5.5 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

This section of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) evaluates the potential for the implementation of the proposed project to cumulatively contribute to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Because no single project is large enough to result in a measurable increase in global concentrations of GHG emissions, climate change impacts of a project are considered on a cumulative basis.

This section evaluates consistency of the proposed project with the strategies outlined in the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) Scoping Plan in accordance with the GHG reduction goals of Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32) and strategies proposed by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in the region, in accordance with Senate Bill 375 (SB 375). The analysis in this section is based on implementation of the proposed project and trip generation provided by DKS Associates (see Appendices L1 and L2 of this DEIR), as modeled using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod), version 2013.2.2. The GHG emissions modeling for construction and operational phases is included in Appendix E of this DEIR.

5.5.1 Environmental Setting

5.5.1.1 GREENHOUSE GASES AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Scientists have concluded that human activities are contributing to global climate change by adding large amounts of heat-trapping gases, known as GHGs, to the atmosphere. The primary source of these GHGs is fossil fuel use. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has identified four major GHGs—water vapor, carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), and ozone (O_3)—that are the likely cause of an increase in global average temperatures observed within the 20th and 21st centuries. Other GHGs identified by the IPCC that contribute to global warming to a lesser extent are nitrous oxide (N_2O), sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6), hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and chlorofluorocarbons (IPCC 2001).[1,2] The major GHGs are briefly described below.

- **Carbon dioxide (CO_2)** enters the atmosphere through the burning of fossil fuels (oil, natural gas, and coal), solid waste, trees and wood products, and respiration, and also as a result of other chemical reactions (e.g., manufacture of cement). Carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere (sequestered) when it is absorbed by plants as part of the biological carbon cycle.

[1] Water vapor (H_2O) is the strongest GHG and the most variable in its phases (vapor, cloud droplets, ice crystals). However, water vapor is not considered a pollutant, because it is considered part of the feedback loop rather than a primary cause of change.

[2] Black carbon contributes to climate change both directly, by absorbing sunlight, and indirectly, by depositing on snow (making it melt faster) and by interacting with clouds and affecting cloud formation. Black carbon is the most strongly light-absorbing component of particulate matter (PM) emitted from burning fuels such as coal, diesel, and biomass. Reducing black carbon emissions globally can have immediate economic, climate, and public health benefits. California has been an international leader in reducing emissions of black carbon, with close to 95 percent control expected by 2020 due to existing programs that target reducing PM from diesel engines and burning activities (CARB 2014). However, state and national GHG inventories do not include black carbon yet due to ongoing work resolving the precise global warming potential of black carbon. Guidance for CEQA documents does not yet include black carbon.

- **Methane (CH_4)** is emitted during the production and transport of coal, natural gas, and oil. Methane emissions also result from livestock and other agricultural practices and from the decay of organic waste in municipal landfills and water treatment facilities.

- **Nitrous oxide (N_2O)** is emitted during agricultural and industrial activities as well as during the combustion of fossil fuels and solid waste.

- **Fluorinated gases** are synthetic, strong GHGs that are emitted from a variety of industrial processes. Fluorinated gases are sometimes used as substitutes for ozone-depleting substances. These gases are typically emitted in smaller quantities, but because they are potent GHGs, they are sometimes referred to as high global-warming-potential (GWP) gases.

    - ***Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)*** are GHGs covered under the 1987 Montreal Protocol and used for refrigeration, air conditioning, packaging, insulation, solvents, or aerosol propellants. Since they are not destroyed in the lower atmosphere (troposphere, stratosphere), CFCs drift into the upper atmosphere where, given suitable conditions, they break down the ozone layer. These gases are therefore being replaced by other compounds that are GHGs covered under the Kyoto Protocol.

    - ***Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)*** are a group of human-made chemicals composed of carbon and fluorine only. These chemicals (predominantly perfluoromethane [CF_4] and perfluoroethane [C_2F_6]) were introduced as alternatives, along with HFCs, to ozone-depleting substances. In addition, PFCs are emitted as by-products of industrial processes and are used in manufacturing. PFCs do not harm the stratospheric ozone layer, but they have a high GWP.

