

**Throughout this Application, all references to Federal Power, Federal Power Avenal, LLC, and Federal Power Avenal refer to Avenal Power Center, LLC.**

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## 6.10 SOCIOECONOMICS

This section describes the socioeconomic aspects of the vicinity and region potentially affected by the Project and potential impacts associated with construction and operation of the Project.

Federal Power is committed to hiring from the local labor pool to the extent practical for construction and operation of the Project. Because requirements for construction workers can be met for the most part by the existing regional work force driving a reasonable distance, and because the operations work force will not be large, significant adverse socioeconomic impacts will not occur. The Project will result in direct and indirect beneficial socioeconomic effects. The Project will result in an infusion of dollars from outside the local area in the form of monies spent for materials, equipment, wages and salaries. As a result, the Project will have a beneficial impact on the local economy. The City of Avenal supports development of the Project and has determined the Project is consistent with local land use plans.

Beneficial aspects of the Project related to socioeconomics are:

- Increased revenue to local vendors and suppliers from the \$530-million Project.
- Reduced electricity prices and improved electrical power reliability for California businesses, residents and services.
- Use of locally available skilled craft labor.
- Reduction of the area unemployment rate by Project construction employment opportunities.
- Increase in County property tax revenue with new operating assets.
- Increase in state and city sales tax revenues from purchase of equipment and supplies.
- Natural gas transportation franchise fees for the City of Avenal.
- Promotion of indirect and induced employment in the local area.

The expected allocation of property taxes, sales taxes and franchise fees, and other benefits, are described in Section 6.10.2.

### 6.10.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

Socioeconomic parameters relevant to the existing environment include population, employment, economic base and fiscal resources, housing, schools, and public services and utilities.

The Project site and natural gas interconnection are located in Kings County. The transmission line is located in both Kings and Fresno Counties. Agriculture is the primary land use in the Site

area and the transmission line area. The residential and business districts of Avenal are located approximately 6 miles southwest of the Site, and the City of Avenal water treatment plant is located on the northeast edge of the Site. The City of Coalinga is located approximately 16 miles west of the Site, and Interstate 5 is located approximately 2 miles to the southwest. The area is rural, and the nearest residences are located more than 1 mile from the Site. A large natural gas compressor station is located approximately 2 miles southwest of the Site.

#### 6.10.1.1 Population

The majority of the construction and operations personnel needed for the Project are readily available from existing populations in Kings County and adjacent Fresno, Tulare and Kern counties (Figure 6.10-1). Fresno, Tulare and Kern counties include some of the larger population centers in the region that are within a reasonable commuting distance (e.g., Fresno, Visalia, Bakersfield) and are capable of providing most personnel needs that are not available in Kings County.

Kings County includes the incorporated cities of Avenal, Corcoran, Hanford and Lemoore, most of Lemoore Naval Air Station and a number of unincorporated communities. Fresno County includes the incorporated cities of Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, San Joaquin, a part of Lemoore Naval Air Station and a number of unincorporated communities. Tulare County includes the incorporated cities of Dinuba, Exeter, Farmersville, Lindsay, Porterville, Tulare, Visalia, Woodlake and a number of unincorporated communities. Kern County includes the incorporated cities of Arvin, Bakersfield, California City, Delano, Maricopa, McFarland, Ridgecrest, Shafter, Taft, Tehachapi, Wasco and a number of unincorporated communities.

Historical and projected population data for Kings, Fresno, Tulare and Kern counties, the City of Avenal and the state of California are summarized in Table 6.10-1. Annual average compounded population growth rates are summarized in Table 6.10-2. Over the past 20 years, the City of Avenal and Kings County have experienced increases in population growth above the average growth for the state of California. Based on demographic information from the California Department of Finance, in 1980 the City of Avenal had a population of approximately 4,100; by 1990 the population had increased to approximately 9,800. This represents an average annual population growth rate of 8.97 percent from 1980 to 1990, above the average for the state of California. The Avenal State Prison was completed in 1987 and added to the increase in

population from 1980 to 1990. The average annual growth rates from 1990 to 1995 and 1995 to 2000 for the City of Avenal also were above the average for the state of California, resulting in a City population of approximately 14,674 in the year 2000. As of January 1, 2006, the estimated population of the City of Avenal was approximately 16,329. Of this number, approximately 7,249 are housed in the Avenal State Prison. The remaining 9,080 are residents of the City of Avenal (Whitten, 2006).

Kings County also grew at average annual rates well above the average for the state of California for the periods 1980 to 1990, 1990 to 1995, and 1995 to 2000, resulting in an estimated County population of approximately 129,461 in the year 2000. Fresno, Kern and Tulare counties experienced above-average growth from 1980 to 1995, then the growth rates decreased to approximately average for the period from 1995 to 2000. Population information for the four counties is shown in Table 6.10-1, with annual population growth rates shown in Table 6.10-2.

Age distributions for the populations of the four counties are shown in Table 6.10-3. Ethnic composition is shown in Table 6.10-4.

**TABLE 6.10-1**

**HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED POPULATION**

AREA	1980 <sup>(1)</sup>	1990 <sup>(1)</sup>	1995 <sup>(2)</sup>	2000 <sup>(3)</sup>	2010 <sup>(4)</sup>	2020 <sup>(4)</sup>
City of Avenal	4,136	9,770	11,941	14,674	NA	NA
Kings County	73,738	101,469	113,781	129,461	154,617	186,611
Fresno County	514,621	667,490	746,522	799,407	953,457	1,114,403
Kern County	403,089	543,477	612,823	661,645	859,818	1,073,748
Tulare County	245,738	311,921	346,400	368,021	469,509	569,896
California	23,782,000	29,758,213	31,910,061	33,900,000	39,957,616	45,448,627

(1) U.S. Census data

(2) Estimated

(3) 2000 U.S. Census data

(4) Projected

NA = Not Available

Source: California Department of Finance, 2001; The Sacramento Bee, 2001.

TABLE 6.10-2

## ANNUAL POPULATION COMPOUNDED GROWTH RATES

AREA	1980-1990	1990-1995	1995-2000 <sup>(1)</sup>	2000-2010 <sup>(2)</sup>	2010-2020 <sup>(2)</sup>
City of Avenal	8.97%	4.09%	4.21%	NA%	NA%
Kings County	3.24%	2.32%	2.62%	1.65%	1.90%
Fresno County	2.64%	2.26%	1.38%	1.71%	1.57%
Kern County	3.06%	2.37%	1.54%	2.70%	2.24%
Tulare County	2.41%	2.12%	1.22%	2.5%	1.96%
California	2.27%	1.41%	1.22%	1.53%	1.30%

(1) Estimated

(2) Projected

NA = Not Available

Source: Calculated from data shown in Table 6.10-1.

TABLE 6.10-3

## POPULATION AGE DISTRIBUTION

DEMOGRAPHIC ITEM	KINGS COUNTY	FRESNO COUNTY	TULARE COUNTY	KERN COUNTY
<b>POPULATION</b>				
1990	101,469	667,490	311,921	543,477
2000	129,461	799,407	368,021	661,645
<b>AGE DISTRIBUTION (for Year 2000)</b>				
0-18	29.0%	32.1%	33.8%	31.9%
18-24	11.8%	11.1%	10.6%	10.2%
25-44	35.0%	28.5%	27.6%	29.8%
45-64	16.8%	18.5%	18.2%	18.7%
65+	7.4%	9.9%	9.8%	9.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001a.

TABLE 6.10-4

## POPULATION, RACE/ETHNICITY AND POVERTY LEVEL - YEAR 2000

SUBJECT	KINGS COUNTY		FRESNO COUNTY		TULARE COUNTY		KERN COUNTY	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>RACE/ETHNICITY</b>								
Total Population	129,461	100.0	799,407	100.0	368,021	100.0	661,645	100.0
White	69,492	53.7	434,095	54.3	213,751	58.1	407,581	61.6
Hispanic <sup>(1)</sup>	56,461	43.6	351,636	43.9	186,846	50.8	254,036	38.4
Asian	3,980	3.1	64,362	8.1	12,018	3.3	22,268	3.4
Black	10,747	8.3	42,337	5.3	5,852	1.6	39,798	6.0
Native American	2,178	1.7	12,790	1.6	5,737	1.6	9,999	1.5
Hawaiian	250	<1	1,000	<1				
Other	36,611	28.3	207,061	25.9	113,317	30.8	153,610	23.2
<b>POVERTY LEVEL</b>								
Persons Below Poverty Level	21,307	16	179,085	22	86,572	23	130,949	20

(1) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001 and 2007 7.

