8.8 Paleontological Resources

Paleontological resources (fossils) are the remains or traces of prehistoric animals and plants. This section assesses the potential that earth-moving activities associated with construction of the proposed WCEP will impact scientifically important fossil remains. Section 8.8.1 discusses the existing environmental setting, including relevant paleontologic records and the geologic context of the project. Section 8.8.2 discusses the potential environmental effects of construction and operation. Section 8.8.3 evaluates any cumulative impacts to paleontological resources due to other past, current, and probable future projects. Section 8.8.4 describes proposed mitigation measures during construction. Section 8.8.5 presents applicable laws, ordinances, regulations and standards (LORS). Section 8.8.6 references agency contacts. Section 8.8.7 discusses permit requirements and schedules. Section 8.8.8 provides a list of references cited.

The analysis presented in this section meets all requirements of the California Energy Commission Appendix B Section (g)(16) and incorporates the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) (1995, 1996) standard measures for mitigating adverse construction-related environmental impacts on paleontological resources.

8.8.1 Affected Environment

8.8.1.1 Geographic Location and Physiographic Environment

The project area lies near the northwestern corner of the Peninsular Ranges physiographic province where major linear geologic structures (faults, folds) and geographic features (mountains, valleys) trend in a generally westerly to northwesterly direction. It lies in the hills that comprise the northernmost extension of the uplift of the Santa Ana Mountains, with the Los Angeles Basin to the west, the upper Santa Ana River Basin to the east (Pomona to Riverside and San Bernardino), and the Perris Plain to the southeast (Fenneman, 1931; Rogers, 1967; Morton and Miller, 2003). The WCEP site is located in what historically was a broad arroyo or valley incised by the west-flowing San Jose Creek into these hills, variously known as the San Jose Hills, the Puente Hills, and (to the south) the La Habra Heights. San Jose Creek heads in the San Gabriel Mountains and this portion of its arroyo historically was a main east-west travel route through the hills west of Pomona to the Los Angeles Basin. Prior to its channelization, the creek would have meandered across this valley, and it would have transported sediment from a large drainage area extending to the east and north into the San Gabriel Mountains. The valley is broad, and the foot of the hills bounding it to the north is about one-half mile from the project site, and about twice that distance to the south. Along with variations in runoff during the Quaternary, no doubt tectonism in both the Los Angeles Basin and areas to the east affected the prehistoric cut and fill cycles of this broad drainage in which the WCEP site is located.

8.8.1.2 Regional and Local Geologic Setting

The most recent surficial geologic mapping of the project area is provided by Morton and Miller (2003). This mapping indicates that the entire project site is underlain by alluvium of middle Holocene age (Unit Qyf_3), which locally consists of unconsolidated fluvial and alluvial fan deposits of silt, sand, and gravel derived from the hills and mountain ranges within the drainage basin. Older Pleistocene alluvium likely underlies the site at depth.

Fossiliferous sediments of the Pliocene Fernando Formation and the early Pliocene to Miocene Puente Formation outcrop in the hills to the north and south of the valley in which the project site sits (Morton and Miller, 2003; Scott, 2005). It is assumed that San Jose Creek, which is now constrained to a concrete-lined channel about 200 feet north of the WCEP site, once meandered across this valley and its alluvium at depth consists of both fluvial (river borne) and paludal (marsh and pond) sediments, as well subaerially deposited facies.

8.8.1.3 Stratigraphic and Paleontological Resource Inventory

A stratigraphic inventory and a paleontological resource inventory were completed to develop a baseline paleontological resource inventory of the project site and surrounding area by rock unit to assess the potential paleontological productivity of each unit. These tasks complied with the California Energy Commission (CEC) (2000) and SVP (1995) guidelines. The geological and paleontological literature was reviewed to document the number and locations of previously recorded fossil sites, and the types of fossil remains each rock unit has produced. The literature review was supplemented by records searches conducted at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History and the San Bernardino County Museum.

A field reconnaissance was conducted on September 7, 2005 and included the project site as well as that portion of the electrical transmission corridor immediately north of the site. The reconnaissance was conducted by Dr. W. Geoffrey Spaulding, a qualified paleontologist and a recognized authority on the Quaternary paleoenvironments of the American West. The project area is thoroughly developed and is typified by asphalt and concrete surfaces, buildings (largely warehouses and manufactories), a transmission line right-of-way (ROW), and the channelized bed of San Jose Creek. Bare ground was evident only along the transmission line ROW, as well as in railroad rights of way adjacent to the generation facility site.

