

APPENDIX 8.10A

# **Environmental Justice Analysis**

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# Environmental Justice

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## Introduction

This analysis was prepared in compliance with Presidential Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations* (EO 12898), dated February 11, 1994. The purpose of this report is to determine whether or not disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of the proposed Walnut Creek Energy Park (WCEP) project are likely to fall on minority and/or low-income populations. This report focuses on the populations that are located within the area potentially affected by the WCEP project. In accordance with EO 12898, this report documents where minority and low-income populations reside and examines where any high and adverse impacts (as reported in the various environmental analysis sections of this AFC) fall relative to these populations. This report also discusses outreach efforts to involve minority and low-income populations in the decision-making process. No high and adverse impacts are expected as a result of this project, therefore no high and adverse human health or environmental effects of this project are expected to fall disproportionately on minority or low-income populations.

## Studies Performed and Coordination Conducted

### Overview of Executive Order 12898

EO 12898, issued by President Clinton in 1994, requires that “each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations...” In his memorandum transmitting EO 12898 to federal agencies, President Clinton further specified that, “each Federal agency shall analyze the environmental effects, including human health, economic and social effects, of Federal actions, including effects on minority communities and low-income communities, when such analysis is required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.” Guidance on how to implement EO 12898 and conduct an Environmental Justice analysis has been issued by the President’s Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ, 1997).

### Methodology and Approach

The Environmental Justice Analysis for the WCEP was completed in compliance with Presidential EO 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations* dated February 11, 1994 and *Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*.

In accordance with EO 12898, this analysis outlines planned specific outreach efforts to involve minority and low-income populations; documents where minority and low-income populations reside within the study area (within a 6-mile radius of the WCEP). This analysis

also discusses whether there is the potential for disproportionately high and adverse effects of the project on these populations a

## Key Phases in the Analytical Process

The environmental justice analytical process has three key phases: (1) focused outreach to, and involvement of, the minority and low-income population in the decision making process; (2) a screening-level analysis to determine the potential for environmental justice issues; and, (3) if indicated by the screening results, a more detailed analysis of the relative distribution and intensity of impacts. These three phases and how they were conducted are discussed below.

The WCEP project was evaluated for compliance with EO 12898. For this type of analysis, three fundamental evaluation measures are used.

1. *A determination is made as to which impacts of the project are high and adverse.*

The series of environmental analyses prepared for the WCEP AFC were reviewed, and discussions with the environmental professionals who prepared these sections were conducted to determine which environmental or human health impacts could reach the level of high and adverse after proposed mitigation measures were implemented. Neither EO 12898 nor any of the environmental justice guidance documents contains official guidance on the definition of "high and adverse." For purposes of this analysis, adverse impacts identified by the professional analysts working on this AFC as "significant" under CEQA were considered to be synonymous with high and adverse impacts as described in EO 12898.

2. *A determination is made as to whether minority or low-income populations exist within the high and adverse impact zones.*

For information on the distribution of minority and low-income populations in the WCEP project area, 2000 Census data were used. Race and income data were reviewed at the finest level available from the Census (i.e., Census Block for race, and Census Block Group for income).

3. *The spatial distribution of high and adverse impacts is reviewed to determine if these impacts are likely to fall disproportionately on the minority or low-income population.*

Since there is no specific guidance in EO 12898, the test of disproportionately is made on the basis described in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) *Draft Revised Guidance for Investigating Title VI Administrative Complaints Challenging Permits* (USEPA, June 2000). This guidance suggests using two to three standard deviations above the mean as a quantitative measure of disparate effect.

While the first two elements of this approach were conducted, no detailed distribution analysis was required to make a final determination. This was because professional analysts in each environmental and human health discipline reviewed for this AFC determined that no high and adverse (i.e., CEQA significant) human health or environmental effects were expected to remain after implementation of proposed mitigation measures.

## Outreach to Minority and Low-Income Populations

EO 12898 requires Federal agencies to ensure effective public participation and access to information. Consequently, a key component of compliance with EO 12898 is outreach to the potentially affected minority and/or low-income population to discover issues of importance that may not otherwise be apparent.

### 1. Outreach and Involvement

The Executive Order requires agencies to ensure effective public participation and access to information. Consequently, a key phase of environmental justice analysis is outreach to the potentially affected minority or low-income population to discover issues of importance that may not otherwise be apparent.

