• Chapter 4, “Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures,” contains a detailed environmental analysis of the existing conditions, project impacts, mitigation measures, and unavoidable adverse impacts.

• Chapter 5, “Consequences of Project Implementation (Mandatory CEQA Sections),” presents an analysis of the project’s cumulative and growth-inducing impacts and other CEQA requirements, including significant and unavoidable impacts and irreversible commitment of resources.

• Chapter 6, “Alternatives,” describes a reasonable range of alternatives to the project that could reduce the significant environmental effects that cannot be avoided.

• Chapter 7, “Responses to Comments,” is reserved for responses to comments on this Draft EIR.

• Chapter 8, “Organizations and Persons Consulted,” lists the organizations and persons contacted during preparation of this Draft EIR.

• Chapter 9, “Preparers,” identifies persons involved in the preparation of the Draft EIR.

• Chapter 10, “Bibliography” identifies reference sources for the Draft EIR.

• Appendices provide information and technical studies that support the environmental analysis contained within the Draft EIR.

The analysis of each environmental category in Chapter 4 is organized as follows:

• “Introduction” provides a brief overview on the purpose of the section being analyzed with regards to the proposed project.

• “Environmental Setting” describes the physical conditions that exist at this time and that may influence or affect the topic being analyzed.

• “Regulatory Setting” provides State and federal laws and the Kern County General Plan goals, policies, and implementation measures that apply to the topic being analyzed.

• “Impacts and Mitigation Measures” discusses the impacts of the project in each category, presents the determination of the level of significance, and provides a discussion of feasible mitigation measures to reduce any impacts.

2.7 Responsible and Trustee Agencies

Projects or actions undertaken by the lead agency, in this case the Kern County Planning and Community Development Department, may require subsequent oversight, approvals, or permits from other public agencies in order to be implemented. Other such agencies are referred to as “responsible agencies” and “trustee agencies.” Pursuant to Sections 15381 and 15386 of the State CEQA Guidelines, as amended, responsible agencies and trustee agencies are defined as follows:

• A “responsible agency” is a public agency that proposes to carry out or approve a project, for which a lead agency is preparing or has prepared an EIR or Negative Declaration. For the purposes of CEQA, the term “responsible agency” includes all public agencies other than the lead agency that have discretionary approval power over the project (Section 15381).

• A “trustee agency” is a state agency having jurisdiction by law over natural resources affected by a project that are held in trust for the people of the State of California (Section 15386).

The various public, private, and political agencies and jurisdictions with a particular interest in the proposed project include but are not limited to the following:
Federal Agencies
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
- Federal Aviation Administration

State Agencies
- Department of Fish and Game
- California Air Resources Board
- Regional Water Quality Control Board – Lahontan Region

Local Agencies
- Kern County Air Pollution Control District
- Kern County Environmental Health Services Department
- Kern County Roads Department
- Kern County Fire Department
- Kern County Board of Supervisors

2.8 Incorporation by Reference

In accordance with Section 15150 of the State CEQA Guidelines to reduce the size of the report, the following documents are hereby incorporated by reference into this Draft EIR and are available for public review at the Kern County Planning and Community Development Department. A brief synopsis of the scope and content of these documents is provided below.

Kern County General Plan (KCGP) (September 2009)
The KCGP is a policy document with planned land use maps and related information that are designed to give long-range guidance to those County officials making decisions affecting the growth and resources of the unincorporated Kern County jurisdiction, excluding the metropolitan Bakersfield planning area. This document, adopted on June 14, 2004, and last amended on September 22, 2009, helps to ensure that day-to-day decisions conform to the long-range program designed to protect and further the public interest as related to Kern County’s growth and development and mitigate environmental impacts. The KCGP also serves as a guide to the private sector of the economy in relating its development initiatives to the public plans, objectives, and policies of the County.

Kern County Zoning Ordinance (March 2009)
According to Chapter 19.02.020, Purposes, Title 19 was adopted to promote and protect the public health, safety, and welfare through the orderly regulation of land uses throughout the unincorporated area of Kern County. Further, the purposes of this title are to:
- Provide the economic and social advantages resulting from an orderly planned use of land resources;
- Encourage and guide development consistent with the Kern County General Plan;