Todd Smith, Planning Director
Planning and Environmental Review

Troy Givans, Director
Department of Community Development

County of Sacramento

Negative Declaration

Pursuant to Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 6, Sections 15070 and 15071 of the California Code of Regulations and pursuant to the Procedures for Preparation and Processing of Environmental Documents adopted by the County of Sacramento pursuant to Sacramento County Ordinance No. SCC-116, the Environmental Coordinator of Sacramento County, State of California, does prepare, make, declare, publish, and cause to be filed with the County Clerk of Sacramento County, State of California, this Negative Declaration re: The Project described as follows:

1. **Control Number:** PLNP2023-00155

2. **Title and Short Description of Project:** 6941 7th Street First Net/AT&T Public Safety Facility

The project is requesting the following:

1. A **Use Permit** to allow a new Wireless Communication Facility (WCF).
2. A **Special Development Permit** to allow the proposed project to deviate from the following development standards:
    - Maximum allowable height (Section 3.6.7.A, Table 3.6.2): 55 feet. Proposed: 80 feet (Plate IS-4).
    - Minimum required separation from public right of way (Section 3.6.7.A, Table 3.6.2): 25 feet. Proposed: 6 feet.
    - Minimum required separation from Group 1 Zone property (Section 3.6.7.A, Table 3.6.2): three times height of tower, 240 feet. Proposed: 125 feet to the north and 116 feet to the west.
3. A **Design Review** to determine substantial compliance with the *Sacramento County Countywide Design Guidelines* (Design Guidelines).

3. **Assessor's Parcel Number:** 206-0162-001-0000

4. **Location of Project:** The project site is located within the northwest portion of a 4.13-acre trapezoidal parcel located at 6941 7th Street. The 35-foot by 35-foot project site within the industrial property is approximately 320 feet west of the intersection of O Street and 7th Street in the Rio Linda/ Elverta community.

5. **Project Applicant:** Public Safety Towers LLC

6. Said project will not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:
    a. It will not have the potential to 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, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.
    b. It will not have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals.
    c. It will not have impacts, which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.
    d. It will not have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

7. As a result thereof, the preparation of an environmental impact report pursuant to the Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California) is not required.

8. The attached Initial Study has been prepared by the Sacramento County Planning and Environmental Review Division in support of this Negative Declaration. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Planning and Environmental Review Division at 827 Seventh Street, Room 225, Sacramento, California, 95814, or phone (916) 874-6141.

Julie Newton
Environmental Coordinator
County of Sacramento, State of California

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
INITIAL STUDY

PROJECT INFORMATION

CONTROL NUMBER: PLNP2023-00155

NAME: 6941 7th Street First Net/AT&T Public Safety Facility

LOCATION: The project site is located within the northwest portion of a 4.13-acre trapezoidal parcel located at 6941 7th Street (Plate IS-1). The 33-foot by 33-foot project site within the industrial property is approximately 320 feet west of the intersection of O Street and 7th Street in the Rio Linda/ Elverta community (Plates IS-2 and IS-3).

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER: 206-0162-001-0000

OWNER: 7th Street Properties Inc.
2475 Fawn Hill Lane
Auburn, CA 95603
Contact: Jim Lane

APPLICANT: Public Safety Towers LLC
1903 Wright Place, Suite 140
Carlsbad, CA 92008
Contact: Chris Odenthal

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is requesting the following:

1. A **Use Permit** to allow a new Wireless Communication Facility (WCF).
2. A **Special Development Permit** to allow the proposed project to deviate from the following development standards:
    - Maximum allowable height (Section 3.6.7.A, Table 3.6.2): 55 feet. Proposed: 75 feet.
    - Minimum required separation from public right-of-way for equipment enclosure (Section 3.6.7.A, Table 3.6.2): 25 feet. Proposed: 6 feet.
    - Minimum required separation from Group 1 Zone property (Section 3.6.7.A, Table 3.6.2): three times height of tower, 225 feet. Proposed: 125 feet to the north and 116 feet to the west.
3. A **Design Review** to determine substantial compliance with the *Sacramento County Countywide Design Guidelines* (Design Guidelines).

Plate IS-1 Site Plan

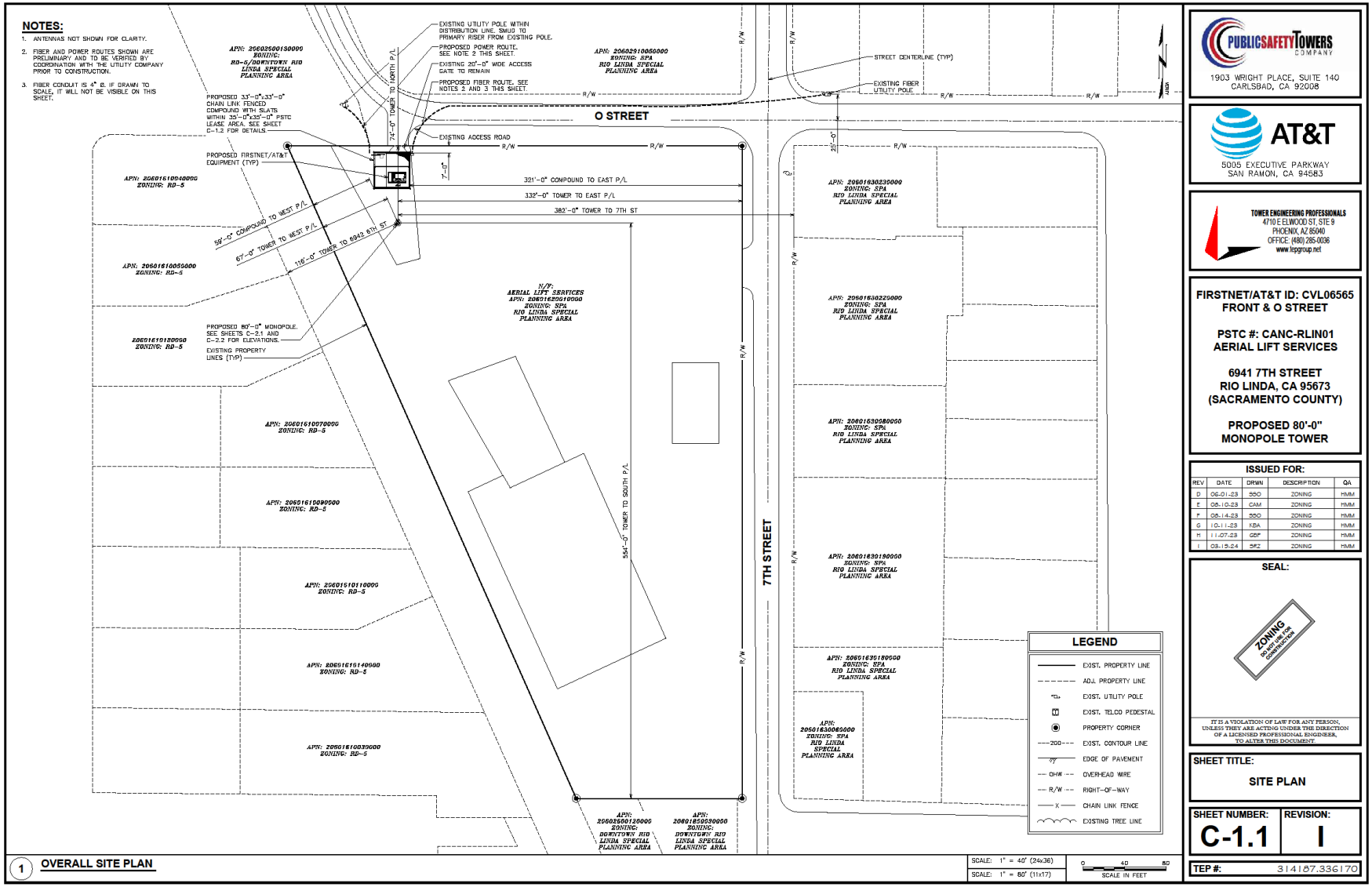
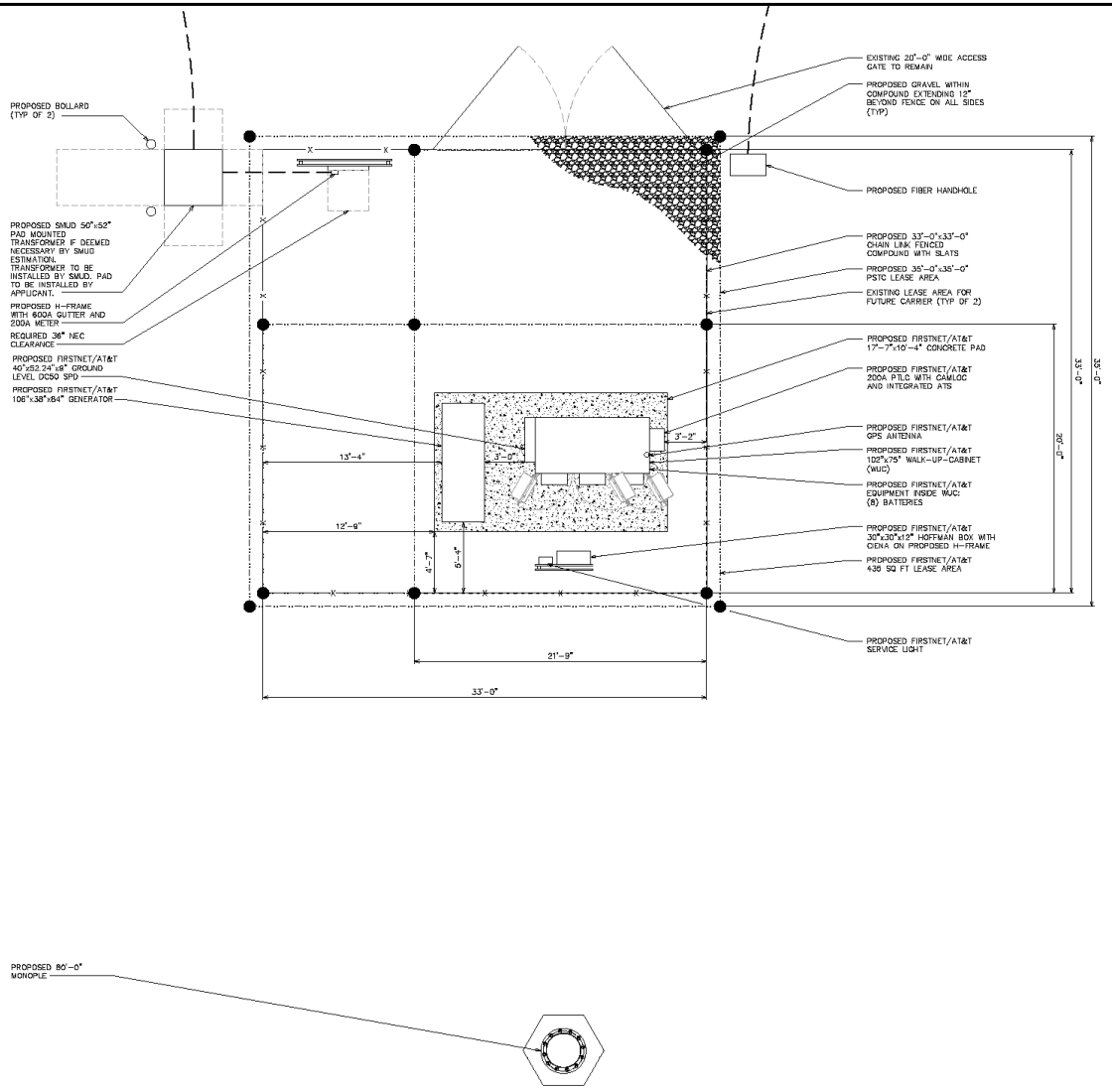