At the current stage of this project, a public outreach and information program would be premature, since details of the project that would be of interest to the public have not been fully developed. In later stages, the California Energy Commission will provide information to residents in the area and provide opportunities for their involvement.

The California Energy Commission typically:

- Mails written notice to all property owners within 1000 feet of the site and within 500 feet of any linear corridor.
- Publishes notice in the local newspaper announcing public workshops and hearings
- Provides access to information by submitting copies of key documents to local libraries and providing materials via a web page
- Holds hearings and workshops in the local community
- Assigns a public advisor to assist the public in participating in the process

## Demographic Analysis

Of the overall total population within the 6-mile radius, approximately 76 percent are minority, 54 percent are of Hispanic origin<sup>1</sup>, and 13 percent are low-income. Of the 145 census tracts, only 20 have minority populations that are below 50 percent. With respect to Hispanic origin, about half the census tracts have Hispanic population distributions above 50 percent while the other half has distributions below 50 percent.

### Distribution of the Minority Population

Minority population, as defined by the U.S. Census, is comprised of individuals who are members of one of the following racial minorities: American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian or Pacific Islander; Black, not of Hispanic origin; or Hispanic. From the preceding definition, minority population has two components: racial minority and Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Table 8.10-1 shows the ethnic distribution, for the Census Tracts that are within a 6-mile radius of WCEP. The data in this table is from the 2000 U.S. Census data, which was released in April 2001. Table 8.10-1A at the end of this appendix shows the distribution of minority populations at the smaller Census Block level. Figure 8.10-1A at the end of the appendix shows the percentage of minority populations in Census Blocks within the 6-mile radius of WCEP.

**TABLE 8.10-1**  
Distribution of Minority Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius

Tract	Population	Non-Hispanic White	Minority	Percent Minority	Hispanic Origin <sup>1</sup>	Percent Hispanic Origin
06037503501	6,274	2,117	4,157	66.3	3,767	60.0
06037503502	3,926	1,872	2,054	52.3	1,757	44.8
06037503402	3,821	2,107	1,714	44.9	1,505	39.4
06037503701	4,603	2,435	2,168	47.1	1,810	39.3
06037503702	4,935	2,729	2,206	44.7	1,830	37.1
06037503401	6,269	3,631	2,638	42.1	2,125	33.9
06059001301	6,183	3,518	2,665	43.1	2,123	34.3
06059001102	3,087	1,683	1,404	45.5	1,098	35.6
06037501801	7,428	1,082	6,346	85.4	6,045	81.4
06037501504	3,627	979	2,648	73.0	2,353	64.9
06037501400	4,221	570	3,651	86.5	3,485	82.6
06037501300	6,797	2,123	4,674	68.8	4,358	64.1
06037501503	4,966	1,650	3,316	66.8	2,957	59.5
06037433802	2,865	177	2,688	93.8	2,258	78.8
06037500300	2,894	902	1,992	68.8	1,289	44.5
06037433801	6,263	209	6,054	96.7	5,718	91.3
06037501900	3,981	1,602	2,379	59.8	2,174	54.6
06037503301	3,257	1,530	1,727	53.0	1,606	49.3
06037501700	3,418	1,773	1,645	48.1	1,458	42.7
06037501802	3,255	1,340	1,915	58.8	1,693	52.0
06037501600	6,915	3,384	3,531	51.1	2,708	39.2
06037501501	2,164	1,152	1,012	46.8	821	37.9
06037500202	4,451	2,632	1,819	40.9	1,201	27.0
06037500201	5,950	4,155	1,795	30.2	1,320	22.2
06037408503	6,258	1,947	4,311	68.9	1,428	22.8
06037408502	7,759	1,559	6,200	79.9	3,288	42.4

