5.10 VISUAL RESOURCES

Visual resources are the natural and cultural features of the landscape that can be seen and contribute to the public's appreciative enjoyment of the environment. Visual resource or aesthetic impacts are generally defined in terms of a project's physical characteristics and potential visibility and the extent to which the project's presence will change the perceived visual character and quality of the environment in which it will be located.

In accordance with the CEC guidelines for preparing visual impact assessments, this section describes the existing and future visual conditions in the project area and evaluates the implications that the proposed Palomar Energy Project will have for the public's experience of the project area's aesthetic qualities.

5.10.1 Affected Environment

5.10.1.1 Regional Setting

The 20-acre power plant site and the overall 186-acre industrial park are located within the Quail Hills Specific Plan Area (SPA). Although the Quail Hills Specific Plan approved by the City of Escondido in 1988 will be replaced by the Escondido Research and Technology Center Specific Plan currently in review by the City, both plans call for industrial development of the SPA. This area contains varying topography, ranging from moderately steep, hilly terrain, to ravine and associated riparian vegetation, to relatively flat terrain served by existing streets. The dominant topographical features of this area include two ridgelines, including a primary ridgeline trending north-south through the middle of nearly the entire SPA, and a secondary ridgeline trending east-west in the southerly third of the area. A drainage course runs northeast to southwest through the area. The climate is arid, and the hills are covered with a mantle of low-growing annual grasses and shrubs.

The SPA is planned for industrial land use and is located in the transitional area between the industrial urban core of Escondido and semi-rural and rural areas to the south and west. The area is bounded on the north and east by existing industrial land uses, and there are residences scattered around the west and south perimeter of this area. The landscape within the SPA is open, with disturbed lands, natural vegetation, dirt roads, and power lines as the most visually prominent elements.

In general, the project area can be characterized as an area of working landscapes devoted to industrial use that does not contain exceptional scenic features, and where scenic and aesthetic values have not been given a high priority. None of the roads in the project region have been adopted as scenic highways. Although the buffer area planned around the western fringe of the SPA is expected to be managed in a way that creates and protects positive landscape qualities, none of the lands within the SPA have been designated for special protection of their landscape's aesthetic attributes.

5.10.1.2 Palomar Energy Project Site

At present, the 20-acre power plant site, located in the northeast section of the planned Escondido Research and Technology Center (ERTC) industrial park, is generally flat to gently sloping, surrounded by hills with rolling terrain. The only vegetation consists of low-growing annual grasses, and scrub bushes. The site is disturbed and partially graded, with most of the graded areas left with either dirt or gravelly surfaces. Man-made structures in the immediate vicinity include several lattice transmission towers along the west boundary of the plant site, a radio tower with a control building at its base to the west of the plant site, and industrial buildings to the east of the plant site. Existing site elevations range from approximately 740 to 826 feet amsl, and a large majority of the site lies between 750 and 790 feet amsl. Grading for the industrial park will result in a uniform site elevation of approximately 750 feet amsl. The ridgeline trending north-south along the west boundary of the plant site will be preserved at its current elevation ranging from 832 to 770 feet amsl.

5.10.1.3 Pipeline Routes

As described in Section 2.0, Project Description, underground pipelines will supply the plant's potable water, reclaimed water supply, brine return, sanitary wastewater, and natural gas needs. Potable water and sanitary wastewater will be supplied through connections with existing service pipelines in roadways adjacent to the site.

About half of the proposed reclaimed water supply/brine return pipeline route runs south from the plant site within the industrial park property until the route reaches Harmony Grove Road. The remainder of the proposed route is within the right-of-way of Harmony Grove Road. A natural gas system upgrade to be constructed by SDG&E in central Escondido consists of 2,600-foot of natural gas pipeline that will be installed within existing roadways.

5.10.1.4 Transmission Line Routes

The Palomar project does not require any new transmission lines because of its interconnection with the existing transmission lines adjacent to the west boundary of the plant site. Electrical power generated by the project will be supplied to the regional grid through this interconnection.

For the aesthetic benefit of the industrial park development and to provide visual quality improvements, six existing lattice transmissions towers located near the plant site will be replaced with tubular steel poles of an aesthetically sensitive design, and one lattice tower will be eliminated. These existing lattice towers are prominently located along the primary ridgeline trending north-south through the middle of the SPA. As an additional measure to improve visual aesthetics, existing 69 kilovolt transmission lines running along the ridgeline and/or through the planned industrial park will be rebuilt and/or be placed underground. These 69 kilovolt lines are currently supported on wooden poles. Although these improvements will be funded by the proposed project, they are for the benefit of the planned ERTC industrial park and surrounding area, and they are not necessary for the interconnection

of the proposed power plant. SDG&E will construct the improvements, as these transmission lines form parts of the SDG&E transmission network.

5.10.1.5 Viewshed

Figure 5.10-1 provides a generalized indication of the project viewshed, i.e., the areas from which the proposed power plant is likely to be visible. Development of this map was based on review of the project engineering drawings, visual simulations of the project's appearance from a set of seven selected Key Observation Points (KOPs), study of topographic maps, digital elevation maps, aerial photos, survey control points, and field observations. Because of the ridgelines and rolling terrain in the study area, many of the project features will be masked and not visible over long distances. As a practical matter, the boundaries of the area of potential visibility were set at three miles from the site layout. This distance was selected because three miles is commonly considered to be the break-point between middleground and background, the landscape zone in which little texture or detail is apparent, colors blur into values of blue and gray, and individual visual impacts become least apparent (USDA Forest Service, 1973). Because the various project pipelines will be underground, zones of potential visibility were not defined for these features.

As Figure 5.10-1 illustrates, the power plant's primary area of visibility will be restricted to the nearby vicinity of the plant site. The topmost portions of the plant's exhaust stacks may be visible beyond this area.

Visible Plumes

Analysis of visible plumes from the power plant is not required, since the project will install and operate specially designed plume-abated cooling towers to eliminate the presence of visible plumes.

Nighttime Lighting

Although the plant's lighting system will be designed to minimize the visibility of nighttime lighting to off-site viewers, the presence of the plant will create some increase in the amount of visible night lighting. However, the additional lighting will not represent a complete change in the night lighting conditions visible in the area, in that the existing industrial area adjacent to the east boundary of the Palomar project site already has extensive night lighting. Given the area's existing conditions and the low level of visual sensitivity, the additional lighting associated with the plant will not be a source of significant visual impacts.