Plate IS-2 Compound Layout

NOTES:

1. CONTRACTOR TO VERIFY ALL EXISTING INFORMATION IS AS INDICATED ON SITE PLAN. CONTRACTOR IS TO ESTABLISH THE EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF ALL EXISTING OVERHEAD AND UNDERGROUND UTILITIES. IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGER OF ANY DISCREPANCIES.
2. CONTRACTOR TO ENSURE THAT ALL FIRSTNET/AT&T EQUIPMENT IS INSTALLED INSIDE FIRSTNET/AT&T'S LEASE AREA, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, EQUIPMENT CABINETS, UTILITY CABINETS, H-FRAMES, ETC.
3. ANTENNAS NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.
4. CANOPY NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY.



1 **FINAL COMPOUND DETAIL**

SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0" (24x36)
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0" (11x17)
0 2 4
SCALE IN FEET

PUBLICSAFETYTOWERS COMPANY
1903 WRIGHT PLACE, SUITE 140
CARLSBAD, CA 92008

AT&T
5005 EXECUTIVE PARKWAY
SAN RAMON, CA 94583

TOWER ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALS
4710 E ELWOOD ST, STE 9
PHOENIX, AZ 85040
OFFICE: (480) 285-0036
www.tepgroup.net

FIRSTNET/AT&T ID: CVL06565
FRONT & O STREET

PSTC #: CANC-RLIN01
AERIAL LIFT SERVICES

6941 7TH STREET
RIO LINDA, CA 95673
(SACRAMENTO COUNTY)

PROPOSED 80'-0"
MONOPOLE TOWER

ISSUED FOR:

REV	DATE	DRWN	DESCRIPTION	QA
D	06-01-23	SBO	ZONING	HMM
E	08-10-23	CAM	ZONING	HMM
F	08-14-23	SBO	ZONING	HMM
G	10-11-23	KBA	ZONING	HMM
H	11-07-23	GDF	ZONING	HMM
I	03-19-24	SRZ	ZONING	HMM

SEAL:

ZONING NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

IT IS A VIOLATION OF LAW FOR ANY PERSON, UNLESS THEY ARE ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, TO ALTER THIS DOCUMENT.

SHEET TITLE:
COMPOUND LAYOUT

SHEET NUMBER:	REVISION:
C-1.2	I

TEP #: 314187.336170

Plate IS-3 Aerial Map of Project

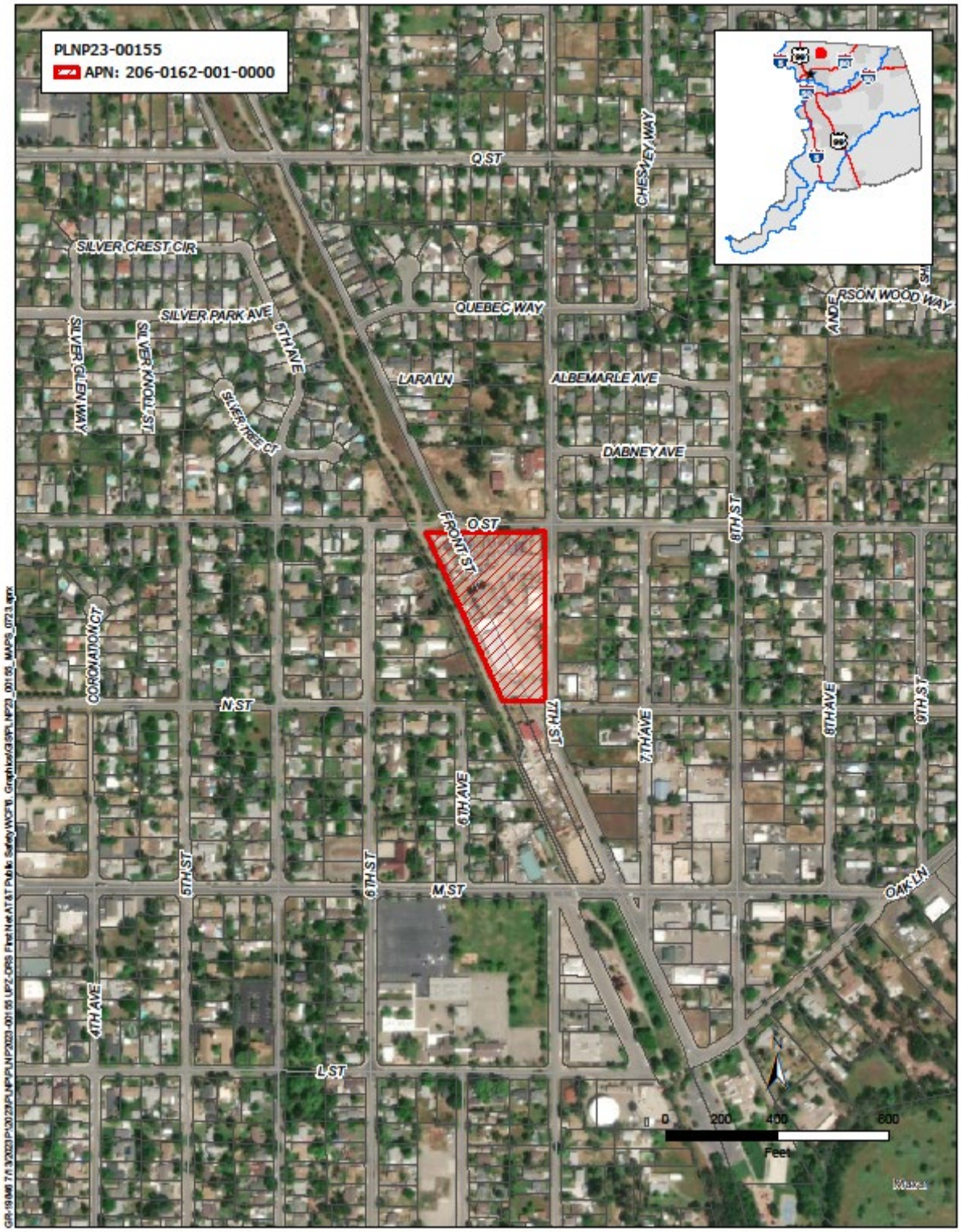
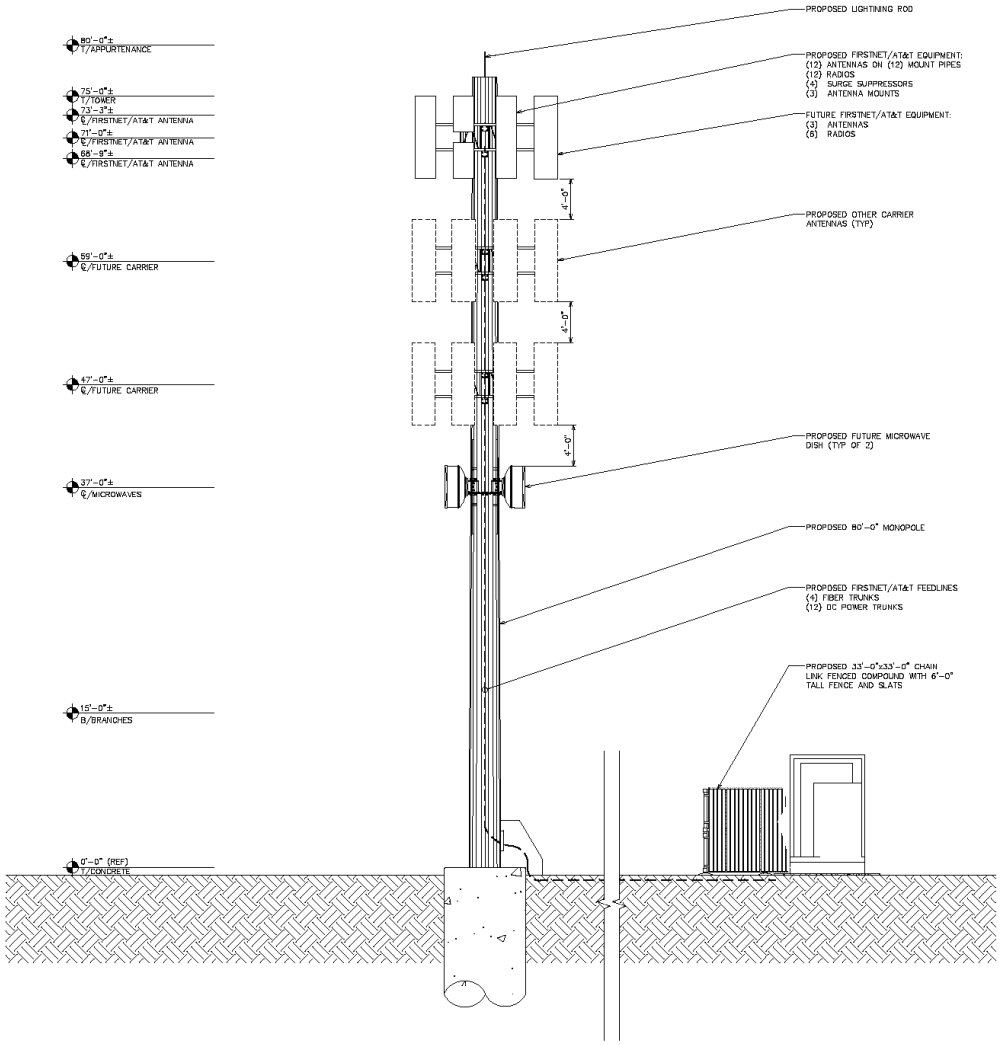


Plate IS-4 Tower Elevation

NOTES:

1. PROPOSED CABLES TO BE ROUTED PER SPECIFICATIONS OF PASSING STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS.
2. TOWER ELEVATION IS FOR SCHEMATIC PURPOSES ONLY. TEP DID NOT CONFIRM EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANTENNA HEIGHTS, ANTENNA AZIMUTHS, AND MOUNT CONFIGURATIONS.
3. CONTRACTOR TO VERIFY PROPOSED LOADING WITH PASSING STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. CONTRACTOR TO CONTACT FIRSTNET/AT&T OR PSTC IMMEDIATELY IN THE EVENT OF ANY DISCREPANCIES.



