

8.8 Socioeconomics

8.8.1 Introduction

The City of Vernon (City) proposes to develop a power plant (VPP) on a 13.7-acre property at the southeast corner of Fruitland and Boyle avenues. The VPP will be a 914-megawatt (MW) net (at 65 degrees Fahrenheit [°F] with duct burners and evaporative cooling)/943-MW (gross) combined-cycle generating facility configured using three natural-gas-fired combustion turbines and one steam turbine. Two transmission line options are being considered to connect the plant to Southern California Edison’s (SCE) Laguna Bell Substation. Natural gas for the facility will be delivered via approximately 2,300 feet of new 24-inch pipeline that will connect to Southern California Gas Company’s (SoCalGas) existing gas transmission line (Line 765). Potable water for drinking, safety showers, fire protection, service water, and sanitary uses will be served from the City’s potable water system through two 10-inch pipelines connecting to the City’s water mains. One would connect in Boyle Avenue and one in Fruitland Avenue. Recycled water for industrial purposes will be provided by the Central Basin Municipal Water District (CBMWD) through a nominal 16-inch carbon steel (or if using high density polyethylene [HDPE], a 20-inch) water line connecting to its recycled water line in Boyle Avenue, adjacent to the plant site. The blowdown will be sent to Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (LACSD) via a new 2,400-foot section of City sanitary sewer line.

The cities of Bell, Maywood, Huntington Park, and Los Angeles are located adjacent to the City of Vernon, and are therefore included in the local setting. Land use in the vicinity is industrial and zoned for general industry, heavy industry, commercial, industrial, and slaughtering activities.

This subsection discusses the potential impacts to the region of influence that may be affected by VPP construction and operation. It identifies potential environmental impacts from development of the power plant, mitigation measures, agencies involved and agency contacts, cumulative impacts, required permits and permitting schedule, and references. Additionally, this subsection also addresses environmental justice.

8.8.2 Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards

A summary of the LORS, including the project’s conformance to them, is presented in Table 8.8-1.

TABLE 8.8-1
Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards Applicable to VPP Socioeconomics

LORS	Purpose	Applicability	Conformance
Federal			
Civil Rights Act of 1964	Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin.	Applies to all federal agencies and agencies receiving federal funds.	Subsection 8.8.6
Executive Order 12898	Avoid disproportionate impacts to minority and low-income members of the community.	Applies only to federal agencies. Does not apply to agencies receiving federal funds.	Subsection 8.8.6

TABLE 8.8-1

Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards Applicable to VPP Socioeconomics

LORS	Purpose	Applicability	Conformance
State			
Government Code Sections 65996-65997	Establishes that the levy of a fee for construction of an industrial facility be considered mitigating impacts on school facilities.	Since the Applicant is a municipality, the development assessments would not apply.	Subsection 8.8.9
Education Code Section 17620	Allows a school district to levy a fee against any construction within the boundaries of the district for the purpose of funding construction of school facilities.	Since the Applicant is a municipality, the development assessments would not apply.	Subsection 8.8.6
Local			
County General Plan, Housing Element	Provide for the retention of housing units that are economically and physically sound; mitigate any residential impacts	Mitigates residential displacement and encourages the separation of residential and industrial operations	Subsections 8.8.2.3, 8.8.3.3, 8.8.3.4
County General Plan, Safety Element	Periodically review the City's emergency service equipment to assure that it is adequate and meets the changing needs	Assure adequacy of emergency services	Subsections 8.8.2.1, 8.8.2.3, 8.8.3.3, 8.8.3.4
City General Plan, Infrastructure Element	Periodically review the City's utility and other services to assess adequacy	Assures adequacy of public services.	Subsections 8.8.2.1, 8.8.2.3, 8.8.3.3, 8.8.3.

8.8.2.1 Federal

The Civil Rights Act of 1964, Public Law 88-352, 78 Stat. 241 (codified as amended in various sections of 42 U.S.C.) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin by all federal agencies or activities receiving federal financial assistance.

Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice (EJ) in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and other federal agencies to identify and address whether adverse human health or environmental effects are likely to fall disproportionately on minority and/or low-income members of the community. This applies only to federal agencies, not agencies receiving federal funds.

8.8.2.2 State

Government Code Sections 65996 and 65997 provide the exclusive methods of considering and mitigating impacts on school facilities that might occur as a result of the development of real property.

Education Code Section 17620, listed in Government Code Section 65997 as an approved mitigation method, allows school districts to levy a fee or other requirement against any

construction within the boundaries of the school district for the purpose of funding construction of school facilities.

8.8.2.3 Local

8.8.2.3.1 City of Vernon General Plan

The City of Vernon General Plan adopted in February 2001, specifies that Vernon is an exclusively industrial city that focuses on the needs of the industrial community. The Plan also outlines that further residential development in the City of Vernon is inappropriate due to lack of available locations and environmental issues. The General Plan is a guide for future development in Vernon. It encourages rehabilitation of industrial properties and promotes Vernon as a city suitable for all types of industry. Several elements of the plan, including the Housing, Safety, and Infrastructure Elements, relate to various portions of the socioeconomic analysis.

- Housing Element
 - Policy 1.2: Provide for the retention of existing residential units in the City which are economically and physically sound;
 - Policy 2.4: Mitigate residential displacement impacts as a result of demolition or relocation of tenants
- Safety Element
 - Policy 3.1: Periodically review the City’s emergency services to ensure that they are adequate to meet the needs of changing land uses and development types
- Infrastructure Element
 - Policy 6.1: Periodically evaluate the electrical utility system to ensure its adequacy to meet changes in demand over time

8.8.3 Affected Environment

8.8.3.1 Population

The city of Vernon is one of 88 cities in Los Angeles County. Vernon is located near the geographic center of metropolitan Los Angeles County and is 5 miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles and 15 miles north of major harbor and port facilities, San Pedro and Long Beach. The county is one of the nation’s largest, with 4,081 square miles of land (Los Angeles County, 2001). The county is bordered to the east by Orange and San Bernardino counties, on the north by Kern County, on the west by Ventura County, and on the south by Orange County and the Pacific Ocean. Los Angeles County has the distinction of being the most populated county in the nation. The county’s population exceeds 9.9 million, and is increasing at an average estimated annual rate of 0.9 percent.

Vernon’s current population is estimated at 95 persons (DOF, 2006a). Vernon was planned as an industrial city when it was incorporated in 1905, with the objective of promoting and advancing industry, and has designed its services to accommodate it. Approximately 44,000 people are employed in the City of Vernon in more than 1,200 businesses, factories, and warehouses in an area of 5.2 square miles (Vernon, 2006).

Historical population data for the City of Vernon, neighboring cities, and Los Angeles County are summarized in Table 8.8-2. Annual average compounded population growth rates are summarized in Table 8.8-3. During the 1990s, Los Angeles County's population increased at an average annual rate of 0.75 percent; whereas, the State of California grew at an annual rate of 1 percent, while that of the Vernon largely remained unchanged.

TABLE 8.8-2
Historical Population Estimates and Projections*

Area	1990	2000	2010(p)	2020(p)	2030(p)
Bell	34,400	36,700	41,900	45,900	NA
Huntington Park	56,100	61,300	68,700	70,000	NA
Los Angeles City	3,485,400	3,694,800	4,164,600	4,569,100	NA
Maywood	27,900	28,100	31,100	31,600	NA
Vernon	200	100	100	100	100
Los Angeles County	8,863,200	9,559,600	10,451,000	10,885,100	11,236,700
California	29,758,200	34,043,200	39,246,800	43,851,700	48,110,700

Source: Department of Finance (DOF), 2006b & 2006c; SCAG, 2005; 2000 Census.