**TABLE 8.10-1**  
Distribution of Minority Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius

Tract	Population	Non-Hispanic White	Minority	Percent Minority	Hispanic Origin <sup>1</sup>	Percent Hispanic Origin
06037408501	3,217	319	2,898	90.1	2,526	78.5
06037434002	7,561	395	7,166	94.8	6,675	88.3
06037408302	3,646	533	3,113	85.4	2,728	74.8
06037408402	5,469	1,800	3,669	67.1	2,385	43.6
06037408303	3,948	606	3,342	84.7	2,851	72.2
06037433902	3,980	253	3,727	93.6	3,444	86.5
06037434001	4,727	291	4,436	93.8	4,214	89.1
06037433901	5,779	249	5,530	95.7	4,560	78.9
06037433403	5,130	269	4,861	94.8	4,324	84.3
06037433302	1,409	116	1,293	91.8	1,184	84.0
06037433301	9,992	394	9,598	96.1	7,386	73.9
06037408301	5,628	435	5,193	92.3	4,606	81.8
06037433303	7,447	299	7,148	96.0	5,087	68.3
06037408401	4,107	707	3,400	82.8	2,480	60.4
06037408202	2,452	352	2,100	85.6	1,899	77.4
06037407102	5,621	316	5,305	94.4	4,748	84.5
06037407002	3,870	200	3,670	94.8	3,281	84.8
06037404703	3,406	163	3,243	95.2	3,078	90.4
06037404701	5,975	257	5,718	95.7	4,987	83.5
06037404702	6,307	332	5,975	94.7	4,818	76.4
06037407001	5,828	401	5,427	93.1	4,940	84.8
06037407101	5,277	348	4,929	93.4	4,591	87.0
06037406900	8,211	804	7,407	90.2	6,131	74.7
06037404801	6,949	507	6,442	92.7	5,200	74.8
06037404803	1,930	358	1,572	81.5	1,333	69.1
06037404802	4,569	351	4,218	92.3	3,627	79.4
06037432602	4,561	501	4,060	89.0	2,554	56.0
06037404902	3,793	313	3,480	91.7	2,776	73.2
06037404903	2,927	230	2,697	92.1	2,078	71.0
06059001303	5,750	1,861	3,889	67.6	3,460	60.2
06059001103	4,460	1,788	2,672	59.9	2,348	52.6

**TABLE 8.10-1**  
**Distribution of Minority Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius**

<b>Tract</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Non-Hispanic White</b>	<b>Minority</b>	<b>Percent Minority</b>	<b>Hispanic Origin<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percent Hispanic Origin</b>
06059001101	4,296	2,654	1,642	38.2	1,349	31.4
06059001201	5,371	991	4,380	81.5	3,991	74.3
06059001304	3,945	912	3,033	76.9	2,798	70.9
06059001202	3,367	843	2,524	75.0	2,360	70.1
06059001401	5,604	2,607	2,997	53.5	2,659	47.4
06059001404	3,767	939	2,828	75.1	2,557	67.9
06059001402	5,195	2,426	2,769	53.3	2,342	45.1
06059001403	3,272	2,354	918	28.1	675	20.6
06059001503	5,088	3,169	1,919	37.7	1,552	30.5
06059001501	5,747	4,224	1,523	26.5	786	13.7
06059001507	4,290	2,846	1,444	33.7	752	17.5
06059001506	4,319	2,987	1,332	30.8	589	13.6
06037408629	2,860	851	2,009	70.2	431	15.1
06037500100	3,343	2,380	963	28.8	482	14.4
06037408625	4,113	1,159	2,954	71.8	1,045	25.4
06037408624	3,285	654	2,631	80.1	690	21.0
06037408601	7,374	1,351	6,023	81.7	4,358	59.1
06037408628	5,548	727	4,821	86.9	744	13.4
06037408623	3,117	678	2,439	78.2	932	29.9
06037408627	3,201	669	2,532	79.1	642	20.1
06037408722	4,380	946	3,434	78.4	1,319	30.1
06037408721	8,355	918	7,437	89.0	3,809	45.6
06037408626	5,225	515	4,710	90.1	1,119	21.4
06037408211	5,947	852	5,095	85.7	2,253	37.9
06037407200	7,519	533	6,986	92.9	6,552	87.1
06037407302	3,440	258	3,182	92.5	2,919	84.9
06037407301	4,727	408	4,319	91.4	3,701	78.3
06037407702	6,496	626	5,870	90.4	4,929	75.9
06037407600	8,513	615	7,898	92.8	7,032	82.6
06037407500	8,070	854	7,216	89.4	6,028	74.7
06037407400	2,050	294	1,756	85.7	955	46.6

