

4. Environmental Consequences and Mitigation Measures

4.16 GROWTH-INDUCING EFFECTS

Section 21100(b)(5) of CEQA requires that an EIR discuss the growth-inducing impacts of a proposed project. This requirement is further explained in the CEQA Guidelines Section 15126(g) which states that an EIR must address “the ways in which the proposed project could foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly in the surrounding environment.” In NEPA, growth-inducing impacts fall under the category of potential indirect effects. Indirect effects include those that occur later in time or farther away in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable. Growth-inducing projects are those that remove obstacles to population growth or encourage and facilitate other activities that could stimulate growth later in time.

Section 4.6 discusses the effects of the proposed and alternative actions on population, population density, the regional economy and employment, and agricultural land use. Neither alternative would make additional water available to serve municipal and industrial development. Neither alternative would stimulate the economy to a significant level.

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