industrial land uses border the project site to the north, east, and south. Yellow Wood Road borders the project site to the west. Further west, across Yellow Wood Road, are industrial land uses. An existing drainage basin is adjacent to the east of the project site outside the project site boundaries. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway (AT/SF Railway) is located approximately 950 feet south of the nearest property line of the project site.

**10. Other public agencies whose approval is required:**

- ▶ South Coast Air Quality Management District
- ▶ Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

**11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?**

The City of Rancho Cucamonga has initiated outreach to Native American Tribes that previously requested notification pursuant to AB 52.

## ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:


The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages. Where noted below with an "X" for yes, the topic with a potentially significant impact will be addressed in an environmental impact report.

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazards / Hazardous Materials | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forest Resources    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing                     | <input type="checkbox"/> None  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Services               | <input type="checkbox"/> None with Mitigation Incorporated             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                               |  |

### DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- No** I find that the proposed project could not have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- No** I find that although the proposed project **COULD** have a significant effect on the environment, there **WILL NOT** be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- Yes** I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.
- No** I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- No** I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier **EIR** or **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier **EIR** or **NEGATIVE DECLARATION**, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature 

Date 11/01/2023

Printed Name David F. Eoff IV

Title Senior Planner

Agency City of Rancho Cucamonga

## EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The explanation of each issue should identify:
  - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
  - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

### 3.1 AESTHETICS

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>I. Aesthetics.</b>				
Except as provided in Public Resources Code section 21099 (where aesthetic impacts shall not be considered significant for qualifying residential, mixed-use residential, and employment centers), would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage points.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?**

**No Impact.** The proposed project would be sited in the southeast portion of the city, which is characterized by industrial and manufacturing land uses. The proposed project would be developed on parcels zoned as Industrial Employment. The proposed project site does not possess any unique aesthetic characteristics, such as architectural significance or visual prominence, public plazas, art or gardens, pedestrian amenities, or landscaped parks. The project site is currently occupied by an industrial facility consisting of two large buildings (both approximately 26 feet tall totaling approximately 177,221 square feet), outdoor storage yard areas, and a surface parking lot with surrounding concrete/asphalt and gravel pavement and minimal vegetation. Ornamental trees line the dirt space between the surface parking lot and western-most drive aisle of the site’s internal circulation route. The project site is surrounded on all sides by existing active and inactive industrial manufacturing, warehousing, and disturbed lands. All of these surrounding land uses are either zoned Neo-Industrial or Industrial Employment, similar to the project site (Rancho Cucamonga Zoning Plan Viewer 2023d). Due to the relatively flat topography of the project site and surrounding land uses, and due to the extent of urban development within the immediate area, there are no scenic vistas or vantage points that offer views of scenic vistas.

Further, as shown in the Rancho Cucamonga General Plan Update Draft Environmental Impact Report and Climate Action Plan published in 2021 (RCGP DEIR 2021), the project site is not part of, and does not contribute to, the scenic mountain views of the nearby San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains; scenic views of the I-15 and SR-210 freeways, or the North Etiwanda Preserve from the I-15 from the northeastern boundary of the City to the interchange with the SR-210; the view north to the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains from SR-210; the northern view of the San Bernardino foothills from major east-west streets south of West Foothill Boulevard; the views of the San Gabriel Mountains from the City roadways south of West Foothill Boulevard; or the Pacific Electric Trail. Therefore, development of the proposed project would have no impact on a scenic vista, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

**b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?**

**No Impact.** The State Department of Transportation (Caltrans) manages the State Scenic Highway Program, which protects and enhances the scenic beauty of California's highways and adjacent corridors. According to Caltrans, a highway may be designated as "scenic" depending on how much of the natural landscape can be seen by travelers, the scenic quality of the landscape, and the extent to which development intrudes upon the traveler's enjoyment of the view (Caltrans 2023). As shown in the California State Scenic Highway System Map created by Caltrans, there are no eligible or designated State scenic highways in the city. The nearest State scenic highway lies north of the San Gabriel Mountains along the State Route 2 freeway, approximately 12 miles north of the northern city boundary and 15.3 miles north of the northernmost property line of the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State scenic highway. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

**c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage points.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project is located within an urbanized area, and the project site is located in the Industrial Employment District within the city and is zoned Industrial Employment. The project site is directly surrounded by Neo-Industrial and Industrial Employment zones with industrial land uses, including industrial manufacturing, warehousing, and paved and disturbed areas. Therefore, the proposed project's industrial warehouse distribution land uses are not expected to conflict with applicable zoning or other regulations of the city that govern scenic quality. However, the proposed project may request some variations from the zoning requirements or other development standards. Therefore, a potentially significant impact may occur, and potential conflicts with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality will be further analyzed in the EIR.

**d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Lighting for the proposed project would be provided in order to illuminate building entrances, common open space areas, and parking areas to provide adequate nighttime visibility for employees and truck trailer visibility access. The proposed project could also potentially introduce reflective surfaces to the project site vicinity from architectural features. Therefore, this impact is potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the EIR.

### 3.2 AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<p><b>II. Agriculture and Forest Resources.</b></p> <p>In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997, as updated) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland.</p> <p>In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state’s inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:</p>				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?**

**No Impact.** The project site is located in an urbanized area of the city. No farmland or agricultural activity exists on the project site, nor are there any farmland or agricultural activities in the vicinity of the project site. According to the California Important Farmland Finder interactive map prepared by the California Department of Conservation, the soils at the project site are not candidate for listing as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance. The project site is classified as "Urban and Built-Up Land" (DOC 2023a). Therefore, the proposed project would not convert any farmland or agricultural uses to non-agricultural use, and as such, no impact would occur. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

**b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?**

**No Impact.** Within the city, the project site is zoned Industrial Employment. The project site is not zoned for agricultural production and no Williamson Act contracts are in effect for the project site (RCGP DEIR 2021: 5.2-6). Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with any agricultural zoning or Williamson Act contract's purpose to preserve commercially viable agricultural land. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

**c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?**

**No Impact.** As stated previously, the project site is zoned Industrial Employment. The project site is not zoned for forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production. There is no forest land or timberland production at the project site or in the surrounding area, which is zoned as Neo-Industrial and Industrial Employment. This is further confirmed by the RCGP DEIR (2021), which states that there are no lands within the city that qualify as forest land or timberland. Therefore, development of the proposed project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code (PRC) section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by PRC section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g)). No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

**d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**

**No Impact.** The project site is located in an urbanized area of the city zoned for industrial land uses and is surrounded by other industrial land uses. No forested lands exist on or in the vicinity of the project site. As such, development of the project would not result in the loss of forest land or convert existing forest land to non-forest uses. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

**e) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**

**No Impact.** Neither the project site nor nearby properties are currently utilized for agricultural or forestry uses. As discussed above, the project site is not classified in any "Farmland" category designated by the State of California, and neither is the project site zoned for forest land. As such, development of the proposed project would not involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in the conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.



### 3.3 AIR QUALITY

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>III. Air Quality.</b>				
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied on to make the following determinations.				
Are significance criteria established by the applicable air district available to rely on for significance determinations? Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** A significant air quality impact may occur if the proposed project is inconsistent with the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), adopted by South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), or would conflict with the implementation of its policies or goals. The AQMP is developed, in part, based on the regional population, housing, and employment projections of the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, the most recent version of which was adopted by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) in September of 2020 (Connect SoCal). SCAG serves as the federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the southern California region, which includes Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Imperial Counties. SCAG addresses regional issues relating to transportation, economy, and community development and the environment. The growth projections provided in Connect SoCal are generally based on the growth projections made in individual General Plans for cities within SCAG’s planning area. The City of Rancho Cucamonga is located within the SCAG planning area and adopted a comprehensive update of its General Plan in December 2021. In the General Plan, the project site is located within an Industrial Employment District and zoned for Industrial Employment.

The proposed project would include the demolition, site clearing, and grading of the project site and the construction, operation, and maintenance of a new industrial building for industrial warehouse distribution, associated office space, loading docks for truck trailers, and include automobile and truck trailer parking spaces. The proposed project would also include the creation of a new vehicle circulation system, water quality basins, utility infrastructure, exterior lighting and signage, and provide landscaping. As such, the proposed project would maintain its existing zoning and General Plan land use designations. The proposed project’s land uses would be compatible with the existing General Plan designations, zoning, and previous industrial use of the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would be consistent with the land use designations in the applicable General Plan from which SCAG generates its regional population, housing, and employment growth projections.

