

SECTION 5.0

Environmental Information

This chapter contains 16 individual sections, each with a divider and tab heading. The sections represent the 16 environmental, public health and safety, and local impact assessment disciplines for which the California Energy Commission (CEC) Energy Facilities Siting Regulations (Title 20, California Code of Regulations, Section 1704, Appendix B) require information in an Application for Certification. The sections have a standardized format under the following headings:

- Affected Environment
- Environmental Analysis
- Cumulative Effects
- Mitigation Measures
- Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards (LORS)
- Agencies and Agency Contacts
- Permits and Permit Schedules

The Introduction briefly describes the subject matter and organization of each section. Affected Environment includes relevant background information about the project's environmental, social, and regulatory settings. Environmental Analysis analyzes the potential environmental consequences of the construction and operation of the Rice Solar Energy Project. The section begins with a list of the criteria used to determine whether environmental effects of the project qualify as significant adverse environmental impacts. Cumulative Effects discusses potential effects of the project that are not significant adverse impacts, but that could reach significance cumulatively in combination with other projects. Mitigation Measures describes any mitigation measures necessary to reduce potential impacts below the level of significance. Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards discusses and lists the LORS that pertain to the project for a given discipline and includes a demonstration that the project, as designed, would comply with all applicable LORS. Agencies and Agency Contacts is a list of federal agencies with permitting authority over the project, and state and local regulatory agencies that would have such permitting authority, but for the exclusive purview of the CEC to license thermal power plants with a capacity of 50 megawatts or more in California. This section also contains a list of regulatory agency staff and their contact information. Permits and Permit Schedules lists applicable permits and their schedules.