5.10.1.6 Sensitive Viewing Areas and Key Observation Points

To structure the analysis of the project effects on visual resources, view areas were identified that would be most sensitive to the project's potential visual impacts. In consultation with CEC staff, seven KOPs were selected for the development of photo simulations to allow visualizing the plant's potential effects. In evaluating the sensitivity of the viewing areas potentially affected by the project, consideration was given to distance from the plant site,

numbers of viewers, and the presence of residential or recreational uses. The sensitive viewing areas selected for analysis and the views from the KOPs selected as the basis for development of visual simulations are described below.

Figure 5.10-1 Viewshed Location and Key Observation Points

In accordance with the CEC's requirement to assess the visual quality of the landscapes potentially affected by the project, the discussion of the views from the KOPs includes ratings of the visual quality of the landscapes that they represent. These ratings were based on a series of field observations carried out in April 2001, review of photos of the affected area, review of methods for assessment of visual quality, and review of research on public perception of the environment and scenic ratings of landscape scenes. The final assessment of the visual quality of the views from each of the KOPs was based on professional judgment that considered a broad spectrum of factors. The visual ratings fit within the rating scale summarized in Table 5.10-1. This scale, which is based on the scale developed for use with an artificial intelligence system for evaluation of landscape visual quality (Buhyoff et al., 1994), provides a useful framework for the qualitative ratings because it is based on research on the ways in which the public evaluates visual quality. This scale provides an intuitively meaningful description of what it means for a landscape to have been assigned a particular rating.

Visual Elements

Analysis of the results of visual simulations is a key input in determining visual impact severity. The process of creating visual simulations includes photographing the project location from each KOP, developing a three-dimensional (3-D) model of the proposed project structures, and superimposing the modeled structures into the photographs. Each KOP was evaluated for the following visual elements: visual quality, visual sensitivity, visibility, and viewer exposure. The following provides an explanation of each of these visual elements.

Visual Quality. The visual quality of a setting is the value of visual resources, such as landscapes that are visually pleasing or that are assigned a high public value (CEC, 1999c). The visual quality associated with each KOP was rated in accordance with the scale provided in Table 5.10-1.

Visual Sensitivity. This is a measure of the level of interest or concern of viewers regarding the visual resources in an area (CEC, 1999c). One of the main indicators of viewer sensitivity is land use. Uses associated with parks, wilderness areas, scenic highways/corridors, recreation, or residences are considered highly sensitive, while commercial uses are considered moderately sensitive (CEC, 1999c). Industrial uses are generally considered the least sensitive. The visual sensitivity associated with each KOP was rated as High, Moderately High, Moderate, Moderately Low, or Low.

Visibility. The degree of visibility is a function of screening. Screening may be provided by terrain, vegetation, and/or buildings, and the degree of screening may be affected by angle of view, distance, meteorological conditions, and the time of day. The lesser the degree of screening, the higher a feature's visibility (CEC, 1999a). The closer the feature is to the center of the view area, the greater the impact. Perception of details (i.e., form, line, color, and texture) diminishes with increasing distance. The analysis took into account whether

Table 5.10-1 Landscape Visual Quality Scale Used in Rating the Areas Potentially Affected by the Palomar Energy Project

Rating	Explanation
Outstanding Visual Quality	A rating reserved for landscapes with exceptionally high visual quality. These landscapes will be significant regionally and/or nationally. They usually contain exceptional natural or cultural features that contribute to this rating. They will be what we think of as "picture post card" landscapes. People will be attracted to these landscapes to be able to view them.
High Visual Quality	Landscapes that have high quality scenic value. This may be due to cultural or natural features contained in the landscape or to the arrangement of spaces contained in the landscape that causes the landscape to be visually interesting or a particularly comfortable place for people. These are often landscapes which have high potential for recreational activities or in which the visual experience is important.
Moderately High Visual Quality	Landscapes which have above average scenic value but are not of high scenic value. The scenic value of these landscapes may be due to man-made or natural features contained within the landscape, to the arrangement of spaces in the landscape, or to the two-dimensional attributes of the landscape.
Moderate Visual Quality	Landscapes which have average scenic value, usually lacking significant man-made or natural features. Their scenic value is primarily a result of the arrangement of spaces contained in the landscape and the two-dimensional visual attributes of the landscape.
Moderately Low Visual Quality	Landscapes that have below average scenic value but not low scenic value. They may contain visually discordant man-made alterations, but the landscape is not dominated by these features. They often lack spaces that people will perceive as inviting and provide little interest in terms of two-dimensional visual attributes of the landscape.
Low Visual Quality	Landscapes with low scenic value. The landscape is often dominated by visually discordant man-made alterations, or they are landscapes that do not include places that people will find inviting and lack interest in terms of two-dimensional visual attributes.

Note: Rating scale based on Buhyoff et. Al., 1994.

views were open, partially screened (filtered), or screened (i.e., presence of hillside terrain, vegetation, and/or buildings blocking the view). The visibility associated with each KOP was rated as High, Moderately High, Moderate, Moderately Low, or Low.

Viewer Exposure. This is a measure of the degree to which viewers are exposed to a view. The value is affected by distance, number of viewers, and duration of view (CEC, 1999c). The approximate number of viewers was determined by contacting appropriate sources (i.e., City of Escondido staff). In order to approximate the number of residences with views of the proposed project, the number of residential buildings within the surrounding viewing area was counted from aerial photos and reviewed in the field. The viewer exposure associated with each KOP was rated as High, Moderately High, Moderate, Moderately Low, or Low.

Key Observation Point 1 – Existing Condition

KOP 1 was selected to represent the views looking east toward the plant site from within the planned industrial park. This observation point is located approximately 1,100 feet west of the principal structures comprising the plant.

- **Visual Quality –** The visual quality of the landscape is considered Moderately Low. The landscape includes mostly shrubbery, knee-high in some areas. The landscape has an arid, open character altered by the construction of barren dirt roads throughout the area. Transmission lines on lattice towers extend through the area, and wooden poles supporting power and telephone lines are scattered throughout the area. Debris is another element of the landscape scene.
- **Visual Sensitivity –** The views in this KOP are open and rural, and bordered by residential and industrial uses. The area is planned as a mixed-use industrial park and therefore will have an industrial character. Since there are no designated sensitive areas, the visual sensitivity is considered Low.
- **Visibility –** The most visually prominent existing features in the area are the existing lattice transmission towers and the radio tower with its control building. The area is primarily open with no residences or recreational users. The elevation of KOP 1 is approximately 812 feet amsl, and a north-south ridgeline ranging from 832 to 770 feet amsl provides partial screening of the plant site as viewed from this KOP. Overall, visibility is considered Moderate.
- **Viewer Exposure –** Due to the low number of viewers and the partial screening, viewer exposure is considered Low.