    - ***Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF_6)*** is a colorless gas soluble in alcohol and ether, and slightly soluble in water. SF_6 is a strong GHG used primarily in electrical transmission and distribution systems as an insulator.

    - ***Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs)*** contain hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, and carbon atoms. Although they are ozone-depleting substances, they are less potent than CFCs. They have been introduced as temporary replacements for CFCs.

    - ***Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)*** contain only hydrogen, fluorine, and carbon atoms. They were introduced as alternatives to ozone-depleting substances to serve many industrial, commercial, and personal needs. HFCs are emitted as by-products of industrial processes and are also used in manufacturing. They do not significantly deplete the stratospheric ozone layer, but they are strong GHGs. (IPCC 2001; USEPA 2015)

GHGs are dependent on the lifetime, or persistence, of the gas molecule in the atmosphere. Some GHGs have a stronger greenhouse effect than others. These are referred to as high GWP gases. The GWP of GHG emissions are shown in Table 5.5-1. The GWP is used to convert GHGs to CO_2-equivalence (CO_2e) to show the relative potential that different GHGs have to retain infrared radiation in the atmosphere and contribute

to the greenhouse effect. For example, under IPCC's Second Assessment Report GWP values for CH_4, a project that generates 10 metric tons (MT) of CH_4 would be equivalent to 210 MT of CO_2. [3]

Table 5.5-1 GHG Emissions and Their Relative Global Warming Potential Compared to CO_2

GHGs	Second Assessment Report Atmospheric Lifetime (Years)	Fourth Assessment Report Atmospheric Lifetime (Years)	Second Assessment Report Global Warming Potential Relative to CO_2[1]	Fourth Assessment Report Global Warming Potential Relative to CO_2[1]
Carbon Dioxide (CO_2)	50 to 200	50 to 200	1	1
Methane[2] (CH_4)	12 (±3)	12	21	25
Nitrous Oxide (N_2O)	120	114	310	298
Hydrofluorocarbons:				
HFC-23	264	270	11,700	14,800
HFC-32	5.6	4.9	650	675
HFC-125	32.6	29	2,800	3,500
HFC-134a	14.6	14	1,300	1,430
HFC-143a	48.3	52	3,800	4,470
HFC-152a	1.5	1.4	140	124
HFC-227ea	36.5	34.2	2,900	3,220
HFC-236fa	209	240	6,300	9,810
HFC-4310mee	17.1	15.9	1,300	1,030
Perfluoromethane: CF_4	50,000	50,000	6,500	7,390
Perfluoroethane: C_2F_6	10,000	10,000	9,200	12,200
Perfluorobutane: C_4F_{10}	2,600	NA	7,000	8,860
Perfluoro-2-methylpentane: C_6F_{14}	3,200	NA	7,400	9,300
Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF_6)	3,200	NA	23,900	22,800

Source: IPCC 1995; IPCC 2007.

Note: The IPCC has published updated global warming potential (GWP) values in its Fifth Assessment Report (2013) that reflect new information on atmospheric lifetimes of GHGs and an improved calculation of the radiative forcing of CO_2 (radiative forcing is the difference of energy from sunlight received by the earth and radiated back into space). However, GWP values identified in the Second Assessment Report are still used by SCAQMD to maintain consistency in GHG emissions modeling. In addition, the 2008 Scoping Plan was based on the GWP values in the Second Assessment Report.

1 Based on 100-year time horizon of the GWP of the air pollutant relative to CO_2.

2 The methane GWP includes direct effects and indirect effects due to the production of tropospheric ozone and stratospheric water vapor. The indirect effect due to the production of CO_2 is not included.

California's GHG Sources and Relative Contribution

California is the tenth largest GHG emitter in the world and the second largest emitter of GHG emissions in the United States, surpassed only by Texas (CEC 2005). However, California also has over 12 million more people than Texas. Because of more stringent air emission regulations, in 2001, California ranked fourth lowest in carbon emissions per capita and fifth lowest among states in CO_2 emissions from fossil fuel consumption per unit of Gross State Product (total economic output of goods and services)(CEC 2006a).

