

CHAPTER 4: EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

4.1 - Introduction

This chapter is based on the Ranch Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Notice of Preparation (NOP), dated June 11, 2019, and contained in Appendix A of this EIR. The NOP was prepared to identify the potentially significant effects of the project and was circulated for public review between June 11, 2019, and July 11, 2019. In the course of the NOP evaluation, certain impacts were found to be less than significant, because construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in such impacts. This chapter provides a brief description of effects found not to be significant or less than significant, based on the NOP, NOP public comments received, and more detailed analysis conducted as part of the EIR preparation process. One NOP public comment letter was received related to Mineral Resources by Hanson Bridgett, LLP. Note that a number of impacts that are found to be less than significant are addressed in the various EIR topical sections (Sections 3.1 through 3.15) to provide more comprehensive discussion of why impacts are less than significant, in order to better inform decision-makers and the general public.

4.2 - Environmental Effects Found Not To Be Significant

4.2.1 - Mineral Resources

There are no mineral resource recovery sites on or in the project vicinity. A Mineral Resource Zones and Resources Sectors map prepared by the California Geological Survey indicates that the project site is located in an area not containing any known mineral occurrences of undetermined mineral significance.¹ In addition, the Contra Costa County General Plan Conservation Element Figure 8-4 indicates that no mineral resource zones are located on the project site or within the City of Antioch.² The nearest regionally significant mineral resources that are currently mined include the following: a deposit of diabase, an intrusive igneous rock, in the Mount Zion area between Concord and Clayton, 9.50 miles from the project site; a deposit of domesine sandstone outside of Byron south of Camino Diablo and east of Vasco Road, 8.30 miles from the project site; and shale in the Port Costa area, 21.40 miles from the project site.³ Furthermore, the Antioch General Plan EIR does not identify any areas within the City available for new development to contain known mineral resources that would be of value to the region or residents of the State.⁴ As such, construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in the loss of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated by an applicable land use plan or the loss of availability of a known mineral resource of Statewide, regional, or local importance. Therefore, no impact to mineral resources would occur.

¹ California Department of Conservation. 1987. Mineral Resource Zones and Resource Sectors Contra Costa County. Website: <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/informationwarehouse/index.html?map=mlc>. Accessed June 24, 2019.

² Contra Costa County General Plan 2025. Conservation Element. Figure 8-4, Mineral Resource Areas. Website: <http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/30918/Ch8-Conservation-Element?bidId=>. Accessed June 18, 2019.

³ Contra Costa County General Plan 2025. Conservation Element. Website: <http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/30918/Ch8-Conservation-Element?bidId=>. Accessed June 18, 2019.

⁴ City of Antioch. 2003. General Plan EIR. Effects Found not to be Significant. Page 5–9. Accessed June 18, 2019.

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