Key Observation Point 2 – Existing Condition

KOP 2 was selected to represent the views looking east toward the plant site from typical residences located along the west boundary of the planned industrial park. These are the residences located closest to the plant site. KOP 2 is located along Oak View Way where the street makes its closest approach to the industrial park property. This observation point is on the east side of the street, across from the residence at 1189 Oak View Way, approximately 2,000 feet west-southwest of the principal structures comprising the plant.

- **Visual Quality** – Due to its disturbed nature, the visual quality of the landscape is considered Moderately Low. The landscape includes trees and shrubs throughout, with transmission lines and power poles visible in the background.
- **Visual Sensitivity** – The rear yards of the residences next to KOP 2 face the direction of the plant site, and the overall visual sensitivity is considered Moderate.
- **Visibility** – The most visually prominent existing features are the existing transmission lines and telephone lines that are scattered throughout the hillside and the radio tower with its control building. The elevation of KOP 2 is approximately 768 feet amsl, and a north-south ridgeline ranging from 832 to 770 feet amsl provides substantial screening of the plant site as viewed from this KOP. The rear yard fence line, along with distance from the plant site, provides additional screening. Overall, visibility is considered Moderately Low.
- **Viewer Exposure** – This KOP is adjacent to residences along Oak View Way and Chardonney Way but is accompanied by substantial screening. Overall, viewer exposure is considered Moderate.

Key Observation Point 3 – Existing Condition

KOP 3 was selected to represent the views looking east toward the plant site from several residences located on elevated lots along the west boundary of the planned industrial park. This observation point is located in the front patio area of 1189 Oak View Way, approximately 2,100 feet west-southwest of the principal structures comprising the plant.

- **Visual Quality –** Due to its disturbed nature, the visual quality of the landscape is considered Moderately Low. The landscape includes trees and shrubs throughout, with transmission lines and power poles visible in the background.
- **Visual Sensitivity –** The residence at KOP 3 faces the direction of the plant site, and the overall visual sensitivity is considered Moderate.
- **Visibility –** The most visually prominent existing features are the existing transmission lines and telephone lines that are scattered throughout the hillside and the radio tower with its control building. The elevation of KOP 3 is approximately 787 feet amsl, and a north-south ridgeline ranging from 832 to 770 feet amsl provides partial screening of the plant site as viewed from this KOP. Distance from the plant site provides additional screening. Overall, visibility is considered Moderate.
- **Viewer Exposure –** This KOP is adjacent to residences along Oak View Way, but the view toward the plant site is partially screened, and the nontypical nature of this elevated vantage point represents a low number of viewers. Overall, viewer exposure is considered Moderate.

Key Observation Point 4 – Existing Condition

- KOP 4 is a view looking northwest toward the plant site from a vacant lot along Harmony Grove Road. This observation point is located approximately 0.7 mile southeast of the plant site.

- **Visual Quality –** The view from KOP 4 is considered Low in visual quality. The view includes a previously disturbed vacant lot in the foreground and several industrial buildings along Harmony Grove Road and Enterprise Street in the middleground. There are residences located along Harmony Grove Road to the southeast of KOP 4.
- **Visual Sensitivity –** KOP 4 is nearby both residential and industrial uses, and the overall visual sensitivity is considered Moderately Low.
- **Visibility –** In the background, several existing transmission lines on the hilltop are visible between two buildings. However, due to the relatively low elevation of this vantage point at 620 feet amsl, the extent of view blockage by the buildings in the middleground, and additional screening provided by distance, visibility is considered Low.
- **Viewer Exposure –** Although traffic along Harmony Grove Road represents a substantial number of potential viewers, this KOP is accompanied by extensive screening. Views from residences in the vicinity would have even more screening. The resulting viewer exposure is considered Low.

Key Observation Point 5 – Existing Condition

KOP 5 was selected to represent the views looking northwest toward the plant site from a mobile home park that borders on existing industrial uses. This observation point is located in the parking lot of the mobile home park's resident community center, approximately 0.6 mile southeast of the plant site.

- **Visual Quality –** The view from KOP 5 includes several mobile homes, a parking lot, and the resident community center. Based on the nature of the KOP location and the lack of significant views toward the project site, the visual quality is considered Moderately Low.
- **Visual Sensitivity –** Because of the presence of both residences and industrial uses and the lack of significant views, the visual sensitivity is considered Moderately Low.
- **Visibility –** This is a northwest view that takes in the existing transmission lines and portions of developed industrial property in the middleground. Although KOP 5 is somewhat elevated at 694 feet amsl, it does not provide a clear view of the site due to several trees and mobile homes that nearly completely screen the view. As a result, visibility is considered Low.
- **Viewer Exposure –** Because of the extensive screening and relatively low number of viewers, the viewer exposure is considered Low.

Key Observation Point 6 – Existing Condition

KOP 6 was selected to represent the views looking south toward the plant site from residences located in a new housing development off of Deodar Road and Via Salerno that is currently under construction. The new development is adjacent to existing, but generally less elevated, residential neighborhoods in the vicinity. This observation point is located approximately 1.0 mile north of the plant site and about 1,300 feet north of State Highway 78, an eight-lane freeway in this vicinity.

- **Visual Quality –** The view from KOP 6 includes the plant site in the distance adjacent to several lattice transmission towers, behind and among existing industrial uses. The view includes industrial uses and a freeway in the middleground, and graded pads for future residences in the foreground. Due to the lack of any scenic resources or designated viewsheds, as well as the inclusion of substantial industrial elements, the visual quality is considered Moderate.
- **Visual Sensitivity –** Although KOP 6 is located among residences, the visual sensitivity of this view is considered Moderate due to the lack of scenic resources and the predominance of industrial uses in the middleground and background.
- **Visibility –** KOP 6 is somewhat elevated at 762 feet amsl and shows a view that is relatively clear of obstruction towards the proposed plant site, with a haze on the distant views of the hilltop near the plant site. The completion of construction of residential structures at and around this KOP will result in intervening structures screening the view from most nearby vantage points. Overall, the visibility is considered Moderate.
- **Viewer Exposure –** Based on the expected number of viewers, screening due to completion of the residential structures currently under construction, and distance to the project site, viewer exposure is considered Moderate.

Key Observation Point 7 – Existing Condition

KOP 7 was selected to represent the views looking west toward the plant site from residences overlooking Interstate 15 (I-15) in a neighborhood adjoining a commercial area. KOP 7 is located at 345 Vine Street adjacent to a construction storage area. This observation point is located approximately 1.4 miles east of the plant site and about 700 feet east of I-15.