1 **FINAL EAST ELEVATION**

SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0" (24x36)
SCALE: 3/32" = 1'-0" (11x17)
0 4 8
SCALE IN FEET

PUBLICSAFETYTOWERS COMPANY
1903 WRIGHT PLACE, SUITE 140
CARLSBAD, CA 92008

AT&T
5005 EXECUTIVE PARKWAY
SAN RAMON, CA 94583

TOWER ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALS
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FIRSTNET/AT&T ID: CVL06565
FRONT & O STREET

PSTC #: CANC-RLIN01
AERIAL LIFT SERVICES

6941 7TH STREET
RIO LINDA, CA 95673
(SACRAMENTO COUNTY)

PROPOSED 80'-0"
MONOPOLE TOWER

ISSUED FOR:

REV	DATE	DRWN	DESCRIPTION	QA
D	06.01.23	SSO	ZONING	HMM
E	08.10.23	CAM	ZONING	HMM
F	08.14.23	SSO	ZONING	HMM
G	10.11.23	KBA	ZONING	HMM
H	11.07.23	GDP	ZONING	HMM
I	03.19.24	SRZ	ZONING	HMM

SEAL:

ZONING DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION

IT IS A VIOLATION OF LAW FOR ANY PERSON, UNLESS THEY ARE ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, TO ALTER THIS DOCUMENT.

SHEET TITLE:
TOWER ELEVATION

SHEET NUMBER: C-2.1
REVISION: I

TEP #: 314187.336170

4. A **Design Review** to determine substantial compliance with the *Sacramento County Countywide Design Guidelines* (Design Guidelines).

As shown on Plate IS-4 the applicant is proposing an 75-foot-tall monopole that will accommodate fifteen (15) direction panel antennas and eighteen (18) radio units. In addition to the tower there is an equipment shelter which will hold necessary electrical generation and backup systems located within a 33' x 35' lease area, behind a 6-foot-high chain link fence with green privacy slats.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The subject parcel is currently developed with two industrial buildings totaling approximately 25,500-square feet, and a defunct grain silo building. Outdoor portions of the site are used for industrial equipment storage, with hundreds of small industrial equipment pieces and vehicles being parked on the site at any given time. Beyond the industrial use of the site there are residential uses to the west south and east with the closest residence being approximately 170 feet to the west of the site (Plate IS-3). To the north beyond O Street is a large open parcel. The site is within the Downtown Rio Linda Special Planning Area (SPA) (Plate IS-5) and is zoned Intensive Industrial (Plate IS-6).

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides guidance for assessing the significance of potential environmental impacts. Based on this guidance, Sacramento County has developed an Initial Study Checklist (located at the end of this report). The Checklist identifies a range of potential significant effects by topical area. The topical discussions that follow are provided only when additional analysis beyond the Checklist is warranted.

LAND USE

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

REGULATORY SETTING

Sacramento County Zoning Code section 3.6.7. stipulates the development standards for wireless towers. Projects that are within a group 1 zoning category [group 1 includes the following zones: RD, AR, O, C-O, RM-2, DW, RR, and SPA zoning districts (unless

Plate IS-5 Zoning

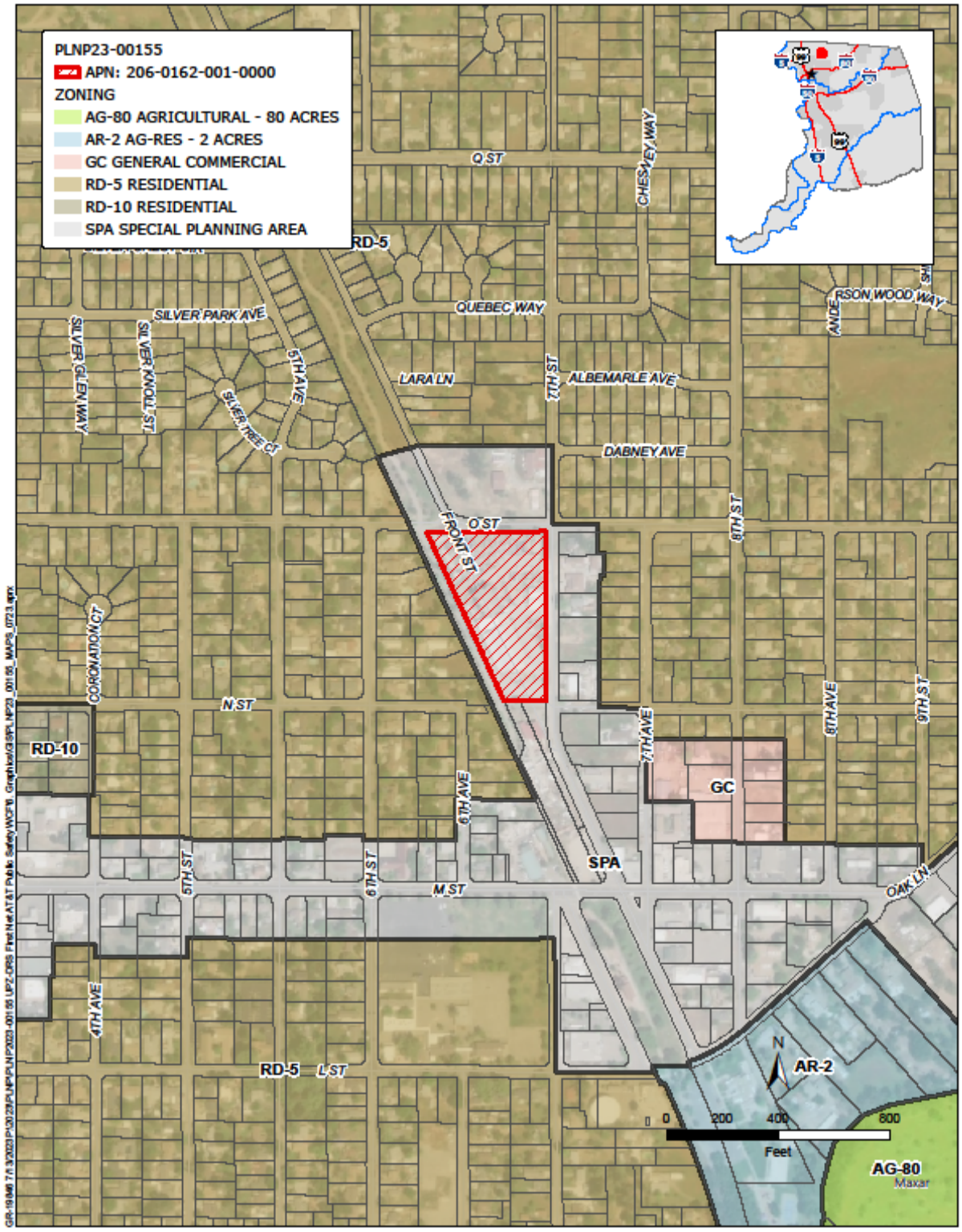
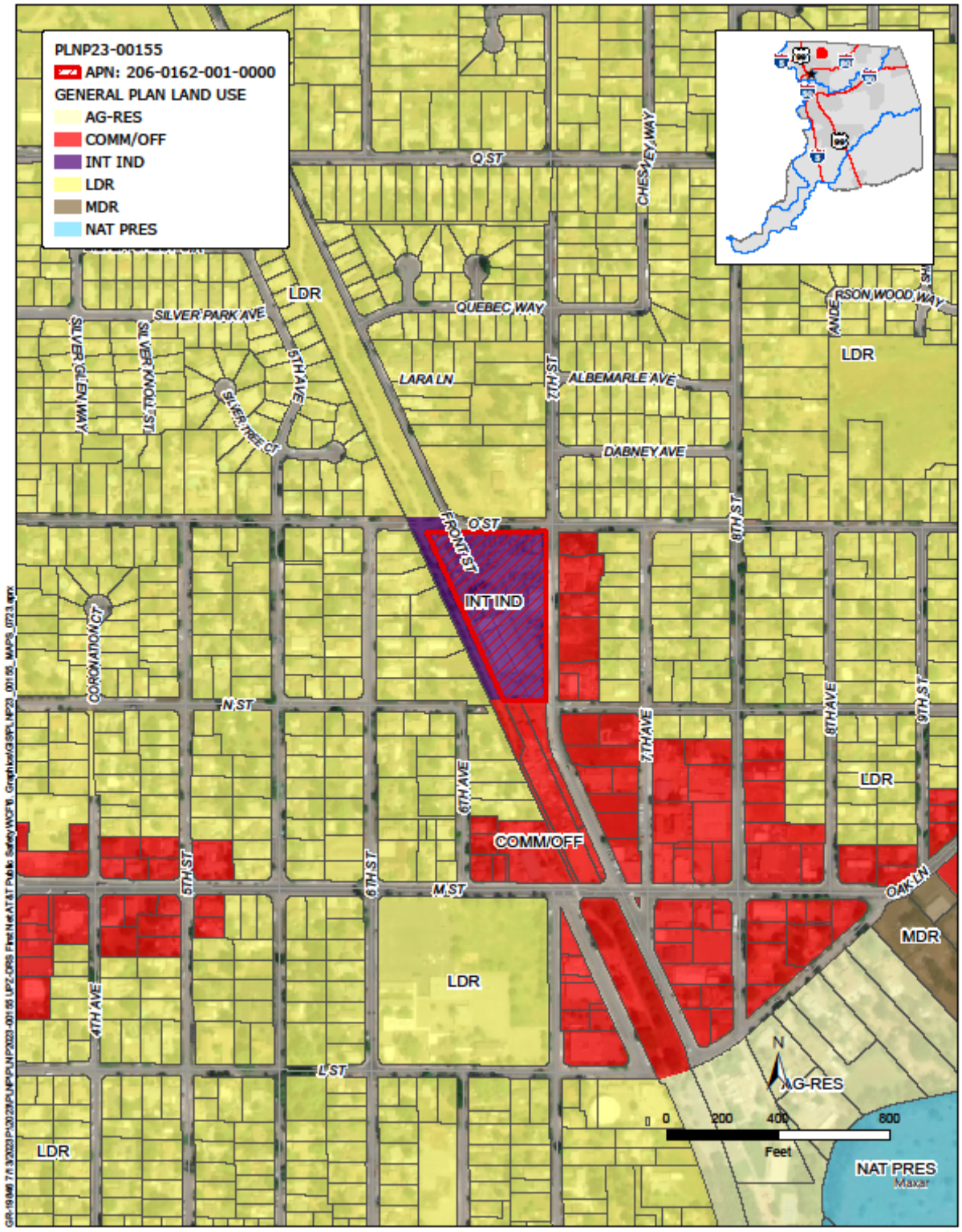


Plate IS-6 General Plan Land Use



otherwise specified in the particular SPA ordinance)], are subject to a Conditional Use Permit to be approved by the Planning Commission.