### 6.10.1.2 Economy

Table 6.10-5 shows employment by industry for 2002 and projected to 2012 for Kings, Fresno, Kern and Tulare Counties. While services and government are the two largest employers in Kings County, mining and construction, transportation/public utilities and retail trade are the fastest growing, with average annual growth rates of 4.2 percent, 4.2 percent and 3.8 percent, respectively. In Tulare County, farming and government are the two largest employers, while the fastest growing sectors are mining and construction by 4.6 percent annually, and transportation/public utilities, and wholesale trade, both by 2.3 percent annually. In Fresno County, services and government are the two largest employers, while mining and construction and government are the fastest growing, with annual growth rates of 5.1 and 3.0 percent, respectively, followed by services at 2.6 percent. In Kern County, the two largest employers are services and government, followed by farming. Mining and construction is the most rapidly growing employment sector, at an average annual rate of 3.2 percent, followed by

transportation/public utilities at 2.8 percent, and manufacturing and finance/insurance/real estate at 2.6 percent each.

TABLE 6.10-5

**EMPLOYMENT DISTRIBUTION BY INDUSTRY  
IN KINGS AND ADJACENT COUNTIES**

**KINGS COUNTY**

INDUSTRY	2002		2012		Percent Change	Percent Growth Rate <sup>(2)</sup>
	No. Emp.	Percent	No. Emp.	Percent		
Farming	6,700	17.5	5,413 <sup>(1)</sup>	13.0	-19.2	-3.0
Mining & Construction	1,200	3.1	1,600	3.8	33.3	4.2
Manufacturing	3,600	9.4	4,300	10.3	19.4	2.6
Transportation, Public Utilities	600	1.6	800	1.9	33.3	4.2
Wholesale Trade	700	1.9	800	1.9	33.3	1.9
Retail Trade	3,300	8.6	4,300	10.3	30.3	3.8
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	1,300	3.4	1,300	3.1	0.0	0.0
Services	7,500	19.6	9,300	22.3	24.0	3.1
Government	13,400	35.0	13,900	33.3	3.7	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,300</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>41,713</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>

**FRESNO COUNTY**

INDUSTRY	2002		2012		Percent Change	Percent Growth Rate <sup>(2)</sup>
	No. Emp.	Percent	No. Emp.	Percent		
Farming	46,600	13.2	44,052 <sup>(1)</sup>	10.8	-5.5	-0.8
Mining & Construction	19,000	5.4	26,900	6.6	41.6	5.1
Manufacturing	30,000	8.5	33,400	8.2	11.3	1.5
Transportation, Public Utilities	10,200	2.9	11,100	2.7	8.8	1.2
Wholesale Trade	13,100	3.7	13,900	3.4	6.1	0.8
Retail Trade	36,100	10.2	40,900	10.0	13.3	1.8
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	14,900	4.2	16,500	4.0	10.7	1.5
Services	105,200	29.2	125,900	30.9	19.7	2.6
Government	77,700	22.0	95,300	23.4	22.7	3.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>352,800</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>407,952</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>15.6%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>

## TULARE COUNTY

INDUSTRY	2002		2012		Percent Change	Percent Growth Rate (2)
	No. Emp.	Percent	No. Emp.	Percent		
Farming	33,500	24.8	34,450 <sup>(1)</sup>	22.7	2.8	0.4
Mining & Construction	5,600	4.1	7,700	5.1	37.5	4.6
Manufacturing	11,200	8.3	12,500	8.2	11.6	1.6
Transportation, Public Utilities	5,200	3.8	6,100	4.0	17.3	2.3
Wholesale Trade	3,400	2.5	4,000	2.6	17.6	2.3
Retail Trade	13,200	9.8	15,400	10.1	16.7	2.2
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	4,500	3.3	5,200	3.4	15.6	2.1
Services	28,900	21.4	33,400	22.0	15.6	2.1
Government	29,600	21.9	33,300	21.9	12.5	1.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>135,100</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>152,049</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>

## KERN COUNTY

INDUSTRY	2002		2012		Percent Change	Percent Growth Rate (2)
	No. Emp.	Percent	No. Emp.	Percent		
Farming	40,400	16.6	38,733 <sup>(1)</sup>	14.1	-4.5	-0.6
Mining & Construction	21,200	8.7	26,400	9.6	24.5	3.2
Manufacturing	11,600	4.8	13,900	5.0	19.8	2.6
Transportation, Public Utilities	8,300	3.4	10,100	3.7	21.7	2.8
Wholesale Trade	6,100	2.5	7,200	2.6	18	2.4
Retail Trade	24,600	10.1	29,000	10.5	17.9	2.4
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	8,000	3.3	9,600	3.5	20.0	2.6
Services	67,600	27.8	80,500	29.2	19.1	2.5
Government	55,200	22.7	60,200	21.8	9.1	1.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>243,000</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>275,633</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>

(1) Based on the 7-year annual compounded growth rate calculated using 1997 number of employees and 2004 projected employees as presented in the 2001 AFC.

(2) Average annual compounded growth rate over 7-year period.  
Source: California Employment Development Department, 2006.

Table 6.10-6 shows 2006 employment data and 2006 median household income data for Kings County and adjacent counties in relation to the entire state. The California Employment Development Department (CEDD) estimates the labor force for Kings County to be approximately 55,600 persons, with 4,700 persons, or 8.5 percent, unemployed. The adjacent counties of Fresno and Kern show lower unemployment rates at 8.0 percent, and 7.6 percent, respectively, while the rate for Tulare County is the same as Kings. As shown in the table, in all four counties the unemployment rates are approximately 1.6 to 1.8 times the California rate of 4.9 percent. The City of Avenal estimates that unemployment within Avenal is approximately 14.6 percent (Sopp, 2006).

TABLE 6.10-6

**2006 EMPLOYMENT DATA FOR  
KINGS AND ADJACENT COUNTIES**

AREA	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOY- MENT RATE	2006 MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME
Kings County	55,600	50,900	4,700	8.5%	\$43,178
Fresno County	414,800	381,400	33,400	8.0%	\$42,732
Tulare County	189,400	173,300	16,100	8.5%	\$41,933
Kern County	338,400	312,800	25,600	7.6%	\$43,106
California	17,901,900	17,029,300	872,600	4.9%	\$56,645

Source: California Employment Development Department, 2007; U.S. Census Bureau, 2007.

### 6.10.1.3 Housing

As of January 1, 2006, the total housing stock for Kings County was 40,596 units, with 31,122 single-family homes, 7,254 multiple family dwellings, and 2,220 mobile homes and house trailers. New housing authorizations for the County in 2006 were approximately 730 single-family residences and 175 multiple family dwellings. The new housing authorizations were valued at \$140.0 million. The vacancy rate as of January 1, 2006, was 5.74 percent, which is above the federal housing standard of 5 percent. Comparable information for Fresno, Tulare and Kern counties is shown in Table 6.10-7. The workers who are expected to relocate are expected to favor population centers in Kings, Fresno and Tulare counties, due to proximity to the Site compared to population centers in Kern County. However, for completeness, housing in all four counties is provided.

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TABLE 6.10-7

## HOUSING INFORMATION BY COUNTY

ITEM	KINGS COUNTY	FRESNO COUNTY	TULARE COUNTY	KERN COUNTY
Total Housing Stock	40,596	297,408	132,469	262,934
Single Family Homes	31,122	207,822	103,727	192,169
Multiple Family Dwellings	7,254	75,813	17,407	45,672
Mobile Homes & House Trailers	2,220	13,773	11,335	25,093
New Housing Authorizations	905	4,449	3,610	7,744
Single Family	730	3,971	2,848	6,411
Multiple Family	175	478	762	1,333
Value	\$147.0 million	\$806.1 million	\$610.2 million	\$1,064.7 million
Vacancy Rate - 2006	5.7%	6.5%	7.6%	9.7%

Source: California Department of Finance, 2007a.