- **Visual Quality –** KOP 7 affords a vantage point looking towards the plant site without intervening structures. The plant site is in the background, with industrial uses, commercial uses, and I-15 in the middleground. Due to the lack of any scenic resources or designated viewsheds, as well as the inclusion of substantial commercial and industrial elements, the visual quality is considered Moderate.
- **Visual Sensitivity –**The character of KOP 7 is influenced by both residential and nearby commercial uses, and is also significantly influenced by unscreened views of I-15. Overall, the visual sensitivity of this view is considered Moderately Low.
- **Visibility –** KOP 7 is an elevated vantage point at 802 feet amsl and affords a view of the plant site without significant structures to impede the view. However, because of

screening due to distance from this KOP to the plant site, the existing lattice transmission towers adjacent to the plant site are not seen clearly. Overall, largely because of screening due to distance from the plant site, the visibility of this KOP is considered Moderate.

- **Viewer Exposure –** The majority of residences in the Vine Street neighborhood are not afforded the view represented by KOP 7, and Vine Street is lightly trafficked. Based on the number of viewers, the lack of intervening structures, and screening due to distance, the viewer exposure is considered Moderate.

Table 5.10-2 summarizes the visual attributes of the seven KOPs.

Table 5.10-2 Visual Attributes of Project KOPs

KOP	Visual Quality	Visual Sensitivity	Visibility	Viewer Exposure	Overall Susceptibility
KOP 1	Moderately Low	Low	Moderate	Low	Moderately Low
KOP 2	Moderately Low	Moderate	Moderately Low	Moderate	Moderately Low
KOP 3	Moderately Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
KOP 4	Low	Moderately Low	Low	Low	Low
KOP 5	Moderately Low	Moderately Low	Low	Low	Low
KOP 6	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
KOP 7	Moderate	Moderately Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

5.10.2 Environmental Impacts

5.10.2.1 Analysis Procedure and Significance Criteria

The visual effects analysis of possible changes brought about by the Palomar Energy Project is based on field observations and review of the following information: local planning documents, project maps and drawings, photographs of the project area, computer-generated visual simulations from each of the KOPs, and research on design measures for integrating electric facilities into their environmental settings.

A series of photographs (Figures 5.10-2a, 5.10-3a, 5.10-4a, 5.10-5a, 5.10-6a, 5.10-7a and 5.10-8a) present the existing conditions as viewed from each KOP. Corresponding visual simulations were produced that represent the "before conditions" (i.e., before construction of the Palomar project facilities but after grading of the industrial park) as viewed from each KOP (Figures 5.10-2b, 5.10-3b, 5.10-4b, 5.10-5b, 5.10-6b, 5.10-7b and 5.10-8b). Additional visual simulations were produced to illustrate the "after conditions" as viewed from each KOP, providing the viewer with a clear image of the location, scale, and visual appearance of

the proposed project after completion of construction of the Palomar project facilities (Figures 5.10-2c, 5.10-3c, 5.10-4c, 5.10-5c, 5.10-6c, 5.10-7c and 5.10-8c). The computer-generated simulations are the result of an analytical and computer modeling process described briefly below. The images are accurate within the constraints of the available site and project data. The "existing conditions" photographs, "before conditions" visual simulations, and "after conditions" visual simulations are provided at the end of the Visual Resources section.

Site reconnaissance was conducted to view the site and surrounding area, to identify potential key viewpoints, and to take representative photographs of existing visual conditions. A Fuji G-617 Panoramic Camera with a 1:8/105 mm lens was shot at F16, 1/30th second shutter speed to photograph the KOPs.

Computer modeling and rendering techniques were used to produce the simulation images of the views from each KOP. Existing topographic and site data provided the basis for developing an initial digital site model. The industrial park architects provided digital site plans and grading plans for the planned industrial park, and engineers for the power plant provided digital site plans and elevations for the proposed project. These were used to create three-dimensional (3-D) digital models of these facilities. These models were combined with the initial digital site model to produce a complete computer model of the industrial park, power plant facilities, and portions of the nearby overhead transmission system.

For each KOP, the viewer location was digitized from topographic maps and scaled aerial photographs, using five feet as the assumed viewer eye level. Additionally, each KOP location was survey controlled to determine its x, y and z spatial coordinates. Computer "wire frame" perspective plots were then overlaid on the photographs of the views from the KOPs to verify scale and viewpoint location. In the next step, digital visual simulation images were produced based on computer renderings of the 3-D model combined with high-resolution digital versions of base photographs. The final "hardcopy" visual simulation images that appear in this document were produced from digital image files using a color printer.

The visual impact assessment was based on evaluation of the changes to the existing visual resources that will result from construction and operation of the Palomar Energy Project. These changes were assessed by evaluating the "after conditions" provided by the computer-generated visual simulations, and comparing them to the "before conditions" visual simulations and existing visual environment. In making the determination of the extent and implications of the visual changes, consideration was given to:

- The specific changes in the affected visual environment's composition, character, and any specially valued qualities.
- The affected visual environment's context.
- The extent to which the affected visual environment contains places or features that have been designated in plans and policies for protection or special consideration.
- The numbers of viewers, their activities, and the extent to which these activities are related to the aesthetic qualities affected by the likely visual changes.

To determine the significance of the likely visual changes, the changes were evaluated in light of the direction given in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. Appendix G of the Guidelines indicates that a project will normally have a significant effect on the environment if it will:

- Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista.
- Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway.
- Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings.
- Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.

5.10.2.2 Project Appearance

Power Plant

The features of the proposed 500 megawatt, natural gas-fired combined cycle power plant are described in detail in Section 2.0. Table 5.10-3 summarizes the dimensions of the power plant's major features.

Table 5.10-3 Approximate Dimensions of Major Power Plant Features

Feature	Height (feet)	Length (feet)	Width (feet)	Diameter (feet)
HRSG Units	85	150	30	--
HRSG Stacks	110	--	--	17
Combustion Turbine-Generator (2)	75	135	30	--
Cooling Tower (7 cells)	65	320	50	--
Raw Water Storage Tank	45	--	--	55
Demineralized Water Storage Tank	40	--	--	30
Operations Building	25	220	90	--

The power plant and switchyard structures will have a flat, neutral, gray-tan finish that will be consistent with the color of the site area's soil and dry season vegetation and the colors of many of the surrounding facilities. Use of a flat finish will reduce the reflectivity of the structures' surfaces and the gray-tan tone will help the plant fade into the backdrop in the more distant views.

The Palomar project will require nighttime lighting for operational safety and security. To minimize any off-site impacts, lighting at the facility will be restricted to areas required for

safety and security. In addition, lights will be directed on-site so that significant off-site light or glare will not be created.