8.8.1.3.1 Paleontological Resource Assessment Criteria

The paleontological sensitivity of the project area can be assessed by identifying the paleontological potential of stratigraphic units within the project area through records search and literature review. Since the distribution of stratigraphic units can be identified through geologic mapping, parts of the project that have varying paleontologic sensitivity (high, low, or no sensitivity) for paleontological resources can be delineated and appropriate impact assessments and mitigation recommendations formulated based on these data.

A paleontologically sensitive rock or stratigraphic unit is a sedimentary deposit that has a high potential to yield fossils that may be unique or scientifically important. Well-studied and documented fossil-bearing units may still yield unique paleontological resources to the extent that fossil faunas and floras frequently consist of many rare taxa, as well as a few common ones. The paleontological sensitivity of a stratigraphic unit is based on the abundance or density of fossil specimens previously recovered from that unit, and the proximity of those records to the project site. Paleontologic survey and reconnaissance can inform these assessments where exposures of specific rock units are available for field inspection, but do not contribute substantially to assessments in cases such as the WCEP where the project area is thoroughly urbanized.

An individual fossil specimen may be considered unique or scientifically significant if it is (1) identifiable, (2) complete, (3) well preserved, (4) age diagnostic, (5) useful in paleoenvironmental reconstruction, (6) a type or topotypic specimen, (7) a member of a rare species, and/or (8) a skeletal element different from, or a specimen more complete than, those now available for its species. For example, identifiable vertebrate marine and terrestrial fossils are generally considered scientifically important because they are relatively rare. The value or importance of different fossil groups varies, depending on the age and depositional environment of the rock unit that contains the fossils, their rarity, the extent to which they have already been identified and documented, and the ability to recover similar materials under more controlled conditions such as part of a research project. For example, marine invertebrates (radiolarians, dinoflagelates, diatoms) as well as other microfossils (pollen and spores, ostracods) may be important to specialized paleoenvironmental studies, but as isolated samples they are generally not considered a unique or significant paleontological resource.

The following tasks were completed to establish the paleontologic sensitivity and distribution of each rock unit exposed at or near the project site:

- The stratigraphic inventory was completed and the stratigraphic units at and near the project site were identified
- The paleontological sensitivity of each stratigraphic unit in the vicinity of the project site was assessed, based on the fossil remains previously documented within that unit

8.8.1.3.2 Paleontological Resource Inventory Results and Assessment by Rock Unit

Since the 19th Century, the Los Angeles area has been known for its rich Late Pleistocene paleontologic record, chiefly from the La Brea Tar pits that lie approximately 25 miles west of the WCEP (see below). These remains are preserved in asphalt seeps, and no asphalt seeps are known in the vicinity of the WCEP. However, their mode of preservation (anaerobically and without mineral replacement of the bone, or "fossilization") is important to note in that this is also the case for other Late Quaternary fossil sites in the area, discussed below. Therefore, the potential for fossilization *per se* is not a criterion to be used for assessing paleontologic sensitivity in this area.

Stratigraphic Inventory

This section includes a stratigraphic inventory of those rock units that may occur in the region, but are unlikely to be encountered in the immediate vicinity of the project, as well as those units that may be disturbed by project-related excavations. It also provides an assessment of their paleontologic sensitivity based on the results of the literature review, records search, and field reconnaissance.

Surficial Sediment—No evidence of paleontologic potential was noted on the ground surface. Field reconnaissance revealed that the project area is thoroughly urbanized, and that the ground surface is visible in only limited areas, chiefly in the transmission line ROW to the north of the site. The ground surface is uniformly well-compacted, and consists of a sandy to gravelly alluvium. Where recent gopher burrows have brought fresh soil to the surface, that soil is a sandy brown loam. However, it is unknown whether this loam is imported fill or whether it is native sediment and, therefore, indicates surface stability for a sufficient period to develop a distinctly brown soil. The position of the bottom of the channelized San

Jose Creek approximately 15 feet below current ground surface immediately north of the transmission line ROW suggests that there may have been considerable fill imported to the site area to level the ground. Fill, as well as local sediment that has been redistributed as part of past site preparation activities, has low paleontologic sensitivity.