Cities closest to the Site include Avenal, Stratford, Corcoran, Lemoore, Armona and Hanford. The average cost of a single-family residence in these communities is as follows (National Association of Realtors, 2006):

- City of Avenal           \$154,000
- City of Stratford       \$63,450
- City of Corcoran       \$141,363
- City of Lemoore       \$276,835
- City of Armona         \$77,400
- City of Hanford        \$277,522

If any of the construction work force decides to commute to the Site on a workweek basis and needs temporary housing, there are a number of motels/hotels in Kings County and adjacent counties. While there is only 1 motel/hotel in Avenal and 11 in Coalinga, there are 6 in Lemoore, 9 in Hanford, 99 in Fresno, 13 in Tulare and 16 in Visalia.

For construction workers who bring mobile homes/trailers to the area, there are 36 mobile home/RV parks in Fresno, 11 in Visalia, 4 in Lemoore, 7 in Tulare, 3 in Coalinga and 1 in Kettleman City (Superpages, 2001).

**6.10.1.4 Schools**

Existing school facilities are relevant to the evaluation of socioeconomic impacts because: (1) the local school systems will receive property tax revenues; and (2) construction workers expected to come from outside the area may bring families that could utilize school resources. The workers who relocate to the area are expected to favor population centers in Kings, Fresno and Tulare counties due to proximity compared to population centers in Kern County. As a result, Kern County is outside the area of reasonably foreseeable potential impact on school systems, except for potential incremental indirect benefits of increased revenues from Project-induced spending that will occur in Kern County.

There are 15 school districts in Kings County, a total of 60 schools and approximately 27,200 students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. There also are two community colleges, eight charter schools and nine private schools with an additional 1,145 students. On average, there is about one full-time teacher for every 20 students. Average class size is about 25 (California Department of Education, 2006). The Site is located in the Reef-Sunset Unified School District that has elementary, middle and high schools. The total number of students enrolled in kindergarten through eighth grade for the Reef-Sunset Unified School District was 1,933 in September 2006. The total number of students enrolled in high school (grades 9 to 12) was 651 in September 2006 (California Department of Education, 2006).

Adjacent Tulare and Fresno counties have significantly larger school systems. Information on the school systems of these counties is summarized in Table 6.10-8.

**TABLE 6.10-8**

**SCHOOLS AND ENROLLMENT IN ADJACENT COUNTIES  
SCHOOL YEAR 2005-2006**

COUNTY	NO. DIS-TRICTS	ELEMENTARY		MIDDLE/JR. HIGH		HIGH SCHOOL		OTHER <sup>(1)</sup>		TOTAL	
		No. Schools (2)	No. Students	No. Schools (2)	No. Students	No. Schools (2)	No. Students	No. Schools (2)	No. Students	No. Schools	No. Students
Kings	15	32	13,104	7	6,290	5	7,887	16	49	60	27,330
Fresno	35	180	88,172	41	44,816	35	59,256	49	284	305	192,528
Tulare	47	103	44,253	19	21,980	19	26,805	32	386	173	93,424

(1) Includes continuation, alternative, community day and other schools.

(2) Data from 2004-2005 fiscal year. Latest data available.

Source: California Basic Educational Data System, 2006.

### 6.10.1.5 Utilities

Utilities are relevant to the evaluation of socioeconomic impacts because a development, or influx of people related to a development, can create an increased need for utilities. For the Project, relevant utility conditions are those related to the Site. Residential utilities are not addressed because no material impact is anticipated. Table 6.10-7 shows that housing is available. Few, if any, building starts are expected to occur as a result of the Project.

#### 6.10.1.5.1 Electricity and Gas

Electrical power and natural gas in the Site vicinity are provided by PG&E. The Project will use natural gas from one of the PG&E main lines and provide electrical power into the PG&E transmission line system. (See Section 2.0, Project Description, for further detail on electric and natural gas services.)

#### 6.10.1.5.2 Sewer

There is no sewer service in the Site vicinity. The Project will use an onsite septic tank and leach field for sewage produced by the Project.

#### 6.10.1.5.3 Water

The Site is located adjacent to the City of Avenal water treatment plant, where water is withdrawn from an aqueduct turnout, treated to meet potable water standards, and then piped over the Kettleman Hills to the residential and business districts of the City and to Avenal State Prison. The current capacity of the water treatment plant is 5.4 million gallons per day, and the current demand is 3.9 million gallons per day (Cunningham, 2006). The City will provide water to the Project and has provided a will-serve letter. Water for the Project will be piped directly from the City water treatment plant that is located on the parcel that is continuous to the northeast corner of the Site.

#### 6.10.1.5.4 Telephone

Pacific Bell provides telephone service to the Site area. There are no known limitations to telephone infrastructure capacity relative to Project demands. However, given the relatively

remote location of the Project Site, special arrangements may be necessary for special services lines (e.g., DSL) (Parmentier, 2001).

#### 6.10.1.6 Emergency and Other Services

##### 6.10.1.6.1 Law Enforcement

The Kings County Sheriff's Department (KCSD) is the law enforcement agency for Kings County. The KCSD consists of an Operations Division and a Corrections Division. The Operations Division consists of numerous sections, including Patrol, Investigations, Evidence, Crime Prevention, D.A.R.E. and Photo Lab. There also are specialty assignments, such as Dive Rescue Team, S.W.A.T. Team and an Agricultural Crime Investigations Unit. The KCSD has stations in the City of Avenal and Kettleman City. The Avenal station will be the primary supplier of law enforcement services to the Site, backed up by the Kettleman City station. The Avenal station has 14 full-time personnel and two reserve officers who work essentially full-time. There also are 10 citizens who perform volunteer patrols and report potential crimes to the Avenal station. Kettleman City has four full-time deputies. The Avenal station has 15 patrol cars, and the Kettleman City station has four. Estimated response time from the Avenal station to the Site is 7 minutes (Putnam, 2006).

The California Highway Patrol is the primary law enforcement agency for state highways and roads in the unincorporated areas of Kings County. Services include law enforcement, traffic control, accident investigation, and management of hazardous materials spill incidents.

##### 6.10.1.6.2 Fire Protection

Fire protection services for the City of Avenal, and throughout Kings County, are provided by the Kings County Fire Department. The Department consists of ten fire stations staffed by a combination of 68 career and 109 volunteer firefighters (Kilmer, 2006). The Project will receive fire protection from the City of Avenal and Kettleman City stations. Each of these stations is staffed full-time by two career fire personnel supported by a company of fully trained volunteers. Response time from the City of Avenal station to the Site is approximately 11 minutes.

### 6.10.1.6.3 Hospitals

The nearest emergency medical facility is the Coalinga Regional Medical Center located in the City of Coalinga. This hospital has 78 staffed beds, with an emergency room and numerous other medical services. Another community hospital is located in the City of Hanford. The nearest hospital with a trauma center is the University Medical Center in Fresno. This hospital has the highest rated trauma center (Class I), with a helicopter and helipad located at the hospital (Coalinga Regional Medical Center, 2001).

### 6.10.1.7 Fiscal Resources

Kings County and the City of Avenal are the two key agencies with the power to tax that are relevant to the Project. Table 6.10-9 shows the revenues and expenses for Kings County for fiscal years ending June 30, 2003, June 30, 2004 and June 30, 2005.

Table 6.10-10 shows similar information for the City of Avenal. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004 (FY 2004), the City had total expenditures of \$5,245,811 compared to revenues of \$4,873,665. This excess was financed through a drawdown of fund balances and an infusion of funds from other financing sources. Revenues for FY 2005 were about the same as for the previous year. However, increases in expenditures for public safety, parks and recreation, and capital outlay resulted in a larger deficit in FY 2005 than in FY 2004. This deficit was funded by a drawdown of fund balances.

