

## 5.1 INTRODUCTION

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that an environmental impact report (EIR) focus on the significant effects of the proposed project on the environment, discussing the effects with emphasis in proportion to their severity and probability of occurrence. Effects dismissed in an Initial Study as clearly insignificant and unlikely to occur need not be discussed further in the EIR unless information inconsistent with the finding in the Initial Study is subsequently received.

Section 21100(c) of the Public Resources Code requires that an EIR contain a statement briefly explaining the reasons why various possible significant effects of a project were determined not to be significant and were, therefore, not discussed in detail in the Draft EIR. The CEQA Guidelines provide that the statement may be in the form of an attached copy of the Initial Study. (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15128.)

In this case, the Initial Study (Environmental Checklist) was prepared and circulated with the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for public review on December 9, 2016 (Appendix A). The Initial Study concluded that the proposed project would not result in potentially significant impacts relative to the following environmental impact categories:

- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Mineral Resources

Therefore, as stated in the Initial Study/NOP, these topics need not be addressed further in this EIR. For information purposes, the Initial Study text addressing Agriculture and Forestry Resources, and Mineral Resources, is presented below.

## 5.2 AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

According to the San Diego County Important Farmlands Map (California Department of Conservation 2016), the proposed project site is designated as “Urban and Built-Up Lands.” The project area does not include any lands designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance. Therefore, development of the proposed project would not convert agricultural land to non-agricultural uses. The project area does not include any land under a Williamson Act contract.

No forest land, timberland, or Timberland Production areas (as defined in California Public Resources Code Sections 12220 (g), 4526, or 51104 (g)) are located within or adjacent to the project site. Therefore, the project would not conflict with existing zoning for forest land, timberland, or Timberland Production areas, or result in the loss or conversion of forest lands to non-forest uses, as none exist. The project would be constructed on an existing surface parking lot and within an existing undeveloped canyon. Impacts to agricultural and forestry resources are not anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed project and, therefore, agricultural resources are not discussed further in this EIR.

### 5.3 MINERAL RESOURCES

The proposed project site is located within the Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ)-3, as indicated on the State of California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology (California Department of Conservation 1996). The MRZ-3 mineral resource classification indicates areas of known or inferred mineral resources, the significance of which is undetermined based on available data (California Department of Conservation 2000). Although the significance of mineral resources in the area has yet to be identified, the campus does not contain locally important resource recovery sites. As such, the project would not result in impacts relative to mineral resources and, therefore, mineral resources will not be analyzed further in this EIR.

### 5.4 REFERENCES

California Department of Conservation. 1996. Generalized Mineral Land Classification Map of Western San Diego County, California. 1996.

California Department of Conservation. 2000. *Guidelines for Classification and Designation of Mineral Lands*.

California Department of Conservation 2016. *California Important Farmland Finder*. Accessed November 16, 2016. <http://maps.conservation.ca.gov/ciff/ciff.html#>.