Quaternary (Holocene and Pleistocene) Alluvium—Alluvium designated as middle Holocene in age is mapped for the area (Morton and Miller, 2003) and, therefore, is likely to underlie surficial sediment at the project site. At this locality, these alluvial strata are composed of subaerially deposited terrestrial sediments laid down by debris flows and ephemeral channels originating in the surrounding hills, and the fluvial sediments of San Jose Creek. Due to the low probability of encountering fossil remains in Holocene alluvium, that sedimentary unit is considered to possess low paleontologic sensitivity.

It is likely that Pleistocene-age alluvium also occurs at depth below this Holocene alluvium, Late (Scott, 2005). Fluvial and paludal facies would be more common in Late Pleistocene alluvium of a large drainage such as San Jose Creek because glacial climates were characterized by greater precipitation, and runoff was therefore greater (e.g., Wells et al., 1989). Quaternary alluvium is often devoid of fossil remains due to its high-energy depositional regime, and the subaerial nature of that deposition which generally precludes rapid burial. Organic remains are left exposed to the elements and degrade rapidly before they can be buried. However, fluvial and paludal sediments often yield well-preserved fossil remains in this region (see below). Therefore, while Holocene age alluvium possesses only low paleontologic sensitivity here, the undisturbed Late Pleistocene sediments that likely occur at depth beneath the project site possess undetermined and potentially high paleontologic sensitivity.

Tertiary Marine Strata—The hills that lie to the north and south of the project area are composed primarily of the Fernando and Puente Formations; Pliocene and Miocene-age marine sedimentary rocks of high paleontologic sensitivity (Morton and Miller 2003; Scott 2005). These older paleontologically sensitive rocks are absent from the project area. Although likely to be present at depth, it is unlikely that those sedimentary units would be disturbed by project construction.

Granitic Basement—Granitic rocks may be present at great depth below the WCEP area. These are igneous rocks with no paleontologic sensitivity, and would not be affected by the project.

Paleontologic Inventory

An inventory of the paleontologic resources associated with Quaternary alluvium in this area is presented below, and the paleontologic importance of these resources is assessed. Although the literature review, the archival searches, and the field survey conducted for this inventory did not document any previously recorded fossil site as occurring at the project, or within 3 miles of the project site itself, a number of previously recorded fossil sites have been documented in the Los Angeles Basin to the west, as well as at a number of localities to the east and southeast. The fossil remains from most of these sites were recovered as part of paleontologic resource impact mitigation programs conducted for construction projects.

Site Records from the Los Angeles Basin—The well-preserved wood, pollen, and seeds of land plants determined to be middle Holocene age by radiocarbon dating were recovered at

a stratigraphic level 5 feet above the base of the younger alluvium and at a depth approximately 20 feet below grade at University of California Museum of Paleontology (UCMP) fossil site PB 98033 in the ancestral Los Angeles River channel at Union Station (Lander, 1997). The wood was that of cedar or juniper (Cupressaceae) seeds of grape (*Vitis* sp.) and the leaves of sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), plants that were probably common along the ancestral Los Angeles River[1]. Additional wood fragments occurred at shallower depths. Mollusks (freshwater snails and clams, land snails), ostracods, the bones and teeth of fish and terrestrial microvertebrates, and logs of cottonwood (*Populus* sp.) were recovered from a stratigraphic interval in the lower 5 to 10 feet of the younger alluvium and at depths approximately 44 to 60 feet below grade at the Metro Red Line Universal City station (LACMVP fossil sites 6306, 6385, 6386; UCMP fossil site PB 98002). The fossil remains from these sites, which lie within 0.25 mile of the current Los Angeles River channel, were associated with radiocarbon dates indicating an early Holocene to latest Pleistocene age. Additional land plant remains were recovered at a depth 16 feet below grade at the Metro Red Line North Hollywood station, approximately 1.7 miles north of the Los Angeles River (Lander, 1997, 2000).