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TABLE 6.10-9

## KINGS COUNTY REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

REVENUE/ EXPENDITURE/ FUND	FISCAL YEAR END 6/30/05	FISCAL YEAR END 6/30/04	FISCAL YEAR END 6/30/03
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Taxes	\$30,205,037	\$19,675,571	\$18,505,874
Licenses and Permits	475,604	430,179	290,752
Fines and Forfeits	717,642	619,118	650,716
Use of Money and Property	2,360,393	1,734,213	1,539,046
Intergovernmental Revenues	119,018,261	111,234,356	100,248,274
Charges for Services	7,709,910	6,408,462	8,606,826
Miscellaneous Revenue	3,481,443	3,070,984	2,661,192
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$163,968,290</b>	<b>\$143,172,883</b>	<b>\$132,502,679</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
General Government	13,850,998	18,434,416	10,663,716
Public Safety	44,636,927	35,491,311	42,330,157
Public Transportation	5,192,871	3,595,751	4,464,796
Health	20,860,614	20,630,446	20,380,048
Welfare	54,585,914	53,447,137	53,314,771
Education	1,227,045	1,121,474	1,187,674
Recreation	1,232,781	961,823	803,521
Capital Outlay	19,111,501	4,507,306	9,577,528
Debt Service	1,052,305	325,994	0
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$161,750,956</b>	<b>\$138,515,658</b>	<b>\$142,722,210</b>
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	2,217,334	4,657,225	(10,219,532)
Other Financing Sources	13,930,358	(674,006)	568,377
Other Changes in Fund Balance	16,147,692	3,983,219	(9,651,154)
Fund Balance Available-July 1	41,843,593	45,232,274	54,883,428
Fund Balance Available-June 30	58,681,796	41,843,593	45,232,274

Source: Kings County Auditor's Office, 2006.

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TABLE 6.10-10

## CITY OF AVENAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

REVENUE/EXPENDITURE/FUND	YEAR END 6/30/05	YEAR END 6/30/04
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Taxes	\$2,361,682	\$1,357,335
Licenses and Permits	106,674	131,903
Charges for Services	308,480	394,151
Federal Revenue	1,246,209	452,791
Intergovernmental Revenues	868,930	2,157,157
Fines and Penalties	56,881	66,287
Investment Income	81,482	59,698
Rents	290,947	163,198
Loan Repayments	60,473	33,599
Other Revenue	51,985	57,546
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$5,433,743</b>	<b>\$4,873,665</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
General Government	\$16,235	\$16,681
Management and Support	212,187	144,324
Building Regulation	70,085	94,778
Planning	2,569	10,608
Community Development	1,993,394	2,100,344
Public Safety	1,529,904	1,012,811
Parks & Recreation	258,175	251,804
Streets (Public Works)	307,454	299,086
Capital Outlay	717,950	308,897
Debt Service	1,014,872	1,006,478
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$6,122,825</b>	<b>\$5,245,811</b>
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	(\$689,082)	(\$372,146)
Other Financing Sources	492,734	\$1,769,693
Change in Fund Balances	\$(196,348)	\$1,397,547

Source: City of Avenal, 2006a; 2006b.

## 6.10.2 IMPACTS

Significance criteria for socioeconomics were determined based on California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, Appendix G, Environmental Checklist Form, and on performance standards or thresholds adopted by responsible agencies. An impact may be considered significant if the Project results in:

- Substantial displacement of homes, businesses, or population.
- A demand for community resources (including housing, schools, utilities and public services) that could not be easily met by the available resources or if the provision of the service results in inadequate services for other existing users.
- Substantial population growth.

- Substantial adverse physical impacts from establishment of public services or facilities.
- Exceedance of wastewater treatment capacity requirement for new or expanded wastewater treatment facilities.

In accordance with the CEQA Guidelines, economic and social changes from a project are not treated as significant effects on the environment. Where a physical change is caused by economic or social effects of a project, the physical change may be regarded as a significant effect in the same manner as any other physical change resulting from the project. If the physical change causes adverse economic or social effects on people, those adverse effects may be used as a factor in determining whether the physical change is significant (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15064[e]).

Socioeconomic impacts are determined by comparing Project demands and benefits during construction and operation with the socioeconomic resources in the area where the Project is located. A proposed power plant could potentially impact employment, population, housing, public services and utilities, and schools. Impacts could be felt locally, in the City of Avenal and Kings County, and/or regionally, in adjacent counties. The Project will require a construction workforce that is available regionally, with most workers expected to commute to the Site from existing residences. The operation workforce will provide permanent, high-paying jobs for the operational life of the Project. Federal Power Avenal is committed to hiring from the local labor pool to the extent practical. Considering these factors, plus revenues to the public that will occur due to the Project, and additional details described in following sections, the Project's adverse impacts on the socioeconomic environment will be less than significant. The overall impact of the Project to socioeconomic resources will be beneficial.

Under CEQA, the Commission should take into account the property tax contribution when evaluating socioeconomic impacts of this Project.

Based on the analyses provided in this section, the Project will require minimal local improvements and services during Project construction and operation. During construction, most workers are expected to commute to the Site on a daily basis and so will have little effect on local resources.

During operations, the Project will provide for 25 permanent employment positions, an operations payroll of \$2.1 million, and will contribute an estimated \$5.3 million in property taxes

annually. The increased property tax revenues from the Project will be sufficient to support any local improvements and public services required to serve the Project.

#### 6.10.2.1 Construction Impacts

##### 6.10.2.1.1 Construction Work Force

An average of approximately 320 construction workers will be onsite during the 27-month construction schedule, with an estimated peak of approximately 550 workers (see Figure 2.3-13 and Table 6.10-11).

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TABLE 6.10-11

CONSTRUCTION STAFF BY MONTH AND CRAFT

Job Category	Month																											Total Person Mnth
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Craft																												
Millwrights											10	15	30	45	56	60	60	60	56	56	30	15						
Pipefitters				25	30	30	30	30	30	45	75	110	152	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	150	60	12	12	12	12	
Equipment Operators	5	5	5	12	12	12	12	12	12	24	30	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	28	25	18	10			
Iron Workers			15	22	22	22	42	42	42	42	42	30	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	10							
Carpenters			30	50	50	50	50	50	50	45	45	45	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	28	23	15	5	5	
Electricians	5	5	5	12	12	12	12	12	12	5	5	18	50	89	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	85	60	6	6	6	
Teamsters	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	2	1	
Boilermakers										15	30	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	35	10	3	3	3	3	
Surveyors	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3															
Laborers	20	20	25	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	10	5	5	
Painters																					5	10	14	14	14	6		
Insulators																				20	20	33	33	33	33	20	11	
Cement Masons		3	9	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	9																
Total Craft Manpower Plan	33	36	94	170	175	175	195	195	195	225	286	365	397	472	484	488	488	488	504	504	494	413	277	184	92	50	32	
Total Staff Manpower Plan	9	21	29	33	39	39	41	42	43	44	45	44	45	44	44	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	45	43	36	14	
Total Construction Manpower Plan	42	57	123	203	214	214	236	237	238	269	331	409	442	516	528	534	534	534	550	550	540	459	323	229	135	86	46	

The primary trades required during construction include boilermakers, carpenters, electricians, ironworkers, laborers, millwrights, operators and pipefitters. Table 6.10-11 shows construction personnel requirements by trade over the construction period. Total personnel requirements for Project construction will be an estimated 8,579 person-months.

#### 6.10.2.1.2 Population

The availability in the surrounding area of the types of construction craft workers required for the Project is shown in Table 6.10-12. Approximately 80 percent of the construction work force of 320 average and 550 peak workers is expected to be drawn from the existing regional labor pool, providing an average of approximately 250 jobs for the existing local labor force for the construction period, and a peak of approximately 440 jobs for the local labor force during the period of maximum activity. This range primarily includes residents from the closest large population centers in Kings, Fresno and Tulare counties, including Hanford, Corcoran, Visalia, Tulare and Fresno, which provide a large labor pool compared to resources needed for the Project. Fewer workers are expected to come from Kern County because the closest large population center in Kern County (Bakersfield) is substantially further from the Site.

The remaining 20 percent of the construction work force (approximately 60 average, 110 peak) is expected to establish temporary residence (weekly, monthly) in local hotels and motels, and rental properties. It is expected that the population centers in Kings, Fresno and Tulare counties will be favored due to proximity to the Site. The 60 average and 110 peak construction workers that relocate to these counties will represent a small incremental increase in demand for facilities and are not expected to result in substantial physical change.

Large population centers in Kern County (e.g., Bakersfield) are located considerably further from the Site and, therefore, Kern County is not expected to be materially impacted by workers moving to that area.

