generators (WTGs). None of the provisions of Chapter 19.64 apply to population and housing issues related to the proposed project.

4.13.4 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Methodology

Population, housing, and employment in the area were evaluated by reviewing the most current data available from the U.S. Census Bureau, the California DOF, the KCGP, the Kern Economic Development Strategy, the 2007 RHNA, and the Kern COG.

Thresholds of Significance

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

• Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure);
• Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere; or
• Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

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 threshold:

• Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure).

This issue is not discussed further in this EIR.

Project Impacts

Impact 4.13-1: Displace Substantial Numbers of Existing Housing, Necessitating the Construction of Replacement Housing Elsewhere

As of March 2010, there are no permitted residences located within the project site boundary, and four residences are located outside of the project site boundary within a one-mile vicinity. The proposed project would not require the removal or displacement of these structures or their inhabitants. Since no housing would be displaced, the project would not require construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance

Impacts would be less than significant.
Impact 4.13-2: Displace Substantial Numbers of People, Necessitating the Construction of Replacement Housing Elsewhere

As of February 2010, there are no permitted residences located within the project site boundary and four residences are located outside of the project site boundary within a one-mile vicinity. The proposed project would not require the removal or displacement of these structures or their inhabitants. Since no inhabitants would be displaced, the project would not require construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures
No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance
Impacts would be less than significant.

Cumulative Setting Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Cumulative Setting
Cumulative impacts are two or more individual impacts that, when considered together, are considerable or that compound or increase other environmental impacts. The geographic scope for cumulative impacts to population and housing includes past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects located within 30 miles of the project site. This geographic scope of analysis is appropriate because it is likely that any project-related workers that would relocate as a result of the project would relocate to the nearby community of Mojave or cities of California City, Tehachapi, Lancaster and/or Palmdale, all of which are located within 30 miles of the project site.

Impact 4.13-3: Contribute to Cumulative Population and Housing Impacts

The proposed project is expected to create a small amount of jobs that can largely be filled by existing residents located within reasonable commuting distance and would therefore not contribute to substantial population growth and related demand for housing. Similarly, the proposed project would not be expected to increase the development of any new permanent housing, businesses, or new infrastructure during construction or operation. Further, growth in the Kern County area has been accounted for in the local and regional plans cited above, and projections provided therein. Accordingly, less than significant impacts would occur due to the proposed project. Displacement of and demand for housing and changes in the local labor market and population would not be considered to be cumulative impacts of the proposed project. The proposed project’s impacts would not be cumulatively considerable. Further, each related project (see Chapter 3 Project Description), would be assessed for its potentially significant impacts (direct, indirect and cumulative) through the standard County of Kern CEQA review process.

Mitigation Measures
No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance
Cumulative impacts would be less than significant.