However, as noted above, Connect SoCal was adopted in September of 2020, and the city adopted its most recent General Plan over a year later, in December 2021. Therefore, to determine if development of the proposed project aligns with Connect SoCal projections, an analysis of consistency with the 2022 AQMP will be provided in the EIR. In addition, the proposed project has the potential to generate short-term localized and regional air quality emissions during construction of the proposed project, as well as long-term air quality emissions associated with operational activities. The proposed project's air quality impacts and consistency with the 2022 AQMP will be further analyzed in the EIR.

**b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Construction and operation of the proposed project would generate air quality emissions which have the potential to contribute to impacts and cumulative impacts when assessed in conjunction with related projects that are approved, under construction, or reasonably foreseeable to occur within the greater project area. Per SCAQMD standard practice, if an individual project results in air quality emissions of criteria pollutants that exceed the established daily thresholds set by SCAQMD for project-specific impacts, then the project would also result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of criteria pollutants for which the region is non-attainment under an applicable State or federal ambient air quality standard. This impact is potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the EIR.

**c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** As noted above, construction and operation of the project would result in greater emissions than existing conditions. SCAQMD has prescribed methodologies and thresholds for evaluating the localized effects of emissions on the community. A multi-family residential community is located approximately 560 meters (1,800 feet) northeast of the project site but directly adjacent to potential roadways on which project-related construction and operational trucks will travel. A single-family house is located approximately 700 meters (2,300 feet) east of the project site. Thus, consistent with SCAQMD guidance, this impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?**

**Less Than Significant Impact.** Construction of the proposed project would utilize conventional building materials typical of construction projects of similar size and type. Potential sources that may emit odors include the use of architectural coatings, solvents, and asphalt paving. SCAQMD Rule 1108 Cutback Asphalt and 1113 Architectural Coatings limit the amount of volatile organic compounds from cutback asphalt and architectural coatings and solvents, respectively; and SCAQMD Rule 402 Nuisance states that a person shall not discharge from any source such quantities of air contaminants or other materials which cause injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public or which endanger the comfort, repose, health or safety of any such persons or the public, or which cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property. Regulatory compliance with SCAQMD would ensure that any odors generated during construction would be localized, temporary in nature, and would not be sufficient to adversely affect a substantial number of people. Regarding operation, according to the SCAQMD CEQA Air Quality Handbook, land uses associated with odor complaints typically include agricultural uses, wastewater treatment plants, food processing plants, chemical plants, composting, refineries, landfills, dairies, and fiberglass molding (SCAQMD 1993: 2-2). The proposed project would not include any of these types of land uses and would therefore not be expected to result in substantial odors. Therefore, construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in other emissions, such as those leading to odors, that would adversely affect a substantial number of people, and the impact would be less than significant. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

### 3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>IV. Biological Resources.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The project site is located in a highly urbanized area of the city historically used as, and zoned for, industrial land uses. The project site is currently occupied by an industrial facility consisting of two large buildings, a surface parking lot, and surrounding concrete/asphalt and gravel pavement with minimal vegetation. Existing vegetation on the project site includes several large trees lining the western edge of the project site. All onsite vegetation and trees would be removed as part of the proposed project’s demolition and construction activities. This vegetation has the potential to contain habitat, the removal of which could adversely affect candidate, sensitive, or special-status species. Therefore, the impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Although the project site is not located adjacent to, nor in the vicinity of, any natural riparian habitat and is located in a highly urbanized area of the city historically used as, and zoned for, industrial land uses, the demolition of onsite vegetation and trees to construct the proposed project may have the potential to create a substantial adverse impact on a sensitive natural community potentially present, as identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?**

**No Impact.** The project site is not located adjacent to, or in the vicinity of, State or federally protected wetlands, including but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, and coastal areas. The project site is located within a highly urbanized area of the city in an area zoned for industrial land uses. The project site does not support any riparian or wetland habitat (see Figure 5.4-4 Drainage and Associated Riparian Vegetation Communities in the RCGP DEIR (2021)). No construction or operational activities of the proposed project would have the potential to directly or indirectly impact wetlands or wetlands habitats. Therefore, development of the proposed project would not have the potential to have a substantial adverse effect on State or federally protected wetlands through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. No impacts to State or federally protected wetland habitats would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

**d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Although the project site is not located adjacent to, nor in the vicinity of, native resident or migratory fish and is located in a highly urbanized area of the city historically used as, and zoned for, industrial land uses, as discussed above, demolition of onsite vegetation and existing trees may have the potential to interfere with the movement of any as yet unidentified native or migratory wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors. While the demolition of non-protected trees and non-protected vegetation onsite would not be a significant impact under CEQA, the removal of trees would have the potential to impact nesting bird species if they are present at the time of tree removal. Nesting birds are protected under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) in Title 16 of the United States Code, Section 703 et seq.; Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulation, Part 20; and Section 3503 of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Code. Standard regulatory compliance would include avoiding tree removal activities during the breeding season, and, if not feasible, to implement weekly bird surveys to ensure that trees proposed for removal are not occupied by nesting birds. Nevertheless, removal of onsite existing trees may have the potential to affect the movement of any as yet unidentified resident or migratory wildlife species or nursery sites that may be present. Therefore, the impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Development of the proposed project would include the removal of all onsite vegetation and trees. As a result of the project site currently being occupied by an industrial facility consisting of two large buildings, a surface parking lot, and concrete/asphalt and gravel pavement, minimal vegetation existing on the project site. However, existing vegetation on the project site includes several large trees that line the western edge of the project site. The proposed project would demolish the entire project site for the construction of the proposed

industrial warehouse building, paved parking areas, and landscaped areas. As a result, onsite vegetation and onsite trees would be demolished as part of the construction activities of the proposed project.

Certain trees are protected in the City, according to the City's protected tree ordinance codified in the Rancho Cucamonga Municipal Code (RCMC) Chapter 17.80, Tree Preservation. "Heritage trees" that are protected by this ordinance include the following:

- (1) All Eucalyptus windrows; or
- (2) All woody plants in excess of 30 feet in height and having a single trunk circumference of 20 inches or more, as measured four and a half feet (4.5') from ground level; or
- (3) Multi-trunk tree(s) having a total circumference of 30 inches or more, as measured 24 inches from ground level; or
- (4) A strand of trees the nature of which makes each dependent upon the others for survival; or
- (5) Any other tree as may be deemed historically or culturally significant by the Planning Director because of size, condition, location, or aesthetic qualities.

Development of the proposed project may affect heritage trees protected under the existing tree preservation ordinance of the city or otherwise have a substantial adverse effect on other biological resources potentially present, either directly or through habitat modifications. Therefore, the impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?**

**No Impact.** The proposed project is not located within a conservation plan area. The four conservation areas that currently exist within the city are already protected from development by the recordation of conservation deed restrictions as well as conservation management plans (RCGP DEIR 2021). These include the following:

- ▶ North Etiwanda Preserve (760 acres);
- ▶ San Sevaine Spreading Grounds (137 acres);
- ▶ US Forest Service Conservation Area (880 acres); and
- ▶ Conservation area purchased as mitigation and set aside through a conservation easement to the San Bernardino County SCA 70 (35 acres).

These areas are intended to protect alluvial fan sage scrub, sycamore alluvial woodland, California walnut woodland, and freshwater marsh. These areas encompass 1,812 acres of habitat, and their protection is critical to the survival of sensitive species and wildlife occupying these habitats. They also provide important habitat and migration corridors for wildlife, ecosystem services, and recreational resources for the public. In addition, the Etiwanda Heights Neighborhood and Conservation Plan (EHNCP) adopted in 2019 establishes three new conservation areas between the northern portion of the city and the San Bernardino National Forest. All seven of these designated conservation areas are located in the northeastern portion of the City and are not located adjacent to, or in the vicinity of, the project site. Development of the proposed project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

### 3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>V. Cultural Resources.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially disturb human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines defines a historic resource as the following:

- (1) A resource listed in or determined to be eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources;
- (2) A resource included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in Section 5030.1(k) of the Public Resources Code or identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting certain State guidelines;
- (3) Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California, provided the lead agency’s determination is supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record; and
- (4) The fact that a resource is not listed in, or determined eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (pursuant to Section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code), or identified in an historical resources survey (meeting the criteria in Section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resource Code) does not preclude a lead agency from determining that the resource may be an historical resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(j) or 5024.1.