* Populations rounded to nearest 100.

(p) = projected

NA = not available

TABLE 8.8-3
Historical and Projected Average Compounded Growth Ranges

City	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2020	2020-2030
Bell	0.65%	1.34%	0.92%	NA
Huntington Park	0.90%	1.14%	0.19%	NA
Los Angeles City	0.59%	1.20%	0.93%	NA
Maywood	0.08%	1.03%	0.16%	NA
Vernon	-5.00%	0.74%	0.00%	0.00%
Los Angeles County	0.76%	0.90%	0.41%	0.32%
California	1.35%	1.43%	1.12%	0.93%

Source: CH2M HILL.

Based on population projections by the California Department of Finance (DOF), Los Angeles County and California are expected to have their greatest population growth from 2000 to 2010. Historically, the County's growth rate has been lower than that of the State. This trend is expected to continue with population growth rates for both being projected to decline in future years.

Appendix Tables 8.8A-1 and 8.8A-2 (shown in Appendix 8.8A due to size of the tables) show the minority (both racial as well as ethnic) as well as the low-income population distribution for the census blocks and census block groups that are within a 6-mile radius of VPP. The minority and income data are from the 2000 U.S. Census data. Of the overall total

population within the 6-mile radius, approximately 95 percent are racial minority, 77 percent are of Hispanic origin¹, and 31 percent are low-income.

Figures 8.8-1, and 8.8-2 (figures are located at the end of this subsection) show the percent distribution of minority and low-income populations by 2000 census blocks and census block groups within a 6-mile radius of the proposed VPP site.

8.8.3.2 Housing

As shown in Table 8.8-4, housing stock for the Los Angeles County as of January 1, 2006, was 3,364,750 units (DOF, 2006a). Single-family dwellings (both attached and unattached units) accounted for 1,876,512 units, multiple family dwellings accounted for 1,431,547 units, and mobile homes accounted for 56,691 units. New housing authorizations for Los Angeles County in 2004 totaled 26,935 units and about 44 percent were single-family units and 56 percent were multi-family units. These authorizations were valued at \$6,567.4 million (DOF, 2006d).

Los Angeles County's vacancy rate is approximately 4.2 percent, below the federal standard of 5 percent which indicates that housing availability within the County is in somewhat short supply. The median sales price of existing single family homes in Los Angeles County in 2004 was \$446,380 and had increased from \$215,900 in 2000 (DOF, 2006e).

TABLE 8.8-4
Housing Estimates by City and County, January 1, 2006

Area	Total Units	Single-family	Multi-family	Mobile Homes	Percent Vacant
City of Bell	9,324	5,115	3,748	461	3.22
Huntington Park	15,422	7,654	7,753	15	3.10
Los Angeles City	1,375,930	618,006	748,835	9,089	4.63
Maywood	6,732	3,927	2,797	8	3.46
Vernon*	26	19	7	0	3.85
Los Angeles County	3,364,750	1,876,512	1,431,547	56,691	4.20

Source: DOF 2006a.

* These data differ from those reported in the Vernon General Plan.

The City of Vernon is primarily industrial and there are 31 housing units in the City with 26 of the units owned by the City (Vernon General Plan 2001). The City rents its units to public safety personnel such as fire, police, street maintenance, and utility operators to ensure the availability of such personnel in case of emergency. The majority of the units are detached single-family dwelling (19); the remainder consists of 2 residential units attached to non-residential uses, 1 duplex, and 8 apartments units. There is no additional housing planned for the City of Vernon (Vernon General Plan Housing Element 2001) since there is no land available that is suitable for residential development. Environmental factors related to new residential development such as hazardous materials storage, background contamination, noxious odors, noise pollution, and truck and railroad traffic generated by the City's

¹ 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.

pervasive industrial land uses preclude residential uses. Consequently, the Southern California Council of Governments (SCAG) approved a future residential development of zero for the City of Vernon. Table 8.8.4 shows the housing stock for local cities and Los Angeles County.

8.8.3.3 Economy and Employment

Between 2000 and 2005, employment in Los Angeles County decreased by about 55,700 jobs or 1.4 percent. During the same period, California experienced a slight growth in employment of about 264,400 jobs or 1.8 percent. As shown in Table 8.8-5, employment grew in most industries (including construction), and decreased in agriculture, manufacturing, wholesale trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities. Construction experienced the largest percentage increase in employment (12.5 percent) during this period, followed by financial activities (11.4 percent) and natural resources and mining (8.8 percent). Although employment in construction increased by 16,500 jobs between 2000 and 2005, the contribution of this sector to the Los Angeles County economy remained relatively small – between 3 and 4 percent.

TABLE 8.8-5
Employment Distribution of Los Angeles County 2000-2005

Industry	2000		2005		2000-2005	
	Number of Employees	Employment Share (%)	Number of Employees	Employment Share (%)	Percentage Change (%)	Average Annual Growth (%)
Agriculture	7,700	0.2	7,500	0.2	-2.6	-0.5
Natural resources/ mining	3,400	0.1	3,700	0.1	8.8	1.7
Construction	131,700	3.2	148,200	3.7	12.5	2.4
Manufacturing	611,300	15.0	470,400	11.7	-23.0	-5.1
Wholesale trade	219,100	5.4	218,100	5.4	-0.5	-0.1
Retail trade	391,300	9.6	412,700	10.3	5.5	1.1
Transportation, warehousing, utilities	174,400	4.3	161,900	4.0	-7.2	-1.5
Information	242,600	5.9	209,600	5.2	-13.6	-2.9
Financial activities	218,700	5.4	243,700	6.1	11.4	2.2
Services	1,498,400	36.7	1,564,600	38.9	4.4	0.9
Government	581,300	14.2	583,800	14.5	0.4	0.1
Industry Employment Total	4,079,800	100.0	4,024,100	100.0	-1.4	-0.3

Source: CEDD (2006a).

Table 8.8-6 provides 2005 employment data for Los Angeles County and the cities of Bell, Huntington Park, Los Angeles, Maywood, and Vernon, compared to California. Bell, Huntington Park, Los Angeles, and Maywood all have unemployment rates that are greater than the state average. With an estimated population of 100, the city of Vernon's workforce is so small that the State Employment Development Department does not estimate

workforce or unemployment data. The Los Angeles County average of 5.3 percent is almost the same as the State average (5.4 percent). The California Employment Development Department (CEDD) does not project future unemployment rates.

TABLE 8.8-6
Employment Data 2005

City	Civilian Labor Force	Employed Labor Force	Unemployed Labor Force	Unemployment Rate
Bell	15,400	14,300	1,100	7.1%
Huntington Park	25,400	23,400	2,000	7.7%
Los Angeles City	1,882,300	1,769,000	113,300	6.0%
Maywood	11,700	10,800	900	7.5%
Vernon*	0	0	0	0.0%
Los Angeles County	4,821,200	4,564,700	256,500	5.3%
California	17,695,600	16,746,900	948,700	5.4%

* City of Vernon workforce is so small that it is reported as "0."
Source: CEDD, 2006b.

