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## SECTION 8 UNAVOIDABLE SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE IMPACTS

### 8.1 INTRODUCTION

In previous sections of this EIR/EIS, potential environmental impacts resulting from the Cadiz Project alternatives are evaluated for both construction and operations. Construction impacts will occur during the building of the water conveyance facilities, power distribution facilities, pumping and/or booster stations, project spreading basins and the project wellfield. These impacts are generally temporary, extending only through the construction period, but will typically be relatively short in duration at any one location along the Cadiz Project (i.e. at any one place along the water conveyance facilities). Some construction activities will result in longer term impacts, such as scarification from trench excavation or displacement of existing uses or biological resources. Operations and maintenance activities could also result in environmental effects.

The topical analyses in Section 5 evaluated the potential direct and indirect impacts of the Cadiz Project on agriculture; land use plans and policies; socioeconomics; topography, geology, seismicity and soils; water resources; air quality; transportation; biological resources; energy and mineral resources; hazardous materials; noise; public services; utilities and service systems; aesthetics; cultural resources; paleontological resources; wilderness/recreation; environmental justice and Indian Trust Assets. Each discussion in Section 5 described potential impacts and, if necessary, identified mitigation measures to reduce significant adverse effects. Remaining significant impacts following mitigation were also specified. Section 6 addressed the issue of growth inducement and Section 7 addressed the cumulative impacts of the Cadiz Project. From these analyses it has been determined that the Cadiz Project will not result in significant adverse effects after mitigation related to the following parameters:

- Agriculture
- Land use plans and policies
- Socioeconomics
- Topography, geology, soils and seismicity
- Water resources
- Transportation
- Biological resources
- Energy and mineral resources
- Noise
- Public services
- Utilities and service systems
- Aesthetics
- Cultural resources
- Wilderness/recreation
- Environmental justice
- Indian Trust Assets

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For the following parameters, the possibility of some significant adverse effects remains, even after the implementation of the mitigation measures identified in Section 5:

- Air quality
- Hazardous materials
- Paleontological resources

### **8.2 AIR QUALITY**

All the build alternatives are anticipated to result in significant adverse air quality impacts during construction. Because of the magnitude of the project and the simultaneous construction by multiple construction teams, air emissions standards will be exceeded for CO, ROC (VOC), NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>. Emissions associated with operation of the Cadiz Project, such as impacts of facility inspection and maintenance, are below the annual thresholds of significance for all pollutants.

### **8.3 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

The Cadiz Project area was used for military exercises resulting in the presence of unexploded ordnance in this area. Implementation of mitigation measures will substantially reduce potential impacts from unknown explosive wastes. However, methodologies used to detect ordnance and explosive wastes may not be 100 percent effective. Therefore some ordnance may remain within the construction zone after pre-screening has been conducted. As a result, the potential hazards related to ordnance and explosive wastes remain an unavoidable adverse impact of the Cadiz Project.

### **8.4 PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

The water conveyance facility alignment alternatives pass through areas of high potential for paleontological resources consisting of lake beds and paleosols. The project wellfield and spreading basins are in areas with high potential for resources, including carbonate beds in the Cadiz Playa. Portions of the water conveyance facility alternatives pass through areas with recent alluvium. It is anticipated that the paleosols extend under this alluvium. Because the depth of the overlying alluvium is currently unknown, it is assumed that excavation would intercept the possible underlying paleosol, resulting in significant adverse impacts to paleontological resources. The project mitigation measures will reduce this impact, but may not be able to reduce this potential impact to below a level of significance in the event that the paleosol is intercepted by project construction.