Existing conditions on the project site include industrial buildings and surface parking lot, with concrete/asphalt and gravel pavement and minimal vegetation. As described in the RCGP DEIR (2021), the city implements standard conditions of approval to reduce impacts on cultural or historical resources. Compliance with the following applicable standard conditions of approval would substantially lessen the proposed project’s potential adverse impacts on historical resources:

- 5.5-3: If a building within the project area was constructed more than 50 years ago, the City will require a determination of whether the building, or site, could be considered historic. If the project is considered historic, Chapter 17.18 Historic Preservation will apply.
- 5.5-4: Prior to any construction activities that may affect historical resources (i.e., structures 45 years or older), a historical resources assessment shall be performed by an architectural historian or historian who meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professionally Qualified Standards in architectural history or history. This shall include a records search to determine if any resources that may be potentially affected by the project have been previously recorded, evaluated, and/or designated in the National Register of Historic

Places, California Register of Historic Resources, or a local register. Following the records search, the qualified architectural historian shall conduct a reconnaissance-level and/or intensive-level survey in accordance with the California Office of Historic Preservation guidelines to identify any previously unrecorded potential historical resources that may be potentially affected by the proposed project. Pursuant to the definition of a historical resource under CEQA, potential historical resources shall be evaluated under a developed historic context.

As shown in Figure 5.5-1 Building Age Pre-1970 in the RCGP DEIR (2021), the project site buildings were constructed between the period of 1960 and 1969, making them more than 45 years old and more than 50 years old. As such, the city requires a historical resources assessment to be performed (per standard condition of approval 5.5-4) and requires a determination of whether the building or site could be considered historic (per standard condition of approval 5.5-3). Therefore, impacts are considered potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** There are numerous confidential archaeological sites in the city that represent the prehistoric and historic occupation and history of the city but are not publicly disclosed. These confidential archaeological sites are protected by a wide variety of State and local laws and regulations. As described in the RCGP DEIR (2021), compliance with the following standard condition of approval from the City would substantially lessen the proposed project's potential for adverse impacts on archaeological resources:

- 5.5-8: To determine the archaeological sensitivity for discretionary projects within the city, an archaeological resources assessment shall be performed under the supervision of an archaeologist that meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professionally Qualified Standards (PQS) in either prehistoric or historic archaeology. The assessments shall include a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search and a search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The records searches shall determine if the proposed project has been previously surveyed for archaeological resources, identify and characterize the results of previous cultural resource surveys, and disclose any cultural resources that have been recorded and/or evaluated. A Phase I pedestrian survey shall be undertaken in areas that are undeveloped to locate any surface cultural materials.
- (a) If potentially significant archaeological resources are identified through an archaeological resources assessment, and impacts to this resource cannot be avoided, a Phase II Testing and Evaluation investigation shall be performed by an archaeologist who meets the PQS prior to any construction-related ground disturbing activities to determine significance. If resources determined significant or unique through Phase II testing, and site avoidance is not possible, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures shall be established and undertaken. These might include a Phase III data recovery program that would be implemented by a qualified archaeologist and shall be performed in accordance with the Office of Historic Preservation's Archaeological Resource Management Reports (ARMR): Recommended Contents and Format (1990) and Guidelines for Archaeological Research Designs (1991).
- (b) If the archaeological assessment did not identify potentially significant archaeological resources within the proposed General Plan area but indicated the area to be highly sensitive for archaeological resources, a qualified archaeologist shall monitor all ground-disturbing construction and pre-construction activities in areas with previously undisturbed soil. The archaeologist shall inform all construction personnel prior to construction activities of the proper procedures in the event of an archaeological discovery. The training shall be held in conjunction with the project's initial onsite safety meeting and shall explain the importance and legal basis for the protection of significant archaeological resources. In the event that archaeological resources (artifacts or features) are exposed during ground disturbing activities, construction activities in the immediate vicinity of

the discovery shall be halted while the resources are evaluated for significance by an archaeologist who meets the PQS. If the discovery proves to be significant, it shall be curated with a recognized scientific or educational repository.

- (c) If the archaeological assessment did not identify potentially significant archaeological resources, but indicates the area to be of medium sensitivity for archaeological resources, an archaeologist who meets the PQS shall be retained on an on-call basis. The archaeologist shall inform all construction personnel prior to construction activities about the proper procedures in the event of an archaeological discovery. The training shall be held in conjunction with the project's initial on-site safety meeting, and shall explain the importance and legal basis for the protection of significant archaeological resources. In the event that archaeological resources (artifacts or features) are exposed during ground disturbing activities, construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery shall be halted while the on-call archaeologist is contacted. If the discovery proves to be significant, it shall be curated with a recognized scientific or education repository.

Development of the proposed project would include excavation ranging from approximately 1 foot below ground surface (bgs) to up to 5 feet bgs in certain areas. As a result, during proposed project construction activities there is potential for inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources that may be present onsite. Therefore, impacts to archaeological resources would be potentially significant and further analyzed in the EIR.

**c) Substantially disturb human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?**

**Less Than Significant Impact.** No known human burials have been identified on the project site or within the project site vicinity. However, the depth of excavation during proposed project construction would range from 1 foot bgs to 5 feet bgs. Therefore, unknown human remains could be found onsite during construction activities, and if proper care is not taken, damage to or destruction of these unknown remains could occur. If inadvertent discovery of human remains during proposed project grading or excavation activities, the State Health and Safety Code 7050.5 requires that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The City also implements the following standard condition of approval as found in the RCGP DEIR (2021), which is similar to the State Health and Safety Code regulatory compliance:

5.5-2: If human remains or funerary objects are encountered during any activities associated with the project, work in the immediate vicinity (within a 100-foot buffer of the find) shall cease and the County Coroner shall be contacted pursuant to State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and that code enforced for the duration of the project.

Adherence to the State Health and Safety Code and Public Resource Code requirements and City standard condition of approval 5.5-2 would ensure that any potential impacts related to the disturbance of unknown human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries, would be less than significant. No further analysis is required in the EIR.



### 3.6 ENERGY

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>VI. Energy.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project would be constructed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, including State and federal laws and building regulations addressing the consumption of energy, such as Title 24, Part 6 of the California Code of Regulations, also known as the Building Energy Efficiency Standards; Title 24, Part 11 of the California Code of Regulations, also known as CALGreen; and the Rancho Cucamonga Building Code found in Chapter 15.12 of the RCMC. Project-related construction and operational activities would consume energy resources, including gasoline, diesel, natural gas, and electricity. Therefore, an energy analysis will be prepared and included in the EIR to quantify the proposed project’s energy consumption during construction and operations. The EIR will assess whether the proposed project’s estimated energy consumption is wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary, and if so, will evaluate whether such consumption results in a potentially significant impact to the environment. This impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project’s construction and operational activities would consume energy resources, including gasoline, diesel, natural gas, and electricity. An energy analysis will be prepared and included in the EIR to analyze the proposed project’s energy demands and to evaluate whether the types of energy sources (e.g., renewable and non-renewable) used by the proposed project or the efficiency of the proposed project’s consumption of renewable and non-renewable energy sources would conflict with or obstruct a State or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. This impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

### 3.7 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>VII. Geology and Soils.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to California Geological Survey Special Publication 42.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994, as updated), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:**
  - i) **Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to California Geological Survey Special Publication 42.)**

**No Impact.** Fault rupture impacts are limited to areas in the immediate vicinity of an earthquake fault. The nearest earthquake fault to the project site is the Red Hill-Etiwanda Avenue fault, approximately 3.4 miles northwest of the nearest property line of the project site. The Red Hill-Etiwanda Avenue fault is a late quaternary fault and is not an

Alquist-Priolo fault (USGS 2023). The project site is also not located within an Alquist-Priolo fault zone, according to the California Department of Conservation (DOC 2023b). Therefore, direct, or indirect cause of potential substantial adverse effects including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving the rupture of a known earthquake fault would not occur as a result of project implementation. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

## ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The project site is located in Southern California, a seismically active area, and is expected to experience moderate to severe ground shaking during the project's lifetime. Numerous faults capable of producing ground shaking motions are located in the region, with the Red Hill-Etiwanda fault, located approximately 3.4 miles northwest of the nearest property line of the project site. Significant damage to structures could be unavoidable during seismic ground shaking conditions. The project's proposed building would be required to be designed and built in compliance with the California Building Code (CBC [California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 2]), which contains provisions for earthquake safety based on factors including occupancy type, the types of soils and rock onsite, and the probable strength of ground motion. The proposed project would comply with CBC regulations to reduce substantial adverse effects including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking, a geotechnical and geologic hazards report would be prepared for the proposed project to identify site-specific geologic, soils, and seismic conditions and implement site-specific recommendations to preclude adverse effects involving unstable soils and strong seismic ground shaking. The findings of the geotechnical and geologic hazards report will be disclosed and evaluated in the EIR. Therefore, this impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

## iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

**Potentially Significant Impact.** As mentioned, the project is located within a seismically active area, with the nearest fault being located approximately 3.4 miles northwest of the nearest property line of the project site. According to Appendix 2-1 of the RCGP DEIR (2021), one of the existing conditions reports, the 2020 Natural Hazards Existing Conditions Report of the General Plan, shows that the project site is not located within a liquefaction hazard zone. The project site also falls outside of areas with generalized liquefaction susceptibility, per the County of San Bernardino's General Plan Geologic Hazard Overlay Map EHFH C (San Bernardino County 2010). However, a geotechnical and geologic hazards report will be prepared for the proposed project as part of the EIR to determine the project site's potential to be subject to seismic-related ground failure. The findings of the geotechnical and geologic hazards report will be disclosed and evaluated in the EIR. This impact is potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the EIR.

## iv) Landslides?

**No Impact.** The project site is located in a heavily developed and industrial area of the city. The area is relatively flat with no steep hillsides or slopes present on or abutting the project site. No extreme elevation differences exist in or around the project site that would potentially lead to landslide effects. According to the County of San Bernardino's General Plan Geologic Hazard Overlay Map EHFH C, the project site and its immediate area, is not located within a zone of generalized landslide susceptibility or a hazard zone for rockfall/debris-flow (San Bernardino County 2010). Due to the location of the project site in relation to hazardous zones and the topography of the project site, no proposed project impacts related to landslide hazards would occur. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

## b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

**Less than Significant Impact.** Construction of the proposed project would involve earth movement and the exposure of soil, which would temporarily increase erosion susceptibility. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ (Construction General Permit) contains water quality standards and stormwater discharge requirements that apply to construction projects of one acre or more (SWRCB 2020). The Construction General Permit was issued pursuant to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations for implementing part of the federal Clean Water Act. The Construction General Permit requires preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that identifies the sources of pollution that may affect the quality of stormwater discharges and describes and ensures the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to

reduce the pollutants, including silt and soil, in construction stormwater discharges. Along with following SWPPP BMPs, the proposed project would also be required to implement a dust control plan for construction activities in compliance with SCAQMD Rule 403, which requires implementation of best available dust control measures (BACM) during active operations capable of generating fugitive dust (SCAQMD 2005). Implementation and compliance with the stated permit requirements, plans, practices, and policies would reduce, prevent, and minimize soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Therefore, the impact is less than significant. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

**c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** As stated above, the project site is not located within areas susceptible to landslides or liquefaction, per the existing conditions report in Appendix 2-1 of the RCGP DEIR (2021), the 2020 Natural Hazard Existing Conditions Report, and the County of San Bernardino's General Plan Geologic Hazard Overlay Map EHFH C. The project site's potential for lateral spreading or collapse is currently unknown but will be evaluated in the mentioned site-specific geotechnical and geologic hazards report. The geotechnical and geologic hazards report will also evaluate the project site's potential for subsidence hazards. The proposed projects' potential to cause soil subsidence, lateral spreading, liquefaction, and collapse hazards will be evaluated further in the EIR with the results of the geotechnical and geologic hazards report. This impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994, as updated), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Expansive soils are soils that expand, and contract depending on their moisture level and normally occur within the first five feet below the surface. The primary soils in the City of Rancho Cucamonga are Delhi fine sands, Tujunga soils, Hanford soils, and Soboba soils (RCGP DEIR 2021). The geotechnical and geologic hazards report prepared for the proposed project will evaluate the existing geology and soil conditions of the project site and potential hazardous effects that could occur due to construction and operation of the proposed project. According to the USDA's Web Soil Survey, the project site is underlain with Tujunga Loamy Sand and Tujunga Gravelly Loamy Sand, which both have "low" shrink swell potential (USDA 2023). However, the geotechnical and geologic hazards report will analyze the project site's specific soil conditions and determine the site's potential for containing expansive soils. The proposed project's potential to expose future structures and workers on-site to hazards associated with expansive soils will be evaluated further in the EIR. Therefore, this impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?**

**No Impact.** The proposed project would install onsite water lines connecting to the existing water line, as well as install an onsite sewer system that would connect to the existing sewer line. The project does not propose the addition of septic tanks or other alternative wastewater disposal systems. The proposed project would be serviced by Inland Empire Utility Agency (IEUA) sewer lines and collection system. As a result, no impact to soils from the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems would occur. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

**f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The project site is currently developed and disturbed from past construction and operation activities associated with the existing industrial buildings, reducing the potential for paleontological resources or unique geologic features to exist onsite. Paleontological resources are unlikely to be found on the project site due to the city's soils being too young to include them (RCGP DEIR 2021). Although no significant paleontological resources are expected to occur, the proposed project could potentially encounter unique paleontological resources during demolition and excavation activities associated with construction. Thus, the impact is potentially significant and will be further evaluated in the EIR.

### 3.8 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Proposed project-related sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions during construction would include emissions from on-site construction activities, such as heavy-duty off-road diesel equipment; off-site hauling, such as the disposal of construction waste and haul trucks for soil export; and construction worker commuting by on-road mobile vehicles traveling to and from the project site. Operation of the proposed project would include emissions from heavy-duty truck trailers traveling to and from the project site’s trailer parking spots, onsite use of equipment, and employee vehicles traveling to and from the project site. Operation of the proposed project would also include the potential for GHG emissions from the use of landscaping equipment and the generation of solid waste and wastewater. A GHG emissions analysis will be prepared and included in the EIR to evaluate whether emissions from these proposed project construction and operational activities would generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment. Therefore, the impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** As noted above, the proposed project would have the potential to emit GHG emissions during construction and operations. The EIR will include further evaluation of project-related emissions and associated emission reduction strategies to determine whether the proposed project conflicts with applicable plans, policies, or regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs, including but not limited to the city’s Climate Action Plan (CAP) and associated CAP Checklist and the California Air Resources Board’s Scoping Plan. Therefore, the impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

### 3.9 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Operation of the proposed project involves industrial warehouse land uses that could involve the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Additionally, the project site is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 and remediation activities could involve transport of contaminated materials. Therefore, the impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project could create a significant hazard from the release of hazardous materials. As shown in the State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) EnviroStor database, which is DTSC's data management system for tracking cleanup, permitting, enforcement, and investigation efforts at hazardous waste facilities and sites with known contamination or sites where there may be reasons to investigate further, Ameron Inc. entered into a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement (VCA) in June 1995 with DTSC oversight to remove soil contamination in accordance with the produced Health Risk Assessment. According to the VCA, various soil investigations and remedial actions have been conducted on the property since 1989, and heavy metals, especially lead, were a concern as a result of scrap metal storage and handling practices. The scope of work under the VCA included, among other things, a removal action workplan to remove onsite contamination in the soils. Two years later, in June 1997, the DTSC issued a No Further Action determination at the site, signifying completion of remediation.

However, construction and operation activities associated with the proposed project may involve the use of regulated hazardous materials, resulting in a potential for development of the proposed project (i.e., ground disturbing activities such as grading and excavation of soils) to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. To determine whether development of the proposed project would have the potential to create a significant hazard involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment, and to determine if any further steps are required to remediate any potential contaminated soils, a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment will be prepared and included in the EIR. This impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?**

**No Impact.** As established, the project site is located in a highly developed and urbanized industrial area, located within an Industrial Employment land use zone. The surrounding area is also designated as industrial and zoned as Neo-Industrial, Industrial Employment, and/or Flood Control/Utility Corridor. There are no existing or proposed schools within 0.25 mile of the project site. The nearest school to the project site is Perdeu Elementary School, located approximately 1.17 mile northeast of the nearest property line of the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25-mile of an existing or proposed school. Thus, no impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

**d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** As discussed under IXb, the project site is located on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (DTSC 2023). Ameron Inc. entered into a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement (VCA) in June 1995 with DTSC oversight to remove soil contamination in accordance with the produced Health Risk Assessment. According to the VCA, various soil investigations and remedial actions have been conducted on the property since 1989, and heavy metals, especially lead, were a concern as a result of scrap metal storage and handling practices. The scope of work under the VCA included, among other things, a removal action workplan to remove onsite contamination in the soils. Two years later, in June 1997, the DTSC issued a No Further Action determination at the site, signifying completion of remediation.