Other previously recorded fossil sites yielded the bones and teeth of extinct Late Pleistocene land mammals. LACMVP fossil site 3250, near the intersection of Vermont Avenue and the Hollywood Freeway, yielded the remains of mammoth at a depth only 8 feet below grade; LACMVP fossil site 1755, near the intersection of South Hill and West 12th streets, yielded the fossils of an extinct species of North American horse at a depth 43 feet below grade. Bison remains were uncovered at a depth of 35 to 55 feet at a site just west of Union Station in the Metro Red Line tunnel (Jefferson, 1991; Lander, 2000; Miller, 1971). Presumably, the fossil remains from these sites are Late Pleistocene in age (Jefferson, 1991; Lander, 2000). Additional fossil continental vertebrate and invertebrate remains of presumed late Pleistocene or early Holocene age were encountered at depths at least 30 feet below grade at San Bernardino County Museum (SBCM) fossil sites 09.006.017 to 09.006.021 in the Alameda Corridor approximately 4 miles south of the project site (Scott, 2005).

Although preserved in a special environment of deposition (asphalt seeps) unlikely to be duplicated in the WCEP project area, the paleontologic record from Rancho La Brea also deserves mention. The abundance and diversity of faunal remains from this site speak to the paleontologic potential of Late Quaternary sediments in the valleys of southern California. Records of large carnivores (dire wolves, saber-tooth cats, the American lion), elephantids (mammoth, mastodon), ground sloths (mylodons, nothrotheria), and other large herbivores (extinct camel, horse, and bison) speak to the diversity of the terrestrial ecosystems of the region during the Late Pleistocene (e.g. Stock, 1972).

Site Records from the Santa Ana River Basin and Perris Plain—Additional San Bernardino County Museum sites records from the region include site SBCM 1.102.2, from alluvial fans sediments near Fontana, which yielded fossil wood portions from depths of ~437 feet to ~725 feet below the existing ground surface. Additionally, locality SBCM 5.1.11 is yielded the remains of extinct sabre-toothed cat (*Smilodon*) from subsurface Pleistocene older alluvial sediments similar to those present that might underlie the project site. These older sediments, and particularly their fluvial facies, may occur at depths ranging from 10 feet

[1] These remains were directly examined by Dr. Spaulding in 1998.

and more below the existing ground surface, and have high potential to contain nonrenewable fossil resources (Reynolds and Reynolds, 1991; Woodburne, 1991; Springer and Scott, 1994; Scott, 1997; Springer and others, 1998, 1999). Somewhat like Rancho La Brea, albeit on a smaller scale in terms of number of specimens and degree of preservation, mitigation excavations from the Eastside Reservoir demonstrate that a similarly diverse Pleistocene fauna roamed the Perris Plain (ibid.), speaking to the paleontologic potential of Quaternary alluvium in the interior valleys.

8.8.2 Environmental Consequences

The potential environmental effects from construction and operation of the WCEP on paleontological resources are presented in the following sections.

8.8.2.1 Significance Criteria

In its standard guidelines for assessment and mitigation of adverse impacts to paleontological resources, the SVP (1995) established three categories of sensitivity for rocks potentially containing paleontological resources: high, low, and undetermined. To these categories is generally added that of "no sensitivity" as it is applied to such rock units as granite or basalt that, due to their igneous (molten) origin, do not ever contain fossils.

Areas where fossils have been previously found are considered to have a high sensitivity and a high potential to produce fossils. In areas of high sensitivity that are likely to yield unique or scientifically important paleontological resources, full-time monitoring is typically recommended during project-related disturbance of those sediments.

Strata that have not been known to produce fossils in the past, and that are unlikely to do so due to their geologic history, typically are considered to have low sensitivity. Monitoring is not recommended during project construction, although spot checks by the project paleontologist may be recommended to confirm that excavations continue in low-sensitivity sediments.

Sediments that have not had any previous paleontological resource surveys or yielded any fossil finds, but that are generally unaltered material deposited in low-energy environments, are considered to possess undetermined sensitivity. After reconnaissance surveys, observation of exposed cuts, and possibly sub-surface testing, a qualified paleontologist can determine whether such a unit should be categorized as having high or low sensitivity.

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) addresses significance criteria with respect to paleontological resources (Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Appendix G(V)(c) asks if the project will "directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature."

