

SECTION 5

5.19 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

The Cadiz Project will be constructed in Cadiz/Fenner Valleys in southeast San Bernardino County, California. Disadvantaged populations include minority ethnic or racial groups, elderly or disabled persons, Native Americans or persons with low incomes. No disadvantaged populations, households or businesses are within the proposed construction zone of the Cadiz Project, and none are expected to be in the future. Therefore, the Cadiz Project will not result in adverse impacts related to environmental justice.

The area potentially affected by the Cadiz Project includes the site of the water conveyance and power distribution facilities, project wellfield, project spreading basins and pumping facilities, as well as the surrounding areas, including communities in the region from Twentynine Palms to the Colorado River, and from Needles to Desert Center. Benefits associated with the Cadiz Project will accrue throughout the Metropolitan service area, while the impacts to the construction zones will be temporary and limited to those areas within and directly adjacent to the project zones. The population characteristics in the Cadiz Project area were described earlier in Section 5.3 (Socioeconomics) of this EIR/EIS.