Table 3.6.2 further specifies development standards for wireless facilities including the following standards applicable to the group 1 zone:

- A maximum height of 55 feet; and,
- Separation from a group 1 zoned property – 3 times the height of the tower

PROJECT ANALYSIS

The project seeks a Special Development Permit to allow the proposed project to deviate from the standards specified in Zoning Code section 3.6.7 and outlined above. The project requests a deviation to allow a 75-foot tower in a zone where the maximum height is 55 feet. The project site is a group 2 zoned parcel (SPA) surrounded by properties that are a group 1 zoning classification (RD-5). With a proposed tower height of 75 feet, the separation requirements from adjacent group 1 properties would be 225 feet (3 times the height of the 75-foot tower).

The height and separation requirements in the zoning code were adopted to address land use compatibility and aesthetics. The project site is an equipment storage yard which contains a variety of vehicles including cranes and bucket lifts that can be seen above the existing security fencing. The proposed design of the tower would have the appearance of a tall tree (see aesthetics discussion below). The proposed tower location would be located 116 feet from the neighboring group 1 zoned parcel, which is 109 feet less than stipulated by the zoning code. The project was reviewed by the design review advisory committee (DRAC) and found to be in substantial compliance with the County's adopted design guidelines (see the aesthetics section below). Therefore, the project would not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. Impacts associated with land use are ***less than significant***.

AESTHETICS

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings.

The degree of impact of a project, either negative or beneficial, to the visual character of the area is largely subjective. Few objective or quantitative standards are available to analyze visual quality, and individual viewers respond differently to changes in the physical environment.

The 75-foot tall monopole would be visible from the nearby residential properties. Under CEQA, an evaluation of a project's potential visual change as viewed from

private property is not required (*Mira Mar Mobile Community v. City of Oceanside*, 119 Cal.App.4th 477 [Cal. Ct. App. 2004]). Therefore, the analysis focuses on the potential of the project to substantially degrade visual character from public viewpoints. The property is not located on a State Scenic Highway and the general vicinity does not contain a scenic vista.

Photo simulations of the project can be found in Plates IS-7 through IS-9. The equipment shelter will be located within a 33' x 35' lease area, behind a 6-foot-high chain link fence with green privacy slats. The proposed project is located in an industrial environment with large construction related equipment, and storage/warehouse buildings and storage silos visible along Front and O Streets.

The monopole would be visible to motorists traveling along 7th Street and O Street which is not a heavily traveled roadway. The DRAC met on December 14, 2023, and recommended the Planning Commission find the project in substantial compliance with the County's Design Guidelines. Given the existing development and utilities that are visually present in the existing viewshed of the site and surrounding residential environment, the proposed project will not have a substantial adverse effect on the existing visual character. The project is consistent with policies governing scenic resources and has been found consistent with objective County design standards. Impacts associated with aesthetics are ***less than significant*.**

Plate IS-7 Photo simulation View 1

Plate IS-8 Photo simulation View 2

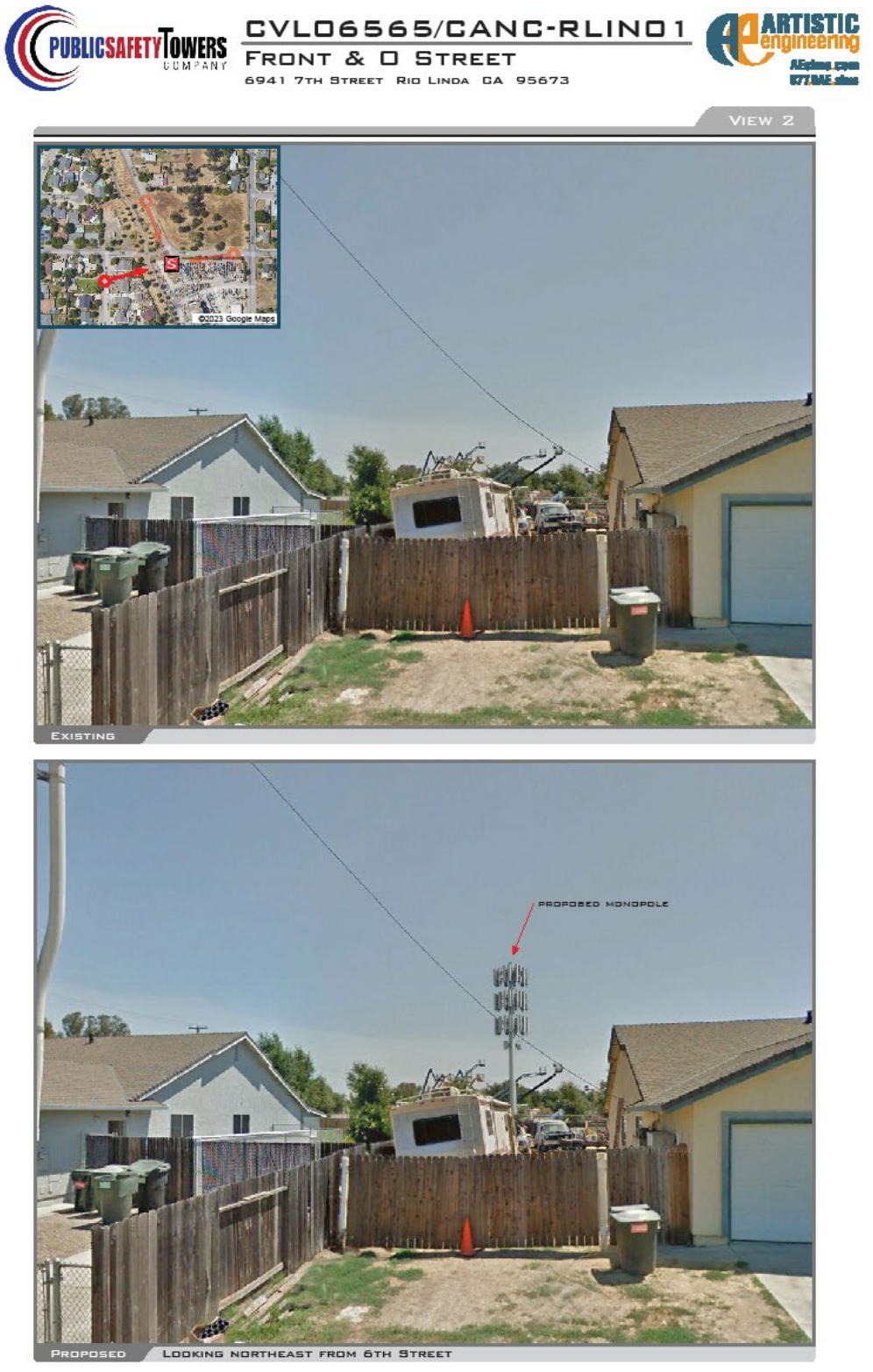


Plate IS-9 Photo simulation View 3

NOISE

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Result in generation of a temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established by the local general plan, noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies

REGULATORY SETTING

In order to limit population exposure to physically and/or psychologically damaging noise levels, the State of California and Sacramento County have established standards and ordinances to control noise.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The California Department of Health Services (DHS) office of Noise Control has studied the relationship between noise levels and different land uses. As a result, the DHS has established four categories for judging the severity of noise intrusion on specified land use. Noise in the "normally acceptable" category places no undue burden on affected receptors and would need no mitigation. As noise rises into the "conditionally acceptable" range, some mitigation of exposure (as established by an acoustical study) would be warranted. At the next level, noise intrusion is so severe that it is classified "normally unacceptable" and would require extraordinary noise reduction measures to avoid disruption. Finally, noise in the "clearly unacceptable" category is so severe that it cannot be mitigated.

Title 24 of the California Administrative Code establishes standards governing interior noise levels that apply to all new multifamily residential units in California. The standards require that acoustical studies be performed prior to construction at building locations where the existing L_{dn} exceeds 60 dBA. Such acoustical studies are required to establish mitigation measures that will limit maximum L_{dn} noise levels to 45 dBA in any inhabitable room. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has set an L_{dn} of 45 as its goal for interior noise in residential units built with HUD funding.

COUNTY GENERAL PLAN NOISE ELEMENT

The goals of the Sacramento County General Plan Noise Element are to: (1) protect the citizens of Sacramento County from exposure to excess noise and (2) protect the economic base of Sacramento County by preventing incompatible land uses from encroaching upon existing planned noise-producing uses. The General Plan defines a noise sensitive outdoor area as the primary activity area associated with any given land use at which noise sensitivity exists. Noise sensitivity generally occurs in locations where there is an expectation of relative quiet, or where noise could interfere with the activity which takes place in the outdoor area. An example is a backyard, where loud noise could interfere with the ability to engage in normal conversation.

The Noise Element of the Sacramento County General Plan establishes noise exposure criteria to aid in determining land use compatibility by defining the limits of noise exposure for sensitive land uses. There are policies for noise receptors or sources, transportation or non-transportation noise, and interior and exterior noise.

NO-5. The interior and exterior noise level standards for noise-sensitive areas of new uses affected by existing non-transportation noise sources in Sacramento County are shown by Table 2 (Table IS-1 herein). Where the noise level standards of Table 2 are predicted to be exceeded at a proposed noise-sensitive area due to existing non-transportation noise sources, appropriate noise mitigation measures shall be included in the project design to reduce projected noise levels to a state of compliance with the Table 2 standards within sensitive areas.

Table IS-1: Noise Element Table 2
Non-Transportation Noise Standards Median (L_{50})/Maximum (L_{max})

New Land Use	Outdoor Area		Interior
	Daytime	Nighttime	Day and Night
All Residential	55 / 75	50 / 70	35 / 55
Transient lodging[4]	55 / 75	---	35 / 55
Hospitals and nursing homes[5,6]	55 / 75	---	35 / 55
Theaters and auditoriums[6]	---	---	30 / 50
Churches, meeting halls, schools, libraries, etc.[6]	55 / 75	---	35 / 60
Office buildings[6]	60 / 75	---	45 / 65
Commercial buildings[6]	---	---	45 / 65
Playgrounds, parks, etc[6]	65 / 75	---	---
Industry[6]	60 / 80	---	50 / 70

1. The Table 2 standards shall be reduced by 5 dB for sounds consisting primarily of speech or music, and for recurring impulsive sounds. If the existing ambient noise level exceeds the standards of Table 2, then the noise level standards shall be increased at 5 dB increments to encompass the ambient.
2. Sensitive areas are defined in the acoustic terminology section.
3. Interior noise level standards are applied within noise-sensitive areas of the various land uses, with windows and doors in the closed positions.
4. Outdoor activity areas of transient lodging facilities are not commonly used during nighttime hours.
5. Hospitals are often noise-generating uses. The exterior noise level standards for hospitals are applicable only at clearly identified areas designated for outdoor relaxation by either hospital staff or patients.
6. The outdoor activity areas of these uses (if any), are not typically utilized during nighttime hours.
7. Where median (L_{50}) noise level data is not available for a particular noise source, average (Leq) values may be substituted for the standards of this table provided the noise source in question operates for at least 30 minutes of an hour. If the source in question operates less than 30 minutes per hour, then the maximum noise level standards shown would apply.