8.8.2.2 Project Assessment

No fossil sites are known to occur within three miles of the WCEP project, and near-surface sediments are either disturbed, consist of artificial fill, or are Holocene alluvium of low paleontologic sensitivity. Within five feet of the surface there is no more than a low potential for construction activities to encounter paleontologic remains, and the scientific value of these remains would likely be negligible due to the disturbed nature of the sediment and its young age. However, it is likely that Pleistocene sediments of high paleontologic sensitivity

lie at depth beneath these surficial materials and the Holocene alluvium, although the exact depth to these older sediments is unknown. Pleistocene alluvium in similar geologic contexts as the project site has yielded scientifically important fossil remains, primarily due to the high potential of encountering fine-grained fluvial or paludal facies where fossils may be well preserved.

8.8.2.2.1 Construction Phase

This section identifies the potential impacts on the paleontological resources resulting from construction phase effects of the WCEP. Impacts to paleontologic resources resulting from this project are restricted to those that would result from power plant construction and associated linears described in Chapter 2.0, Project Description.

Construction-related activities expected to impact paleontologic resources are those that would disturb previously undisturbed sediment of high paleontologic potential; excavation activities such as trenching and grading, as well as drilling, tunneling, and boring. Construction activities that would result in no sediment disturbance, from laying foundations to construction of the superstructure, would not impact paleontologic resources.

Excavations within five feet of the current surface would affect previously disturbed sediment, fill, or alluvium that is of middle Holocene age and therefore of low paleontologic sensitivity. Therefore, ground disturbing activities within 5 feet of the surface would have no impact to paleontologic resources. It is expected that older Pleistocene alluvium of high paleontologic sensitivity occurs at depth. Therefore, Walnut Creek Energy, LLC (WCE) will determine the depth to the base of Holocene alluvium throughout the site when the site is cleared for construction. This information will be used to identify areas and activities that may require mitigation monitoring, if any.

8.8.2.2.2 Operation Phase

Project operation will not cause additional ground disturbance, and therefore will not affect paleontological resources.

8.8.3 Cumulative Impacts

If paleontological resources were encountered during WCEP-related ground disturbance, the potential cumulative adverse impacts on paleontological resources will be low, as long as the mitigation measures proposed below are implemented to recover any significant paleontological resources. When properly implemented, these mitigation measures will effectively recover the scientific value of significant fossils encountered during WCEP construction. Thus, the proposed WCEP will not cause or contribute to significant adverse cumulative impacts to paleontological resources. Additionally, scientifically controlled recovery of paleontological resources from this and other projects contributes to a beneficial cumulative impact through the realization of increased scientific knowledge of the paleontology of the southern California region, an area with paleoecosystems apparently as unique during the Pleistocene as they were during the historic period (e.g. Stock, 1972; Springer and Scott, 1994).

8.8.4 Proposed Mitigation Measures

It is expected that older alluvium of high paleontologic sensitivity occurs at depth. Therefore, WCE will refine information regarding the depth to older alluvium throughout

the site. This information will be used to identify areas and activities that may require mitigation monitoring, if any. Should mitigation monitoring be prudent for any area, implementation of the mitigation as described below will reduce all potential impacts to paleontological resources to less than significant levels.

This section describes measures proposed to reduce or mitigate potential project-related adverse impacts to significant paleontological resources, should any such resources be discovered during construction. No impact to paleontological resources would occur as a consequence of operation, so no mitigation is proposed for the operational phase of the project.

- **Paleontological Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (PRMMP)—** Before construction, the project proponent will retain a qualified paleontologist to design the PRMMP and implement it during project-related, earth-moving activities for deep excavation at the power plant site. The PRMMP will summarize the known extent and depth of paleontologically sensitive sediments in the project area, and then provide protocol for refining that knowledge. This will include working with the project geologist and/or geotechnical specialists to determine the depth to paleontologically sensitive sediment. If it appears that such sediment will be encountered, the PRMMP will provide the protocol monitoring and as well as discovery plans for construction. Prescriptions will be provided for preconstruction coordination, discovery procedures, sampling and data recovery, reporting, and museum curation for specimens and data recovered.
- **Paleontological Monitoring—** Qualified paleontologic monitors will be present during excavations where it will disturb sediment of high paleontologic potential. Monitoring will not take place in areas where the ground has been previously disturbed, in areas underlain by artificial fill, or in areas where undisturbed sediment will be buried, but will not otherwise be disturbed.
- **Construction Personnel Education—** If it is determined during preparation of the PRMMP (see above) that paleontologically sensitive sediments will be disturbed by construction, before starting construction, personnel involved with earth-moving activities will be informed of the possibility of encountering fossils, how to recognize them, and proper notification procedures. This worker training will be developed in a formal module to be included and presented during worker education.