**TABLE 8.10-1**  
Distribution of Minority Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius

Tract	Population	Non-Hispanic White	Minority	Percent Minority	Hispanic Origin <sup>1</sup>	Percent Hispanic Origin
06037405203	3,367	316	3,051	90.6	2,313	68.7
06037406800	4,740	1,091	3,649	77.0	2,177	45.9
06037406700	9,036	1,864	7,172	79.4	4,715	52.2
06037407701	5,864	202	5,662	96.6	4,972	84.8
06037407800	8,402	882	7,520	89.5	6,488	77.2
06037407900	6,012	637	5,375	89.4	3,869	64.4
06037408002	7,575	1,129	6,446	85.1	3,767	49.7
06037408132	10,469	810	9,659	92.3	9,146	87.4
06037408133	5,750	607	5,143	89.4	2,519	43.8
06037406602	4,910	1,134	3,776	76.9	2,838	57.8
06037406601	5,045	1,464	3,581	71.0	2,273	45.1
06037406500	6,645	1,655	4,990	75.1	3,396	51.1
06037406402	2,051	815	1,236	60.3	765	37.3
06037406411	2,140	531	1,609	75.2	1,233	57.6
06037408703	6,898	745	6,153	89.2	528	7.7
06037408706	1,487	316	1,171	78.7	249	16.7
06037408704	3,148	503	2,645	84.0	872	27.7
06037408102	8,986	568	8,418	93.7	7,559	84.1
06037408705	5,548	1,049	4,499	81.1	1,369	24.7
06037408212	4,262	915	3,347	78.5	1,392	32.7
06037408101	8,312	1,301	7,011	84.3	3,682	44.3
06037403401	5,219	909	4,310	82.6	1,514	29.0
06037403305	2,299	528	1,771	77.0	261	11.4
06037403304	5,474	1,263	4,211	76.9	739	13.5
06037403303	2,636	789	1,847	70.1	939	35.6
06037403322	3,925	1,411	2,514	64.1	792	20.2
06037408135	4,390	404	3,986	90.8	1,517	34.6
06037408134	2,952	358	2,594	87.9	891	30.2
06037408001	8,165	1,657	6,508	79.7	2,933	35.9
06037403408	6,855	711	6,144	89.6	1,259	18.4
06037403407	2,016	223	1,793	88.9	241	12.0

**TABLE 8.10-1**  
Distribution of Minority Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius

Tract	Population	Non-Hispanic White	Minority	Percent Minority	Hispanic Origin <sup>1</sup>	Percent Hispanic Origin
06037406412	2,390	1,034	1,356	56.7	882	36.9
06037406200	5,396	1,670	3,726	69.1	2,775	51.4
06037406300	5,117	1,919	3,198	62.5	1,137	22.2
06037403402	3,518	1,036	2,482	70.6	805	22.9
06037403404	2,589	690	1,899	73.3	365	14.1
06037403406	2,773	774	1,999	72.1	613	22.1
06037403403	5,376	797	4,579	85.2	792	14.7
06037403500	1,547	764	783	50.6	313	20.2
06037403600	6,295	3,181	3,114	49.5	1,940	30.8
06037403405	1,658	323	1,335	80.5	214	12.9
06059021815	3,106	2,478	628	20.2	328	10.6
06037403325	4,684	1,658	3,026	64.6	739	15.8
06037403312	5,011	1,778	3,233	64.5	1,623	32.4
06037405202	4,808	372	4,436	92.3	3,776	78.5
06037405102	4,881	343	4,538	93.0	3,691	75.6
06037405201	5,102	528	4,574	89.7	4,070	79.8
06037405101	5,532	427	5,105	92.3	4,286	77.5
06037405300	8,892	2,122	6,770	76.1	5,332	60.0
06037404600	1,446	129	1,317	91.1	1,277	88.3
06037405500	6,622	1,901	4,721	71.3	3,499	52.8
06037405400	4,466	1,326	3,140	70.3	2,552	57.1
06037405600	5,134	1,804	3,330	64.9	2,403	46.8
06037405700	8,530	2,248	6,282	73.6	4,576	53.6
06037406000	4,955	2,144	2,811	56.7	2,065	41.7
06037406101	2,959	1,544	1,415	47.8	1,181	39.9
06037406102	5,728	2,498	3,230	56.4	2,341	40.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>714,410</b>	<b>169,121</b>	<b>545,289</b>	<b>76.3</b>	<b>381,607</b>	<b>53.4</b>

Source: 2000 Census.