Reclaimed Water Supply, Brine Return, and Natural Gas Pipelines

Because the various water lines and natural gas pipelines will be placed underground, they will not be visible to the public and thus will not produce significant changes in visual conditions. During pipeline construction, appearance of the landscape will be temporarily affected by the presence of the excavated trench, piles of dirt, construction vehicles, and other disturbances associated with pipeline construction. These effects will be minor and temporary, and will not be significant. After completion of construction, ground surfaces will be re-graded and roadways will be repaved. As a consequence, there will be no long-term changes to the visual environment associated with the pipelines.

Site Preparation and Construction Impacts

Overall, construction of the Palomar project is not expected to result in significant visual impacts, due to the temporary nature of the construction activities. Construction will involve the use of typical heavy construction equipment, temporary storage and office facilities, and temporary laydown/staging facilities. Lay down, storage, and other construction support facilities will occur in other areas of the planned industrial park adjacent to the Palomar project site. There are few visual receptors for these areas. Additionally, structures and equipment related to construction activities will be visually subordinate to existing features surrounding the project site, such as the transmission lines.

Construction equipment use and staging areas for pipeline construction will be temporary in nature. In addition, the pipeline routes are in areas with low scenic quality (i.e., within existing street rights-of-way and along the transmission corridor). Therefore, visual impacts from pipeline construction are not expected to be significant.

5.10.2.3 Assessment of Visual Effects

There are a number of factors that are used to evaluate the effects of project changes in the visual environment. For each of the following evaluation factors, the effects of project changes as viewed from each KOP were rated as High, Moderately High, Moderate, Moderately Low, or Low:

Contrast. This is a measure of the contrast with structures, vegetation, and land/water in regard to color, form, line, texture, and scale (CEC 1999a). The degree of contrast can range from high to low. As there are no bodies of water in the project vicinity, contrast with water was not an evaluation factor.

Dominance. This is a measure of the apparent size of an object relative to the visible expanse of the total field of view and the dominance of an object in relation to its location in the landscape (CEC 1999c). Dominance can range from subordinate to dominant.

View Blockage. This is the blockage of view or elimination by the project of any previously visible components. Blockage of higher quality visual elements with lower quality visual elements would be a significant impact (CEC 1999c). The degree of view blockage can range from strong to none.

Key Observation Point 1 - Figures 5.10-2b and 5.10-2c are simulations that represent the view from KOP 1 before and after construction of the power plant. KOP 1 was selected to represent the views looking east toward the plant site from within the planned industrial park. This observation point is located approximately 1,100 feet west of the principal structures comprising the plant. The view from KOP 1 is not representative of the views from any residences.

- **Contrast with Structures –** The power plant structures are mostly screened by intervening terrain, with an upper portion of the exhaust stacks and cooling towers still visible in the middleground of the view from KOP 1. This visible portion of the plant is partially screened by trees. The screening provided by terrain and trees substantially mitigates the potential for contrast with industrial park structures. In addition, replacement of the existing lattice transmission towers with tubular steel poles of an aesthetically sensitive design, together with undergrounding of the 69 kilovolt lines currently supported on wooden poles, results in an improved visual quality that is more consistent with a modern industrial park. Due to the lack of significant existing structures near the project site, the contrast of the proposed project with existing structures is considered Low.
- **Contrast with Vegetation –** Existing vegetation in this view consists mainly of scattered shrubs and low-lying grass. The presence of the partially screened, visible portion of the power plant structures does not significantly alter the existing landscape scene's character or quality, and therefore the contrast of the proposed project with vegetation is considered Moderate.
- **Contrast with Land –** Because the screened, visible portion of the power plant structures presents a degree of contrast with the open nature of the project area, the contrast of the proposed project with land is considered Moderate.
- **Scale/Spatial Dominance –** Because the power plant structures are more distant and much shorter than the existing nearby lattice transmission towers and radio tower, the scale dominance of the proposed project is considered Moderate. Given the relatively small portion of the power plant structures that is visible above the intervening terrain, and considering the openness of the general area, the spatial dominance of the proposed project is considered Moderate.
- **View Blockage –** Because the project site is at a low elevation relative to this KOP, only the upper portions of the tallest power plant structures impose any view blockage. Based on the form and mass of the visible portions of the plant structures, the view blockage imposed by the proposed project is considered Moderate.

- **Visual Impact Severity –** Because this area is not visually sensitive and the presence of the power plant will not appreciably change the character and quality of the landscape visible from this KOP, the visual impact severity of the proposed project as viewed from KOP 1 is considered Moderately Low.

Key Observation Point 2 – Figures 5.10-3b and 5.10-3c are simulations that represent the view from KOP 2 before and after construction of the power plant. Because of intervening landform created as part of grading of the industrial park, the power plant is not visible from this observation point. KOP 2 was selected to represent the views looking east toward the plant site from typical residences located along the west boundary of the planned industrial park. These are the residences located closest to the plant site. KOP 2 is located along Oak View Way where the street makes its closest approach to the industrial park property. This observation point is on the east side of the street, across from the residence at 1189 Oak View Way, approximately 2,000 feet west-southwest of the principal structures comprising the plant. The view from KOP 2 is representative of the views from about 15 residences. With the exception of the residences represented by KOP 3, other residences in the same vicinity have little or no views toward the project site due to screening by existing residential structures, vegetation, and terrain within the neighborhood.

- **Contrast with Structures –** Other than towers and/or poles supporting existing transmission lines, there are no structures in the view from KOP 2. Replacement of the existing lattice transmission towers with tubular steel poles of an aesthetically sensitive design, together with undergrounding of the 69 kilovolt lines currently supported on wooden poles, provides an improvement in visual quality. Therefore, the contrast of the proposed project with existing structures is considered Low.
- **Contrast with Vegetation –** Other than the steel poles that replace the existing lattice transmission towers, no project structures are visible from this KOP. Therefore, the contrast of the proposed project with vegetation is considered Low.
- **Contrast with Land –** Other than the steel poles that replace the existing lattice transmission towers, no project structures are visible from this KOP. Therefore, the contrast of the proposed project with land is considered Low.
- **Scale/Spatial Dominance –** Because of intervening landform created as part of grading of the industrial park, the power plant is not visible from this KOP. Therefore, the scale and spatial dominance of the proposed project is considered Low.
- **View Blockage –** The landform in the middleground is the result of grading of the industrial park and is not attributable to the proposed project. Because no project structures are visible from this KOP, the view blockage imposed by the proposed project is considered Low.
- **Visual Impact Severity –** The only project effects visible from this KOP are the transmission line improvements. As the transmission line improvements are included with the proposed project for the sole purpose of enhancing visual quality, the visual impact severity of the proposed project as viewed from KOP 2 is considered Low.