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TABLE 6.10-12

**ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CONSTRUCTION  
CRAFT WORKERS IN YEAR 2005**

WORKER CRAFT	COUNTY				
	Kings	Fresno	Tulare	Kern	Total
Insulation Workers <sup>(3)</sup>	-- <sup>(1)</sup>	120	80	230	430
Boilermakers <sup>(2)</sup>	--	--	--	--	--
Brickmasons/Block Masons	130	3,050	680	1,380	5,240
Carpenters	130	3,450	450	1,460	5,490
Electricians	160	1,850	360	500	2,870
Structural Iron and Steel Workers	--	130	--	--	130
Construction Workers	870	7,390	2,440	8,810	19,510
Millwrights	--	440	110	420	970
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	210	540	270	540	1,560
Painters	80	1,200	270	780	2,330
Plumbers, Pipefitters and Steamfitters	--	1,240	100	1,320	2,660
Sheet metal Workers	--	570	50	40	660
Surveyors	--	190	--	--	190
Teamsters <sup>(3)</sup>	540	6,580	2,220	6,137	15,477
Mechanics	700	5,950	2,460	5,020	14,130
Welders	110	690	400	610	1,810
Flagmen <sup>(4)</sup>					
Foremen <sup>(4)</sup>					
Management/Office <sup>(4)</sup>					
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>33,360</b>	<b>9,840</b>	<b>27,017</b>	<b>73,147</b>

(1) -- = Data not available

(2) None listed in the four-county area

(3) California Employment Development Department 2000 data.

(4) Personnel supplied by contractor or owner

Source: California Employment Development Department, 2006 except where noted otherwise.

#### 6.10.2.1.3 Employment and Economy

Construction craft workers located in Kings, Fresno, Tulare and Kern counties are shown in Table 6.10-12. Together, the four counties have over 73,147 craft workers of the types that will be used to construct the Project. In 2006, the unemployment rate in Kings County was

8.5 percent. In Fresno, Tulare and Kern counties, the unemployment rate was 8.0, 8.5 and 7.6 percent, respectively (Table 6.10-6). These unemployment rates are approximately 1.6 to 1.8 times the overall unemployment rate for the state of California. Considering the relatively high levels of unemployment in the Project region, the estimated average 250 jobs for the existing local labor force for the construction period, and the approximately 440 peak construction jobs for the local labor force will be a benefit for the region. The large number of skilled workers available compared to Project needs, and the relatively high regional unemployment levels, provide a strong indication that most required jobs can be filled from the existing work force. Many of the skilled workers are regional construction workers who typically move from job site to job site. The Project also will create indirect jobs in other service areas, thereby providing further employment.

The anticipated payroll for employees and the cost of materials and supplies for construction will be a benefit for the area. The estimated cost of the project is \$530 million. Of this amount, approximately \$2.5 million will be spent on local purchases of materials and supplies for Project construction. Based on a sales tax rate of 7.25 percent, sales tax will be an estimated \$181,000.

The estimated Project construction payroll is approximately \$126 million. Based on 80 percent of the construction work force commuting from Kings, Fresno, Tulare or Kern counties, an estimated \$100 million of the \$126 million construction payroll will stay in the area. Of the 20 percent of construction workers who are expected to temporarily reside in the area, a portion of their pay will be expended locally.

The additional dollars spent in the community will generate a temporary impact by creating the potential for other employment opportunities for local workers in other areas of service (i.e., transportation, wholesale and retail trades, amusement and other business services), both in the City of Avenal and the larger four-county area. In addition to the estimated payroll, the Project also will create additional employment opportunities and, therefore, personal income in the region through the Project's local expenditures on construction materials and services. Based on socioeconomic modeling conducted for the Project, the personal income multiplier for Project construction is estimated to be 1.99 (Goldman, 2001). This means that, for each one dollar of direct income generated, 0.99 dollar of indirect and induced income is generated. The total value added multiplier for Project construction is 2.38. This means that, for each two dollars of value added directly by the Project, another 0.38 dollar is added as an indirect and induced value (Value added includes employee compensation, proprietary income, other property-type income

and indirect business taxes) (Lindall and Olsen, n.d.). As a result, estimated Project construction payroll of \$126 million will result in an additional \$124 million of income in the region. The addition of the estimated \$530-million Project will result in approximately \$100 million of value added to the regional economy.

#### 6.10.2.1.4 Housing

Most of the construction work force is expected to commute to the Site on a daily basis and, therefore, will already occupy housing in the region. For workers who temporarily relocate, there are adequate vacancies in Kings, Fresno and Tulare counties. The Kings County housing vacancy rate in 2006 was 5.7 percent. This is greater than the federal housing standard of 5.0 percent, which is the rate at which housing is considered to be in short supply. The housing vacancy rates for Fresno and Tulare counties in 2006 were 6.5 and 7.6 percent respectively, indicating a relatively good supply of available housing. In addition, there are more than 150 hotels and motels within commuting distance to accommodate the relatively low number of workers who may utilize these accommodations. Even if all of the estimated 110 workers that may come from outside of the area during the peak construction period were to use these accommodations, the average number of rooms required would be less than one per hotel/motel. Although there may be peak times throughout the year that hotel and motel space is less available (such as graduations, special community events, business conferences), the temporarily relocating work force should be able to plan ahead to allow for these peak times.

#### 6.10.2.1.5 Schools

The majority of construction workers are anticipated to be provided from within commuting distance and are not expected to relocate. The number of construction workers that will move to the area and remain working onsite for an extended period of time (e.g., many months) will be small. Further, due to the transient nature of the work, the majority of construction workers that temporarily relocate for construction projects typically do not bring families with school-age children. A few workers might potentially bring school-age children to the area, but the number will be low, and any impact will be spread over Kings, Fresno and Tulare counties, so the impact will be less than significant.

#### 6.10.2.1.6 Utilities

The number of construction workers temporarily residing in the area will be small, and accommodations for these workers are available. Few or no new building starts or other increased utility demands are expected from workers moving to the area.

Project construction will utilize existing electrical supplies in the area. Electrical power is available from existing transmission lines that run along the eastern boundary of the Site. Portable toilets will be used, and sanitary wastes will be hauled from the Site for appropriate disposal. Water for construction will be provided by the adjacent City of Avenal water treatment plant or existing groundwater wells. Telephone service will be provided to the Site from existing lines located along Avenal Cutoff Road. No significant physical changes to the environment are expected to occur as a result of these service needs.

#### 6.10.2.1.7 Emergency and Other Services

During construction, Site security will be provided by the Project owner. Other law enforcement services will be provided by the Kings County Sheriff's Department, using existing facilities and personnel located in Avenal and Kettleman City. Fire protection will be provided by the Kings County Fire Department using existing facilities and personnel. Adequate medical facilities are available in the Coalinga Regional Medical Center located in the City of Coalinga, with 78 staffed beds, emergency room and numerous other medical services. Another community hospital is available in the City of Hanford. Therefore, Project construction is not expected to result in significant physical changes to the environment related to these services.

#### 6.10.2.1.8 Fiscal Resources

The effect on fiscal resources during construction will be the economic benefit of state sales taxes realized on equipment and materials purchased in the city and county. The sales tax rate in Kings County and the City of Avenal is 7.25 percent. Sales tax on equipment and materials purchased in California is collected by the seller of the equipment or materials and paid to the state. Three-fourths of a percent of the 7.25 percent sales tax rate is paid back to the city or county where the tax is collected. An additional 0.25 percent is paid back to the county for local transportation.

For Project construction, the purchase of materials and supplies is estimated to result in \$4.9 million in sales taxes within the state of California. On a local basis, estimated expenditures of \$2.5 million for materials and equipment are expected to generate sales tax revenue of \$181,000. A portion of this will be returned to the local area.

### 6.10.2.2 Operations and Maintenance-Related Impacts

#### 6.10.2.2.1 Operations Work Force

The Project is expected to employ approximately 25 full-time regular employees. Table 6.10-13 shows the anticipated job classifications and work shifts.