<sup>1</sup> Hispanics or Latinos are those people who classified themselves in one of the specific Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino categories listed on the Census 2000 questionnaire—"Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano," "Puerto Rican," or "Cuban"—as well as those who indicate that they are "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino." People who identify their origin as "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino" may be of any race. Thus, the percent Hispanic should not be added to percentages for racial (i.e., minority) categories.

Based on the 2000 Census tract information, the total population within a 6-mile radius of the WCEP site is approximately 744,410. The minority population comprises approximately 76.3 percent of the total population, which indicates that the surrounding population is predominantly minority. This represents greater than 50 percent of the population for all census tracts and is greater than the 50 percent threshold specified in the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) Guidance of 1997 which specifies that minority populations are identified when the minority population of the affected area exceeds 50 percent.

### Distribution of the Low-Income Population

Based on the 2000 Census, the population below the poverty level comprised approximately 31.2 percent of this total population identified as impacted by poverty. Table 8.10.2 identifies the low-income population percentages of Census Tracts within a 6-mile radius of the WCEP based on 2000 Census data. Table 8.10.2A at the end of this appendix identifies the low-income population distribution at the smaller Census Block Group level. Unlike the CEQ (1997) guidance on minority population, none of the environmental justice guidance documents contain a quantitative definition of how many low-income individuals it takes to comprise a low-income population. In the absence of guidance, for this analysis the density used to identify minority populations (i.e., 50 percent or greater) was also used to identify low-income populations. Figure 8.10-2A at the end of this appendix shows the percentage of low income populations by Census Block Groups within a 6-mile radius of the WCEP. As shown on the tables and the figures, the low income population of the affected area is less than 50 percent of the general population.

**TABLE 8.10-2**  
Distribution of Low Income Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius

Tract	Total Population*	Income below Poverty Level	Percent low-income
06037503501	6,254	645	10.3
06037503502	3,899	289	7.4
06037503402	3,821	152	4.0
06037503701	4,582	341	7.4
06037503702	4,914	213	4.3
06037503401	6,246	509	8.1
06059001301	6,170	506	8.2
06059001102	3,087	315	10.2
06037501801	7,141	1,810	25.3
06037501504	3,498	763	21.8
06037501400	4,286	836	19.5
06037501300	6,774	489	7.2
06037501503	4,966	460	9.3
06037433802	2,850	212	7.4

**TABLE 8.10-2**  
Distribution of Low Income Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius

Tract	Total Population*	Income below Poverty Level	Percent low-income
06037500300	2,888	199	6.9
06037433801	6,229	1,683	27.0
06037501900	3,976	180	4.5
06037503301	3,237	164	5.1
06037501700	3,394	167	4.9
06037501802	3,398	348	10.2
06037501600	6,297	544	8.6
06037501501	2,042	166	8.1
06037500202	4,447	220	4.9
06037500201	5,800	272	4.7
06037408503	6,227	244	3.9
06037408502	7,720	851	11.0
06037408501	3,201	539	16.8
06037434002	7,465	1,228	16.5
06037408302	3,609	218	6.0
06037408402	5,437	352	6.5
06037408303	3,943	391	9.9
06037433902	3,905	1,104	28.3
06037434001	4,702	1,036	22.0
06037433901	5,672	2,328	41.0
06037433403	5,110	2,049	40.1
06037433302	1,297	346	26.7
06037433301	9,848	2,733	27.8
06037408301	5,591	1,245	22.3
06037433303	7,207	2,076	28.8
06037408401	4,045	505	12.5
06037408202	2,267	691	30.5
06037407102	5,559	1,069	19.2
06037407002	3,822	663	17.3
06037404703	3,469	969	27.9
06037404701	5,663	1,465	25.9

