

## **4.17 Issue Areas That Have No Impact**

This section discusses the environmental issue areas found to have no impacts due to construction associated with the Project (State California Environmental Quality Act [CEQA] Guidelines Section 15128). The following issue areas are discussed: Mineral Resources and Population and Housing. These issue areas do not warrant a detailed discussion based upon the nature of the Project and/or its location.

### **4.17.1 Mineral Resources**

The Santa Maria Refinery (SMR) site does not contain actively extracted sand, gravel, mineral, or timber resources, or active oil wells. The SMR is not located in an area with active mineral extraction activities. A review of the California Department of Conservation, Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) field records indicates that no abandoned oil wells are located within the SMR's boundaries. The resources and materials used during construction would not include any materials that are considered rare or unique. As a result, no impacts on available mineral and energy resources are anticipated, and the Project would not result in an impact on the availability of a locally important mineral source.

### **4.17.2 Population and Housing**

The Project would not result in any change in the population, housing, or employment that would exceed the adopted employment and population projections for the County of San Luis Obispo. No housing units would be affected by the Project, and no displacement of residents would occur. Proposed aboveground and belowground demolition and remediation activities would occur over a period of 18 months and remediation activities could occur up to 10 years. The Project would require up to 45 construction workers per day during the peak overlapping aboveground and remediation activities, and that would likely be sourced from the local employment force with a small portion of the workers expected to come from areas outside of the County due to the specialized nature of demolition and remediation of oil refinery facilities. The historical SMR had 141–197 average employees per day including contractors. The potential increased employment associated with the relatively short-term construction activities of the Project would be more than off-set by the number of jobs that were eliminated in recent years from the shut-down of the SMR over the long term. As a result, no impacts related to population or housing displacement would be expected.

Because of the large size of the construction work force available in California (estimated at over 850,000 by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ([https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_ca.htm](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_ca.htm), 2022), the temporary construction jobs are expected to be filled from the existing labor pool. Because the Project modifications would occur within an existing refinery located in a populated area, no additional housing would be necessary to accommodate the labor force needed during construction; therefore, no existing housing would be displaced.

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