4.17 Utilities

4.17.1 Introduction

This section of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) addresses the project’s potential impacts on certain utilities and services—water, electricity, natural gas, solid waste and wastewater, and stormwater. This section also provides the environmental and regulatory settings and discusses mitigation measures to reduce impacts where applicable.

4.17.2 Environmental Setting

The proposed project site is primarily undeveloped rural open space with limited existing utility services available to the site. As such, there is no existing water supply system, wastewater treatment or sewer system, stormwater drainage facilities, or gas and electric lines that serve the site.

Water

Water systems are not established in the vicinity of the project site due to the rural nature of the surrounding area.

Construction Water Usage and Source: It is anticipated that approximately 80 million gallons of water will be required for construction related activities, with a peak monthly water use rate of approximately 12 million gallons (See Table 3-6 in Section 3). On-site construction water requirements are detailed as follows:

During construction of the project, water would be obtained from a water well located within the project boundaries or would be trucked from an off-site source, or from a combination of both options as described below:

- Water Well: The first option is an existing well located northwest of the project site (Figure 3-2). Use of the well would include the installation of the following elements:
  - Temporary open water storage reservoir (300 feet x 400 feet) constructed on water supply parcel for use during construction;
  - Permanent open water storage reservoir (100 feet by 100 feet) constructed on water supply parcel for use after construction, to be kept dry when not in use;
  - Main water production well located at northeast corner of water supply parcel;
  - 2 monitoring wells located on water supply parcel;
  - Back-up production well located at southeast corner of water supply parcel;
  - Two underground water pipelines; and
  - Post-construction low-profile partially submerged concrete tank.

An underground water pipeline would connect the main well to the temporary water storage reservoir during the project’s construction period. A second underground water pipeline would connect the back-up well to the temporary water storage reservoir. After the construction of the project, the temporary water reservoir will be decommissioned and replaced with a low-profile partially submerged tank constructed from on-site concrete produced by the project’s batch plant. The tank would be completely closed so that no open
water would be present and there is no potential to attract birds and wildlife or be a safety hazard during the post-construction operations period of the proposed project. A smaller 100 feet x 100 feet water storage reservoir would be also constructed, but kept dry. On occasions when the project proponents, U.S. Forest Service, and/or the Kern County Fire Department need to fight local wildfires, the reservoir could be quickly filled from the wells or storage tank for fire protection uses at the Jawbone Wind Energy and North Sky River Wind Energy projects, as well as in Jawbone Canyon, Piute Mountains, Kelso Valley, Walker Basin and the surrounding areas.

- Trucked Water: The second option is the use of water that could be acquired and trucked to the site from the Cal Portland Mojave Plan located at 9350 Oak Creek Road or from the Los Angeles Aqueduct in Jawbone Canyon Road.

Operational Water Source: During project operations, water for the O&M facility personnel and operations would either be obtained from the domestic water well located within the northwest portion of the site (Figure 3-2), or would be secured from a nearby water purveyor and trucked in as bulk water for potable and non-potable uses. Depending on water quality, bottled water may also be delivered to the O&M facility for potable use. The amount of daily water needed during operation would be minimal (e.g., approximately 2,500 gallons per day or less) and would be primarily limited to sanitary uses. A water system to support the project would be installed on O&M facility grounds. Most likely, two 5,000-gallon water storage tanks would be installed: one 5,000 gallon tank for O&M facility operations and one for fire water.

The project proponents would be required to obtain well permits from Kern County prior to construction of wells and would provide additional information on volumes of water, rates of withdrawal, and other required data at that time.

Electricity

There is currently no electrical service to the project site. However, the project would not require a connection to Southern California Edison’s State electric distribution system because electricity generated by the proposed project itself would be sufficient to provide power to the O&M buildings and other facilities, as needed, during operation of the proposed project.

Primary electrical service would be provided to both the O&M facility and to the collector substation by separate 34.5kV connections to the substation bus. Service to the substation would come from a station service transformer connected to the 34.5kV bus, and service to the O&M facility would come via underground cables from a separate 34.5kV station service transformer. Primary electrical service for the North Sky River switchyard would come from CCVTs (Coupling Capacitor Voltage Transformer) connected to the 230kV bus in the switchyard.