**TABLE 8.10-2**  
Distribution of Low Income Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius

<b>Tract</b>	<b>Total Population*</b>	<b>Income below Poverty Level</b>	<b>Percent low-income</b>
06037404702	6,126	1,347	22.0
06037407001	5,686	512	9.0
06037407101	5,205	703	13.5
06037406900	8,133	1,088	13.4
06037404801	6,815	901	13.2
06037404803	1,805	402	22.3
06037404802	4,508	825	18.3
06037432602	4,549	771	16.9
06037404902	3,784	602	15.9
06037404903	2,934	416	14.2
06059001303	5,717	606	10.6
06059001103	4,175	673	16.1
06059001101	4,296	286	6.7
06059001201	5,337	1,057	19.8
06059001304	3,868	863	22.3
06059001202	3,245	530	16.3
06059001401	5,572	742	13.3
06059001404	3,752	683	18.2
06059001402	5,174	481	9.3
06059001403	3,263	79	2.4
06059001503	5,049	470	9.3
06059001501	5,747	96	1.7
06059001507	4,268	127	3.0
06059001506	4,294	194	4.5
06037408629	2,878	101	3.5
06037500100	3,316	59	1.8
06037408625	4,106	355	8.6
06037408624	3,279	265	8.1
06037408601	7,350	754	10.3
06037408628	5,496	543	9.9
06037408623	3,117	419	13.4

**TABLE 8.10-2**  
 Distribution of Low Income Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius

Tract	Total Population*	Income below Poverty Level	Percent low-income
06037408627	3,120	266	8.5
06037408722	4,368	336	7.7
06037408721	8,293	2,014	24.3
06037408626	5,169	493	9.5
06037408211	5,911	724	12.2
06037407200	7,389	1,186	16.1
06037407302	3,636	443	12.2
06037407301	4,689	425	9.1
06037407702	6,431	1,008	15.7
06037407600	8,428	1,915	22.7
06037407500	7,954	1,067	13.4
06037407400	1,839	120	6.5
06037405203	3,262	374	11.5
06037406800	4,622	361	7.8
06037406700	8,922	1,052	11.8
06037407701	5,724	1,349	23.6
06037407800	8,309	663	8.0
06037407900	5,871	621	10.6
06037408002	7,554	766	10.1
06037408132	10,182	1,921	18.9
06037408133	5,728	831	14.5
06037406602	4,851	422	8.7
06037406601	5,012	336	6.7
06037406500	6,611	418	6.3
06037406402	2,071	49	2.4
06037406411	2,215	185	8.4
06037408703	6,903	344	5.0
06037408706	1,554	99	6.4
06037408704	3,116	420	13.5
06037408102	8,848	1,559	17.6
06037408705	5,565	606	10.9

**TABLE 8.10-2**  
Distribution of Low Income Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius

<b>Tract</b>	<b>Total Population*</b>	<b>Income below Poverty Level</b>	<b>Percent low-income</b>
06037408212	4,083	450	11.0
06037408101	8,254	848	10.3
06037403401	5,192	638	12.3
06037403305	2,350	71	3.0
06037403304	5,299	187	3.5
06037403303	2,640	122	4.6
06037403322	3,925	296	7.5
06037408135	4,385	305	7.0
06037408134	2,919	230	7.9
06037408001	8,147	857	10.5
06037403408	6,825	340	5.0
06037403407	2,194	52	2.4
06037406412	2,295	144	6.3
06037406200	5,217	962	18.4
06037406300	5,098	325	6.4
06037403402	3,497	98	2.8
06037403404	2,411	12	0.5
06037403406	2,818	353	12.5
06037403403	5,376	383	7.1
06037403500	1,502	54	3.6
06037403600	6,218	448	7.2
06037403405	1,590	66	4.2
06059021815	3,119	84	2.7
06037403325	4,684	232	5.0
06037403312	5,005	143	2.9
06037405202	4,760	909	19.1
06037405102	4,795	1,217	25.4
06037405201	5,063	993	19.6
06037405101	5,425	612	11.3
06037405300	8,820	945	10.7
06037404600	1,467	240	16.4

**TABLE 8.10-2**  
Distribution of Low Income Population by Census Tracts Within a 6-Mile Radius

Tract	Total Population*	Income below Poverty Level	Percent low-income
06037405500	6,589	482	7.3
06037405400	4,371	343	7.8
06037405600	5,107	421	8.2
06037405700	8,455	925	10.9
06037406000	4,848	704	14.5
06037406101	2,856	304	10.6
06037406102	5,709	857	15.0
	706,254	89,560	12.7

Source: 2000 Census.

\* Population numbers are only those for whom poverty was determined and exclude full-time college students.