However, to determine whether the proposed project would result in a significant hazard to the public or environment, and to determine if any further steps are required to remediate any potentially contaminated soils, a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment will be prepared and included in the EIR. Based in part on the assessment, the EIR will address whether development of the proposed project would create significant adverse impacts on the environment. This impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

- e) **For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?**

**No Impact.** As described in the RCGP DEIR (2021), there are no airports in the city. The closest airport to the city is the Ontario International Airport, approximately 1.2 miles south of the city's southern border and 3.5 miles southwest of the nearest property line of the project site. Therefore, the proposed project is not located within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, and the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- f) **Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Construction of the proposed project may require temporary and/or partial road closures due to construction activities onsite. As shown in ReadyRC, the city's comprehensive guide to emergency kit checklists, evacuation route maps, shelter information, and more, Arrow Route, the closest street north of the project site, is designated as an evacuation route (Rancho Cucamonga 2017). While Arrow Route does not immediately border the project site, Yellow Wood Road, which travels north-south and immediately borders the project site to the west, provides direct access to Arrow Route, which travels east-west. In other words, Yellow Wood Road would provide direct access to the project site via Arrow Route, which is a designated evacuation route. The potential of temporary and/or partial road closures are not expected to impair or interfere with emergency response plans or evacuation plans on either street, and such closures, if needed, would be coordinated with, and approved of by the appropriate city departments and emergency responders. Nevertheless, in consideration of the surrounding land uses, the proposed project's construction activities, and the circulation of vehicles on the project site once fully operational, the potential impacts of the proposed project construction and operation on an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan will be further analyzed in the EIR. Therefore, the impact is considered potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

- g) **Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?**

**No Impact.** The project site is located within a developed and industrial area. According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire), the project site is not located in or near a state responsibility area or on land that is classified as a fire hazard severity zone (CalFire 2023). Because the proposed project involves redevelopment of a heavily industrial site and the project site is not located within a fire hazard severity zone, the proposed project would not expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.



### 3.10 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>X. Hydrology and Water Quality.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i) Result in substantial on- or offsite erosion or siltation;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Development of the proposed project would involve demolition, site clearing, grading and excavation, building construction, paving and landscaping, and architectural coatings which could result in the generation of water quality pollutants such as silt, debris, chemicals, paints, and other substances with the potential to adversely affect water quality in the absence of protective or avoidance measures. Therefore, short-term water quality impacts have the potential to occur during construction activities of the proposed project. Additionally, the project site runoff during long-term operational conditions could contain pollutants in the absence of protective or avoidance measures. A hydrology and water quality technical report will be prepared and included in the EIR to assist in determining whether the proposed project’s short-term construction activities and long-term operational activities have the potential to violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality. Therefore, the impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** As discussed in the RCGP DEIR (2021), the Chino Basin and Cucamonga Basin underlie the City. Specifically, the Chino Basin underlies the project site. Chino Basin is one of the largest groundwater basins in southern California and has an unused storage capacity exceeding 1 million acre-feet and covers about 230 square miles. The Cucamonga Valley Water District's (CVWD) main sources of water supply are groundwater pumped from the Chino Basin, the Cucamonga Basin, and imported surface water.

A hydrology and water quality technical report will be prepared and included in the EIR to confirm, among other things, whether the CVWD has available water supplies to meet the water demands of the project, including any groundwater supplies. The EIR will also address whether development of the proposed project would interfere substantially with groundwater recharge by introducing impervious surfaces to the project site. Therefore, the impact is considered potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:**

**i) Result in substantial on- or offsite erosion or siltation;**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** There are no streams or rivers on or near the project site, and construction and operation of the proposed project would not alter the course of an existing stream or river. However, construction activities associated with the proposed project would result in soil-disturbing activities that could lead to increased erosion and siltation, including vegetation removal, demolition and site clearing, and grading and excavation of soils. As a result, construction and operation of the proposed project may result in increased on- or offsite erosion and siltation. Therefore, impacts would be potentially significant, and further analysis will be included in the EIR.

**ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Operation of the proposed project may result in increased impermeability of the project site as compared to existing conditions (i.e., by adding impervious building area and surface pavement). As a result, development of the proposed project may result in an increase of surface runoff. Standard conditions of approval like the City's flood control requirements for new development would minimize the impacts of increased flows and volumes on downstream receiving waters (RCGP DEIR 2021: 5.10-20). Nevertheless, the proposed project would have the potential to substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite. The impact would be potentially significant and will be analyzed in the EIR.

**iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** According to the RCMC Chapter 13.08, Storm Drainage Plan, the city is seriously affected by surface water and stormwater runoff, and the continual subdivision and development of property within the City has placed a serious demand on existing facilities which handle surface water and stormwater. To plan and develop drainage facilities and provide an equitable manner for the apportionment of the cost to develop these drainage facilities, the City Council adopted a comprehensive drainage plan. The proposed project would include construction of permanent stormwater facilities and would be required to align with the City's drainage plan, which would reduce the potential of creating or contributing to runoff that would exceed the existing or planned capacity of stormwater drainage systems serving the project site. Compliance with regulatory requirements would ensure that the proposed project would minimize impacts on the City and County's stormwater drainage infrastructure. Nevertheless, the impact is potentially significant, and will be analyzed in the EIR.

#### iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project would not impede or redirect an existing flood flow. The proposed project is not zoned Flood Control or Utility Corridor within the City's zoning ordinance. The project site is zoned for Industrial Employment land uses. The proposed industrial warehouse land uses would conform to the designated zoning of the project site and General Plan designation of being located within an Industrial Employment District. The project site is located near areas that are susceptible to flooding, however, should Day Creek flood (RCGP DEIR 2021: Figure 5.10-3, Dam Inundation Zones). Therefore, development of the proposed project may affect flood flows. This impact is considered potentially significant and will be analyzed in the EIR.

#### d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

**Potentially Significant Impact.** As shown in the RCGP DEIR (2021), the project site is not located in a flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zone. The project site is located between the San Gabriel Mountains to the north, the City of Fontana to the east, the City of Ontario to the south, the City of Upland to the west, and San Antonio Heights, an unincorporated area of San Bernardino County, also to the west. The project site is not located near the ocean where the potential for a tsunami would be present. The project site is also not near an enclosed or partially enclosed body of water, such as a lake, reservoir, bay, or harbor where the potential for a seiche zone would be present. As shown in the RCGP DEIR (2021), Figure 5.10-2, FEMA Flood Hazard Zones, the project site is not located within the 100-Year Floodplain, the 500-Year Floodplain, or the 500-Year Floodplain Protected by Levee. The project site is also not located within an area identified as being susceptible to dam inundation; however, the project site is located near areas that are susceptible to flooding (RCGP DEIR 2021: Figure 5.10-3, Dam Inundation Zones). These dams are continually monitored by various governmental agencies, such as the State of California Division of Safety and Dams and the US Army Corps of Engineers, to guard against the threat of dam failure. The potential of project site inundation due to flood hazard, failure of a levee or dam, seiches, or tsunamis is considered low.

Nevertheless, in consideration of the surrounding land uses, the project site's known historic use as site historically used for scrap metal storage, the project site's listing on a hazardous database as discussed above in Section 3.9, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, and the forthcoming Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, the proposed project's potential to release pollutants due to project inundation is a potentially significant impact that will be further analyzed in the EIR.

#### e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The Chino Basin underlies the project site and is an adjudicated basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Chino Basin is one of the largest groundwater basins in southern California and has an unused storage capacity exceeding 1 million acre-feet and covers about 230 square miles. The Cucamonga Valley Water District's (CVWD) main sources of water supply are groundwater pumped from the Chino Basin, the Cucamonga Basin, and imported surface water. As previously discussed, a hydrology and water quality technical report will be prepared and included in the EIR and would address if the CVWD has available water supplies to meet the water demands of the proposed project, including groundwater supplies, and determine consistency with the Chino Basin Water Bank Strategic Plan, which manages the Chino Basin (RCGP DEIR 2021: 5.10-29). The impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

### 3.11 LAND USE AND PLANNING

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XI. Land Use and Planning.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**a) Physically divide an established community?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The project site is developed with existing industrial buildings and surface parking lot, with concrete/asphalt and gravel pavement and minimal vegetation. The project site is currently zoned as Industrial Employment and would remain so with completion of the project. The surrounding areas are also zoned as industrial land uses, with the closest multi-family residential area at the Victoria Woods Apartments, approximately 0.32 mile northeast of the nearest property line of the project site, and the nearest single-family residence at 13045 Whittram Avenue located approximately 0.43 mile northeast of the nearest property line of the project site. The proposed project would involve the construction of roadway improvements, permanent stormwater facilities, and offsite improvements. Their potential to physically divide an established community during construction and operation could be potentially significant and will be analyzed in the EIR.