Back-up power to operate the collector substation would be provided by backflow on the transmission line if the project is not operating. In addition, the substation would be equipped with a back-up generator to supply substation and turbine needs during emergency periods and during start-up and/or maintenance. It is anticipated that the substation generator would be a 150-kW generator powered by liquid propane (LP) fuel. Liquid propane fuel storage for the generator at the substation would be approximately 1,000 gallons. The substation back-up generator would comply with all applicable State of California and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) emissions standards for this type of unit and application. The back-up generator and fuel supply would be located within secondary containment, as necessary, to meet all California and EPA requirements.
for spill prevention and control. Secondary containment design requirements, as well as Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCCs), would be provided in the project’s SPCC Plan.

Back-up power would be provided to the O&M facility by a connection to the collection substation via a 34.5kV station service transformer. In addition, the O&M facility would be equipped with a generator to provide back-up power service during emergency periods and during start-up and/or maintenance. It is anticipated that the generator would be a 150-kW generator powered by liquid propane (LP) fuel. Liquid propane fuel storage for the generator at the O&M facility would be approximately 1,000 gallons. The O&M facility back-up generator would comply with all applicable State of California and EPA emissions standards and all design requirements for spill prevention and control, as described above for the substation.

Back-up power would be provided to the Sky River Switchyard Substation by a connection to the local electrical distribution system. In addition, the switchyard would be equipped with a generator to provide back-up power service during emergency periods and during start-up and/or maintenance. It is anticipated that the generator would be a 150-kW generator powered by liquid propane (LP) fuel. Liquid propane fuel storage for the generator at the switchyard would be approximately 1,000 gallons. The switchyard back-up generator would comply with all applicable State of California and EPA emissions standards and all design requirements for spill prevention and control, as described above for the substation.

**Natural Gas**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company is the natural gas provider in Kern County; however, there is no known natural gas service to the proposed project site. Natural gas would not be required during construction or operation of the proposed project. The proposed project would use propane to provide heating or other support of the O&M buildings where the operations staff would work. This may require an on-site 250- to 500-gallon propane tank. A service truck would be expected to fill the tank four times per year. Therefore, the proposed project would not place any demand on existing natural gas systems.

**Solid Waste and Wastewater**

The proposed project site is in an undeveloped, rural area with no established sewage system. During construction, portable waste facilities would be provided for use by proposed project personnel, and all waste would be disposed of by an approved contractor at an approved disposal site. The Mojave-Rosamond Landfill at 400 Silver Queen Road is the closest waste disposal site, and is located five miles south of Mojave and one mile east of Highway 14.

The proposed project would require the development of septic systems and leach lines at the O&M buildings to support operations staff. The septic systems and leach lines would be located away from surface waters in the proposed project site to prevent any sewage runoff into these features. The wastewater systems for the proposed project would comply with the requirements of the County of Kern Department of Environmental Health Services as well as the Uniform Building Code.

**Stormwater Drainage**

Impervious surfaces that would result from construction of the proposed project would be limited to wind turbine generator (WTG) footings and pads for maintenance building and substation
equipment. Footings would cover very small areas and would be distributed over a large geographic region, resulting in some potential for increased stormwater runoff. Other areas of permanent disturbance would be covered with gravel, vegetation, or other stabilizing treatment, which would still allow for water absorption and would lessen stormwater runoff. Given the limited amount of land area that would be converted to impervious surface, runoff during operation of the proposed project is expected to be limited, and a stormwater drainage system is not proposed for the proposed project.

As discussed in more detail in Section 4.9, “Hydrology and Water Quality,” and Section 4.6, “Geology and Soils,” stormwater runoff has the potential to cause impacts on water quality, cause erosion, and result in loss of soils. Because the proposed project would disturb more than one acre of land, it would be subject to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Storm Water Permit, as implemented by the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Kern County Engineering, Surveying, and Permit Services Department. The proposed project would comply with NPDES requirements and develop and implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), as required by Section 19.64.140(k) of the Kern County Wind Energy (WE) Combining District and the Clean Water Act, which would be submitted to the Kern County Engineering, Surveying, and Permit Services Department for review and approval.

