

## 5.1 INTRODUCTION

This section presents a description of the affected environment and potential environmental consequences that are associated with the Bullard Energy Center (BEC), along with measures to mitigate or avoid adverse impacts as appropriate. Supporting information to determine compliance with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations and standards (LORS) is included within the discussion in each applicable section.

The analyses presented in this section are based on the following:

- Details of the proposed project as presented in Section 3, Facility Description, and Section 4, Alternatives
- Consideration of California Energy Commission (CEC) regulations, including regulations applicable to the expedited processing of projects
- Consideration of CEC staff input

The environmental assessments presented in this section are meant to comply with CEC requirements, including those of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA). In general, each section follows the same format of presenting the affected environment and existing site conditions, followed by the environmental consequences of the project with measures proposed to mitigate significant adverse impacts.

The following sections, 5.2 through 5.18, provide the environmental information required for this Application for Certification (AFC):

- Section 5.2 Air Quality
- Section 5.3 Geologic Hazards
- Section 5.4 Agriculture/Soils
- Section 5.5 Water Resources
- Section 5.6 Biological Resources
- Section 5.7 Cultural Resources
- Section 5.8 Paleontology
- Section 5.9 Land Use
- Section 5.10 Socioeconomics
- Section 5.11 Traffic/Transportation
- Section 5.12 Noise
- Section 5.13 Visual Resources
- Section 5.14 Waste Management
- Section 5.15 HazMat Handling
- Section 5.16 Public Health

- Section 5.17 Worker Safety
- Section 5.18 Cumulative Impacts