## Results and Conclusion

As discussed in the *Methodology and Approach* section above, for purposes of this analysis, CEQA significant adverse impacts are considered synonymous with high and adverse impacts as described in EO 12898. As reported in the series of environmental analyses prepared for the WCEP AFC, no significant adverse impacts are expected as a result of this project after proposed mitigation measures are implemented. Consequently, none of the impacts of this project can be described as high and adverse in the context of EO 12898.

The surrounding population is predominantly minority; therefore any potential adverse impacts would fall *disproportionately* on the minority population. Since the population within the affected area is not predominately low income, it is unlikely that any potential impacts could fall disproportionately on the low income population.

The primary issues for power plant siting and development are potential air emissions, water emissions, and noise levels that could affect the health of the community. Since this AFC shows that there are no unmitigated high and adverse air quality or water quality impacts. The noise analysis documented in this Application for Certification has determined that operational noise levels would comply with local noise ordinances and would not result in incremental increases above background levels. As a consequence, there would be no disproportionately high and adverse public health impacts on the minority and/or low-income population associated with the proposed project.

Since there are no high and adverse impacts expected as a result of this project, this analysis therefore concludes that no high and adverse human health or environmental effects of this project are expected to fall disproportionately on minority or low-income populations. The WCEP project can, therefore, be considered to be consistent with the policy established in EO 12898.

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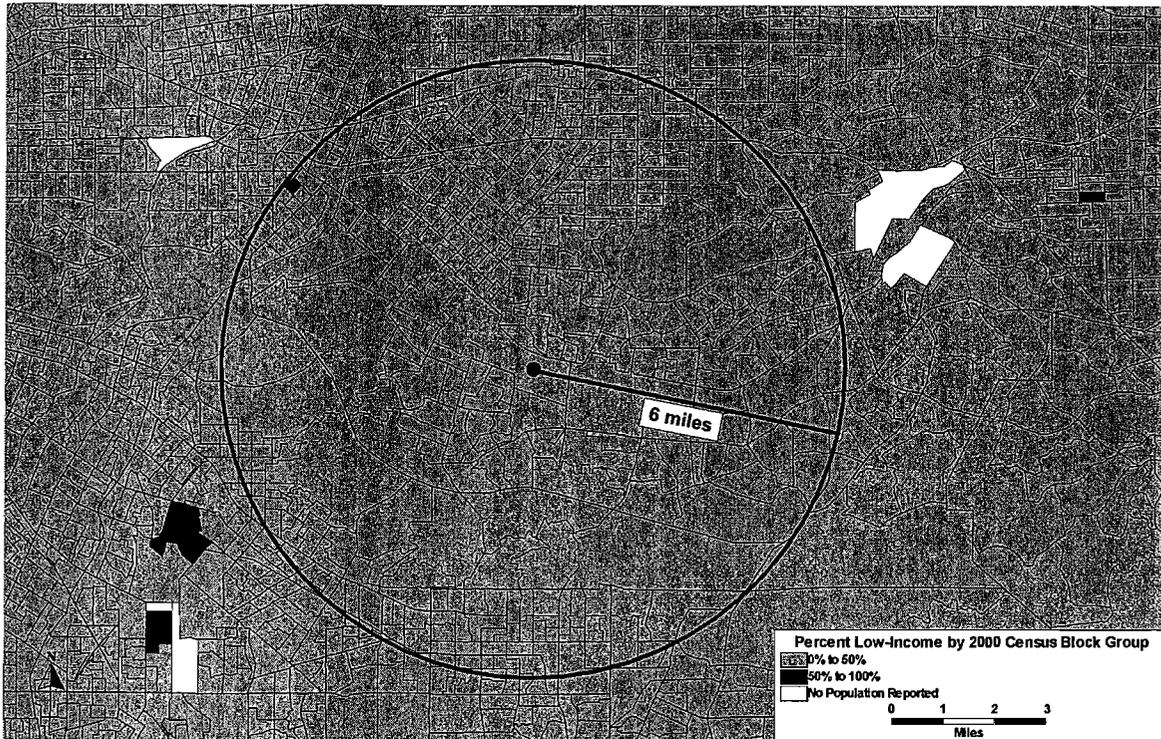
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**FIGURE 8.10A-1**  
Minority Population Distribution by Census Blocks within 6 miles of WCEP



**FIGURE 8.10A-2**  
Low-income Population Distribution by Census Block Groups within 6 miles of VCC.