8.8.3.4 Fiscal Resources

The local agencies with taxing power include Los Angeles County and the City of Vernon. Los Angeles County's General Fund expenditures and revenues are presented in Table 8.8-7. The County's General Fund has shown steady growth from year-to-year. From Fiscal Year (FY) 2003-04 to FY 2004-05, General Fund revenues grew 2.7 percent, a growth that is about half (5.1 percent) that over the next year (from FY 2004-05 to FY 2005-06). Revenue from taxes comprises between 17 (FY 2003-04) and 28 percent (FY 2005-06) of the County's total General Fund revenue.

TABLE 8.8-7
Los Angeles County's General Fund (in Millions)

	FY 2003-04	FY 2004-05	FY 2005-06 Estimated	FY 2006-07 Proposed
Expenditures				
General	\$980.1	\$1,147.9	\$1,530.2	\$2,445.6
Public Protection	\$3,347.2	\$3,533.0	\$3,786.9	\$4,151.9
Public Ways and Facilities	\$188.4	\$227.1	\$305.4	\$310.5
Health and Sanitation	\$3,140.9	\$2,931.2	\$3,359.0	\$3,881.5
Public Assistance	\$4,308.6	\$4,328.0	\$4,453.9	\$4,588.3
Education	\$92.2	\$92.3	\$105.3	\$134.8
Recreation and Cultural Services	\$179.3	\$183.3	\$219.8	\$244.6
Debt Service	\$42.7	\$99.0	\$9.1	\$9.1
Total Expenditures	\$12,279.4	\$12,541.9	\$13,769.6	\$15,766.3

TABLE 8.8-7
Los Angeles County's General Fund (in Millions)

	FY 2003-04	FY 2004-05	FY 2005-06 Estimated	FY 2006-07 Proposed
Revenues				
Property Taxes	\$1,798.9	\$2,614.1	\$3,004.6	\$3,231.6
Other Taxes	\$196.4	\$215.3	\$201.2	\$193.0
Licenses, permits, and franchises	\$57.2	\$58.4	\$55.6	\$53.7
Fines, forfeitures, and penalties	\$202.6	\$220.6	\$206.1	\$195.7
Revenue from use of money and property	\$63.5	\$100.0	\$135.8	\$127.9
Intergovernmental revenues—State	\$4,112.7	\$4,120.2	\$4,172.9	\$4,289.5
Intergovernmental revenues—Federal	\$3,043.3	\$2,638.3	\$2,774.8	\$2,930.8
Intergovernmental revenues—Other	\$78.2	\$84.3	\$71.1	\$82.8
Charges for services	\$1,222.0	\$1,272.5	\$1,369.7	\$1,606.9
Miscellaneous revenue	\$253.6	\$210.8	-\$111.2	\$106.3
Other financing sources	\$504.2	\$305.5	\$559.0	\$626.0
Total Revenue	\$11,532.6	\$11,839.9	\$12,439.4	\$13,444.2

Source: Los Angeles County, 2006.

The City's total general fund revenues for FY 2004-05 were \$48,272,882 while expenditures were \$44,257,226. For the current fiscal year (FY 2005-06), general fund revenues and expenditures are projected at \$46,598,785 and \$46,456,421, respectively. During FY 2004-05, revenues from taxes, fees and permits contributed \$13,719,407 to the City's general fund revenues. Contributions from these revenue sources are projected to total \$14,873,785 in FY 2005-06.

8.8.3.5 Education

There are a total of 84 school districts in Los Angeles County. The VPP project site is in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) service area. Vernon City Elementary School is the only school within the city. Children from Vernon City Elementary School attend either George Washington Carver Middle School or Henry T. Gage Middle School. Historical enrollment figures for the school serving the City of Vernon and the LAUSD are presented in Table 8.8-8.

TABLE 8.8-8
Current and Projected Enrollment by Grade

Grade Level	Los Angeles Unified School District		Vernon ES, Carver MS, Gage MS Combined	
	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06
Kindergarten	55,099	54,502	37	24
First	58,403	56,872	42	41
Second	59,380	56,098	33	41

TABLE 8.8-8
Current and Projected Enrollment by Grade

Grade Level	Los Angeles Unified School District		Vernon ES, Carver MS, Gage MS Combined	
	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06
Third	59,078	56,547	36	33
Fourth	60,115	56,604	46	34
Fifth	60,582	57,466	40	38
Sixth	56,191	56,302	2,287	2,241
Seventh	51,824	53,853	2,109	2,205
Eighth	54,494	50,290	2,080	2,017
Ungraded elementary	19,900	19,726	331	324
Ninth	71,512	72,344	0	0
Tenth	51,757	53,773	0	0
Eleventh	41,144	41,745	0	0
Twelfth	29,700	30,115	0	0
Ungraded secondary	12,188	11,082	0	0
Total	741,367	727,319	7,041	6,998

Source: CDE, 2006.

ES = Elementary School

MS = Middle School

8.8.3.6 Public Services and Facilities

This section describes public services in the project area. The Project is sited adjacent to existing industrial facilities in the City of Vernon.

8.8.3.6.1 Law Enforcement

VPP will be served by the City of Vernon Police Department located at 4305 Santa Fe Avenue. The police station is manned by 56 sworn officers, 5 lieutenants and 8 sergeants. The city police department is headed by Chief Sol Benudiz and is equipped with 20 patrol units (black and white vehicles) as well as 13 plain detective units. Each patrol car has computer terminals using wireless technology as well as thermal and night vision imaging devices. The police communication center is a model for other agencies. Response time to the project depends on the severity of the incident with response times estimated between 5 and 10 minutes and many emergency calls are responded to within 3 minutes. All 911 calls are received and processed through the headquarters in Vernon where they are dispatched (via computer-aided-dispatch system) to patrol units in the city and also dispatched fire department units.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is the primary law enforcement agency for state highways and roads. Services include law enforcement, traffic control, accident investigation, and the management of hazardous materials spill incidents.

8.8.3.6.2 Fire Protection

The VPP is within the Vernon Fire Department (VFD) jurisdiction, a Class I Fire Department (using the Insurance Standards Organization rating), which includes it as one of the 35 top-rated fire departments in the nation. All fire personnel receive advanced fire and rescue training and are provided with state-of-the-art equipment and apparatus. Four fire stations allow fire crews to respond within every mile and a half of city property. The location of stations has resulted in a response time of less than 3 minutes any time life or property is threatened.

The department is comprised of 78 uniformed personnel. Fire Station 1 at 3375 Fruitland Avenue serves two roles as Fire Department Headquarters and as a Training Center. It will be the station responding to calls from the VPP site. Fire Station 1 is equipped with Engine 11, Truck 111 and the Command Vehicle. Depending on the severity of an incident, Station 1 may be assisted by other stations. Fire Station 2, at 4305 Santa Fe Avenue, is the home to Engine 12 and the Hazardous Materials unit 151. Fire Station 3, at 2800 South Soto Street, is the firehouse for Engine 13, Rescue 141, and the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) 161. Paramedics on Rescue 3 are trained in advanced life support and respond on all emergency incidents. The recently-acquired USAR Squad is a unique apparatus carrying highly-trained personnel and equipment specializing in Confined Space Rescue, Trench Rescue, High Angle Rope Rescue, Swift Water Rescue and Emergency Building and Shoring. Fire Station 4, at 4530 Bandini Boulevard, is the firehouse for Engine 14. This engine is also deployed in the local mutual aid system aiding some of the surrounding cities during larger multiple alarm fires.