NO-6. Where a project would consist of or include non-transportation noise sources, the noise generation of those sources shall be mitigated so as not exceed the interior

and exterior noise level standards of Table 2 at existing noise-sensitive areas in the project vicinity.

NO-7. The "last use there" shall be responsible for noise mitigation. However, if a noise-generating use is proposed adjacent to lands zoned for uses which may have sensitivity to noise, then the noise generating use shall be responsible for mitigating its noise generation to a state of compliance with the Table 2 standards at the property line of the generating use in anticipation of the future neighboring development.

NO-8. Noise associated with construction activities shall adhere to the County Code requirements. Specifically, Section 6.68.090(e) addresses construction noise within the County.

NO-13. Where noise mitigation measures are required to satisfy the noise level standards of this Noise Element, emphasis shall be placed on the use of setbacks and site design to the extent feasible, prior to consideration of the use of noise barriers.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE

The County's Noise Control Ordinance sets limits for exterior noise levels on some designated agricultural-residential and all residential properties. The Noise Ordinance does not apply to noise levels at agriculturally zoned properties. The standards found in the County's Noise Control Ordinance are based on the duration of noise on private property over one-hour periods. The ordinance is primarily concerned with regulating noise other than noise generated by transportation noise sources (e.g., passing cars or aircraft flyovers). The ordinance limits the duration of noise based on many factors, including the type of source, tonal characteristics of the source, ambient noise levels, time of day, etc., by utilizing a system of noise criteria not to be exceeded based on the duration of noise over any given hour. Construction noise is specifically exempted from the Noise Ordinance (Sacramento County Code Section 6.68). Table NO-4 summarizes the Noise Ordinance standards.

In recognition of ambient noise, the ordinance allows the standards set forth in Table IS-2 to be adjusted in 5 dBA increments to encompass the ambient noise level. For example, if the ambient noise level for a given hour was 57 dBA, the daytime L50 noise standard would be increased to 60 dBA. The Noise Control Ordinance also states that each of the standards identified in Table IS-2 should be reduced by 5 dBA for impulsive or simple tone noises[1], or for noises consisting of speech or music.

[1] "Impulsive noise" means a noise characterized by brief excursions of sound pressures whose peak levels are very much greater than the ambient noise level, such as might be produced by the impact of a pile driver, punch press or a drop hammer, typically with duration of one second or less. "Simple tone noise" or "pure tone noise" means a noise characterized by the presence of a predominant frequency or frequencies such as might be produced by a whistle or hum.

Table IS-2: Sacramento County Noise Ordinance

Cumulative Duration of the Intrusive Sound	Descriptor	Exterior Noise Standard, dB	
		Daytime (7am – 10pm)	Nighttime (10pm – 7am)
30 – 60 minutes per hour	L_{50}	55	50
15 – 30 minutes per hour	L_{25}	60	55
5 – 15 minutes per hour	L_{08}	65	60
1 – 5 minutes per hour	L_{02}	70	65
Level not to be exceeded at any time	L_{max}	75	70
Source: Sacramento County, Noise Control Ordinance. Chapter 6.68.070			

PROJECT ANALYSIS- CONSTRUCTION NOISE

Sacramento County's Noise Ordinance exempts certain activities, including construction activities (provided that they occur between the daytime hours of 6 a.m.– 8 p.m., on weekdays, and 7 a.m.–8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday). These exemptions are typical of municipal noise ordinances and reflect a recognition that construction noise is temporary, generally is acceptable when limited to daylight hours, and is expected as part of a typical urban noise environment. Therefore, construction of the proposed project would be ***less than significant***.

PROJECT ANALYSIS - OPERATIONAL NOISE

Due to the potential for elevated noise levels at the project site from proposed electrical generation equipment, Tower Engineering Professionals (TEP) was retained to prepare a Noise Analysis (Appendix A). Specifically, the purpose of this Analysis was to quantify noise generated by the equipment that would be used during operations of project, and to compare those levels against the applicable Sacramento County noise standards.

Baseline measures of existing ambient noise level were taken at three locations shown on Plate IS-10. Table IS-1 shows the existing noise level and the noise level during the operations of the project using a 3-Bay Walk-Up-Cabinet (WUC) that contains electrical support and backup equipment generating 65.0 dB at 1foot as compared to the applicable County standard.

As shown in Table IS-3 the operational noise of the project does not show any increase in the existing noise level of the area. As shown on Table IS-3 the operational noise of the project would not be perceivable by the surrounding residential uses and is within the non-transportation noise standard for industrial uses. Therefore, operational noise impacts are ***less than significant***.

Plate IS-10 Noise Measurement Locations

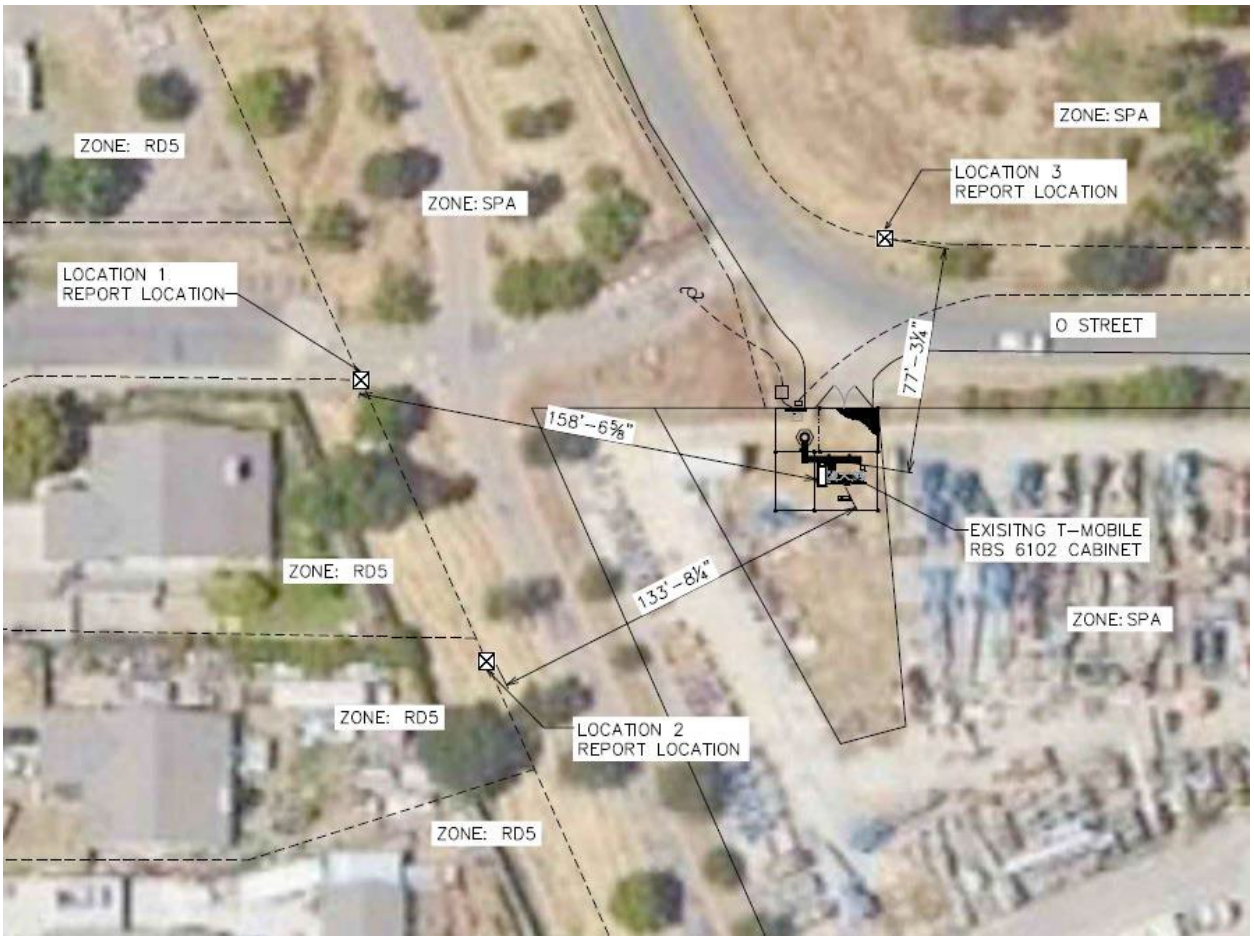


Table IS-3 Operational Noise Measurements

Exterior Noise Limit: 0 dB per 30 min/hour (per Section 6.68.070.b of the Sacramento County Noise Ordinance)					
Location 1		Location 2		Location 3	
Baseline	With Proposed Equipment	Baseline	With Proposed Equipment	Baseline	With Proposed Equipment
62.5 dB	62.5 dB	55.6 dB	55.6 dB	69.0 dB	69.0 dB

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality.

WATER QUALITY

CONSTRUCTION WATER QUALITY: EROSION AND GRADING

Construction on undeveloped land exposes bare soil, which can be mobilized by rain or wind and displaced into waterways or become an air pollutant. Construction equipment can also track mud and dirt onto roadways, where rains will wash the sediment into storm drains and thence into surface waters. After construction is complete, various other pollutants generated by site use can also be washed into local waterways. These pollutants include, but are not limited to, vehicle fluids, heavy metals deposited by vehicles, and pesticides or fertilizers used in landscaping.

Sacramento County has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Stormwater Permit issued by Regional Water Board. The Municipal Stormwater Permit requires the County to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges to the maximum extent practicable and to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges. The County complies with this permit in part by developing and enforcing ordinances and requirements to reduce the discharge of sediments and other pollutants in runoff from newly developing and redeveloping areas of the County.

The County has established a Stormwater Ordinance (Sacramento County Code 15.12). The Stormwater Ordinance prohibits the discharge of unauthorized non-stormwater to the County's stormwater conveyance system and local creeks. It applies to all private and public projects in the County, regardless of size or land use type. In addition, Sacramento County Code 16.44 (Land Grading and Erosion Control) requires private construction sites disturbing one or more acres or moving 350 cubic yards or more of earthen material to obtain a grading permit. To obtain a grading permit, project proponents must prepare and submit for approval an Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) Plan describing erosion and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) that will be implemented during construction to prevent sediment from leaving the site and entering the County's storm drain system or local receiving waters. Construction projects not subject to SCC 16.44 are subject to the Stormwater Ordinance (SCC 15.12) described above.