Implementation of these mitigation measures will reduce the severity of significant environmental impacts of project earth-moving activities on paleontological resources to an insignificant level by allowing for the recovery of fossil remains and associated specimen data and corresponding geologic and geographic site data that otherwise might have been destroyed by construction and unauthorized fossil collecting.

8.8.5 Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards

Paleontological resources are classified as non-renewable scientific resources and are protected by several federal and state statutes, most notably by the 1906 Federal Antiquities Act and other subsequent federal legislation and policies and by the State of California's environmental regulations (CEQA, Section 15064.5). Professional standards for assessment and mitigation of adverse impacts on paleontological resources have been established for

vertebrate fossils by the SVP (1995, 1996). Design, construction, and operation of the WCEP, including pipelines and ancillary facilities, will be conducted in accordance with all LORS applicable to paleontological resources. Federal and state LORS applicable to paleontological resources are summarized in Table 8.8-1 and discussed briefly below, along with SVP professional standards.

TABLE 8.8-1
Applicable LORS Regarding Paleontological Resources

LORS	Applicability	AFC Reference	Project Conformity
Antiquities Act of 1906	Not applicable	-	-
CEQA, Appendix G	Fossil remains may be encountered by earth-moving activities	Section 8.8.1 through Section 8.8.5	yes
Public Resources Code, Sections 5097.5/5097.9	Not applicable	-	-

8.8.5.1 Federal LORS

Federal protection for significant paleontological resources would apply to the WCEP if any construction or other related project impacts take place on federally managed lands, or if certain federal entitlements were required. Federal legislative protection for paleontological resources stems from the Antiquities Act of 1906 (PL 59-209; 16 United States Code 431 et seq.; 34 Stat. 225), which calls for protection of historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest on federal land. The project does not cross such lands, and no federal entitlement is required that would involve paleontologic resources mitigation requirements. Federal requirements would apply if a federal agency obtained ownership of project lands during the term of the project license or if there were a project change requiring a federal permit.

8.8.5.2 State LORS

Paleontologic resources are a limited, nonrenewable, very sensitive scientific and educational resource and, in California, are afforded protection under the state environmental legislation (California Office of Historic Preservation, 1983).

CEQA (Public Resources Code: 21000 et seq.) requires public agencies and private interests to identify the environmental consequences of their proposed projects on any object or site significant to the scientific annals of California (Division I, Public Resources Code: 5020.1[b]).

Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA, as amended March 29, 1999 (Title 14, Chapter 3, California Code of Regulations: 15000 et seq.) define procedures, types of activities, persons, and public agencies required to comply with CEQA and includes definitions of significant impacts on a fossil site (Section 15023, Appendix G [5.c]).

Public Resources Code, Section 5097.5 (Stats. 1965, c. 1136, p. 2792) defines any unauthorized disturbance or removal of fossil site or remains on public land as a misdemeanor.

Warren-Alquist Act (Public Resources Code 25000 et seq.) requires CEC to evaluate energy facility siting in unique areas of scientific concern (Section 25527). The CEC's guidelines for paleontological resources assessment follow the professional standards as set forth by the SVP (1995 and 1996). These standards call for assessing the scientific importance of paleontologic resources in an area of potential environmental effect, mitigating significant adverse construction-related environmental impacts on these resources, and with conditions for acceptance of an impact mitigation program fossil collection by a museum repository.

8.8.5.3 Local LORS

There are no Los Angeles County or City of Industry LORS that would apply to paleontologic resources.

8.8.6 Involved Agencies and Agency Contacts

Because the proposed WCEP will not be located on federal land and will not receive federal funding, there are no applicable federal LORS and no federal agencies with jurisdiction to enforce LORS related to paleontological resources. Therefore, no federal agency contacts were included in the Application for Certification.

State LORS include the Warren-Alquist Act, the Public Resources Code, and CEQA. The agency with jurisdiction over these LORS is the CEC. With the exception of the CEC, there are no state or local agencies that have responsibility for administering LORS related to paleontological resources.

8.8.7 Permits Required and Permit Schedule

No state or county agency requires a paleontological collecting permit to recover fossil remains discovered by construction-related earth moving on either state or private land in the project site. The project does not cross or occupy federal land.

8.8.8 References

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