8.8.3.6.3 Emergency Response

Because of the highly industrialized nature of Vernon, firefighters receive specialized training to address emergency responses to industrial hazards. The Fire Department provides training in hazardous materials, confined space rescue, rescue systems, emergency building shoring, fire prevention and investigation, and emergency responses to terrorism.

The Vernon Fire Department maintains a fully-staffed Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team (HMERT). The 34 Hazardous Materials Team Members are Vernon Firefighters who have undergone 320 hours of training to receive their “specialist” classification, as certified by the State of California and ongoing HAZMAT specialist education. Station 2 is equipped with a custom-built Hazardous Materials Unit equipped with an on-board laboratory; a variety of monitoring and detection devices; a portable weather station; lap-top computers; a library; personal protective equipment; and rescue and decontamination tools. The HAZMAT team is on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with a local response time of 3 to 5 minutes (Whitworth, 2005).

8.8.3.6.4 Hospitals

Emergency medical services are provided by the Vernon Police Department and Vernon Fire Department. Vernon contracts with American Medical Response (AMR) for paramedic support. AMR operates out of Station 2 and would provide ambulance service in a medical emergency at the project site. The VFD generally transports people with medical emergencies to White Memorial Medical Center, located approximately 4.65 miles from the project site at 1720 Cesar Chavez Ave, Los Angeles. White Memorial is equipped to handle emergency services and currently has 370 beds; however, it is often at capacity. The hospital

is currently undergoing a rebuilding and upgrading project that will result in a new hospital slated for completion in 2008. The main portion of the hospital including, upgrades to the utilities, and a new acute care building is slated for completion by 2006.

The closest hospital is Community Hospital of Huntington Park which is 1.2 miles from the site at 2623 East Slauson Avenue, Huntington Park, but it only has 35 beds and is not equipped to receive paramedic services. However, it has 12 observation units and 4 intensive care units. Other hospitals near the project include the Good Samaritan Hospital, Santa Maria Hospital, the University of Southern California, and Norris Cancer Hospital all within about 5 miles from the site.

Vernon also has its own Health Department including registered environmental specialists, backflow prevention specialists, hazardous materials managers, and vector control technicians. The goal of the Health department is to assist businesses in complying with federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations.

8.8.3.7 Utilities

The City of Vernon is the local provider of electric, gas, sewer and water services. Sanitary sewer services will be provided through the City's system that connects to LACSD. Recycled water for industrial process will be delivered to the Project by the City of Vernon Water Department through connection with CBMWD.

8.8.3.7.1 Electricity and Gas

The plant will be connected to the CALISO grid via a 230 kV transmission line from the plant to the SCE Laguna Bell Substation. Electrical Transmission is described further in Section 5, Transmission System Engineering. The City of Vernon will deliver natural gas to the Project. The City's gas pipeline will be fed from the SoCalGas transmission pipeline (Line 765). Gas supply for the project is described further in Section 6, Natural Gas Supply.

8.8.3.7.2 Water

Potable water will be supplied by the City of Vernon from water mains in Boyle and Fruitland avenues. The VPP project will use up to 6,266 acre-feet per year (afy) of recycled water provided by Central Basin Municipal Water District (CBMWD) for cooling tower make-up. The recycled water will be delivered via a recycled water pipeline along Boyle Avenue, adjacent to the plant site. For further information on water supply, see Section 7, Water Supply.

8.8.3.7.3 Sewer

Process wastewater will be discharged through a new sewer line. An 18-inch sanitary sewer line would exit the plant site from the southeast corner, follow along the railroad right-of-way to Alcoa Avenue, turning south on Alcoa Ave the line would be 21 inches in diameter to the point where it connects to LACSD's 24-inch line at Alcoa and Slauson avenues. Domestic sanitary water will be returned to LACSD via the city's sewer system.

8.8.4 Environmental Analysis

This subsection assesses the potential environmental impacts of the VPP project and linears.

8.8.4.1 Potential Environmental Impacts

Local environmental impacts were determined by comparing project demands during construction and operation with the socioeconomic resources of the region of influence (i.e., Los Angeles County). A proposed power generating facility could impact employment, population, housing, public services and utilities, and/or schools. Impacts could be local and/or regional, though most impacts would tend to be more regional than local. It is anticipated that the project will not have any significant adverse impacts on the socioeconomic environment, but it will have socioeconomic benefits to the local community.

8.8.4.2 Significance Criteria

The criteria used to determine the significance of project-related socioeconomic impacts are as suggested in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Checklist. Project-related impacts are determined to be significant if they:

- Induce substantial growth or concentration of population
- Displace a large number of people or existing housing
- Result in substantial adverse environmental impacts associated with the provision of utility services
- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of public services

Other impacts may be significant if they cause substantial change in community interaction patterns, social organization, social structures, or social institutions; substantial conflict with community attitudes, values, or perceptions; or substantial inequities in the distribution of project cost and benefit.

8.8.4.3 Construction Impacts

Actual construction will take place over approximately 24 months, from the third quarter of 2007 to the third quarter of 2009. Plant testing is scheduled to commence in the second quarter of 2009, with commercial operation expected to occur in the third quarter of 2009. Personnel requirements will be minimal during the mobilization and site grading period (i.e., during the first 3 months of the construction period) and during the startup and testing period (i.e., during the last 3 months of the construction period).

8.8.4.3.1 Construction Workforce

The primary trades in demand will include boilermakers, carpenters, electricians, ironworkers, laborers, millwrights, operators, and pipefitters. Table 8.8-9 provides an estimate of construction personnel requirements for the plant and linear facilities. Total construction personnel requirements for both the plant and linear facilities will be an

TABLE 8.8-9
Construction Personnel by Month

Craft/Trade	Month																								Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Project Site																									
Boilermakers	0	0	0	0	6	11	24	47	44	50	97	100	105	94	109	109	99	52	38	21	6	0	0	0	1,012
Carpenters	2	10	8	15	15	16	16	22	22	18	32	28	28	25	29	29	22	17	18	16	16	8	9	6	427
Electricians	0	12	12	14	14	22	25	30	25	23	50	56	54	49	58	58	60	56	72	73	62	49	64	30	968
Ironworkers	2	8	10	14	14	18	22	29	28	28	44	47	45	47	48	48	44	28	18	16	16	11	9	3	597
Laborers	8	15	15	15	16	18	23	28	18	16	29	31	31	28	32	32	30	25	30	24	16	7	9	9	505
Pipefitters	0	15	15	16	16	22	32	47	41	37	66	71	69	62	72	72	64	45	30	19	16	4	6	3	840
Painters/insulation workers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	8	27	28	25	29	29	31	30	38	40	31	21	17	12	369
Bricklayers/masons	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	3	42
Millwrights	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	7	8	15	17	17	15	17	17	18	16	21	18	16	14	9	12	243
Operating engineers	2	8	8	9	9	9	13	14	12	11	19	21	21	19	22	22	21	21	23	19	19	11	11	9	353
Contractor staff	8	12	12	16	19	22	29	36	30	26	47	50	50	44	52	52	49	49	60	52	43	34	30	30	852
Total Site Staff	22	80	80	100	110	140	190	260	230	220	410	450	450	410	470	470	440	340	350	300	243	160	166	117	6,208
Project Linear Facilities																									
Sewer line	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	17	17	17	2	0	0	0	0	0	55
Natural gas pipeline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	14	14	14	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60
Transmission line	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	12	12	12	12	12	2	0	0	0	0	0	64
Total Linear Facilities Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	14	14	16	26	16	29	29	29	4	0	0	0	0	0	179
TOTAL PLANT AND LINEARS	22	80	80	100	110	140	190	260	230	222	424	464	466	436	486	499	469	369	354	300	243	160	166	117	6,387

average of 266 workers per month for 24 months with a peak total work force of 499 per month during month 16. This translates into 532 person-years or 6,387 person months. The peak construction workforce for the plant is estimated to be 470 workers in months 15 and 16 and the peak construction work force for the linear facilities will reach 29 during months 16, 17 and 18. The construction payroll is estimated at \$85.2 million.