In addition to complying with the County's ordinances and requirements, construction sites disturbing one or more acres are required to comply with the State's General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities (CGP). CGP coverage is issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction.shtml and enforced by the Regional Water Board. Coverage is obtained by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the State Board prior to construction and verified by receiving a WDID#. The CGP requires preparation and implementation of a site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that must be kept on site at all times for review by the State inspector.

Applicable projects applying for a County grading permit must show proof that a WDID # has been obtained and must submit a copy of the SWPPP. Although the County has no enforcement authority related to the CGP, the County does have the authority to ensure sediment/pollutants are not discharged and is required by its Municipal Stormwater Permit to verify that SWPPPs include the minimum components.

The project must include an effective combination of erosion, sediment and other pollution control BMPs in compliance with the County ordinances and the State's CGP.

Erosion controls should always be the *first line of defense*, to keep soil from being mobilized in wind and water. Examples include stabilized construction entrances, tackified mulch, 3-step hydroseeding, spray-on soil stabilizers and anchored blankets. Sediment controls are the *second line of defense*; they help to filter sediment out of runoff before it reaches the storm drains and local waterways. Examples include rock bags to protect storm drain inlets, staked or weighted straw wattles/fiber rolls, and silt fences.

In addition to erosion and sediment controls, the project must have BMPs in place to keep other construction-related wastes and pollutants out of the storm drains. Such practices include, but are not limited to: filtering water from dewatering operations, providing proper washout areas for concrete trucks and stucco/paint contractors, containing wastes, managing portable toilets properly, and dry sweeping instead of washing down dirty pavement.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to verify that the proposed BMPs for the project are appropriate for the unique site conditions, including topography, soil type and anticipated volumes of water entering and leaving the site during the construction phase. In particular, the project proponent should check for the presence of colloidal clay soils on the site. Experience has shown that these soils do not settle out with conventional sedimentation and filtration BMPs. The project proponent may wish to conduct settling column tests in addition to other soils testing on the site, to ascertain whether conventional BMPs will work for the project.

If sediment-laden or otherwise polluted runoff discharges from the construction site are found to impact the County's storm drain system and/or Waters of the State, the property owner will be subject to enforcement action and possible fines by the County and the Regional Water Board.

Project compliance with requirements outlined above, as administered by the County and the Regional Water Board will ensure that project-related erosion and pollution impacts are ***less than significant.***

OPERATION: STORMWATER RUNOFF

Development and urbanization can increase pollutant loads, temperature, volume and discharge velocity of runoff over the predevelopment condition. The increased volume, increased velocity, and discharge duration of stormwater runoff from developed areas has the potential to greatly accelerate downstream erosion and impair stream habitat in

natural drainage systems. Studies have demonstrated a direct correlation between the degree of imperviousness of an area and the degradation of its receiving waters. These impacts must be mitigated by requiring appropriate runoff reduction and pollution prevention controls to minimize runoff and keep runoff clean for the life of the project.

The County requires that projects include source and/or treatment control measures on selected new development and redevelopment projects. Source control BMPs are intended to keep pollutants from contacting site runoff. Examples include "No Dumping-Drains to Creek/River" stencils/stamps on storm drain inlets to educate the public, and providing roofs over areas likely to contain pollutants, so that rainfall does not contact the pollutants. Treatment control measures are intended to remove pollutants that have already been mobilized in runoff. Examples include vegetated swales and water quality detention basins. These facilities slow water down and allow sediments and pollutants to settle out prior to discharge to receiving waters. Additionally, vegetated facilities provide filtration and pollutant uptake/adsorption. The project proponent should consider the use of "low impact development" techniques to reduce the amount of imperviousness on the site, since this will reduce the volume of runoff and therefore will reduce the size/cost of stormwater quality treatment required. Examples of low impact development techniques include pervious pavement and bioretention facilities.

The County requires developers to utilize the *Stormwater Quality Design Manual for the Sacramento Region, 2018* (Design Manual) in selecting and designing post-construction facilities to treat runoff from the project. Regardless of project type or size, developers are required to implement the minimum source control measures (Chapter 4 of the Design Manual). Low impact development measures and Treatment Control Measures are required of all projects exceeding the impervious surface threshold defined in Table 3-2 and 3-3 of the Design Manual. Further, depending on project size and location, hydromodification control measures may be required (Chapter 5 of the Design Manual).

Updates and background on the County's requirements for post-construction stormwater quality treatment controls, along with several downloadable publications, can be found at the following websites:

https://waterresources.saccounty.gov/stormwater/Pages/default.aspx

https://www.beriverfriendly.net/new-development/

The final selection and design of post-construction stormwater quality control measures is subject to the approval of the County Department of Water Resources; therefore, they should be contacted as early as possible in the design process for guidance. Project compliance with requirements outlined above will ensure that project-related stormwater pollution impacts are ***less than significant***.

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Expose the public or the environment to a substantial hazard through reasonably foreseeable upset conditions involving the release of hazardous materials.

MICROWAVE EMISSIONS

Potential impacts associated with microwave emissions will be less than significant, per the following analysis.

PERSONAL WIRELESS SERVICE FACILITIES BACKGROUND

Three of the major types of personal wireless communication services currently in use are described below (information from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) website at http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/index.htm?job=wtb_services_home (Accessed 5/22/2023).

CELLULAR TELEPHONE SERVICE

Cellular telephone service is an extension of ordinary telephone services, except that it utilizes radio waves instead of wire to transmit and receive telephone calls. The cellular radiotelephone service is intended to provide customers with mobile telephone service over a broad geographic area. A cellular system operates by dividing a large geographic service area into cells and assigning the same frequencies to multiple, non-adjacent cells. This is known as "frequency reuse". When a cellular subscriber makes or receives a call, the call is connected to the nearest cell site. As a subscriber travels within a cellular provider's service area, the cellular telephone call in progress is transferred, or "handed-off", from one cell site to another without noticeable interruption. The smaller and more numerous a provider's cells are, the more it can reuse frequencies and the more users it can accommodate. In addition, all the cells in a cellular system are connected to a mobile telephone switching office (MTSO) by wireline (landline) or microwave links. The MTSO switches wireline-to-mobile and mobile-to-wireline calls between the public switched telephone network (PSTN) and the cell site. Cellular radio systems operate in the 824 – 849 MHz and 869 – 894 MHz frequency range, per FCC allocation.

PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES (PCS)

PCS encompasses two different licensed services offered over two different frequency bands, as well as certain unlicensed service. "Narrowband" PCS operates on frequencies in the 901 – 941 MHz range and is suitable for offering a variety of specialized services such as Messaging and two-way paging. "Broadband" PCS is similar to cellular radiotelephone service, except that PCS operates in a higher frequency band (1850 – 1990 MHz) which allows for a wider variety of communications services such as digital, voice, data and paging transmissions, over the same spectrum. Because PCS operates at a higher frequency than cellular service, PCS systems may require more antenna transmitters in the same geographic area.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE (WCS)

WCS may provide fixed, mobile, radiolocation or satellite communication services to individuals and businesses within their assigned spectrum block and geographical area.

The WCS is capable of providing advanced wireless phone services which are able to pinpoint subscribers in any given locale. WCS is used to provide a variety of mobile services, including an entire family of new communication devices utilizing very small, lightweight, multi-function portable phones and advanced devices with two-way data capabilities. WCS systems are able to communicate with other telephone networks as well as with personal digital assistants, allowing subscribers to send and receive data and/or video messages without connection to a wire. By FCC allocation, WCS operates in one of two bands: 2305 – 2320 MHz and 2345 – 2360 MHz.

ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS (EMFS) AND SAFETY STANDARDS

The FCC published "A Local Government Official's Guide to Transmitting Antenna RF Emission Safety: Rules, Procedures, and Practical Guidance" (June 2, 2000, hereafter called RF Guide), the purpose of which is to ensure that the antenna facilities located in communities comply with the FCC's limits for human exposure to radiofrequency (RF) electromagnetic fields. The RF Guide explains the science of RF and the electromagnetic spectrum, the exposure guidelines and rules, and explains the procedures for compliance. The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology has also published Bulletin 56 (and 65, an addendum) in 1999, which answers many common questions about RF and about exposure limits. The RF Guide and Bulletins 56 and 65 are incorporated by reference and are available for review at the Division of Planning and Environmental Review, 827 7th Street, Room 225, Sacramento or online at http://www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety/ (Accessed 1/24/2024). The information below is based entirely upon the incorporated publications.

As discussed above, personal wireless service facilities utilize radio waves to transmit and receive telephone calls. Radio waves and microwaves are forms of electromagnetic energy that are collectively described by the term "radiofrequency" or "RF." RF emissions can be discussed in terms of "energy," "radiation" or "fields." Radiation is simply defined as the movement of energy through space in the form of waves or particles. Electromagnetic radiation is when both electric and magnetic energy move together. The term "electromagnetic field" is used to indicate the presence of electromagnetic energy at a specific location. Like any wave-related phenomenon, electromagnetic energy is described by a wavelength and a frequency. RF signals are transmitted over a wide range of frequencies. The frequency of an RF signal is expressed in terms of cycles per second, or "Hertz" (Hz).

The range of wavelengths and frequencies of electromagnetic radiation is known as the electromagnetic spectrum. The frequency of the wave corresponds to its energy: a high frequency wave has high energy. Waves with sufficient energy are "ionizing", that is, they are capable of stripping electrons from atoms and molecules, which results in a fundamental alteration of the nature of those molecules. Only very high-frequency waves, such as X-rays and gamma rays, have sufficient energy to ionize atoms and molecules. At the low-frequency end of the electromagnetic spectrum are low-energy, non-ionizing waves such as radio waves and visible light. Radiation described as non-ionizing does not have sufficient energy to alter the nature of the atoms and molecules it encounters.

Electromagnetic energy is common in the environment, resulting from numerous human-made and natural sources. Human-made sources include electrical wiring, utility lines, appliances, computers, and television and radio broadcasts. Natural sources include the human body, the earth's magnetic field, and visible light. Electric and magnetic fields produced by every-day electrical appliances, radio waves, and microwaves are low-energy – even visible light is higher energy than these sources. High-energy waves at the top of the spectrum are X-rays and gamma rays.

The rate at which an organism will absorb RF energy is specific to the type of organism – this is referred to as the specific absorption rate (SAR), defined as the power absorbed per mass of tissue (watts per kilogram). Therefore, standards for maximum safe exposure are set to limit the specific absorption rate (SAR) below a maximum permissible level as averaged over the human body. The absorption of this energy can result in thermal effects – that is, the energy produced causes heating of the tissues. At low-level RF radiation exposure, such as what is generated by appliances, cellular phones, and cellular towers, significant heating effects or health hazards are not observed.

To ensure that exposure remains well below safe limits, in August 1996 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted guidelines for evaluating the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions (FCC, (1996) Report and Order, ET Docket No. 93-62 Washington, D.C.). The guidelines effectively set a national radio frequency (RF) exposure standard based on elements of both the 1992 revision of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard for RF exposure and the exposure criteria recommended by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP).