**b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** As established, the project site is zoned in an Industrial Employment area. The RCMC designates Industrial Employment areas for manufacturing, processing, construction, and heavy equipment yards, warehousing and storage, e-commerce distribution, light industrial research parks, automobile and vehicle services, and a broad range of similar clean industrial practices and processes that typically generate more truck traffic, noise, and environmental impacts. Industrial Employment areas prohibit non-industrial uses, except for accessory office and commercial uses that support the employees of the primary industrial use, and on-site caretaker units. The proposed project uses are consistent with the allowable uses for Industrial Employment zones. An evaluation of the proposed project’s potential to cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation will be provided in the EIR. The impact is potentially significant and will be further evaluated in the EIR.

### 3.12 MINERAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XII. Mineral Resources.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### 3.12.1 Discussion

**a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?**

**No Impact.** The project site is zoned Industrial Employment. The project site is not currently used for the extraction of mineral resources, and there is no evidence to suggest that the project site has been historically used for the extraction of mineral resources. The project site is not located within a mineral resource zone (see Figure 5.12-2 Mineral Land Classification in the RCGP DEIR (2021)). As no mineral resource or mineral resource extraction occurs onsite, and there has been no evidence of historic mineral resource extraction onsite, development of the proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

**b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?**

**No Impact.** The project site is not currently used for the extraction of mineral resources, and there is no evidence to suggest that the project site has been historically used for the extraction of mineral resources. Further, as of 2021, there are no active mining operations in the city (RCGP DEIR: 5.12-4), and the project site is not located within a mineral resource zone (RCGP DEIR 2021: 5.12-8). Locally, there are sand and gravel mining operations at the Holliday Rock Campus Plant, located approximately 6.7 miles northwest of the nearest property line of the project site, and the Philadelphia Recycling Mine, located approximately 4.4 miles south of the nearest property line of the project site, both of which produce sand and gravel (DOC 2023c). These active mining operations would not be affected by development of the proposed project. The proposed project would not result in the potential loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

### 3.13 NOISE

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XIII.Noise.</b>				
Would the project result in:				
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies, or a substantial temporary or permanent increase in noise levels above existing ambient levels that could result in an adverse effect on humans?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies, or a substantial temporary or permanent increase in noise levels above existing ambient levels that could result in an adverse effect on humans?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Proposed project related construction and operational activities, such as an increase in vehicular traffic, may expose people to noise levels that exceed standards established in the City’s General Plan and Section 17.66.050 of the RCMC. The RCMC prohibits construction noise from exceeding 70 decibels (dba) when located adjacent to commercial or industrial use areas (RCMC 2023c). While the project site is zoned in an industrial use area, there is a multi-family residential housing approximately 0.32 mile northeast of the nearest property line of the project site and single-family housing approximately 0.43 mile northeast of the project site, both of which could experience an increase in noise levels due to construction and operation activities of the proposed project. A construction and operational noise analysis would be conducted for the EIR to analyze the potential for the proposed project to expose people, on- or offsite, to a substantial temporary or permanent increase in noise levels above existing ambient levels. Therefore, this impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

- b) **Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project may produce noise levels that exceed noise standards established in the General Plan and RCMC through the construction and operation of the project. Construction activities of the project may produce groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels, earthwork/grading, and/or during the operation of heavy machinery. A construction and operational noise analysis will be conducted for the EIR to analyze the proposed project’s expected noise and vibration levels to determine if it would create groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels that would be considered excessive and substantial. Therefore, this impact is considered to be potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

- c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

**No Impact.** The closest airport to the project site is Ontario International Airport, approximately 1.2 miles south of the City's southern border and 3.5 miles southwest of the nearest property line of the project site. The project site is not located within 2.0 miles of a public airport or within an airport land use plan. However, as identified in the Ontario International Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ONT ALUCP) adopted in 2011, the project area is located within the Airport Influence Area (AIA) along the northeastern edge. The project site is located within the FAA Height Notification Surface Zone, which, per Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77, Subpart B, requires that the FAA be notified of any proposed construction or alteration having a height greater than a surface extending outward and upward at a slope of 100 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 20,000 feet from the airport runways. The project area is also located within the Real Estate Transaction Disclosure Zone, which, in accordance with State law, Business and Professions Code Section 110010 and Civil Code Sections 1102.6, 1103.4, and 1353, requires that airport proximity disclosure information is provided. According to the ONT ALUCP, the 60 decibel (db) Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) contour developed from forecasts of future operations at least 20 years into the future would not lie within the City, and therefore the City would not be affected for noise (ONT ALUCP 2011). Additionally, there are no private airstrips located within the project vicinity. Therefore, the project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels from a private airstrip or an airport land use plan. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

### 3.14 POPULATION AND HOUSING

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XIV. Population and Housing.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?**

**No Impact.** Although the proposed project does not include the construction of housing, development of the proposed project would introduce new business to the city. The proposed project would also introduce new jobs and involve the construction of new public roads and utility infrastructure. However, the industrial land uses proposed would be consistent with the zoning and General Plan land use designations in adopted planning documents, such as the city's General Plan and the RCMC. As such, the proposed project would not induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area directly or indirectly due to the proposed project's introduction of new business, employees, and roads and infrastructure. This is because growth associated with proposed land uses that are consistent with the zoning and land use designations of the city are accounted for in the growth projections of the General Plan. This includes planned population growth as a result of new businesses and jobs, as well as new roadways and infrastructure. In addition, as part of the planning process, the city will require that the proposed project's new roads and utility infrastructure are sized with capacity to serve the proposed project and similar industrial growth under the General Plan. Therefore, the proposed project would not induce substantial unplanned population growth in the area either directly or indirectly. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

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

**No Impact.** The project site is zoned in Industrial Employment and is currently developed with existing industrial buildings and a surface parking lot, with concrete/asphalt and gravel pavement and minimal vegetation. The project site does not include any housing or people that could be displaced by the proposed project. Properties surrounding the project site are zoned for Neo-Industrial, Industrial Employment, or Flood Control/Utility Corridor land uses. The closest multi-family residential housing to the project site is the Victoria Woods Apartments, approximately 0.3 mile northeast of the nearest property line of the project site, and the closest single-family housing is 13045 Whittram Avenue, approximately 0.4 mile northeast of the nearest property line of the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not displace any existing people or housing, and therefore construction of replacement housing elsewhere would not be necessary. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.



### 3.15 PUBLIC SERVICES

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XV. Public Services.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

**Fire protection?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Fire prevention services are provided by the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District (RCFPD). The services offered by RCFPD include firefighting, paramedic and first aid treatment, and emergency management, ReadyRC, which includes several preparedness and training programs for community disasters. There are seven fire stations serving the City of Rancho Cucamonga. The nearest fire station to the project site is Jersey Station #174 approximately 1.4 miles west of the project site (City of Rancho Cucamonga 2023b). Impacts related to fire protection services are assessed by the RCFPD on a project-by-project basis and are typically handled by the station nearest to the emergency. However, when simultaneous emergencies occur in a particular station’s response areas, other stations will assist. The proposed project’s land use, fire-protection-related needs, and the project site recommended response distance and time and fire safety requirements, as well as project design features that would reduce the demand for fire protection services are taken into consideration. The proposed project does not propose the construction of any new or physically alter fire station facilities. While the proposed project would incorporate and comply with fire prevention and fire suppression design features in accordance with California and Rancho Cucamonga building codes, applicable RCMC and General Plan policies, and applicable emergency response and fire safety requirements of the RCFPD and California Fire Code, the potential impact on fire protection services is currently unknown. The impact is potentially significant and will be evaluated further in the EIR.

