

VII. EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

1. INTRODUCTION

This section of the EIR provides information regarding impacts that were determined to be insignificant by the City of Los Angeles during the project scoping review process, pursuant to Section 15128 of the State *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines*, as amended. According to the *CEQA Guidelines*: “An EIR shall contain a statement briefly indicating the reasons that various possible significant effects of a project were determined not to be significant and were therefore not discussed in detail in the EIR.”

The following presents a brief summary of the effects found not to be significant, including reasons why they would not be significant.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

The Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the project is included in **Appendix I** of this EIR. The Initial Study prepared for the NOP determined that the project would result in no impact or a less than significant impact to a range of environmental matters. The Initial Study indicated the various reasons that these effects of the project were determined not to be significant. Completed on August 17, 2005, the NOP was circulated among responsible agencies, affected agencies and other interested parties for a 30-day public comment period. A public scoping meeting was held on September 8, 2005. Based on changes to the project description, a Revised NOP was circulated for a second 30-day public comment period beginning on November 16, 2005. Input provided during the public review period and scoping meeting further refined the range of environmental effects associated with the project. The potential impacts of the project that were determined to be less than significant by the Initial Study, NOP and the public scoping process are discussed below.

Agricultural Resources

The NOP and Initial Study identified no impacts with respect to the conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance to a non-agricultural use or conflict with existing agricultural zoning or a Williamson Act contract. The project sites are located in an urbanized area and have been previously developed as urban, non-agricultural uses. The project sites are within an area designated as Urban and Built-Up Land on the State Important Farmland Maps prepared by the State Department of Conservation. The project sites are currently zoned C2, Commercial. This zoning classification is not intended for agriculture uses, and the sites are not under a Williamson Act contract. The project sites are in an urban setting, and land uses in the vicinity of the project sites have been

developed for urban uses. Therefore, the project would neither have a direct nor indirect impact on farmland.

Biological Resources

The NOP and Initial Study identified no significant impacts with respect to: any endangered, threatened or rare species as listed in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations; any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, by the California Department of Fish and Game or by the US Fish and Wildlife Service; riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies and regulations, the California Department of Fish and Game or the US Fish and Wildlife Service; federally protected wetlands; wildlife movement or native wildlife nursery; local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources; or provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan. The project sites are located in an urbanized area of the City of Los Angeles and are currently covered with buildings and/or pavement. The sites are not known to contain any threatened, endangered or rare species or their habitats; locally designated species or natural communities; wetland habitats; or wildlife corridors. The sites are not within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan or similar plan. The sites are neither within nor proximate to any Significant Ecological Area, Land Trust or Conservation Plan. Therefore, no impacts would occur with respect to biological resources.

Mineral Resources

The NOP and Initial Study identified no significant impacts with respect to the loss of the availability of a known valuable mineral resource or the loss of a locally important mineral resource recovery site. The project sites are located in an area where urban development has already occurred. The Central City Community Plan does not indicate any important mineral resources on or near the site. Therefore, no impacts associated with mineral resources would occur.