

6.3 SOCIOECONOMICS

At the time of submittal of this Petition For Amendment the capital costs to develop, construct and operate the BSPP as a PV project were not sufficiently defined in order to perform the modeling necessary to quantify the potential economic benefits to Riverside County and particularly residents within the City of Blythe. While the analysis should not undermine any of the assumptions and rationale contained in the Commission Final Decision, PVSII has commissioned the analysis be performed. This analysis will be submitted under separate cover.

However, it should be noted that the Commission Final Decision, at pages 493-494 made the following findings:

1. A large labor pool within a two-hour commuting distance is available for construction and operation of the project.
2. Over the 69-month construction period, an average of approximately 604 daily construction workers, with a peak daily workforce of 1004, will be required depending on the month and phase of development.
3. The project will hire about 221 permanent, full-time employees from the local area for project operations.
4. The project will not cause an influx of a significant number of construction or operation workers to permanently relocate to the local area.
5. There is an adequate supply of hotels/motels and rental properties within the project vicinity to accommodate workers who stay in the area temporarily during the week and commute to their homes on the weekend.
6. The project will not result in significant adverse effects on local employment, housing, schools, public utilities, parks and recreation, law enforcement, or emergency services.

These findings are based on a construction and operation workforce much larger than proposed by the Modified Project. Therefore, the Modified Project will not alter the ultimate findings contained in the Commission Final Decision.