4.17.3 Regulatory Setting

State

California Energy Commission (CEC)

The CEC regulates the provision of natural gas and electricity within the State. The CEC is the State’s primary energy policy and planning agency. Created in 1974, the CEC has five major responsibilities: forecasting future energy needs and keeping historical energy data, licensing thermal power plants 50 megawatts (MW) or larger, promoting energy efficiency through appliance and building standards, developing energy technologies and supporting renewable energy, and planning for and directing the State response to energy emergencies.

California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB)

The CIWMB is the State agency designated to oversee, manage, and track California’s 76 million tons of waste generated each year. It is one of the six agencies under the umbrella of the California Environmental Protection Agency State. The CIWMB develops laws and regulations to control and manage waste, for which enforcement authority is typically delegated to the local government. The board works jointly with local government to implement regulations and fund programs.

The Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Public Resources Code (PRC) 40050 et seq. or Assembly Bill (AB 939, codified in PRC 40000), administered by the CIWMB, requires all local and county governments to adopt a Source Reduction and Recycling Element to identify means of reducing the amount of solid waste sent to landfills. This law set reduction targets at 25 percent by the year 1995 and 50 percent by the year 2000. To assist local jurisdictions in achieving these targets, the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991 requires all new developments to include adequate, accessible, and convenient areas for collecting and loading recyclable and green waste materials.
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)

The primary responsibility for the protection of water quality in California rests with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) and nine RWQCBs. The State Board sets statewide policy for the implementation of State and federal laws and regulations. The RWQCBs adopt and implement Water Quality Control Plans (Basin Plans) which recognize regional differences in natural water quality, actual and potential beneficial uses, and water quality problems associated with human activities. The jurisdiction of the California RWQCB, Lahontan Region (Regional Board) extends from the Oregon border to the northern Mojave Desert and includes all of California east of the Sierra Nevada crest.

California Department of Toxic Substances Control State (DTSC)

The DTSC regulates hazardous waste, cleans-up existing contamination, and looks for ways to reduce the hazardous waste produced in California. 1,000 scientists, engineers, and specialized support staff make sure that companies and individuals handle, transport, store, treat, dispose of, and clean-up hazardous wastes appropriately.

California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

The California DWR is a department within the California Resources Agency. The DWR is responsible for the State of California's management and regulation of water usage.

Local

Kern County General Plan (KCGP)

The KCGP provides guidance on public utilities and related services.

Chapter 1. Land Use, Open Space, and Conservation Element

1.4 Public Facilities and Services

Policies

• Policy 1. New discretionary development will be required to pay its proportional share of the local costs of infrastructure improvements required to service such development.

• Policy 3. Individual projects will provide availability of public utility service as per approved guideline of the serving utility.

Implementation Measures

• Implementation Measure C. Project developers shall coordinate with the local utility service providers to supply adequate public utility services.

• Implementation Measure D. Involve utility providers in the land use and zoning review process.

1.9 Resources

Policies

• Policy 16. The County will encourage development of alternative energy sources by tailoring its Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances and building standards to reflect Alternative Energy Guidelines published by the California State Energy Commission.
• **Policy 19.** Work with other agencies to define regulatory responsibility concerning energy-related issues.

1.10.1 General Provisions, Public Services and Facilities

*Policies*

• **Policy 9.** New development should pay its pro rata share of the local cost of expansions in services, facilities, and infrastructure which it generates and upon which it is dependent.

• **Policy 12.** All methods of sewage disposal and water supply shall meet the requirements of the Kern County Environmental Health Services Department and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Environmental Health Department shall periodically review and modify, as necessary, its requirements for sewage disposal and water supply, and shall comply with any new standards adopted by the State for implementation of Government Code Division 7 of the Water Code, Chapter 4.5 (Section 13290-13291.70 (Assembly Bill 885)(2000).

• **Policy 15.** Prior to approval of any discretionary permit, the County shall make the finding, based on information provided by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents, staff analysis, and the applicant, that adequate public or private services and resources are available to serve the proposed development.