Key Observation Point 3 – Figures 5.10-4b and 5.10-4c are simulations that represent the view from KOP 3 before and after construction of the power plant. Although KOP 3 is nearby KOP 2, the higher elevation of KOP 3 allows an upper portion of the power plant to be seen over the top of the same landform that entirely screens the view from KOP 2. KOP 3 was selected to represent the views looking east toward the plant site from several residences located on elevated lots along the west boundary of the planned industrial park. This observation point is located in the front patio area of 1189 Oak View Way, approximately 2100 feet west-southwest of the principal structures comprising the plant. The view from KOP 3 is representative of the views from about 12 residences.

- **Contrast with Structures –** The power plant structures are mostly screened by intervening terrain, with an upper portion of the exhaust stacks and cooling towers still visible in the view from KOP 3. This visible portion of the plant is partially screened by trees. The screening provided by terrain and trees substantially mitigates the potential for contrast with industrial park structures. In addition, replacement of the existing lattice transmission towers with tubular steel poles of an aesthetically sensitive design, together with undergrounding of the 69 kilovolt lines currently supported on wooden poles, provides an improvement in visual quality. Due to the lack of significant existing structures near the project site, the contrast of the proposed project with existing structures is considered Low.
- **Contrast with Vegetation –** In addition to the steel poles that replace the existing lattice transmission towers, a small portion of the power plant is visible but partially screened by trees. Therefore, the contrast of the proposed project with vegetation is considered Low.
- **Contrast with Land –** The small portion of the power plant that is visible in the background presents a minor degree of contrast with the landform in the middleground created as part of grading of the industrial park. Therefore, the contrast of the proposed project with land is considered Moderately Low.
- **Scale/Spatial Dominance –** Due to the project's unobtrusive appearance in the background, the scale and spatial dominance of the proposed project is considered Moderately Low.
- **View Blockage –** The landform in the middleground is the result of grading of the industrial park and is not attributable to the proposed project. Because the small portion of the power plant that is visible in the background presents an insignificant degree of view blockage, the view blockage imposed by the proposed project is considered Low.
- **Visual Impact Severity –** The project elements visible from this KOP are the transmission line improvements and a small, tree-screened portion of the power plant. As the transmission line improvements are included with the proposed project for the sole purpose of enhancing visual quality, and as the visible portion of the power plant is a minor presence in the background, the visual impact severity of the proposed project as viewed from KOP 3 is considered Moderately Low.

Key Observation Point 4 – Figures 5.10-5b and 5.10-5c are simulations that represent the view from KOP 4 before and after construction of the power plant. KOP 4 is a view looking northwest toward the plant site from a vacant lot along Harmony Grove Road. This observation point is located approximately 0.7 mile southeast of the plant site. The view from KOP 4 is representative of the views from about 8 residences. Other residences in the same vicinity have little or no views toward the project site due to screening by existing industrial structures, residential structures, and vegetation.

- **Contrast with Structures –** The view from KOP 4 is dominated by existing industrial buildings in the middleground, which screen views toward the project site. Due to the lack of significantly visible project features in relation to existing buildings, the contrast of the proposed project with existing structures is considered Low.
- **Contrast with Vegetation –** Given this view composition, the project will not substantially alter the existing character or visual quality of the landscape scene, and therefore the contrast of the proposed project with vegetation is considered Low.
- **Contrast with Land –** Due to the minor amount of project features that are visible, the contrast of the proposed project with land is considered Low.
- **Scale/Spatial Dominance –** Due to the project's unobtrusive appearance in the background, the scale and spatial dominance of the proposed project is considered Moderately Low.
- **View Blockage –** The project facilities appear as background elements, and their apparent size is greatly reduced by their distance from the observation point. Therefore, the view blockage imposed by the proposed project is considered Low.
- **Visual Impact Severity –** Due to the lack of significantly visible project features and because the view's existing visual character and quality will not be substantially changed, the visual impact severity of the proposed project as viewed from KOP 4 is considered Moderately Low.

Key Observation Point 5 – Figures 5.10-6b and 5.10-6c are simulations that represent the view from KOP 5 before and after construction of the power plant. KOP 5 was selected to represent the views looking northwest toward the plant site from a mobile home park that borders on existing industrial uses. This observation point is located in the parking lot of the mobile home park's resident community center, approximately 0.6 mile southeast of the plant site. The view from KOP 5 is representative of the views from up to about 40 residences in the northwestern portion of the mobile home park. Other residences in the same vicinity have no views toward the project site due to screening by existing industrial structures, residential structures, vegetation, and terrain.

- **Contrast with Structures –** The view from KOP 5 is dominated by existing residential mobile home buildings in the foreground, which screen most views to the project site. Due to the lack of significantly visible project features in relation to

existing buildings, the contrast of the proposed project with existing structures is considered Low.

- **Contrast with Vegetation –** Most of the vegetation in the view from this KOP is non-native landscaping. The project will not substantially alter the existing character or visual quality of the landscape scene, and therefore the contrast of the proposed project with vegetation is considered Low.
- **Contrast with Land –** Due to the minor amount of project features that are visible, the contrast of the proposed project with land is considered Low.
- **Scale/Spatial Dominance –** Due to the project's unobtrusive appearance in the background, the scale and spatial dominance of the proposed project is considered Moderately Low.
- **View Blockage –** The project facilities appear as background elements, and their apparent size is greatly reduced by their distance from the observation point. Therefore, the view blockage imposed by the proposed project is considered Low.
- **Visual Impact Severity –** Due to the lack of significantly visible project features and because the view's existing visual character and quality will not be substantially changed, the visual impact severity of the proposed project as viewed from KOP 5 is considered Moderately Low.

Key Observation Point 6 – Figures 5.10-7b and 5.10-7c are simulations that represent the view from KOP 6 before and after construction of the power plant. KOP 6 was selected to represent the views looking south toward the plant site from residences located in a new housing development off of Deodar Road and Via Salerno that is currently under construction. The new development is adjacent to existing, but generally less elevated, residential neighborhoods in the vicinity. This observation point is located approximately 1.0 mile north of the plant site and about 1,300 feet north of State Highway 78, an eight-lane freeway in this vicinity. The view from KOP 6 is representative of the views from few residences, if any, due to the temporary lack of foreground screening by residential structures and vegetation. Up to about 100 residences in the same vicinity may have partial views toward the project site, with such views screened by residential structures, vegetation, and terrain within the neighborhood.