The availability of skilled labor in the Los Angeles County was evaluated by contacting representatives of labor unions (Table 8.8-10) and by reviewing information provided by the CEDD (Table 8.8-11). Both sources show that the workforce in Los Angeles County will be adequate to fulfill VPP's labor requirements for construction. In addition, as shown in Table 8.8-5, the mining and construction workforce within the County has been growing at an average annual rate of 2.4 percent per year. Thus, VPP is not likely to result in a significant impact on the available workforce of skilled construction workers.

TABLE 8.8-10
Labor Union Contacts

Labor Union	Contact	Phone Number
Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council	Richard Slawzen	(213) 483-4222

TABLE 8.8-11
Available Labor by Skill in Los Angeles County, 2002 to 2012

Occupational Title	Annual Averages		Absolute Change	Percentage Change	Average Annual Compounded Growth Rate (%)
	2002	2012			
Carpenters	16,820	19,120	2,300	13.7	1.3
Cement masons and concrete finishers	9,640	11,570	1,930	20.0	1.8
Painters, construction and maintenance	9,090	10,060	970	10.7	1.0
Sheet metal workers	2,940	3,150	210	7.1	0.7
Electricians	11,230	13,330	2,100	18.7	1.7
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	7,650	7,790	140	1.8	0.2
Industrial truck operators	18,600	20,480	1,880	10.1	1.0
Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators	3,500	3,830	330	9.4	0.9
Helpers, construction trades	11,390	12,320	930	8.2	0.8
Construction laborers	17,590	20,090	2,500	14.2	1.3
Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	9,460	10,760	1,300	13.7	1.3
Administrative services managers	8,670	9,740	1,070	12.3	1.2
Mechanical engineers	6,980	6,710	-270	-3.9	-0.4

TABLE 8.8-11
Available Labor by Skill in Los Angeles County, 2002 to 2012

Occupational Title	Annual Averages		Absolute Change	Percentage Change	Average Annual Compounded Growth Rate (%)
	2002	2012			
Electrical engineers	6,630	6,580	-50	-0.8	-0.1
Engineering technicians	9,220	9,510	290	22.0	0.3
Plant and system operators	6,830	7,060	230	3.4	0.3

Source: CEDD, 2006c.

8.8.4.3.2 Population Impacts

It is anticipated that the workforce to construct the project is available in the local or regional area. For this evaluation, it is assumed that most of the work force will be drawn from Los Angeles County and will commute daily to the project area during the construction period. The project is also within commuting distance of Ventura, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. Since most of the construction work force (a peak-workforce of 499 workers and an average of 266 workers per month over the 24-month duration of the construction) will commute to the Project, rather than relocate, impacts to Los Angeles County and local school districts are expected to be minimal. As shown on Table 8.8-2, the estimated population of Los Angeles County exceeds 9.5 million. The number of construction workers required by the plant will not make a significant impact on the population of the City or significantly increase the non-resident workforce within the city of Vernon, which averages about 44,000. It is estimated that with an average vehicle occupancy of 1.15, the additional vehicles on the roadways during construction would range from 19 to a peak of 217 vehicles (434 round trips). Additional information on traffic impacts is provided in Section 8.10.

8.8.4.3.3 Housing Impacts

Most of the construction workforce will commute to the project site daily since there are no residential or hotel/motel accommodations in the City of Vernon. Vernon is located within 2 miles of 4 major freeways and is situated close to the center of the region's transportation network, which facilitates commuting. In addition, the City is served by the Southern California Rapid Transit District, which provides bus service to Vernon and is also served by light rail that connects to buses within the City of Vernon.

As shown on Table 8.8-4, there are a total of 3,364,750 housing units in Los Angeles County and vacancy rates average 4.20 percent. In addition to owner-occupied and rental housing, there are 979 hotels and motel properties in Los Angeles County with over 95,953 rooms that are available to accommodate workers from outside the area who may choose to commute to the project site on a workweek basis. The average daily room rate is \$100. Hotel occupancy rates as of July 2005 average about 73.5 percent. As a result of the large volume of available units, and the small number of construction workers required (a peak of 499 workers in month 16 and an average of 266 workers throughout construction), construction of the proposed project is not expected to increase the demand for housing in Los Angeles County. No housing is available in Vernon.

8.8.4.3.4 Impacts to the Local Economy and Employment

The cost of materials and supplies (excluding the combustion turbine generators (CTGs), heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs), steam turbine generator, and most other large equipment) required by the project is estimated at \$100 million, in 2005 dollars. The estimated value of materials and supplies that will be purchased locally in Los Angeles County during construction is \$5 to \$10 million, in 2005 dollars. VPP will provide about \$85.2 million in construction payroll, at an average salary of \$75 per hour (including benefits). The anticipated payroll for employees, as well as the purchase of materials and supplies during the 2-year construction period, will have a slight beneficial impact on the area. Assuming, conservatively, that 60 percent of the construction workforce will reside in Los Angeles County, it is expected that approximately \$51.1 million, in 2005 dollars, of the construction payroll will stay in the local area. These additional funds will cause a temporary beneficial impact by creating the potential for other employment opportunities for local workers in other service areas, such as transportation and retail.

Indirect and Induced Economic Impacts from Construction

Construction activity would result in secondary economic impacts (indirect and induced impacts) within the City of Vernon and Los Angeles County. Secondary employment effects would include indirect and induced employment due to the purchase of goods and services by firms involved with construction, and induced employment due to construction workers spending their income within the county. In addition to these secondary employment impacts, there are indirect and induced income effects arising from construction. The project would create a temporary positive impact on the local economic base and fiscal resources. Employment for local and regional workers would provide additional area income as would local expenditures for construction materials and services. Increased local incomes and sales would also generate tax revenues for the local and regional areas.

Indirect and induced impacts were estimated using an IMPLAN Input-Output model of Los Angeles County. IMPLAN is an economic modeling software program. The estimated indirect and induced employment within Los Angeles County would be 157 and 223 jobs, respectively. These additional jobs result from the \$10 million in annual local construction expenditures as well as the \$17.89 million in spending by local construction workers. The \$17.89 million represents the disposable portion of the annual construction payroll (here assumed to be 70 percent of \$25.56 million). Assuming an average direct construction employment of 266, the employment multiplier associated with the construction phase of the project is approximately 2.4 (i.e., $[266 + 157 + 223]/266$). This project construction phase employment multiplier is based on a Type SAM model.