• **Policy 16.** The developer shall assume full responsibility for costs incurred in service extension or improvements that are required to ensure the project. Cost sharing or other forms of recovery shall be available when the service extensions or improvements have a specific quantifiable regional significance.

*Implementation Measures*

• **Implementation Measure E.** All new discretionary development projects shall be subject to the Standards for Sewage, Water Supply and Preservation of Environmental Health Rules and Regulations administered by the Environmental Health Services Department. Those projects having percolation rates of less than five minutes per inch shall provide a preliminary soils study and site specific documentation that characterize the quality of upper groundwater in the project vicinity and evaluation of the extent to which, if any, the proposed use of alternative septic systems will adversely impact groundwater quality. If the evaluation indicates that the uppermost groundwater at the proposed site already exceeds groundwater quality objectives of the Regional Water Quality Control Board or would if the alternative septic system is installed, the applicant would be required to supply sewage collection, treatment, and disposal facilities.

**Kern County Zoning Ordinance**

The Wind Energy (WE) Combining District (Chapter 19.64) contains development standards and conditions (Section 19.64.140) that would be applicable to the siting and operation of wind turbine generators (WTGs). None of the provisions of Chapter 19.64 apply to utilities issues related to the proposed project.
4.17.4 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Methodology

Potential impacts associated with the proposed project and mitigation measures were developed based on consultation with Kern County and review of the proposed project design. The discussion below lists specific impacts and measures that would be incorporated to mitigate and reduce potential impacts to the extent feasible.

Thresholds of Significance

The Kern County CEQA Implementation Document and Kern County Environmental Checklist state that a project would have a significant impact on utilities and service systems if it would:

- Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board;
- Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects;
- Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects;
- Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed;
- Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project’s projected demand in addition to the provider’s existing commitments;
- Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project’s solid waste disposal needs;
- Comply with federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste; and

As discussed in Appendix A (Notice of Preparation/Initial Study [NOP/IS]), the proposed project was determined to have no impact with regard to the following impact thresholds:

- Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project’s projected demand in addition to the provider’s existing commitments; and
- Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project’s solid waste disposal needs.

These issues are not discussed further in this EIR.

Project Impacts

Impact 4.17-1: Exceed Wastewater Treatment Requirements of the Applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board

The proposed project would generate a minimal volume of wastewater. During construction, wastewater would be contained within portable toilet facilities and disposed of at an approved disposal site. During operation, the proposed project would not generate substantial volumes of wastewater as there would only be a maximum of up to 32 full and part-time employees.
Furthermore, septic systems with leach lines would be installed for the O&M buildings. The systems would be installed in conformance with the standard conditions and permit requirements of the Kern County Environmental Health Services Department. Therefore, the proposed project would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements and impacts would be less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures**

The project would comply with the goals, policies, and implementation measures of the KCGP. No additional measures would be required.

**Level of Significance**

Impacts would be less than significant.

**Impact 4.17-2: Require or Result in the Construction of New Water or Wastewater Treatment Facilities or Expansion of Existing Facilities, the Construction of Which Could Cause Significant Environmental Effects**

The proposed project would require construction of septic systems and leach lines. Wastewater generation during operation is not expected to be substantial as the proposed project would require up to 32 full and part-time employees. Water, including potable water for drinking purposes, for the O&M facility personnel and operations, as well as for construction (dust suppression and concrete mixing), would either be obtained from a well located within the project boundaries, or would be secured from a nearby water purveyor and trucked in. Since the proposed project would provide its own water source, it would not impact existing water supply systems. However, the proposed project would require construction of some or all of the facilities listed above. While all applicable local, State and federal requirements and Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be incorporated into construction of the proposed project, depending on its location, construction of the septic systems and leach fields could result in impacts to the environment (with respect to surface water, groundwater, and vegetation). Implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.17-1 would ensure that impacts are less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures**

**MM 4.17-1** The method of sewage disposal shall be as required and approved by the Kern County Environmental Health Services Department. Compliance with this requirement will necessitate that the project proponents obtain the necessary approvals for the design of the septic systems from the Kern County Engineering, Surveying, and Permit Services Department prior to issuance of building permits for the operations & maintenance buildings. The septic system disposal fields shall be located a minimum of 100 feet from a classified stream or 25 feet from a non-classified stream and shall not be located where it would impact State wetlands or special-status plant species.