**TABLE 6.10-13**

**PLANT OPERATION WORK FORCE**

DEPARTMENT	SHIFT	WORK DAYS
Operations	Rotating 12-hour shifts, 4 operators per shift	7 days a week
Maintenance	Standard 8-hour days	5 days a week (Maintenance Technicians will also work unscheduled days and hours as required)
Administration	Standard 8-hour days	5 days a week with additional coverage as required

#### 6.10.2.2.2 Population

Due to the proximity of the Project to the various population centers in Kings County and adjacent counties, it is anticipated that most of the permanent work force will live in and commute from these counties. Federal Power estimates that approximately two-thirds of the operation employees will be hired from the existing local labor force. The potential impact of Project operations on area population, therefore, is estimated to be an influx of approximately 8 workers, some of whom may bring families. This small influx of population is expected to be spread over population centers in Kings, Fresno and Tulare Counties and represents a negligible influx.

#### 6.10.2.2.3 Employment and Economy

The Project is expected to employ approximately 25 people in full-time, onsite positions. The annual operation payroll is expected to be \$2.1 million. The 25 full-time positions will be beneficial, but will not substantially alter local employment conditions because the number of jobs provided is small compared to the available work force and high regional unemployment levels (Table 6.10-6). The additional jobs and resulting spending will help generate other employment opportunities and spending in the Kings County area. For Project operation, the personal income multiplier is 1.76, and the value added multiplier is 1.29 (Goldman, 2001). Based on these multipliers (defined in Section 6.10.2.1.3), the annual Project operation personnel income of \$2.1 million will result in an additional \$1.5 million to the regional economy. Based on an estimated \$530 million of value added by the Project, approximately \$94 million of value will be added to the regional economy.

For Project operations, local expenditures for materials and supplies are estimated to be approximately \$2 million per year. This would result in an estimated \$145,000 in sales taxes, with redistribution to the local area. Primary recipients of the sales tax redistributions are expected to be the City of Avenal, as well as the cities of Hanford, Lemoore and Corcoran.

#### 6.10.2.2.4 Housing

It is anticipated that an additional approximately 8 operations workers may relocate to the area and require permanent housing. Existing housing stock for Kings, Fresno and Tulare counties in 2006 was 40,596, 297,408 and 132,469, respectively, for a total of 470,473. New housing authorizations for 2006 were 905 for Kings County, 4,449 for Fresno County, and 3,610 for Tulare County, for a total of 8,964. The requirement for approximately 8 housing units will be less than significant. Few or no new building starts are expected to result from the Project.

#### 6.10.2.2.5 Schools

##### Property Taxes

Kings County will receive an estimated \$5.3 million per year in property taxes from the project. The County and City of Avenal educational systems will benefit from revenues received from these property taxes. The Reef-Sunset Unified School District will receive an additional \$1.3 million per year in revenue based on the existing distribution in property taxes shown in Table 6.10-15.

School Impact Fees

School districts within a county will assess a one-time school impact fee for development taking place in their district. The Project is within the Reef-Sunset Unified School District, which will assess an impact fee for the Project. The fee is \$0.33 per square foot of commercial building space added (Price, 2006). The control and administration building and warehouse will add approximately 9,000 square feet of commercial building space. The school impact fee will be assessed against this area, resulting in a one-time payment of \$3,000 to the Reef-Sunset Unified School District.

Enrollment

The additional approximately 8 permanent workers that may move to the area is expected to add 8 to 16 children to the existing school population in Kings, Fresno and/or Tulare counties, depending on where the workers choose to live. The school populations for the 2005-2006 school year for Kings, Fresno and Tulare counties are 27,281, 192,244 and 93,038, respectively. The addition of 8 to 16 students to these student populations will be less than significant. Projected enrollments for school years 2005-2006 through 2009-2010 are shown in Table 6.10-14.

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TABLE 6.10-14

## PROJECTED SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS

	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
<b>Kings County<sup>(1)</sup></b>					
Elementary School	15,210	15,362	15,516	15,671	15,828
Middle School	6,414	6,478	6,543	6,608	6,674
High School	5,657	5,714	5,771	5,829	5,887
Reef-Sunset Unified School District <sup>(2)</sup>	2,584	2,584	2,584	2,584	2,584
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27,281</b>	<b>27,554</b>	<b>27,830</b>	<b>28,108</b>	<b>28,389</b>
<b>Fresno County<sup>(3)</sup></b>					
Elementary School	102,993	117,412	133,850	152,589	173,951
Middle School	47,309	53,932	61,482	70,089	79,901
High School	41,942	47,814	54,508	62,139	70,838
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>192,244</b>	<b>219,158</b>	<b>249,840</b>	<b>284,817</b>	<b>324,690</b>
<b>Tulare County<sup>(3)</sup></b>					
Elementary School	51,551	52,427	53,319	54,225	55,147
Middle School	21,883	22,255	22,633	23,018	23,409
High School	19,604	19,937	20,276	20,621	20,971
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>93,038</b>	<b>94,620</b>	<b>96,228</b>	<b>97,864</b>	<b>99,528</b>

Elementary School = Grades K-6

Middle School = Grades 7-9

High School = Grades 10-12

<sup>(1)</sup>Enrollment projected to increase approximately 1 percent per year (Corl, 2006).

<sup>(2)</sup>Included in Kings County projections. Projected to remain the same (Price, 2006).

<sup>(3)</sup>Based on 5-year average school enrollment increase.

#### 6.10.2.2.6 Utilities

The Project will provide its own electricity for plant use and so will not burden existing sources of electricity. The facility will utilize a septic tank to manage domestic waste. There will be no discharge to existing sewer systems. The Project requirement for telephone service is expected to be small and will not impact the existing telephone system. Natural gas will be provided by PG&E from a large gas transmission line and will not impact the use of natural gas by local businesses and residences. Water will be supplied from the existing City of Avenal water treatment facility that is contiguous to the northeast corner of the Project Site. The City has provided Federal Power with a will-serve letter indicating that sufficient water supply is available. Considering these factors, Project operation will have a less than significant impact on utilities.

#### 6.10.2.2.7 Emergency and Other Services

During operation, Site security will be provided by the Project operators. Other law enforcement services will be provided by the Kings County Sheriff's Department, using existing facilities and personnel located in the cities of Avenal and Kettleman City. Fire protection will be provided by the Kings County Fire Department, using existing facilities and personnel. Adequate medical facilities are available in the Coalinga Regional Medical Center located in the City of Coalinga, with 78 staffed beds, emergency room and numerous other medical services. Another community hospital is available in the City of Hanford. Therefore, Project operation impacts on existing public services or facilities will be less than significant. The Project will contribute to many of these services directly through property tax contribution. For example, an estimated \$673,600 per year will go to the fire department, with \$1.6 million per year to the County General Fund.

#### 6.10.2.2.8 Fiscal Resources

Annual property tax will be approximately \$5.3 million. These tax revenues will be collected by Kings County; some will be distributed to the City of Avenal. Based on the FY 2005 distribution of property taxes in Kings County, the distribution will be as shown in Table 6.10-15.

Receipt of an estimated \$1.0 million per year in property taxes by the City of Avenal will have a beneficial impact on the City's total revenue of approximately \$5.4 million (FY 2005), increasing it by approximately 18.5 percent. The impact on Kings County revenues of approximately \$163.9 million (FY 2005) also is beneficial. The additional \$1.5 million in property taxes to the County General Fund will increase County revenues by approximately 0.9 percent. Contributions to other County funds will further increase total revenues.

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TABLE 6.10-15

**ALLOCATION OF FEDERAL POWER AVENAL PROPERTY TAXES IN RELATION  
TO CITY OF AVENAL TAX BASE**

COUNTY FUND/SERVICE	ALLOCATION (percent)	KINGS COUNTY PROPERTY TAXES YEAR ENDED 6/30/05 <sup>(1)</sup>	ESTIMATED PROPERTY TAXES WITH PROJECT <sup>(1)</sup>	PROJECT CONTRIBUTION TO PROPERTY TAXES <sup>(1)</sup>
City of Avenal	20.0928	\$ 230,619	\$1,295,537	1,064,918
County General Fund	29.5796	339,506	\$1,907,225	1,567,719
County Library	1.9305	22,158	\$124,474	102,316
County Fire Protection	12.7090	145,870	\$819,447	673,577
Avenal Hospital	2.3726	27,232	\$152,979	125,747
Lemoore Cemetery	0.7317	8,398	\$47,178	38,780
Reef Sunset School	26.5049	304,215	\$1,708,975	1,404,760
Office of Education	2.2774	26,139	\$146,841	120,702
West Hills Community College	3.8015	43,632	\$245,111	201,479
<b>TOTAL TO COUNTY</b>	<b>1.000%</b>	<b>1,147,769</b>	<b>6,447,767</b>	<b>5,300,000</b>
<b>Total Assessed Valuation</b>		<b>\$114,776,975</b>	<b>\$644,776,975</b>	<b>\$530,000,000</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> Rounded to nearest dollar  
Source: Sopp, 2006.