The 1996 FCC limits for maximum permissible exposure specifies two tiers of exposure criteria, one tier for "controlled environments" (usually involving occupational environments) and a second, more stringent tier for "uncontrolled environments" (usually involving the general public). The FCC limits set the allowable specific absorption rate (SAR) level from *localized* exposure (e.g., hand-held devices) at 1.6 watts per kilogram (W/kg) for the general public (uncontrolled environments), as averaged over 1 gram of tissue. The FCC recommended exposure limits for generalized exposure are summarized in Table 1 of Bulletin 56, which includes maximum power density levels for RF energy originating from communication sites (as well as other sources). The levels are determined based on continuous exposure, are dependent on the frequency which is transmitted from the site, and are usually expressed in milliwatts per square centimeter (mW/cm^2).

Generally, personal wireless services such as cellular, PCS, and WCS transmit in a frequency range of 300 – 3000 MHz (megahertz). Power density limits for uncontrolled environments (i.e., general public) from transmitters in this range are calculated by dividing the frequency by 1500 (f/1500). Therefore, a facility transmitting at a frequency of 870 MHz would have a maximum recommended power density of 0.58 mW/cm^2. At frequencies of 1500 – 100,000MHz the maximum power density is set at 1.0 mW/cm^2.

REGULATORY BACKGROUND

Section 704 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "1996 Act") addresses federal, state and local government oversight of site selection for personal wireless service facilities such as towers for cellular, personal communication services, and specialized mobile radio transmitters. The 1996 Act states the following regarding a local government's jurisdiction pertaining to the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions (FCC, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (1996), Fact Sheet #1 National Wireless Facilities Siting Policies, Washington, D.C.):

> "No state or local government or instrumentality thereof may regulate the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the Commission's regulations concerning such emissions."

On January 1, 1997, the new Guidelines adopted by the FCC (referred to as "the Commission" in the 1996 Act section cited above) went into effect. As discussed above, the new guidelines set a national RF exposure standard which is based on elements of both the 1992 revision of the ANSI/IEEE standard and the exposure criteria recommended by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements. In addition, the updated guidelines are based on recommendations from those federal agencies responsible for health and safety, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH) of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The FCC has stated that the updated guidelines will ensure that the public and workers are adequately protected from exposure to potentially harmful RF emissions.

PROJECT SPECIFIC INFORMATION

There are no known significant biological effects associated with cellular facilities when they are operated at or below FCC-adopted standards. At this location, the applicant is proposing an 75-foot tall monopole that will accommodate fifteen (15) direction panel antennas and eighteen (18) radio units. The applicant provided a Radio Frequency Emissions Compliance Report prepared by Waterford Consultants' David C. Cotton, Jr., Registered Professional Engineer, which included an engineering statement confirming compliance with radiofrequency radiation exposure limits (Appendix B). There are specific FCC regulations regarding radiofrequency exposure that address the actions necessary to bring an accessible area into compliance with the 5% power density exposure limit. Waterford Consultants performed predictive modeling, following the FCC requirements, for the proposed project. No significant environmental impacts related to EMF emissions are expected as a result of this project; impacts are ***less than significant***.

TOWER FAILURE

Communication towers are manufactured under rigid conditions and the design and required safety factors are specified in the Uniform Building Code. The pole fabrication process is subject to independent inspection. The tower and foundation designs will be

engineered to meet or exceed all requirements of the Uniform Building Code. The codes take into account the various stress loads that could be placed on the tower structure by earthquake, winds, storms, and any other combinations of high stress factors. The safety factors involved in the manufacture of these poles and their installation results in a very large margin of safety.

Accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), a Standard entitled "Structural Standards for Antenna Supporting Structures and Antennas" has been established for the design, superstructure, and foundation of telecommunication towers. This standard is designated as ANSI/TIA-222, provisions F and G, and is the governing document for telecommunication towers in the United States. The development of the standard was sponsored by the *Telecommunication* Industry Association (TIA) subcommittee TR-14.7. The key aspects discussed in the document are: modernization of the design of new towers and existing towers, definition of wind and ice load, and applicable requirements in the case of seismic activity.

DISCUSSION

The "fall drop zone" (radius of tower failure) for the proposed project is estimated to be within an 80± foot radius of the tower center. The area that would be affected by potential pole collapse consists of open equipment storage area and the roadway of O and Front Streets. The distance from the footprint of the monopole to the property line of the single-family residential to the west is approximately 116-feet. No residential structures occur within the potential fall zone of the tower. Monopole failure has the potential to impact vehicles parked within the fall drop zone. However, as the monopole is an engineer-designed structure that will comply with the safety factors specified in the Uniform Building Code, monopole failure is considered extremely unlikely. Potential impacts as a result of monopole collapse are therefore considered ***less than significant.***

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MEASURES

NOTE: It is the opinion of the preparers of this Initial Study/Negative Declaration that a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program is not required for this project at this time.

MITIGATION MEASURE A: BASIC CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS CONTROL PRACTICES

The following Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices are considered feasible for controlling fugitive dust from a construction site. The practices also serve as best management practices (BMPs), allowing the use of the non-zero particulate matter significance thresholds.
Control of fugitive dust is required by District Rule 403 and enforced by District staff.

- Water all exposed surfaces two times daily. Exposed surfaces include, but are not limited to soil piles, graded areas, unpaved parking areas, staging areas, and access roads.

- Cover or maintain at least two feet of free board space on haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material on the site. Any haul trucks that would be traveling along freeways or major roadways should be covered.

- Use wet power vacuum street sweepers to remove any visible trackout mud or dirt onto adjacent public roads at least once a day. Use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.

- Limit vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to 15 miles per hour (mph).

- All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.

The following practices describe exhaust emission control from diesel powered fleets working at a construction site. California regulations limit idling from both on-road and off-road diesel-powered equipment. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) enforces idling limitations and compliance with diesel fleet regulations.

- Minimize idling time either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the time of idling to 5 minutes [California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449(d)(3) and 2485]. Provide clear signage that posts this requirement for workers at the entrances to the site.

- Provide current certificate(s) of compliance for CARB's In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulation [California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449 and 2449.1]. For more information contact CARB at 877-593-6677, doors@arb.ca.gov, or www.arb.ca.gov/doors/compliance_cert1.html.
- Maintain all construction equipment in proper working condition according to manufacturer's specifications. The equipment must be checked by a certified mechanic

MITIGATION MEASURE B: CULTURAL RESOURCES UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY

In the event that human remains are discovered in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, work shall be halted and the County Coroner contacted. For all other unexpected cultural resources discovered during project construction, work shall be halted until a qualified archaeologist may evaluate the resource encountered.

1. Pursuant to Sections 5097.97 and 5097.98 of the State Public Resources Code, and Section 7050.5 of the State Health and Safety Code, if a human bone or bone of unknown origin is found during construction, all work is to stop and the County Coroner and the Office of Planning and Environmental Review shall be immediately notified. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours,

and the Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descendent from the deceased Native American. The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposition of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods.

2. In the event of an inadvertent discovery of cultural resources (excluding human remains) during construction, all work must halt within a 100-foot radius of the discovery. A qualified professional archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for prehistoric and historic archaeology, shall be retained at the Applicant's expense to evaluate the significance of the find. If it is determined due to the types of deposits discovered that a Native American monitor is required, the Guidelines for Monitors/Consultants of Native American Cultural, Religious, and Burial Sites as established by the Native American Heritage Commission shall be followed, and the monitor shall be retained at the Applicant's expense.

    a. Work cannot continue within the 100-foot radius of the discovery site until the archaeologist and/or tribal monitor conducts sufficient research and data collection to make a determination that the resource is either 1) not cultural in origin; or 2) not potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or California Register of Historical Resources.

    b. If a potentially-eligible resource is encountered, then the archaeologist and/or tribal monitor, Planning and Environmental Review staff, and project proponent shall arrange for either 1) total avoidance of the resource, if possible; or 2) test excavations or total data recovery as mitigation. The determination shall be formally documented in writing and submitted to the County Environmental Coordinator as verification that the provisions of CEQA for managing unanticipated discoveries have been met.

INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides guidance for assessing the significance of potential environmental impacts. Based on this guidance, Sacramento County has developed the following Initial Study Checklist. The Checklist identifies a range of potential significant effects by topical area. The words "significant" and "significance" used throughout the following checklist are related to impacts as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act as follows:

1 Potentially Significant indicates there is substantial evidence that an effect MAY be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant” entries an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required. Further research of a potentially significant impact may reveal that the impact is actually less than significant or less than significant with mitigation.

2 Less than Significant with Mitigation applies where an impact could be significant but specific mitigation has been identified that reduces the impact to a less than significant level.