**Level of Significance after Mitigation**

Impacts would be less than significant.
Impact 4.17-3: Require or Result in the Construction of New Stormwater Drainage Facilities or Expansion of Existing Facilities, the Construction of Which Could Cause Significant Environmental Effects

Impervious surfaces that would result from construction of the proposed project would be limited to WTG footings and pads for maintenance buildings and substation equipment. Although the proposed project would create a small amount of additional impervious surface and may require a small amount of imported water for dust suppression during construction, these changes would not substantially increase the amount of stormwater runoff. The proposed project area is drained by natural stream channels and does not rely on constructed stormwater drainage systems. The pattern and concentration of runoff could be altered by proposed project activities, such as grading of access roads; however, the amount of runoff across the proposed project site would not be substantially altered. Implementation of the proposed project SWPPP (see Section 4.9, “Hydrology and Water Quality”) would be sufficient to manage stormwater runoff during construction.

WTG footings would cover very small areas and would be distributed over a large geographic region, resulting in some potential for stormwater runoff. Other areas of permanent disturbance would be treated with vegetation, gravel, caliche or other stabilizing treatment that would still be pervious.

Overall, although grading would occur at WTG locations, substation site(s), the O&M building sites, and along access roads, this ground disturbance would be spread over the proposed project’s 13,535 acres and would not substantially alter the overall topography of the area. As described under Section 3.7 (Construction – Site Preparation), the proposed project’s WTG pads would be constructed of compacted soil graded to draw stormwater runoff away from the foundations. Impervious surfaces that would result from construction of the proposed project would not substantially increase surface water runoff. Therefore, the proposed project would not require new stormwater drainage facilities to manage stormwater runoff during construction or operation, and this impact would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

The project would comply with the goals, policies, and implementation measures of the KCGP. No additional measures would be required.

Level of Significance

Impacts would be less than significant.

Impact 4.17-4: Have Sufficient Water Supplies Available to Serve the Project from Existing Entitlements and Resources, or Are New or Expanded Entitlements Needed

Water is required for construction and operation of the proposed project. No existing water source is currently serving the proposed project site. However, water, including potable water for drinking purposes, for the O&M facility personnel and operations would either be obtained from a well located within the project boundaries, or would be secured from a nearby water purveyor and trucked in. The project proponents would be required to obtain well permits from Kern County prior to construction of the wells and to provide additional information on volumes of water, rates of withdrawal, and other required data at that time. Also, water that is required for construction, such as for dust suppression and concrete mixing, would also be obtained from a well within the project.
boundaries or would be trucked in from nearby municipalities, such as the community of Mojave or city of Tehachapi. With implementation of Mitigation Measure 4.17-2, the proposed project would provide its own water source and would not impact existing water supply systems.

**Mitigation Measures**

**MM 4.17-2** Prior to issuance of grading or building permits for the proposed project, the project proponents shall obtain permits for water wells or obtain other water appropriation rights for on-site potable water to the satisfaction of the Kern County Environmental Health Services Department.

**Level of Significance after Mitigation**

Impacts would be less than significant.

**Impact 4.17-5: Comply with Federal, State, and Local Statutes and Regulations Related to Solid Waste**

The proposed project would generate solid waste during construction and operations. Common construction waste may include metals, masonry, plastic pipe, rocks, dirt, cardboard, or green waste related to land development. The 1989 California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) requires Kern County to attain specific waste diversion goals. In addition, the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991, as amended, requires expanded or new development projects to incorporate storage areas for recycling bins into the proposed project design. Reuse and recycling of construction debris would reduce operating expenses and save valuable landfill space. Because the proposed project would generate a minimal amount of waste, it would not be expected to significantly impact Kern County landfills. Nevertheless, to ensure compliance with policies to reduce waste sent to landfills, Mitigation Measures 4.17-3 and 4.17-4 are proposed as follows:

**Mitigation Measures**

**MM 4.17-3** The project proponents shall reduce construction waste transported to landfills by recycling solid waste construction materials to the extent feasible, such as taking materials to recycling and reuse locations listed in the brochure on recycling construction and demolition materials available on the Kern County Waste Management Department Web site.