Indirect and induced income impacts were estimated at \$5,902,460 and \$9,170,000, respectively. Assuming a total annual local construction expenditure (payroll, materials and supplies) of \$35.56 million (\$25.56 million in payroll + \$10 million in materials and supplies), the project construction phase income multiplier based on a Type SAM model is approximately 1.4 (i.e., $[\$35,560,000 + \$5,902,460 + \$9,170,000]/\$35,560,000$).

Assuming that annual local construction expenditures are only \$5 million instead of \$10 million results in indirect and induced employment estimates within Los Angeles County of 79 and 204 jobs, respectively. Based on the same average construction employment of 266, the construction phase employment multiplier is approximately 2.0.

Indirect and induced income impacts based on the total annual construction expenditure of \$30.56 million (\$25.56 million in payroll + \$5 million in materials and supplies) were estimated at \$2,951,230 and \$8,381,520, respectively. Based on these estimates, the construction phase income multiplier was estimated at approximately 1.4.

8.8.4.3.5 Fiscal Impacts

VPP initial capital cost is estimated to be \$450 to \$475 million with \$280 million in equipment purchases (combustion turbines [CTs], steam turbine generator [STG], HRSG, balance of plant [BOP], etc.) and \$100 million in materials and supplies. The estimated value of materials and supplies that will be purchased locally (within Los Angeles County) during construction is between \$5 and \$10 million. These estimates are in 2005 dollars.

Since City of Vernon is a public agency, it does not pay property taxes. Thus, neither the City nor Los Angeles County would derive any additional funds from property taxes. However, VPP is expected to bring sales tax revenue to Los Angeles County.

The effect on fiscal resources during construction will be from sales taxes realized on equipment and materials purchased in the County and from sales taxes from local expenditures. The sales tax rate in Los Angeles County is 8.25 percent (as of April 1, 2006). Of this, 6.25 percent goes to the state; 0.75 percent goes to the County; one percent goes to the place of sale; and 0.025 percent goes to the special districts (BOE, 2006). The total local sales tax expected to be generated during construction is \$412,500 to \$825,500 (i.e., 8.25 percent of local sales). Of this amount, the County would receive, at a minimum,² between \$37,500³ and \$75,000.

8.8.4.3.6 Impacts on Education

Enrollment in the Los Angeles Unified School District has been constant over the past 5 years. The school closest to the project site (the Vernon City Elementary School) experienced a reduction in enrollment since the 2002-03 school year. Enrollment in 2005-06 was also down by about 10 percent from the 2004-05 school year.

Construction of VPP will not cause significant population changes or housing impacts to the region. Most employees will commute to the site from areas within the County, as opposed to relocating to the area. As a result, VPP construction will not cause any significant increase in demand for school services.

8.8.4.3.7 Impacts on Public Services and Facilities

Current police, fire, and medical facilities should be sufficient to handle the demands of the project. The site's perimeter fence will assist local law enforcement agencies with area security. Onsite fire protection systems will meet all National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), state, and local requirements. Communication equipment will be available onsite at all times to contact emergency response agencies.

² The amount depends on whether the County is also the point of sale. Where that is the case, the County would receive 1 percent of the purchase price (which goes to the jurisdiction where the sale is made), plus 0.75 percent of the purchase price (which goes to the County).

³ \$5,000,000 * 0.0075 = \$37,500.

8.8.4.3.8 Impacts on Utilities

VPP construction will not make significant adverse demands on local water, sanitary sewer, electricity, or natural gas. Impacts will involve the extension of existing utility lines. Water requirements for construction are relatively insignificant. Given the number of workers and temporary duration of the construction period the impacts on the local sanitary sewer system would not be significant.

Sanitary wastes will be collected in portable self-contained toilets or sent to LACSD through the City's sewer line. Other wastewater generated during construction would be disposed of according to local regulations or sent to LACSD through the City sewer lines. Solid wastes generated during construction would be collected onsite and either recycled or disposed of by a solid waste disposal company at the Puente Hills Landfill in Whittier, California.

8.8.4.4 Operational Impacts

8.8.4.4.1 Operational Workforce

The proposed VPP facility is expected to begin commercial operation in the third quarter of 2009. The VPP will be operated by 20 full-time employees. Facility employees will be drawn from the local and regional work force and existing staff, and will commute to the City. Anticipated job classifications are shown in Table 8.8-12. The entire permanent workforce is expected to commute from within Los Angeles County.

TABLE 8.8-12
Typical Plant Operation Workforce

Department	Personnel	Shift	Workdays
Operations	10 operating technicians: (9 operating technicians, 1 chemical technician)	Rotating 12-hour shift, 3 operators per shift, 3 relief operators	7 days a week
Maintenance	5 maintenance technicians (2 mechanical, 1 electrical, and 2 instrumentation)	Standard 8-hour days	5 days a week (Maintenance technicians will also work unscheduled days and hours as required [weekends])
Administration	5 administrators (1 plant manager, 1 operations manager, 1 maintenance manager, 1 office manager, plant administrator, and 1 plant engineer)	Standard 8-hour days	5 days a week with additional coverage as required

8.8.4.4.2 Population Impacts

Facility employees will be drawn from the regional workforce and from existing City of Vernon staff. Since the City of Vernon is an industrial city, no increase in population is anticipated as a result of this project. There will be no significant impact on local employment because only 20 additional staff will be required for plant operations and the current work force is about 44,000. Because there is a large skilled labor pool in the greater Los Angeles area available for operation of the project, the project will not result in an influx of operation workers to relocate in the local Vernon area.

8.8.4.4.3 Housing Impacts

Due to the few operations staff, significant impacts to housing are not anticipated. The project will not displace current residents. The workforce is assumed available in the local area (Los Angeles and surrounding counties). It is assumed that only a few, if any operations staff would relocate to Vernon or the surrounding areas; and therefore, impacts to housing would be minimal. Since the Project would be located in an industrial area, it would not physically alter any residential or commercial community. Area property values would not be harmed by this Project. Because of the industrial nature of the City, no substantial changes are expected to community interaction patterns, social organization, social structures, or social institutions. Substantial conflict is also not expected with community attitudes, values or perceptions, nor should there be substantial inequities in the distribution of impacts.

8.8.4.4.4 Impacts to the Local Economy and Employment

VPP operation will generate a small, permanent beneficial impact by creating employment opportunities for local workers through local expenditures for materials, such as office supplies and services. The average salary per operations employee is expected to be \$70,000 per year, in 2005 dollars. For the assumed average of 20 full-time employees, this will result in an operation payroll of \$1,400,000 per year. There will be an annual operations budget of approximately \$5 million, most of which is estimated to be spent locally, (i.e., within Los Angeles County). In addition, there will be an annual maintenance budget of approximately \$3 million. These estimates are in 2005 dollars. These additional jobs and spending will generate other employment opportunities and spending in the Los Angeles County area. The addition of 20 full-time jobs would not significantly reduce unemployment rates.

Indirect and Induced Economic Impacts from Operation

The operation of the proposed project would result in indirect and induced economic impacts that would occur within Los Angeles County depending on the point of sale. These indirect and induced impacts represent permanent increases in the county's economic variables. The indirect and induced impacts would result from annual expenditures on payroll as well as those on operations and maintenance (O&M).

Estimated indirect and induced employment within Los Angeles County would be 31 and 20 permanent jobs, respectively. These additional 51 jobs result from the \$9.4 million (\$1.4 million in payroll, \$3 million in materials and \$5 million in operations) in annual operational budget. The operational phase employment multiplier is estimated at 3.6 (i.e., $[20 + 31 + 20]/20$) and is based on a Type SAM multiplier.