3 Less than Significant or No Impact indicates that either a project will have an impact but the impact is considered minor or that a project does not impact the particular resource.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
1. **LAND USE** - Would the project:					
a. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			X		The project is consistent with environmental policies of the Sacramento County General Plan, Rio Linda Community Plan Community Plan, Downtown Rio Linda Special Planning Area and Sacramento County Zoning Code.
b. Physically disrupt or divide an established community?			X		The project will not create physical barriers that substantially limit movement within or through the community.
2. **POPULATION/HOUSING -** Would the project:					
a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of infrastructure)?				X	The project will neither directly nor indirectly induce substantial unplanned population growth; the proposal is consistent with existing land use designations.
b. Displace substantial amounts of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X	The project will not result in the removal of existing housing, and thus will not displace substantial amounts of existing housing.
3. **AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES** - Would the project:					
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or areas containing prime soils to uses not conducive to agricultural production?				X	The project site is not designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance on the current Sacramento County Important Farmland Map published by the California Department of Conservation. The site does not contain prime soils.
b. Conflict with any existing Williamson Act contract?				X	No Williamson Act contracts apply to the project site.
c. Introduce incompatible uses in the vicinity of existing agricultural uses?				X	The project does not occur in an area of agricultural production.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
4. **AESTHETICS -** Would the project:					
a. Substantially alter existing viewsheds such as scenic highways, corridors or vistas?			X		The project does not occur in the vicinity of any scenic highways, corridors, or vistas.
b. In non-urbanized area, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings?				X	The project is not located in a non-urbanized area.
c. If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?			X		It is acknowledged that aesthetic impacts are subjective and may be perceived differently by various affected individuals. Nonetheless, given the urbanized environment in which the project is proposed, it is concluded that the project would not substantially degrade the visual character or quality of the project site or vicinity. Refer to the Aesthetics discussion above.
d. Create a new source of substantial light, glare, or shadow that would result in safety hazards or adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			X		The project will not result in a new source of substantial light, glare or shadow that would result in safety hazards or adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.
5. **AIRPORTS -** Would the project:					
a. Result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the vicinity of an airport/airstrip?			X		The project occurs outside of any identified public or private airport/airstrip safety zones.
b. Expose people residing or working in the project area to aircraft noise levels in excess of applicable standards?			X		The project occurs outside of any identified public or private airport/airstrip noise zones or contours.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Result in a substantial adverse effect upon the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft?				X	The project is located within McClellan Airport's Airport Planning Policy Area. However, the project is not a residential development, therefore the project is not subject to Policies NO-3 and NO-4 in the Sacramento County 2030 General Plan Land Use Element. The project is not located within McClellan Airport's safety zone nor subject to the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for McClellan. Therefore, project would not result in a substantial adverse effect upon the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft.
d. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X	The project does not involve or affect air traffic movement.
6. **PUBLIC SERVICES -** Would the project:					
a. Have an adequate water supply for full buildout of the project?				X	The project will not result in increased demand for water supply.
b. Have adequate wastewater treatment and disposal facilities for full buildout of the project?				X	The project will not require wastewater services.
c. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?			X		The Kiefer Landfill has capacity to accommodate solid waste until the year 2050.
d. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the construction of new water supply or wastewater treatment and disposal facilities or expansion of existing facilities?				X	The project will not require construction or expansion of new water supply, wastewater treatment, or wastewater disposal facilities.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
e. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of storm water drainage facilities?			X		Minor extension of infrastructure would be necessary to serve the proposed project. Existing stormwater drainage facilities are located within existing roadways and other developed areas, and the extension of facilities would take place within areas already proposed for development as part of the project. No significant new impacts would result from stormwater facility extension.
f. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of electric or natural gas service?			X		Minor extension of utility lines would be necessary to serve the proposed project. Existing utility lines are located along existing roadways and other developed areas, and the extension of lines would take place within areas already proposed for development as part of the project. No significant new impacts would result from utility extension.
g. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of emergency services?			X		The project would incrementally increase demand for emergency services, but would not cause substantial adverse physical impacts as a result of providing adequate service.
h. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of public school services?				X	The project will not require the use of public school services.
i. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of park and recreation services?				X	The project will not require park and recreation services.
7. **TRANSPORTATION** - Would the project:					
a. Conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b) – measuring transportation impacts individually or cumulatively, using a vehicles miles traveled standard established by the County?				X	The project will not increase vehicle trips.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
b. Result in a substantial adverse impact to access and/or circulation?				X	No changes to existing access and/or circulation patterns would occur as a result of the project.
c. Result in a substantial adverse impact to public safety on area roadways?				X	No changes to existing access and/or circulation patterns would occur as a result of the project; therefore no impacts to public safety on area roadways will result.
d. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X	The project does not conflict with alternative transportation policies of the Sacramento County General Plan, with the Sacramento Regional Transit Master Plan, or other adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation.
8. **AIR QUALITY** - Would the project:					
a. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?			X		The project does not exceed the screening thresholds established by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District and will not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment. The project is within the screening criteria for construction related impacts related to air quality. The project site is less than 35 acres, and does not involve buildings more than 4 stories tall; demolition activities; significant trenching activities; an unusually compact construction schedule; cut-and-fill operations; or, import or export of soil materials requiring a considerable amount of haul truck activity. Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices have also been included as a mitigation measure with which the project must comply. The project meets the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District's screening criteria for PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ and Ozone precursors.
b. Expose sensitive receptors to pollutant concentrations in excess of standards?			X		See Response 8.a.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?			X		The project will not generate objectionable odors.
9. **NOISE -** Would the project:					
a. Result in generation of a temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established by the local general plan, noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?			X		The project is not in the vicinity of any uses that generate substantial noise, nor will the completed project generate substantial noise. The project will not result in exposure of persons to, or generation of, noise levels in excess of applicable standards. Refer to the Noise discussion above.
b. Result in a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?			X		Project construction will result in a temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. This impact is less than significant due to the temporary nature of the these activities, limits on the duration of noise, and evening and nighttime restrictions imposed by the County Noise Ordinance (Chapter 6.68 of the County Code).
c. Generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.			X		The project will not involve the use of pile driving or other methods that would produce excessive groundborne vibration or noise levels at the property boundary.
10. **HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY** - Would the project:					
a. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or substantially interfere with groundwater recharge?			X		The project will not rely on groundwater supplies and will not substantially interfere with groundwater recharge.
b. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the project area and/or increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?			X		Compliance with applicable requirements of the Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance, Sacramento County Water Agency Code, and Sacramento County Improvement Standards will ensure that impacts are less than significant.
c. Develop within a 100-year floodplain as mapped on a federal Flood Insurance Rate Map or within a local flood hazard area?			X		The project is not within a 100-year floodplain as mapped on a federal Flood Insurance Rate Map, nor is the project within a local flood hazard area.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
d. Place structures that would impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year floodplain?			X		The project site is not within a 100-year floodplain.
e. Develop in an area that is subject to 200 year urban levels of flood protection (ULOP)?				X	The project is not located in an area subject to 200-year urban levels of flood protection (ULOP).
f. Expose people or structures to a substantial risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?			X		The project will not expose people or structures to a substantial risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam.
g. Create or contribute runoff that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems?			X		Adequate on- and/or off-site drainage improvements will be required pursuant to the Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance and Improvement Standards.
h. Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality?			X		Compliance with the Stormwater Ordinance and Land Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance (Chapters 15.12 and 14.44 of the County Code respectively) will ensure that the project will not create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality.
11. **GEOLOGY AND SOILS** - Would the project:					
a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including risk of loss, injury or death involving 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?				X	Sacramento County is not within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. Although there are no known active earthquake faults in the project area, the site could be subject to some ground shaking from regional faults. The Uniform Building Code contains applicable construction regulations for earthquake safety that will ensure less than significant impacts.
b. Result in substantial soil erosion, siltation or loss of topsoil?			X		Compliance with the County's Land Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance will reduce the amount of construction site erosion and minimize water quality degradation by providing stabilization and protection of disturbed areas, and by controlling the runoff of sediment and other pollutants during the course of construction.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
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, soil expansion, liquefaction or collapse?				X	The project is not located on an unstable geologic or soil unit.
d. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available?			X		A public sewer system is available to serve the project.
e. Result in a substantial loss of an important mineral resource?			X		The project is not located within an Aggregate Resource Area as identified by the Sacramento County General Plan Land Use Diagram, nor are any important mineral resources known to be located on the project site.
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?			X		No known paleontological resources (e.g. fossil remains) or sites occur at the project location.
12. **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES** - Would the project:					
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on any special status species, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community?				X	The project site is a developed industrial use consisting of construction equipment storage with compacted ground. No trees are present for nesting, and as developed, no foraging habitat exists on site. No special status species are known to exist on or utilize the project site, nor would the project substantially reduce wildlife habitat or species populations.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities?				X	No sensitive natural communities occur on the project site, nor is the project expected to affect natural communities off-site.
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on streams, wetlands, or other surface waters that are protected by federal, state, or local regulations and policies?				X	No protected surface waters are located on or adjacent to the project site.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
d. Have a substantial adverse effect on the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species?				X	The project site is already a developed industrial use. Project implementation would not affect native resident or migratory species.
e. Adversely affect or result in the removal of native or landmark trees?				X	No native and/or landmark trees occur on the project site, nor is it anticipated that any native and/or landmark trees would be affected by off-site improvement required as a result of the project.
f. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources?				X	The project is consistent with local policies/ordinances protecting biological resources.
g. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, state or federal plan for the conservation of habitat?				X	There are no known conflicts with any approved plan for the conservation of habitat.
13. **CULTURAL RESOURCES -** Would the project:					
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource?				X	No historical resources would be affected by the proposed project.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on an archaeological resource?			X		The subject property was surveyed as part of a previous project Cultural Resources Study of The Rio Linda Special Planning Area. The Study found that while there were old structures located within the project area there were no historic or archaeological resources present within the project area.
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?		X			No known human remains exist on the project site. Nonetheless, mitigation has been recommended to ensure appropriate treatment should remains be uncovered during project implementation.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
14. **TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES -** Would the project:					
a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 21074?		X			Notification pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080.3.1(b) was provided to the tribes and no formal request for consultation was received; however, UAIC did request that mitigation for unanticipated discovery be included.
15. **HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS** - Would the project:					
a. Create a substantial hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X		The project does not involve the transport, use, and/or disposal of hazardous material.
b. Expose the public or the environment to a substantial hazard through reasonably foreseeable upset conditions involving the release of hazardous materials?			X		The project does not involve the transport, use, and/or disposal of hazardous material.
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			X		The project does not involve the use or handling of hazardous material.
d. Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, resulting in a substantial hazard to the public or the environment?			X		The project is not located on a known hazardous materials site.
e. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or emergency evacuation plan?			X		The project would not interfere with any known emergency response or evacuation plan.
f. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to or intermixed with urbanized areas?			X		The project is within the urbanized area of the unincorporated County. There is no significant risk of loss, injury, or death to people or structures associated with wildland fires.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
16. ENERGY – Would the project:					
a. Result in potentially significant environmental impacts due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction?			X		Compliance with Title 24, Green Building Code, will ensure that all project energy efficiency requirements are net resulting in less than significant impacts.
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?			X		The project will comply with Title 24, Green Building Code, for all project efficiency requirements.
17. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the project:					
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X		The project is within the screening criteria for construction related impacts related to air quality. The project site is less than 35 acres, and does not involve buildings more than 4 stories tall; demolition activities; significant trenching activities; an unusually compact construction schedule; cut-and-fill operations; or, import or export of soil materials requiring a considerable amount of haul truck activity. Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices have also been included as a mitigation measure with which the project must comply. The project meets the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District's (SMAQMD) screening criteria for PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ and Ozone precursors. As such the potential GHG emissions would be less than the SMAQMD) threshold of 1,100 metric tons of CO2e. The project will not have the potential to interfere with the County meeting the goals of AB 32 (reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020); therefore, the climate change impact of the project is considered less than significant.
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation for the purpose of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases?				X	The project is consistent with County policies adopted for the purpose or reducing the emission of greenhouse gases.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

LAND USE CONSISTENCY	Current Land Use Designation	Consistent	Not Consistent	Comments
General Plan	INT IND - Intensive Industrial	X		
Community Plan	M-1 - Light Industrial	X		
Land Use Zone	SPA - Special Planning Area	X		

INITIAL STUDY PREPARERS

Environmental Coordinator: Julie Newton

Senior Planner: Alison Little

Project Leader: Kurt Steinert

Office Manager: Kim Reading

Administrative Support: Justin Maulit

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Tower Engineering Professionals, December 2022, Noise Analysis – CCL05575 CANC-STHEL01

Appendix B: Waterford, May 2023, Radio Frequency Emissions Compliance Report for AT&T Mobility

https://planningdocuments.saccounty.gov/projectdetails.aspx?projectID=9152&communityID=8