3 CO_2-equivalence is used to show the relative potential that different GHGs have to retain infrared radiation in the atmosphere and contribute to the greenhouse effect. The global warming potential of a GHG is also dependent on the lifetime, or persistence, of the gas molecule in the atmosphere.

CARB's last update to the statewide GHG emissions inventory was in 2012 for year 2009 emissions and used the Second Assessment Report GWPs.[4] In 2009, California produced 457 million metric tons (MMT) of CO_2e GHG emissions. California's transportation sector is the single largest generator of GHG emissions, producing 37.9 percent of the state's total emissions. Electricity consumption is the second largest source, producing 22.7 percent. Industrial activities are California's third largest source of GHG emissions at 17.8 percent (CARB 2011).

In 2015, the statewide GHG emissions inventory was updated for 2000 to 2013 emissions using the GWPs in IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report. Based on these GWPs, California produced 459 $MMTCO_2e$ GHG emissions in 2013. California's transportation sector remains the single largest generator of GHG emissions, producing 36.8 percent of the state's total emissions. Electricity consumption made up 19.7 percent, and industrial activities produced 20.2 percent. Other major sectors of GHG emissions include commercial and residential, recycling and waste, high global warming potential GHGs, and agriculture (CARB 2015a).

Human Influence on Climate Change

For approximately 1,000 years before the Industrial Revolution, the amount of GHGs in the atmosphere remained relatively constant. During the 20th century, however, scientists observed a rapid change in the climate and the quantity of climate change pollutants in the Earth's atmosphere that is attributable to human activities. The amount of CO_2 in the atmosphere has increased by more than 35 percent since preindustrial times and has increased at an average rate of 1.4 parts per million per year since 1960, mainly due to combustion of fossil fuels and deforestation (IPCC 2007). These recent changes in the quantity and concentration of climate change pollutants far exceed the extremes of the ice ages, and the global mean temperature is warming at a rate that cannot be explained by natural causes alone. Human activities are directly altering the chemical composition of the atmosphere through the buildup of climate change pollutants (CAT 2006). In the past, gradual changes in the earth's temperature changed the distribution of species, availability of water, etc. However, human activities are accelerating this process so that environmental impacts associated with climate change no longer occur in a geologic time frame but within a human lifetime (IPCC 2007).

Like the variability in the projections of the expected increase in global surface temperatures, the environmental consequences of gradual changes in the Earth's temperature are also hard to predict. Projections of climate change depend heavily upon future human activity. Therefore, climate models are based on different emission scenarios that account for historic trends in emissions and on observations of the climate record that assess the human influence of the trend and projections for extreme weather events. Climate-change scenarios are affected by varying degrees of uncertainty. For example, there are varying degrees of certainty on the magnitude of the trends for:

- Warmer and fewer cold days and nights over most land areas.
- Warmer and more frequent hot days and nights over most land areas.

[4] Methodology for determining the statewide GHG inventory is not the same as the methodology used to determine statewide GHG emissions under Assembly Bill 32 (2006).

- An increase in frequency of warm spells/heat waves over most land areas.
- An increase in frequency of heavy precipitation events (or proportion of total rainfall from heavy falls) over most areas.
- Areas affected by drought increases.
- Intense tropical cyclone activity increases.
- Increased incidence of extreme high sea level (excluding tsunamis).

Potential Climate Change Impacts for California

Observed changes over the last several decades across the western United States reveal clear signals of climate change. Statewide average temperatures increased by about 1.7°F from 1895 to 2011, and warming has been greatest in the Sierra Nevada. By 2050, California is projected to warm by approximately 2.7°F above 2000 averages, a threefold increase in the rate of warming over the last century. By 2100, average temperatures could increase by 4.1–8.6°F, depending on emissions levels (California Climate Change Center 2012).