Pacific Gas & Electric Company pays the City of Avenal a franchise fee for natural gas delivered for use within the City. The franchise fee is based on the current price of fuel, anticipated annual fuel use and the franchise fee percentage. Natural gas used by the Project will generate franchise fee revenues for the suppliers.

For Project operations, local expenditures for materials and supplies are estimated to be approximately \$2 million per year. This would result in an estimated \$145,000 per year in sales taxes, with redistribution to the local area. Primary recipients are expected to be the City of Avenal, as well as the cities of Hanford, Lemoore and Corcoran.

#### 6.10.2.2.9 Statewide Electricity Supply

The Project will be a substantial contributor to meeting the state's energy needs. By supporting local and San Joaquin Valley loads, the Project will improve electric supply reliability in this region. Furthermore, the Project generating capacity will provide additional reactive power capability that will serve to improve area transmission system voltage. The addition of the 600 MW combined-cycle generation module results in more firm generation available for direct

local service to the San Joaquin Valley area loads. As local area loads grow, service can be efficiently provided from the Project.

#### 6.10.2.2.10 Environmental Justice Screening Analysis

The Commission follows the USEPA guidelines for addressing environmental justice issues, including Draft Title VI Guidance for EPA Assistance Recipients Administering Environmental Permitting Programs and Draft Revised Guidance for Investigating Title VI Administrative Complaints Challenging Permits (USEPA 2000).

This analysis uses the federal guidelines to analyze potential environmental justice impacts, including two steps. First, this analysis evaluates whether the potentially affected community includes minority or low-income population. If so, the second step is to determine whether potential environmental impacts attributable to the Project would fall disproportionately on minority and low-income residents of the community. The CEC uses 50 percent minority or low-income as a threshold for identifying geographic areas that are “minority” or “low-income.” Census tract 78 in Fresno County, and 16.01 and 17.01 in Kings County (Figure 6.10-2) fall within a 6-mile radius of the Project Site. All three census tracts contain minority populations above the threshold of 50 percent, and are therefore identified as “minority” census tracts (see Table 6.10-16, Race and Poverty Data). The percentages of the populations in all census tracts that live below poverty are less than the 50 percent threshold.

Typical environmental justice concerns for a project of this nature are residential or business displacements, water quality, noise, and air quality impacts. No residential or business displacements would occur due to the Project. The closest community is the City Avenal, located approximately 6 miles to the southwest. Due to these site characteristics and Project engineering and LORS, there will be no significant impact on any population. Environmental justice impacts are unlikely to occur.

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TABLE 6.10-16

## RACE AND POVERTY DATA

AREA	POPULATION	MINORITY POPULATION		PERCENTAGE LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Census Tracts within 6-Mile Radius					
Census Tract 16.01	4,554	2,919	64	1,457	32
Census Tract 78	13,105	9,189	70	2,841	22
Census Tract 17.01	14,751	9,454	64	2,476	17
County and Nearby Counties					
Kings	129,461	59,969	46.3	21,307	16
Fresno	799,407	365,312	45.7	179,085	22
Kern	661,645	254,064	38.4	130,949	20
Tulare	368,021	154,270	41.9	86,572	23
State of California	33,900,000	16,272,000	48%	4,706,130	14

Notes: For the purpose of this analysis, minority races include White Hispanic, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and all other non-white races.

To assess low-income populations, the U.S. Census determination of poverty level was used, assuming the same 50 percent criterion as used to determine minority population. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty threshold for a U.S. family of four (two children) is \$20,444 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2007). As shown in Tables 6.10-4 and 6.10-16, the number of persons living below the poverty level in the affected counties and census tracts is less than 50 percent. As a result, there appear to be no environmental justice issues based on low-income population in the study area.

Population within 6 miles of the Site is minimal, consisting of a few scattered farmhouses. The nearest farmhouses are located more than 1 mile from the Site. The residential area of Avenal is located approximately 6 miles southwest of the Site and is separated from the Site by the Kettleman Hills. The next closest community, Kettleman City, is located approximately 9 miles southeast of the Site. The Project will not be visible from either of these communities, nor will there be any other adverse environmental impacts on these areas.

There will be no substantial adverse impact on nearby communities as a result of the Project. The Project will provide direct and indirect jobs, as well as other economic benefits for area residents. There are no potential environmental justice issues relative to minority or low-income populations.

#### 6.10.2.3 Cumulative Impacts

Other activities in the region with the potential for cumulative impacts are identified in Section 6.1.4. None of the other activities identified in Section 6.1.4 are expected to have concurrent construction periods, so cumulative construction impacts are not expected. Both the Panoche Energy Center and the Starwood Power-Midway Peaking Project area located about 55 miles northwest of the Avenal Energy Site in Fresno County. Due to distance and the location in Fresno County, there is no potential for significant cumulative impacts. These projects are expected to draw operations workers from different communities than the Avenal Energy project. The Great Valley Ethanol Plant is located in Kings County, approximately 27 miles northwest of Avenal Energy, in the City of Hanford. Because it is in the same County, Avenal Energy and the Great Valley Ethanol Plant would have cumulative beneficial economic effects to Kings County including increasing the tax base and providing direct and indirect job opportunities. Due to the negligible impact of Avenal Energy operations on population, housing, schools, public services and utilities (see Section 6.10.2.2) and the substantial distance to the Great Valley Ethanol Project, there will be no significant cumulative impact to population, housing, schools, public services or utilities.

Based on the above analysis, there is no potential for significant cumulative adverse impacts to socioeconomic parameters.

#### 6.10.2.4 Project Design Features

The following design features of the Project either will minimize socioeconomic impacts or will provide socioeconomic benefits:

- The Site is located away from developed areas.
- Federal Power is committed to utilizing the existing local labor force and purchasing goods and services locally to the extent practical.
- The Project will provide economic benefits to the regional communities, including jobs, income, taxes, franchise fees and indirect revenue.

### 6.10.3 MITIGATION MEASURES

Based on the above analysis of impacts and the design features that have been incorporated into the Project, no mitigation measures are required.

### 6.10.4 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

There are no significant unavoidable adverse impacts to socioeconomic resources from construction or operation of the Project.

### 6.10.5 LAWS, ORDINANCES, REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS (LORS)

A summary of laws, ordinances, regulations and standards (LORS) applicable to the Project is provided in Table 6.10-17. Specific permits relative to socioeconomic resources are not required for the Project. There are no permits or approvals required for the Project related to socioeconomics that are outside the jurisdiction of the Commission.

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TABLE 6.10-17

## SOCIOECONOMIC LORS AND COMPLIANCE

JURISDICTION	LORS/AUTHORITY	ADMINISTERING AGENCY <sup>(1)</sup>	REQUIREMENTS/ COMPLIANCE	APPROACH TO COMPLIANCE	AFC SECTION
Federal	Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations.	California Energy Commission	Analysis to determine if there are disparate impacts to minority-based or low-income-based populations.	Project will have no disparate impacts to minority-based or low-income-based populations.	6.10.2.2.10 Page 6.10-30
State	PRC §25523(a); 20 CCR §1752, 1752.5, 2301-2308 and Chapter 5 Appendix B, Part (g); 14 CCR §15131.	California Energy Commission	Requirement to include economic or social effects analysis in AFC.	Submittal of AFC to the California Energy Commission.	6.10 Pages 6.10-1 through 6.10-37
Local	None applicable.	None applicable.	None applicable.	None applicable.	None applicable.
Industry	None applicable.	None applicable	None applicable.	Not Applicable.	None Applicable

<sup>(1)</sup> Pursuant to CCR Title 20, Appendix B(i)(1)(B): Each agency with jurisdiction to issue applicable permits and approvals or to enforce identified laws, regulations, standards and adopted local, regional, state and federal land use plans, and agencies which would have permit approval or enforcement authority, but for the exclusive authority of the Commission to certify sites and related facilities.