**MM 4.17-4** The project proponents shall provide a fenced storage area for recyclable materials that is clearly identified for recycling. This area shall be maintained on the sites during construction and operations. Site plans showing the recycling storage areas shall be submitted to the Kern County Planning and Community Development Department and Kern County Waste Management Department prior to the issuance of any grading or building permits for the sites.

**Level of Significance after Mitigation**

Impacts would be less than significant.
Cumulative Setting Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Cumulative Setting

The geographic scope for cumulative impacts to utilities and service systems includes the six-mile radius that is described in the project description (Chapter 3) and other energy projects located within the Tehachapi Wind Resource Area (TWRA). This geographic scope of analysis is appropriate because various projects within the six-mile radius and within the TWRA could be constructed within the same timeframe as the proposed project. The landscape in the proposed project area has changed in recent years due to the development of other wind energy projects. Several wind energy projects have been built and applications for future projects are currently pending. Because the immediate vicinity of the proposed project is uninhabited, public service and utility systems have not been significantly affected.

Impact 4.17-6: Contribute to Cumulative Impacts on Utilities and Service Systems

Several applications for wind energy projects and residential developments have been submitted to Kern County, as described in Section 3.11. Public services and utility providers and facilities would be expected to expand in order to continue the provision of services to the existing population while also accommodating the future population growth expected from future residential developments.

Impacts of the proposed project would be cumulatively considerable if they would have the potential to combine with similar impacts of other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects. However, as discussed above, the proposed project would place few demands on water, stormwater drainage, and solid waste disposal.

The proposed project would not generate a substantial amount of stormwater runoff and would not drain into an existing stormwater drainage system. The other planned projects listed in Chapter 3, “Project Description,” would generate stormwater runoff but would be expected to comply with their respective SWPPP, NPDES permit conditions and to install systems to manage stormwater runoff so that impacts would be less than significant. Therefore, the proposed project would not have the potential to combine with impacts from past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects to result in a cumulative impact to stormwater runoff.

The proposed project would not generate substantial volumes of wastewater as there would only be up to 32 full- and part-time employees during operation. Furthermore, the proposed project would install septic systems with leach lines. The other planned projects would be expected to operate with a similar number of employees and also require the installation of a septic system with leach line. Therefore, the proposed project would not have the potential to combine with impacts from past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects to result in a cumulative impact to wastewater.

Water, including potable water for drinking purposes, for the O&M facility personnel and operations would either be obtained from a well located within the project boundaries, or would be secured from a nearby water purveyor and trucked in. Furthermore, the proposed project would implement MM 4.17-2 to obtain permits for water wells or obtain other water appropriation rights for on-site water prior to the issuance of grading or building permits to ensure impacts are less than significant. Other planned projects are expected to carry out the same options. Therefore, the proposed project would not have the potential to combine with impacts from past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects to result in a cumulative impact to water supplies.
The proposed project would generate a minimal amount of waste and is not expected to significantly impact Kern County landfills. However, generation of waste from cumulative projects, including residential and commercial developments, and other wind projects could result in a cumulative impact. To ensure compliance with policies to reduce waste sent to landfills, the proposed project would comply with MMs 4.17-3 and 4.17-4 and impacts would be less than significant. Other planned projects are expected to comply with waste reduction policies as well. Therefore, the proposed project would not be expected to combine with impacts from past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects to result in a cumulative impact to landfills.

In conclusion, the proposed project would be self-contained and would not have a significant impact on public utilities. Therefore, the proposed project would not contribute to cumulative impacts on utilities and service systems. The proposed project would result in a beneficial impact on utility services and offset future stress on energy service providers as energy demand grows in Kern County and southern California.

**Mitigation Measures**

Implement MMs 4.17-1 through 4.17-4.

**Level of Significance after Mitigation**

Cumulative impacts would be less than significant.