Indirect and induced income impacts are estimated at \$1,610,940 and \$804,620, respectively. The income multiplier associated with the operational phase of the project is approximately 1.3 (i.e., $[\$9,400,000 + \$1,610,940 + \$804,620]/\$9,400,000$) and is based on a Type SAM model.

8.8.4.4.5 Fiscal Impacts

The annual operations budget is expected to be approximately \$5 million, all of which is assumed would be spent locally within Los Angeles County. In addition, there will be an annual maintenance budget of approximately \$3 million, all of which is assumed to be spent locally within Los Angeles County. As stated in the impacts to the economy subsection, VPP will bring \$1.4 million, in 2005 dollars, in operational payroll to the region.

During operations, additional sales tax revenues will be obtained by the City of Vernon and Los Angeles County. Increased payroll will be \$1.4 million annually, and additional O&M expenses will be approximately \$8 million annually. Assuming local expenditures of \$8 million annually, the estimated sales taxes will be approximately \$660,000. Of this amount, the place of sale will receive \$80,000 in sales tax revenue and the County would receive \$60,600. These estimates are in 2005 dollars.

8.8.4.4.6 Impacts on Education

Even assuming that most of the 20 operational employees end up residing within the City of Vernon, VPP operation is not expected to create any significant adverse impacts to the local school system. Assuming an average family size of 3.12 persons per household for Los Angeles County (DOF, 2006a) would imply the addition of approximately 22 children to the local schools. This would constitute less than a one percent increase in the local school enrollment (combined enrollment in Vernon City Elementary School, George Washington Carver Middle School, and Henry T. Gage Middle School). Therefore, impacts to the schools would be less than significant. Due to its public agency status, the applicant is exempt from paying school impact fees to Los Angeles Unified School District.

8.8.4.4.7 Impacts on Public Services and Facilities

Project operation will not make significant demands on public services or facilities. Existing police and fire department facilities are adequate to provide services to the project. VPP operation would not create significant adverse impacts on medical resources in the area due to the safety record of power plants and few operations staff.

Plant operations should not result in significant adverse impacts to local public services, facilities, or emergency services.

8.8.4.4.8 Impacts on Utilities

As evidenced by the “will serve” letters, VPP’s operation will not make significant adverse demands on recycled or potable water, sanitary sewer, or natural gas because adequate supply and capacity currently exist.

8.8.5 Cumulative Impacts

Since both construction and operations personnel will reside primarily in Los Angeles County and live within commuting distance, and not in the City of Vernon, no adverse impact to local schools or housing is anticipated. Although there may be a temporary increase in demand for construction workers, the available supply of workers in the region is more than adequate, so no adverse cumulative impacts are expected and similarly there are no cumulative impacts of operating the power plant. Additionally, the relocation of labor personnel is not necessary. Employees from the existing local labor pool will operate the plant. The local economy will be enhanced by the multiplier effect of VPP workers spending local payroll in the area and local purchases of equipment and materials. Operation of the plant will provide public benefits including reliable electricity to the southern California grid.

Consequently, no adverse cumulative socioeconomic impacts are anticipated from either the construction or operation of VPP. Instead, the local community will enjoy a beneficial

(but not significant) impact from short-term construction and longer-term operations employment.

8.8.6 Environmental Justice

President Clinton's Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations" was signed on February 11, 1994. The purpose of this Executive Order is to identify and address whether adverse human health or environmental effects are likely to fall disproportionately on minority and/or low-income members of the community.

The federal guidelines set forth a three-step screening process:

1. Identify which impacts of the project are high and adverse
2. Determine if minority or low-income populations exist within the high and adverse impact zones
3. Examine the spatial distribution of high and adverse impact areas to determine if these impacts are likely to fall disproportionately on the minority and/or low-income population

According to the guidelines established by USEPA to assist federal agencies to develop strategies to address this circumstance, a minority and/or low-income population exists if the minority and/or low-income population percentage of the affected area is 50 percent or more of the area's general population. The guidance suggests using two or three standard deviations above the mean as a quantitative measure of disparate effects. For environmental justice, the local area was extended to a 6-mile radius around the project site.

Since the project is a power plant in Vernon, a city that is nearly 100 percent industrial, the Project is not expected to disproportionately affect the local community. Construction and operation of the Project will not displace current residents or physically alter any residential or commercial area. It will have positive effects to the local economic base from the construction activity and creation of additional employment opportunities. No impacts to current public services are anticipated.

A screening-level analysis of Environmental Justice is presented in Appendix 8.8A. According to that analysis, this project does not create high and adverse impacts. Therefore, there are no environmental impacts that are likely to fall disproportionately on minority and/or low income members of the community.

8.8.7 Mitigation Measures

No significant socioeconomic impacts were identified, therefore no mitigation measures are proposed.

8.8.8 Involved Agencies and Agency Contacts

Table 8.8-13 provides a list of agencies and contact persons of potentially responsible agencies. Copies of records of conversation are provided in Appendix 8.8B.

TABLE 8.8-13
Agencies and Agency Contacts for VPP Socioeconomics

Agency	Contact/Title	Phone Number	Address
City of Vernon	Kevin Wilson Director, Department of Community Services and Water	(323) 583-8811 ext. 245	4305 Santa Fe Avenue Vernon, CA 90058
Vernon Fire Department	Mark C. Whitworth Acting Fire Chief	(323) 583-8811 ext. 283	4305 Santa Fe Avenue Vernon, CA 90058
Vernon Fire Department	Dave Lazar Battalion Chief	(323) 583-8811 ext. 511	4305 Santa Fe Avenue Vernon, CA 90058
Vernon Police Department	Sol Benudiz Chief of Police	(323) 583-8811 ext. 114	4305 Santa Fe Avenue Vernon, CA 90058

8.8.9 Permits and Permitting Schedule

No applicable permits related to socioeconomic impacts of the project are required. Permits dealing with the effects on public services are addressed as part of the building permit process. For example school development fees are typically collected when the Applicant pays in-lieu building permit fees to the City. But since the Applicant is a municipality, it is exempt from paying school impact taxes and development impact fees.