## Police protection?

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The City of Rancho Cucamonga receives law enforcement services through a contract with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and staffs the Rancho Cucamonga Police Department, approximately 2.40 miles west of the nearest property line of the project site (City of Rancho Cucamonga 2023c). As discussed in Section 3.14, Population and Housing, the proposed project would not induce substantial unplanned population growth, directly or indirectly, therefore, the proposed project would not generate a substantial increase in additional residents necessitating increased police protection services. The proposed project would comply with applicable RCMC ordinances related to development and design standards, as well as applicable General Plan policies and California and Rancho Cucamonga building code requirements. While the proposed project would comply with applicable ordinances and regulations, the proposed project could potentially result in an increased demand for police services. Therefore, the impact is potentially significant and further analysis will be provided in the EIR.

## Schools?

**No Impact.** As discussed in Section 3.9, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, existing or proposed schools are not located within one-quarter mile of the project site. The nearest existing school, Perdue Elementary School, is approximately 1.2-mile northeast of the project site. The proposed project would not contain residential uses that would generate any school aged children requiring education. While the proposed project would include employment-generating uses, as evaluated in Section 3.14, Population and Housing, the proposed project would not produce substantial population growth due to the proposed project being consistent with zoning and land use designations of the city that are accounted for in growth projections of the General Plan. Therefore, the potential adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered school facilities, need for new or physically altered school facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for school services would be less than significant and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

## Parks?

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not create a demand for public park facilities and would not result in the need to modify existing or construct new park facilities. The proposed project also does not propose to construct new on- or offsite recreation facilities. The proposed project does not propose residential use or other land use that could generate a population that would substantially increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. Accordingly, the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered park facilities, need for new or physically altered park facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for park services. Thus, no impact would occur, and this analysis does not require further analysis in the EIR.

## Other public facilities?

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not include any residential land uses, and therefore, would not increase demand for other public facilities/services, including libraries, community recreation centers, and/or public health facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered public facilities, need for new or physically altered public facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for public facilities. Thus, no impact would occur, and this analysis does not require further analysis in the EIR.

### 3.16 RECREATION

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVI. Recreation.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?**

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not include any housing or residential land uses, and therefore, would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

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

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not include recreational facilities. Because the proposed project would not include housing that would increase the population of the area, it would not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. Thus, no impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

### 3.17 TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVII. Transportation.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Implementation of the proposed project would result in generation of substantial vehicle and truck traffic that could affect the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. Vehicular access to the project site would be provided by public roadway connections to the project site from Arrow Route and Yellow Wood Road. New public streets that are proposed to be constructed as part of the proposed project would also serve as the onsite vehicle circulation system, in addition to improvements to Yellow Wood Road. Implementation of the proposed project would include vehicular and non-vehicular travel to and from the project site. The proposed project has the potential to result in an increase and redistribution of vehicle trips that could conflict with applicable plans, ordinances, and policies related to public transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. This impact is potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the EIR.

**b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3(b), which pertains to vehicle miles travelled?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3 was added December 28, 2018, to address the new method of determining significance for transportation impacts. The new method requires that the analysis is based on vehicle miles traveled (VMT) instead of congestion (such as level of service). A "VMT" is one vehicle traveling on a roadway for one mile. Regardless of how many people are traveling in the vehicle, each vehicle traveling on a roadway generates one VMT for each mile it travels. Therefore, VMT is an indicator of the amount of driving generated by a proposed project. The project proposes new buildings for warehouse distribution uses and would include the need for trucks and other vehicles to travel to and from the project site for operation of the completed project. Along with the transportation analysis to determine the proposed project's consistency with transportation guidelines, circulation-related programs, plans, and policies, a VMT analysis will be prepared to address the proposed project's potential to substantially increase VMT, using the City of Rancho Cucamonga *Traffic Impact Analysis Guidelines* (2020) and the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) *Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA* (2018) to inform the VMT analysis methodology and significance thresholds as applicable. This impact is potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the EIR.

**c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project would introduce a new tilt-up industrial warehouse building, as well as two gated access points, two additional driveways for vehicular access, two surface parking lots, 149 automobile parking stalls, and 44 trailer parking stalls. The proposed project would also dedicate a portion of its southernmost boundary for the half width of a new public street to be constructed adjacent to the southern property line of the project site. Along the project site's western boundary, the proposed project would include a new public roadway connecting to Arrow Route to the north. The project site would have two gated points of ingress/egress, one at the northeast corner of the property and one at the northwest corner of the property. Two additional driveways along the project site's western and eastern boundaries would also be provided for vehicular access. The potential for the proposed project's new public roadways, driveways, and other design features to substantially increase hazards is a potentially significant impact that will be further analyzed in the EIR.

**d) Result in inadequate emergency access?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project would increase the number of vehicles using city roadways that provide indirect vehicle access to the project site such as Arrow Route and Etiwanda Avenue, and direct vehicle access from Yellow Wood Road, which is currently private, during construction and operation activities. This increased vehicle traffic along these and other city roadways could result in increased levels of traffic congestion and vehicle delay that adversely affect the movement of vehicles through the project vicinity during an emergency, such as police, fire, and paramedics.

Implementation of the proposed project would be required to incorporate applicable design and safety requirements from fire codes, building codes, and nationally recognized fire and life safety standards of the City and County Fire Departments, including the 2022 California Fire Code. The proposed project will be required to provide adequate access to and from the project site for emergency vehicles, as well as ensuring that necessary fire prevention and emergency response features are incorporated into the proposed project and that adequate circulation and access is provided to and within the project site. Based in part on traffic analysis prepared for the proposed project, the EIR will evaluate whether the proposed project would result in inadequate emergency access during its construction or operations. This impact is potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the EIR.

### 3.18 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources.</b>				
Has a California Native American Tribe requested consultation in accordance with Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1(b)?				
Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

- a) **Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Ethnographic accounts of Native Americans indicate that the Gabrielino (also known as Tongva) and the Serrano group of Native Americans occupied the region that encompasses the city and the territory adjacent to the City (RCGP DEIR 2021). The City is required to send notifications of the proposed project to Native American tribes with possible traditional or cultural affiliation to the area that have requested notification in accordance with AB 52 and will consult with interested tribes regarding the proposed project’s potential to affect a tribal cultural resource. A site-specific cultural resources assessment will be conducted as well by a professional archaeologist to determine if the project site contains resources that are listed or eligible for listing on a state or local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k). While the project site is located on an already developed and disturbed area, there is potential to encounter potentially significant tribal cultural resources during soil-disturbing activities such as grading and excavation associated with construction of the

proposed project. Therefore, the impact is potentially significant and the proposed project's potential to cause a substantial adverse change to tribal cultural resources that are listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k) will be analyzed further in the EIR.

- b) **A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** As discussed above, the project site is located on an already developed and disturbed area in which there is potential to unearth potentially significant tribal resources during demolition and construction activities. The City will send notifications of the proposed project to Native American tribes with possible traditional or cultural affiliation to the area that have requested notification in accordance with AB 52 and will consult with interested tribes regarding the project's potential to affect a tribal cultural resource. The impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

### 3.19 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XIX. Utilities and Service Systems.</b>				
Would the project:				
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have insufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project’s projected demand, in addition to the provider’s existing commitments?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Fail to comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The project site is currently developed with existing industrial buildings and a surface parking lot, with concrete/asphalt and gravel pavement and minimal vegetation; the project site is served with utilities. The proposed project’s new building would be developed within the existing 16 acres of the project site. The proposed project would involve improvements to utility infrastructure to accommodate the operation of the new proposed tilt-up industrial warehouse building, which have the potential to cause environmental effects. Further analysis of the proposed project’s utility infrastructure improvements will be discussed in the EIR to determine whether development of the proposed project would have the potential to increase demand, thereby requiring the extension of utilities, the construction of which could result in potential significant environmental effects. This impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

b) **Have insufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The City of Rancho Cucamonga is served by the CVWD, whose service area covers approximately 46 square miles encompassing a majority of the city, portions of the cities of Fontana, Ontario, Upland



