Impacts Found Not To Be Significant

5.0 EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

The Initial Study/EIR Scoping Document prepared by the City of Goleta concludes that the proposed Project would not result in the potential for impacts related to Agricultural and Forest Resources, Mineral Resources, and Population/Housing. The following provides the substantiation for these conclusions.

Agriculture and Forest Resources

According to the Initial Study/EIR Scoping Document and historical aerial photograph research dating back to 1928, the Project site has not supported agricultural operations with the exception of a small portion of the western margin of the Project site, where the edge of an orchard once stood. Historic photographs of the site and vicinity shown that the cultivation of row crops stopped at the Project site's eastern, northern, and southern boundaries and did not extend beyond them.

The site is currently an undeveloped landscape, with some historic evidence of unpaved roads. Historic photographs <u>also</u> show that numerous small drainages and rills crossed the original site as well until the site was graded to its current condition over a period of several decades, beginning in the 1960s. The Goleta General Plan designates the residential component of site for medium density residential development. The balance of the site has already been developed with business park uses. The Project site is not mapped as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Santa Barbara County Important Farmland 2008 Map, State of California, Department of Conservation, California Resources Agency, August 17, 2009). The Project site is not zoned for agricultural use nor is it part of covered by a Williamson Act contract. Conversion of the approximately 43.13-acre undeveloped area to residential and recreational development would not result in the loss of significant, viable, local farmland. Therefore, the Project would have no impact on agricultural resources.

The proposed Project site has not been identified as timber or forest land, and there is no timber or forest on the site. Therefore, development of the site has no impact on forestland.

Mineral Resources

No known mineral resources have been identified on the Project site. The proposed Project would not result in the loss of availability of any known mineral resource or identified resource recovery site as supported by as documented by the Project's Environmental Site Assessment and its development would, therefore, have no impact on mineral resources.

Population/Housing

The proposed Project would increase the City wide population by approximately 4 percent (based on 2010 census data); therefore, its development would not induce substantial population growth, and is substantially similar to the beyond what is growth anticipated in the City's General Plan/Coastal Land Use Plan. The Project site implements a portion of the Central Hollister Residential Area, which was designated for the purpose of providing land for the development of new housing. Growth induced by the Project has already been considered in a sthe worst-case scenario in the General Plan FEIR and the number of housing units proposed for the site is consistent with the housing anticipated by the GP/CLUP and its FEIR. The proposed Project would not displace existing housing units or residents nor result in the loss of housing units. The Project would not significantly increase employment as a result of its

implementation. Therefore, the proposed Project have no would not have an impact on population and housing beyond what has already been assessed in the GP/CLUP FEIR.