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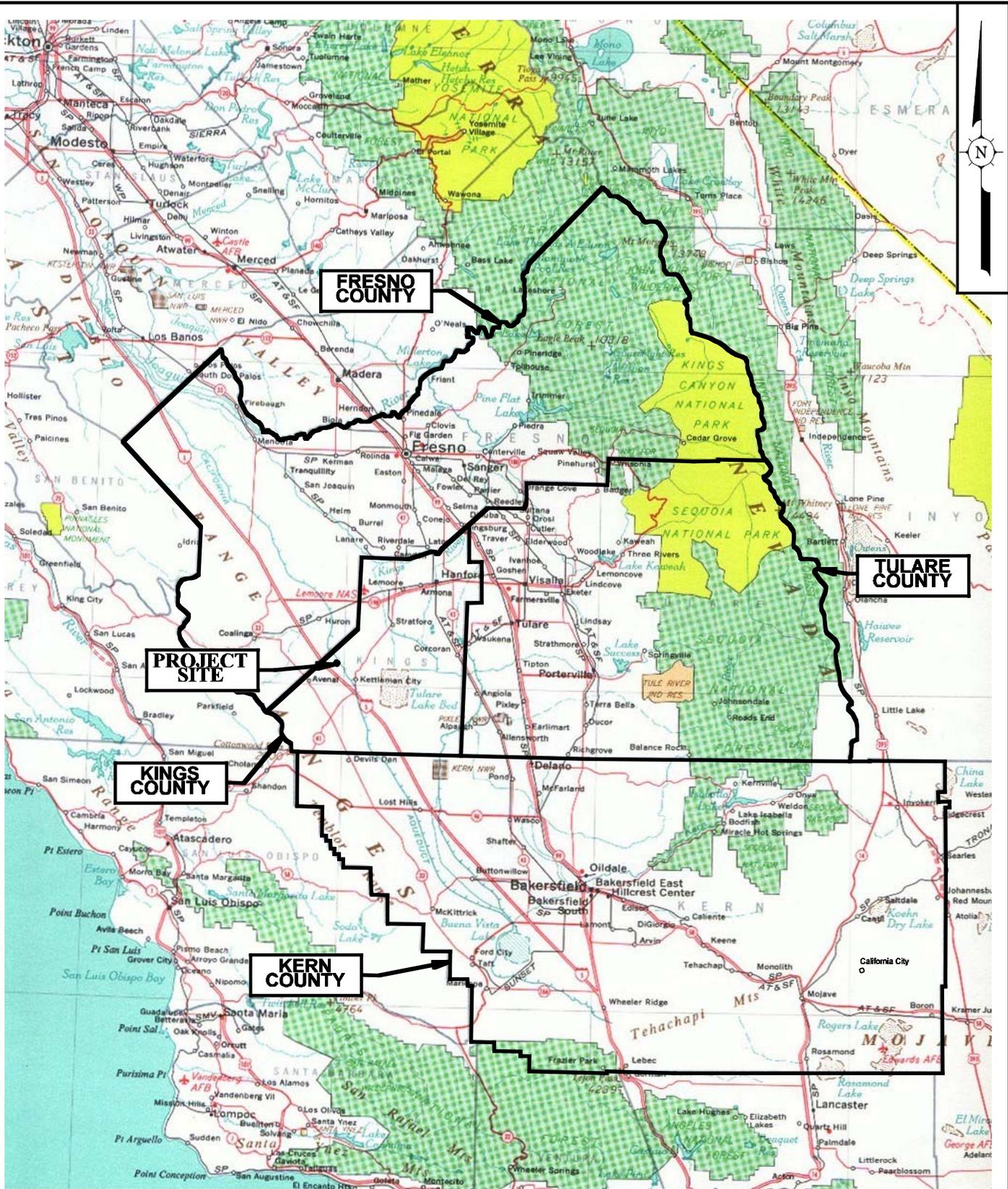
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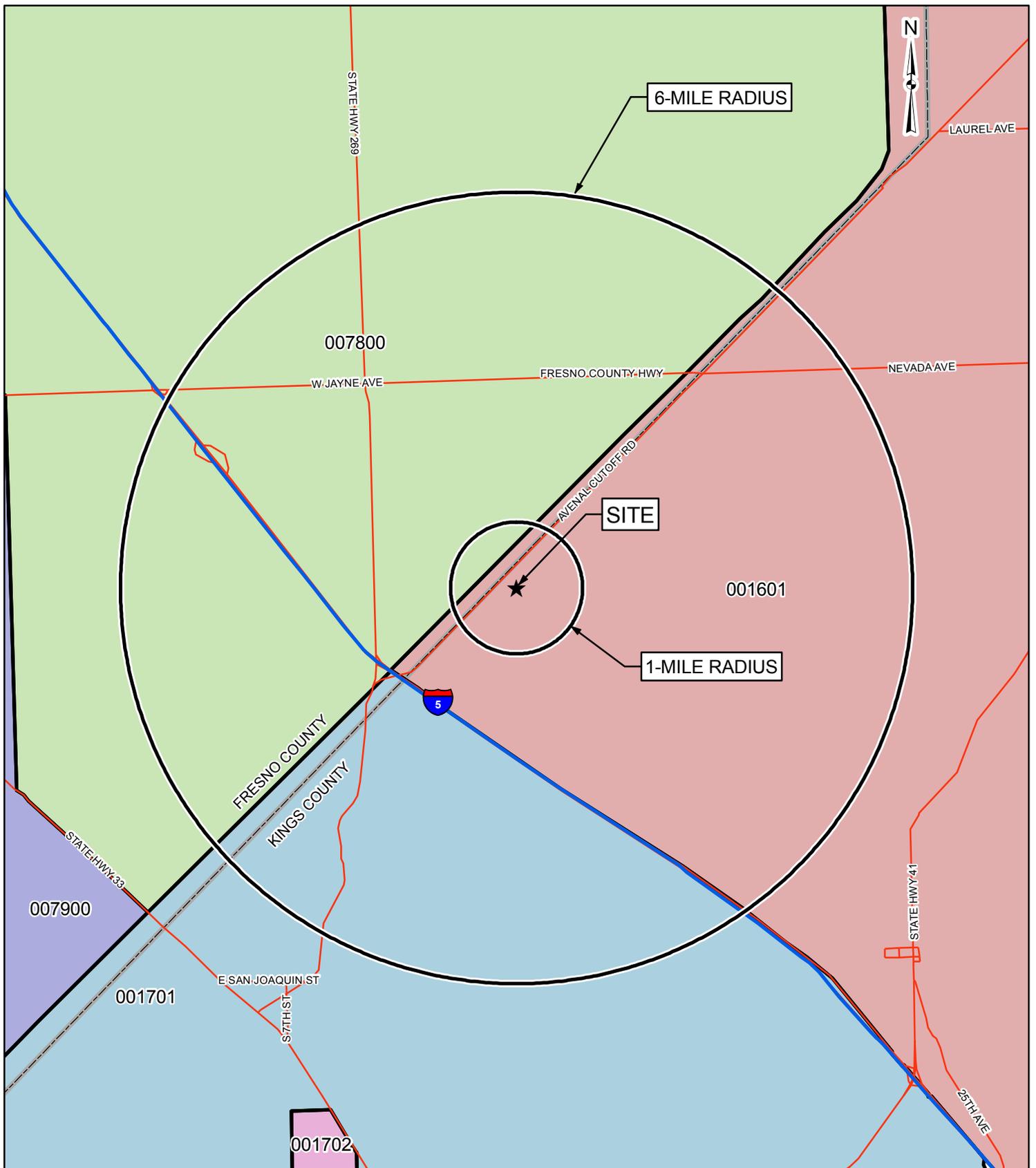
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**REGIONAL COUNTIES AND CITIES**

<b>FEDERAL POWER AVENAL, LLC</b>	
<b>AVENAL ENERGY</b>	<b>FIGURE 6.10-1</b>

REFERENCE: USGS NATIONAL ATLAS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MAP, 1973.



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1" = 2 Miles



SOURCE:  
ESRI BASE DATA - CENSUS TRACT 2000

<b>CENSUS TRACT DATA</b>	
<b>FEDERAL POWER AVENAL, LLC</b>	
AVENAL ENERGY	FIGURE 6.10-2