8.8.10 References

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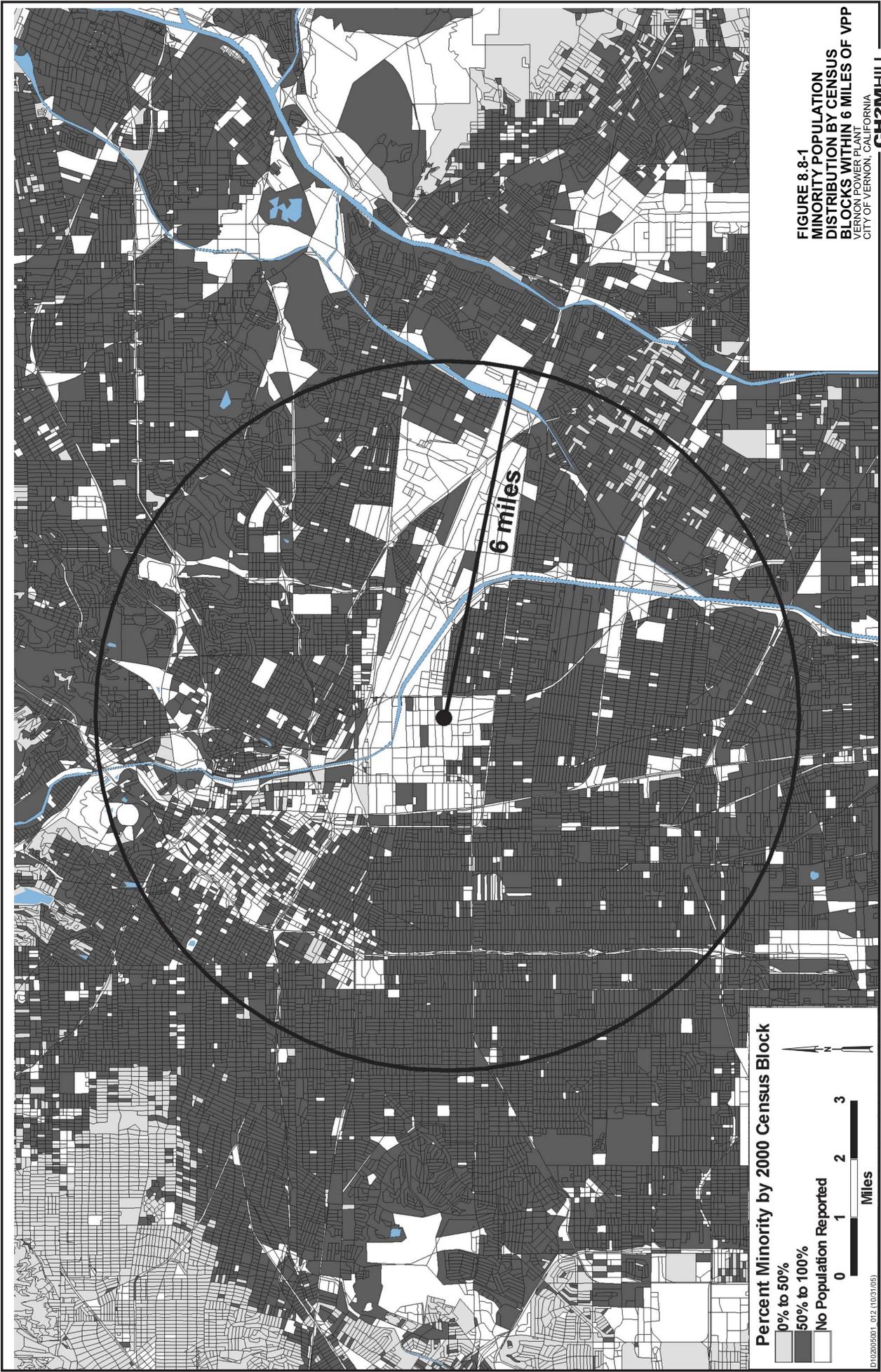


FIGURE 8.8-1
MINORITY POPULATION
DISTRIBUTION BY CENSUS
BLOCKS WITHIN 6 MILES OF VPP
 VERNION POWER PLANT
 CITY OF VERNION, CALIFORNIA
CH2MHILL

Percent Minority by 2000 Census Block

- 0% to 50%
- 50% to 100%
- No Population Reported

0 1 2 3
 Miles

D:\02065001_01Z (10/31/05)

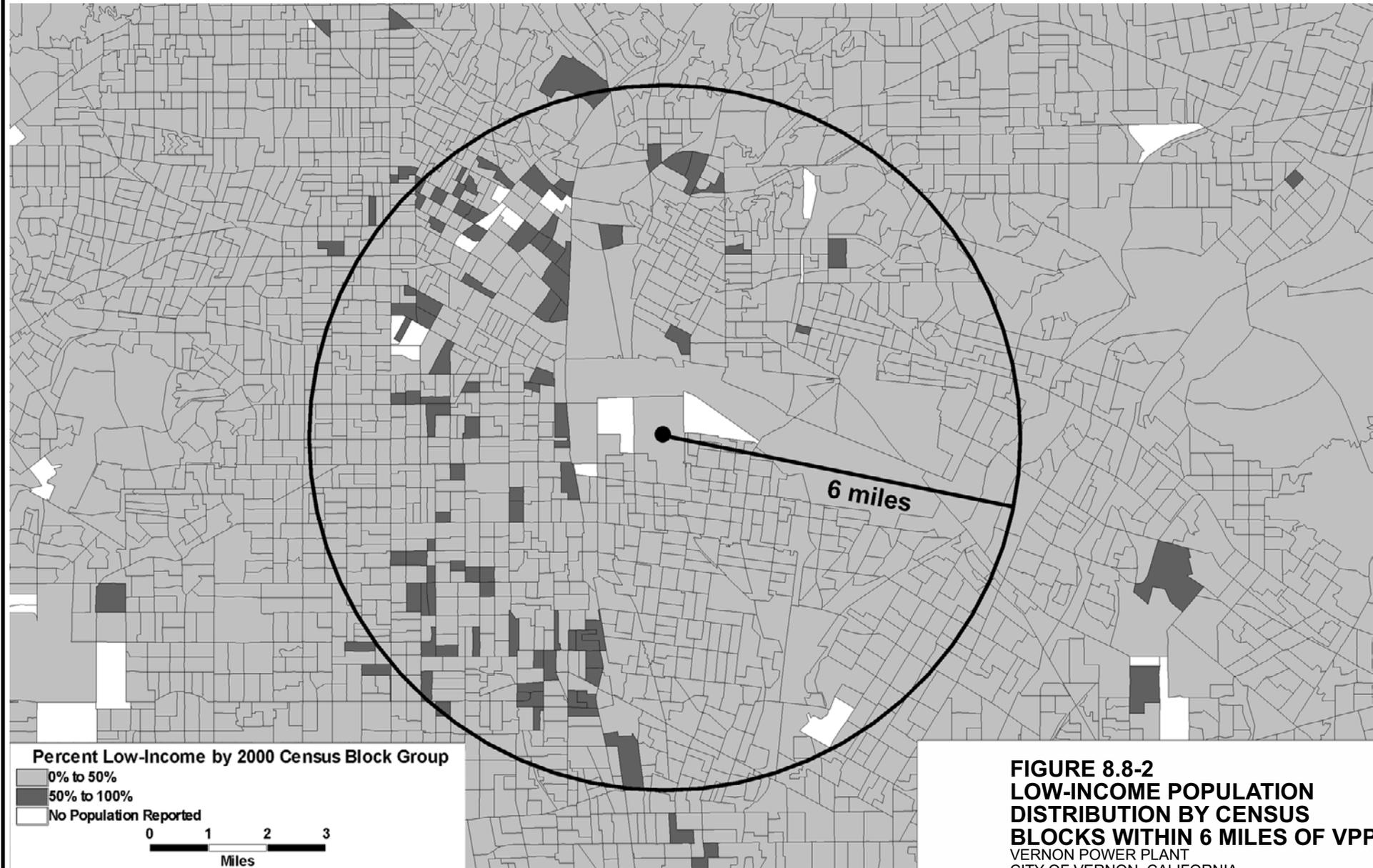


FIGURE 8.8-2
LOW-INCOME POPULATION
DISTRIBUTION BY CENSUS
BLOCKS WITHIN 6 MILES OF VPP
 VERNON POWER PLANT
 CITY OF VERNON, CALIFORNIA