

## **5.8 PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

This section addresses paleontological resources for the proposed PEF Expansion. The environmental consequences of developing the PEF Expansion are also discussed, along with Applicant's proposal to apply the applicable Conditions of Certification for the existing PEF to the PEF Expansion.

The PEF Expansion consists of a nominal 160 MW simple cycle combustion turbine generator. The PEF Expansion area will be approximately two acres located entirely within the existing PEF 31-acre site boundary. The PEF Expansion requires no modification to the existing PEF offsite linear facilities (e.g. electric transmission line, fuel gas supply line, or water supply line). The PEF Expansion will use the existing PEF administration and control, warehouse and shop, and water treatment buildings. Site access and onsite roadways are common with the existing PEF. Figure 3.1-1 of this application depicts the new facilities required for the PEF Expansion project within the footprint of the existing PEF.

### **5.8.1 Affected Environment**

The affected environment for the PEF is as described in 99-AFC-7. The Paleontological Resources Section 5.8 of 99-AFC-7 is included for reference as part of Attachment G of this application. Extensive paleontological resource data has been documented and submitted to the CEC as part of construction compliance requirements. A summary of these materials is included in Attachment G of this application.

### **5.8.2 Environmental Consequences**

The PEF Expansion will share common facilities with the existing PEF and thus, the site disturbance remains unchanged from the existing PEF. No new impacts to paleontological resources are expected as a result of the PEF Expansion. Therefore, the discussion of environmental consequences for the PEF Expansion remains unchanged from 99-AFC-7. The Paleontological Resources Section 5.8 of 99-AFC-7 is included for reference as Attachment G of this application.

### **5.8.3 Mitigation**

The Applicant proposes to apply the applicable Conditions of Certification for the existing PEF to the PEF Expansion. The Conditions of Certification for 99-AFC-7 are included in Section 9.0 of this application. With the implementation of the applicable Conditions of Certification, no significant unavoidable adverse impacts to paleontological resources are anticipated due to construction or operation of the PEF Expansion.

#### **5.8.4 LORS Compliance**

The PEF Expansion will comply with all applicable LORS related to paleontological resources. A complete list of the applicable LORS for paleontological resources is included in Section 7.0 LORS of this application.

#### **5.8.5 References**

The paleontological resources references for the existing PEF are applicable to the PEF Expansion. The references from Section 5.8 of 99-AFC-7 are included as part of Attachment G of this application.