- **Contrast with Structures –** There are many existing structures in the middleground and background of the view from KOP 6. The color treatments and size of the project help it blend into the background. The contrast of the proposed project with existing structures is considered Moderate.
- **Contrast with Vegetation –** The project will not substantially alter the existing character or visual quality of the landscape scene, and therefore the contrast of the proposed project with vegetation is considered Low.
- **Contrast with Land –** The project structures blend with the landscape and developed areas in the view from this KOP. However, due to the project's slightly elevated

position along its backdrop, the contrast of the proposed project with land is considered Moderate.

- **Scale/Spatial Dominance –** Due to its slightly elevated position along the background of the view, the scale dominance of the proposed project is considered Moderately High. Due to the project's compact appearance within its sector of the view, the spatial dominance of the proposed project is considered Moderate.
- **View Blockage –** The project facilities appear as background elements, and their apparent size is greatly reduced by their distance from the observation point. Therefore, the view blockage imposed by the proposed project is considered Low.
- **Visual Impact Severity –** The proposed project is currently within a direct line of site of KOP 6, but the completion of construction of residential structures at and around this KOP will result in intervening structures screening the view from most nearby vantage points. Although the scale of the project is somewhat dominant in the background, the project is spatially proportionate the other elements in this view. Given the overall view composition including industrial uses and a freeway in the middleground, the project will not substantially alter the existing character or visual quality of the landscape scene, and therefore the visual impact severity of the proposed project as viewed from KOP 6 is considered Moderate.

Key Observation Point 7 – Figures 5.10-8b and 5.10-8c are simulations that represent the view from KOP 7 before and after construction of the power plant. KOP 7 was selected to represent the views looking west toward the plant site from residences overlooking Interstate 15 in a neighborhood adjoining a commercial area. KOP 7 is located at 345 Vine Street adjacent to a construction storage area. This observation point is located approximately 1.4 miles east of the plant site and about 700 feet east of Interstate 15. The view from KOP 7 is representative of the views from about 30 residences, with up to another 30 residences having similar but less unobstructed views toward the project site. Other residences in the same vicinity have little or no views toward the project site due to screening by existing residential structures, vegetation, and terrain within the neighborhood.

- **Contrast with Structures –** There are many existing structures in middleground and background of the view from KOP 7. The color treatments and size of the project help it blend into the background. The contrast of the proposed project with existing structures is considered Moderate.
- **Contrast with Vegetation –** The landscape visible in the foreground is disturbed and of low visual quality. The project will not substantially alter the existing character or visual quality of the landscape scene, and therefore the contrast of the proposed project with vegetation is considered Low.
- **Contrast with Land –** The project structures blend with the landscape and developed areas in the view from this KOP. However, due to the project's slightly elevated position along its backdrop, the contrast of the proposed project with land is considered Moderate.

- **Scale/Spatial Dominance –** Due to its small size and mass as viewed from the distance to this KOP, the scale and spatial dominance of the proposed project is considered Moderate.
- **View Blockage –** The project facilities appear as background elements, and their apparent size is greatly reduced by their distance from the observation point. Therefore, the view blockage imposed by the proposed project is considered Low.
- **Visual Impact Severity –** Due to its small size and mass as viewed from the distance to this KOP, the project will not substantially alter the existing character or visual quality of the landscape scene, and therefore the visual impact severity of the proposed project as viewed from KOP 7 is considered Moderate.

5.10.2.4 Summary Assessment of Visual Impacts

This assessment of the Palomar Energy Project's visual impacts indicates that the power plant will be visible to some degree in the view from KOP 1 and in the views from KOPs 3 through 7. However, the project facilities will not produce effects that could be considered significant. This result is primarily due to selection of a site that affords substantial screening by terrain and is located in an area with an existing industrial visual character. The use of colors that blend with the existing setting also contributes to this result. Implementation of design measures to minimize project lighting effects will ensure that nighttime lighting is not a source of significant visual impacts. Table 5.10-4 summarizes the visual impacts of project facilities.

Table 5.10-4 Summary Assessment of Visual Impacts

KOP	Contrast w/ Structures	Contrast w/ Vegetation	Contrast w/ Land	Scale Dominance	Spatial Dominance	View Blockage	Visual Impact Severity
KOP 1	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderately Low
KOP 2	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
KOP 3	Low	Low	Moderately Low	Moderately Low	Moderately Low	Low	Moderately Low
KOP 4	Low	Low	Low	Moderately Low	Moderately Low	Low	Moderately Low
KOP 5	Low	Low	Low	Moderately Low	Moderately Low	Low	Moderately Low
KOP 6	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderately High	Moderate	Low	Moderate
KOP 7	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Moderate

The combined effects of the various visual elements associated with each KOP result in a visual impact severity that ranges from Low to Moderate. With implementation of the

mitigation measures discussed in Section 5.10.4, the overall visual impact of the Palomar Energy Project will not be significant.

5.10.3 Compatibility with City of Escondido Planning Requirements

The City of Escondido General Plan, the Quail Hills Specific Plan, and the Escondido Research and Technology Center (ERTC) Specific Plan address issues related to visual and aesthetic qualities. These issues are discussed in the following paragraphs.

5.10.3.1 City of Escondido General Plan

The City of Escondido General Plan provides guidelines for the future development of land within the community. One of the City of Escondido's objectives is to create an "aesthetically pleasing" community by establishing landscape guidelines for all areas of the City and adopting "design guidelines and development standards to be the basis for design review of architectural, landscaping, signage and other visual impacts of development projects." The Land Use Element of the City of Escondido General Plan contains a policy that requires that industrial development be appropriately screened and landscaped for visual aesthetic reasons. Because the Palomar Energy Project site lies within a Specific Plan Area, policies set forth in the City of Escondido General Plan that affect the project are implemented under the guidance of a Specific Plan.

5.10.3.2 Quail Hills and ERTC Specific Plans

The 20-acre power plant site and the overall 186-acre industrial park are located within the Quail Hills SPA. The Quail Hills Specific Plan was approved by the City of Escondido in 1988 and is currently in force, although no development has taken place under this existing Specific Plan. The purpose of both the Quail Hills Specific Plan and the ERTC Specific Plan that will update and supersede the Quail Hills Specific Plan are to guide and set the framework for industrial development in SPA. Both documents strive to implement the policies set forth in the City of Escondido General Plan.