and some unincorporated areas of San Bernadino County. The project site lies on the southeastern edge of the CVWD's service boundary. The CVWD receives water supply from various water sources, including groundwater pumped from the Chino Basin and Cucamonga Basin; untreated, imported surface water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California purchased through Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) treated at the CVWD's treatment plant; local surface water from Cucamonga Canyon, Day/East Etiwanda Canyon, and Deer Canyon; and recycled water purchased from IEUA. The main source of water supply for the CVWD is from groundwater pumped from the Chino Basin and imported surface water (CVWD 2021). The proposed project would be served with potable water from the CVWD. The CVWD conducts water demand planning based on forecasted population growth which is based on data provided by SCAG. CVWD's current and projected water demands are provided in five-year increments over the next 25 years, until 2045. Based on CVWD's projected use for potable and non-potable water, industrial users are projected to use 2,432 acre-feet (AF) of water in 2025, 2,645 AF in 2030, 2,719 AF in 2035, 2,780 AF in 2040, and 2,780 AF in 2045. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15155(a)(1), the proposed project is a "water demand project" because it involves industrial development that would occupy more than 40 acres of land. To evaluate whether the City's current and planned water supplies are adequate to serve the proposed project and its needs, a hydrology and water quality technical report will be prepared. The technical report will evaluate the proposed project's water demands, as well as its correlation to the City's current and planned water supplies to assess if the water supplies would be adequate to serve the proposed project during normal, dry, and multiple dry years. Therefore, this impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand, in addition to the provider's existing commitments?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The CVWD currently operates and maintains approximately 421 miles of wastewater collection system and transports the collected wastewater to IEUA Wastewater Treatment facilities to be processed into recycled water. The CVWD Wastewater Utility Department provides maintenance to the wastewater collection system and ensures that the sewer mainlines flow properly at all times (CVWD 2023). CVWD's local sewers tie into IEUA's regional trunk sewers, including 90 miles of regional sewage interceptors. The IEUA owns and operates five regional wastewater treatment plants, Regional Water Recycling Plant No. 1 (RP-1), Regional Water Recycling Plant No. 2 (RP-2), Regional Water Recycling Plant No. 4 (RP-4), Regional Water Recycling Plant No. 5 (RP-5), and Carbon Canyon Water Recycling Facility (CCWRF). RP-2 does not have any liquid treatment processes and does not produce any recycled water. The regional sewer lines deliver wastewater to RP-1 and RP-4 for treatment. RP-1 has a wastewater capacity of 44 million gallons per day (MGD) and RP-4 has a wastewater capacity of 14 MGD (UWMP 2020).

The project site lies near the southeastern edge of the CVWD's service boundary. Wastewater that is generated by CVWD customers is transported through the collection system and is sent to one of the four recycled water-producing IEUA Wastewater Treatment facilities to be processed into recycled water. The project site is currently developed with industrial buildings and a surface parking lot, surrounded by concrete/asphalt and gravel pavement with minimal vegetation. The proposed project would include new development that would increase building square footage on the project site. Although the proposed project is not expected to produce a substantial amount of wastewater, it is still currently unknown how much wastewater would be generated by the proposed project. Therefore, an accurate evaluation of the proposed project's demand in sufficient wastewater treatment capacity is unable to be discussed at this time; this impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Burrtec Waste Industries has been the single franchised waste hauler for the city since 2007, providing recycling, refuse, and green waste services for residents, commercial, and industrial customers, and is the only business permitted to haul solid waste in the city. Burrtec Waste Industries operates a range of facilities to process waste and recyclables, including material recovery facilities, transfer stations, and landfills. Burrtec Waste Industries operates one landfill, the Salton City Landfill which is located approximately 106 miles southeast of the project site. Salton City Landfill has a total capacity of 65,100,000 cubic yards and a maximum permitted throughput

of 6,000 tons per day (CalRecycle 2023). The proposed project would generate solid waste during construction and operational activities. The generated solid waste would be collected by Burrtec Waste Industries in compliance with applicable regulations included in Section 8.17, Refuse, Recyclables, and Organics Collection, of the RCMC. The RCMC also requires each person who applies for a building or demolition permit to complete a waste management and recycling plan to be submitted and approved prior to commencing work. The California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) established a 50 percent waste reduction requirement for cities and counties by the year 2000, along with a process to ensure environmentally safe disposal of waste that could not be diverted. Additionally, in accordance with the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Act of 1991 (Cal Pub Res. Code Section 42911), the proposed project is required to provide adequate areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials where solid waste is collected. The City is required by State law to reduce the amount of material that is hauled to landfills and created the Construction and Demolition (C&D) Waste Diversion Program to divert materials generated from construction or demolition projects from landfill disposal to recycling or reuse. Permit applicants for new construction or tenant improvements are required to submit a deposit and a non-refundable administration fee before a building and/or demolition permit is issued if the project is valued over \$100,000. Deposits are reimbursable if the applicant provides proof that at least 65 percent of the waste generated was diverted from landfill disposal (City of RC 2023c). The implementation of these mandatory requirements would reduce the amount of solid waste generated by the proposed project and diverted to landfills, which in turn will aid in the capacity of local infrastructure and would not impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. The proposed project would comply with all applicable solid waste statutes and regulations as to not generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. The EIR will further evaluate project-generated solid waste and its potential effects on the receiving landfill's capacity. Therefore, this impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

**e) Fail to comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project would comply with applicable local, State, and federal regulations regarding solid waste, including those of the City of Rancho Cucamonga, during construction and operational activities of the proposed tilt-up industrial warehouse building. The RCMC Section 8.17, Refuse, Recyclables, and Organics Collection, provides policies and regulations regarding solid waste handling by both customers and collectors. The proposed project would comply with the City's various programs listed in the Rancho Cucamonga General Plan to increase recycling efforts. In addition, the City would be compliant with AB 939, which requires each city, county, and regional agency to develop a source reduction and recycling element of an integrated waste management plan that contains specified components, including a source reduction component, a recycling component, and a composting component to reduce solid waste generation. The City currently implements AB 939 source reduction and recycling measures to reduce solid waste generation and has been found to be compliant with AB 393. In accordance with the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Act of 1991, the proposed project would be required to provide adequate areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials where solid waste is collected. Additionally, in compliance with AB 341, Mandatory Commercial Recycling Program, the future occupant(s) of the proposed project would be required to arrange for recycling services if the occupant generates four or more cubic yards of solid waste per week. The implementation of these mandatory requirements would reduce the amount of solid waste generated by the proposed project and diverted to landfills. While the proposed project would be required to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste, the proposed project may conflict with statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Thus, this impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

### 3.20 WILDFIRE

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XX. Wildfire.</b>				
Is the project located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as high fire hazard severity zones?				
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?
- b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?
- c) Require the installation of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?
- d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

**No Impact.** As established, the project site is located within a highly developed and urbanized area and is zoned in an Industrial Employment area. The project site and surrounding areas of the City of Rancho Cucamonga are highly urbanized. The San Bernardino National Forest, approximately 5 miles north of the nearest property line of the project site, borders the northern portion of the city and has a high potential as a source of wildfires. Vegetation found in the Etiwanda Preserve, approximately 4.60 miles north of the project site, and other open space buffer zones are also susceptible to wildfire. CalFire is mandated by Public Resources Code Sections 4201 through 4204 and Government Code Sections 51175 through 51189 to identify Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZs) for every community

within California. CalFire has mapped three hazard severity zones – moderate, high, and very high – based on fuels, terrain, weather, and other factors for most regions of California. To address wildfire hazards and coordinate response, multiple government agencies (local, county, State, and federal) are responsible for fire suppression. The project site is located within a local responsibility area, where local jurisdictions are responsible for the prevention and suppression of wildfires. The project site is not located in or near a state responsibility area or land classified as a very high fire hazard severity zone. The project site is not located on land zoned to have a fire hazard severity classification (CalFire 2023a,b). Therefore, the proposed project would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, exacerbate wildfire risks and thereby expose proposed project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or uncontrolled spread of a wildfire due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, require the installation of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment, or would expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability or drainage changes. Thus, no impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

### 3.21 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XX. Mandatory Findings of Significance.</b>				
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

**Potentially significant impact.** As discussed in the above sections, the proposed project has the potential to directly or indirectly adversely affect biological resources that may be present onsite and may have an adverse impact on a historical, archaeological, or tribal cultural resource. Therefore, the impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Potentially significant impacts are identified in the above sections related to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, public services, transportation, tribal cultural resources, and utilities and service systems, having the potential to result in cumulatively considerable impacts with implementation of the proposed project. Cumulative impacts will be further addressed and evaluated in the EIR. The impact is potentially significant and will be analyzed further in the EIR.

c) **Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?**

**Potentially Significant Impact.** Construction and operation of the proposed project could create direct and indirect adverse effects on human beings. The proposed project has the potential to affect human beings through impacts related to air quality, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, noise, and transportation. Therefore, this impact is potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the EIR.

## 4 REFERENCES

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