In California and western North America, observations of the climate have shown: 1) a trend toward warmer winter and spring temperatures; 2) a smaller fraction of precipitation falling as snow; 3) a decrease in the amount of spring snow accumulation in the lower and middle elevation mountain zones; 4) a shift in the timing of snowmelt of 5 to 30 days earlier in the spring; and 5) a similar shift (5 to 30 days earlier) in the timing of spring flower blooms (CAT 2006). According to the California Climate Action Team—a committee of State agency secretaries and the heads of agencies, boards, and departments, led by the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency—even if actions could be taken to immediately curtail climate change emissions, the potency of emissions that have already built up, their long atmospheric lifetimes (see Table 5.5-1, *GHG Emissions and Their Relative Global Warming Potential Compared to CO_2*), and the inertia of the Earth's climate system could produce as much as 0.6°C (1.1°F) of additional warming. Consequently, some impacts from climate change are now considered unavoidable. Global climate change risks to California are shown in Table 5.5-2 and include public health impacts, water resources impacts, agriculture impacts, coastal sea level, impacts forest and biological resources impacts, and energy impacts. Specific climate change impacts that could affect the project include health impacts from a deterioration in air quality, water resources impacts from a reduction in water supply, and increased energy demand.

Table 5.5-2 Summary of GHG Emissions Risks to California

Impact Category	Potential Risk
Public Health Impacts	• Heat waves will be more frequent, hotter, and longer • Fewer extremely cold nights • Poor air quality made worse • Higher temperatures increase ground-level ozone levels
Water Resources Impacts	• Decreasing Sierra Nevada snow pack • Challenges in securing adequate water supply • Potential reduction in hydropower • Loss of winter recreation
Agricultural Impacts	• Increasing temperature • Increasing threats from pests and pathogens • Expanded ranges of agricultural weeds • Declining productivity • Irregular blooms and harvests
Coastal Sea Level Impacts	• Accelerated sea level rise • Increasing coastal floods • Shrinking beaches • Worsened impacts on infrastructure
Forest and Biological Resource Impacts	• Increased risk and severity of wildfires • Lengthening of the wildfire season • Movement of forest areas • Conversion of forest to grassland • Declining forest productivity • Increasing threats from pest and pathogens • Shifting vegetation and species distribution • Altered timing of migration and mating habits • Loss of sensitive or slow-moving species
Energy Demand Impacts	• Potential reduction in hydropower • Increased energy demand

Sources: CEC 2006b; CEC 2009; California Climate Change Center 2012.

Specific climate change impacts that could affect the project include:

- **Water Resources Impacts.** By late-century, all projections show drying, and half of the projections suggest 30-year average precipitation will decline by more than 10 percent below the historical average. This drying trend is caused by an apparent decline in the frequency of rain and snowfall. Even in projections with relatively small or no declines in precipitation, central and southern parts of the state can be expected to be drier from the warming effects alone—the spring snowpack will melt sooner, and the moisture contained in soils will evaporate during long dry summer months (California Climate Change Center 2012).

- **Wildfire Risks.** Earlier snowmelt, higher temperatures and longer dry periods over a longer fire season will directly increase wildfire risk. Indirectly, wildfire risk will also be influenced by potential climate-related changes in vegetation and ignition potential from lightning. Human activities will continue to be

the biggest factor in ignition risk. The number of large fires statewide are estimated to increase from 58 percent to 128 percent above historical levels by 2085. Under the same emissions scenario, estimated burned area will increase by 57 percent to 169 percent, depending on location (California Climate Change Center 2012).

- **Health Impacts.** Many of the gravest threats to public health in California stem from the increase of extreme conditions, principally more frequent, more intense, and longer heat waves. Particular concern centers on the increasing tendency for multiple hot days in succession and heat waves occurring simultaneously in several regions throughout the state. Public health could also be affected by climate change impacts on air quality, food production, the amount and quality of water supplies, energy pricing and availability, and the spread of infectious diseases. Higher temperatures also increase ground-level ozone levels. Furthermore, wildfires can increase particulate air pollution in the major air basins of California (California Climate Change Center 2012).