The Quail Hills Specific Plan call for development standards that are similar to and derived from the City of Escondido's Industrial Park (I-P) zone. The Quail Hills Specific Plan emphasizes creation of a "unifying physical design theme consisting of building complexes, interrelated building materials, open spaces with pedestrian circulation and use of related plant materials" (City of Escondido, 1988). It stresses landscaping to screen the industrial facilities from the residential areas to the west. The Quail Hills Specific Plan calls for a Master Landscape Plan emphasizing a small number of dominant tree species, use of drought tolerant plant materials, and prompt revegetation of graded slopes with ground cover, shrubs, and trees. It calls for the use of building materials that are attractive, unobtrusive, and interrelated to the rest of the buildings in the project area.

Although the ERTC Specific Plan has many similar aesthetic goals and approaches to the Quail Hills Specific Plan, the ERTC Specific Plan provides more detailed guidance and standards. It stresses an integration of elements of landscaping, lighting, signage, circulation,

building materials, and screening to create a distinctive but visually consistent architectural style. It emphasizes the use of topography and landscaping to buffer and provide transition to the nearby residential areas, and use of native, drought tolerant vegetation. The ERTC Specific Plan identifies a power plant as a permitted use in Planning Area 1 of the industrial park, which is the location proposed for the Palomar Energy Project (Planning Systems, 2001).

5.10.4 Mitigation Measures

The following measures have been included in the project design to mitigate visual impacts:

VIS-1. The power plant structures will be arranged to make maximum use of the visual screening afforded by site topography. The plant site will incorporate berms, trees, and other landscaping that provides further visual screening in order to minimize visual impacts on the surrounding area, in accordance with the ERTC Specific Plan criteria for Planning Area 1.

VIS-2. All structures, exhaust stacks, buildings, and tanks will be constructed of materials that limit glare, and they will be finished with flat, neutral tones that blend with the surrounding environment.

VIS-3. The perimeter of the plant site shall be secured with aesthetic steel fencing or screen walls, selected as appropriate for specific visual settings along the perimeter. The site perimeter fencing will be treated or painted to blend with the surrounding environment.

VIS-4. Signs at the entrances to the plant site will be constructed of materials that minimize glare, and will be painted using colors that are unobtrusive.

VIS-5. Lighting at the plant site will be limited to areas required for safety and security, and will be directional to minimize spillover onto adjacent properties.

5.10.5 Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

With implementation of the above mitigation measures, construction and operation of the Palomar Energy Project will not result in significant adverse impacts on visual resources.

5.10.6 Cumulative Impacts

The projects included in the cumulative impact assessment are two small, peaking power plants under construction near the Palomar project site, and the ERTC industrial park within the boundaries of which the Palomar project site is located.

The 44 MW RAMCO plant is located about 0.5 miles northwest of the Palomar site, and the 49 MW CalPeak plant is located adjacent to the north boundary of the Palomar site. From most vantage points, the RAMCO plant is not visually prominent and it does not generally appear in the same field of view as the Palomar project site, and therefore the potential for significant cumulative impact is low. Although the location of the CalPeak plant is visually associated with the Palomar site, the extensive berms, trees, and other landscaping included in

the CalPeak project design will provide visual screening that substantially mitigates the potential for significant cumulative impact.

The Palomar project will be located within the boundaries of the ERTC industrial park project, and the Palomar project has been specifically situated and designed to avoid adverse visual impacts both on and in combination with the ERTC project. Development of the industrial park in accordance with the guidance and standards set forth in the ERTC Specific Plan is expected to result in an improvement over the current appearance of the visual setting. The planned rebuilding and undergrounding of the numerous transmission lines running through the ERTC project area will add to this improvement. As shown by Figure 5.10-2c, the simulated view from KOP 1, the screening provided by terrain along with the other mitigation measures proposed for the Palomar project will result in an unobtrusive appearance as viewed from within the industrial park. As shown by Figure 5.10-2d, build out of the industrial park will add to this screening. Build out of the industrial park will also add to the screening of views from KOP 3, as shown by Figure 5.10-4d. This additional screening will eliminate most, if not all, remaining views of the power plant from observation points west of the industrial park.

Overall, the combined effects of the Palomar Energy Project, the ERTC project, and the two small power plant projects are not expected to result in a significant adverse cumulative impact on visual resources.

5.10.7 LORS Compliance

The Palomar Energy Project will comply with all laws, ordinances, regulations and standards (LORS) pertinent to the protection of visual resources. The applicable LORS are discussed in Section 6.4.10.

5.10.8 Involved Agencies and Agency Contacts

The local agency involved in noise issues relating to the Palomar Energy Project is the City of Escondido. Contact information is provided in Table 5.10-6.

Table 5.10-6 Involved Agencies and Agency Contacts

Agency/Address	Contact/Telephone	Permits/Reason for Involvement
City of Escondido Planning 201 North Broadway Escondido, CA 92025	Ms. Diane Delgadillo (760) 839-4555	Zoning and Conditional Use Permit.

5.10.9 Permits Required and Permit Schedule

No permits are required that are specific to visual resources. The ERTC Specific Plan currently being processed by the City of Escondido contains guidance and standards relevant to visual resources, as discussed in Section 5.10.3. Section 5.7, Land Use, includes additional information regarding permits.

5.10.10References

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Figure 5.10-2a KOP 1: Existing Condition

[Editor's note: figure pages must be facing each other, i.e., #a figures on left (even-numbered pages?) and #b figures on right (odd-numbered pages?) when binder is open…]

Figure 5.10-2b KOP 1: Before Condition

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Figure 5.10-2c KOP 1: After Condition

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Figure 5.10-2d KOP 1: Cumulative Condition

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Figure 5.10-3a KOP 2: Existing Condition

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Figure 5.10-3b KOP 2: Before Condition

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Figure 5.10-3c KOP 2: After Condition

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Figure 5.10-4a KOP 3: Existing Condition

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Figure 5.10-4b KOP 1: Before Condition

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Figure 5.10-4c KOP 3: After Condition

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Figure 5.10-4d KOP 3: Cumulative Condition

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Figure 5.10-5a KOP 4: Existing Condition

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Figure 5.10-5b KOP 4: Before Condition

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Figure 5.10-5c KOP 4: After Condition"

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Figure 5.10-6a KOP 5: Existing Condition

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Figure 5.10-6b KOP 5: Before Condition

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Figure 5.10-6c KOP 5: After Condition

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Figure 5.10-7a KOP 6: Existing Condition

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Figure 5.10-7b KOP 6: Before Condition

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Figure 5.10-7c KOP 6: After Condition

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Figure 5.10-8a KOP 7: Existing Condition

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Figure 5.10-8b KOP 7: Before Condition

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Figure 5.10-8c KOP 7: After Condition

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