- **Increase Energy Demand.** Increases in average temperature and higher frequency of extreme heat events combined with new residential development across the state will drive up the demand for cooling in the increasingly hot and longer summer season and decrease demand for heating in the cooler season. Warmer, drier summers also increase system losses at natural gas plants (reduced efficiency in the electricity generation process at higher temperatures) and hydropower plants (lower reservoir levels). Transmission of electricity will also be affected by climate change. Transmission lines lose 7 percent to 8 percent of transmitting capacity in high temperatures while needing to transport greater loads. This means that more electricity needs to be produced to make up for the loss in capacity and the growing demand (California Climate Change Center 2012).

5.5.1.2 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

This section describes the federal, state, and local regulations applicable to GHG emissions.

Federal Laws

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced on December 7, 2009, that GHG emissions threaten the public health and welfare of the American people and that GHG emissions from on-road vehicles contribute to that threat. EPA's final findings respond to the 2007 U.S. Supreme Court decision that GHG emissions fit within the Clean Air Act definition of air pollutants. The findings did not themselves impose any emission reduction requirements, but allowed the EPA to finalize the GHG standards proposed in 2009 for new light-duty vehicles as part of the joint rulemaking with the Department of Transportation (USEPA 2009).

To regulate GHGs from passenger vehicles, EPA was required to issue an endangerment finding. The finding identifies emissions of six key GHGs—CO_2, CH_4, N_2O, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and SF_6—that have been the subject of scrutiny and intense analysis for decades by scientists in the United States and around the world. The first three are applicable to the project's GHG emissions inventory because they constitute the majority of GHG emissions, and per SCAQMD guidance are the GHG emissions that should be evaluated as part of a project's GHG emissions inventory.

US Mandatory Report Rule for GHGs (2009)

In response to the endangerment finding, EPA issued the Mandatory Reporting of GHG Rule that requires substantial emitters of GHG emissions (large stationary sources, etc.) to report GHG emissions data. Facilities that emit 25,000 MT or more of CO_2e per year are required to submit an annual report.

Update to Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards (2010/2012)

The current Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards (for model years 2011 to 2016) incorporate stricter fuel economy requirements promulgated by the federal government and California into one uniform standard. Additionally, automakers are required to cut GHG emissions in new vehicles by roughly 25 percent by 2016 (resulting in a fleet average of 35.5 miles per gallon [mpg] by 2016). Rulemaking to adopt these new standards was completed in 2010. California agreed to allow automakers who show compliance with the national program to also be deemed in compliance with state requirements. The federal government issued new standards in 2012 for model years 2017–2025, which will require a fleet average of 54.5 mpg in 2025.

EPA Regulation of Stationary Sources under the Clean Air Act (Ongoing)

Pursuant to its authority under the Clean Air Act, the EPA has been developing regulations for new stationary sources such as power plants, refineries, and other large sources of emissions. Pursuant to the President's 2013 Climate Action Plan, EPA will be directed to also develop regulations for existing stationary sources.

State Laws

Current State of California guidance and goals for reductions in GHG emissions are generally embodied in Executive Order S-03-05, Executive Order B-30-15, Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), and Senate Bill 375 (SB 375).

Executive Order S-03-05

Executive Order S-03-05, signed June 1, 2005, set the following GHG reduction targets for the state:

- 2000 levels by 2010
- 1990 levels by 2020
- 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050

Executive Order B-30-15

Executive Order B-30-15, signed April 29, 2015, sets a goal of reducing GHG emissions within the state to 40 percent of 1990 levels by year 2030. Executive Order B-30-15 also directs CARB to update the Scoping Plan to quantify the 2030 GHG reduction goal for the state and requires state agencies to implement measures to meet the interim 2030 goal as well as the long-term goal for 2050 in Executive Order S-03-05. It also requires the Natural Resources Agency to conduct triennial updates of the California adaption strategy, Safeguarding California, in order to ensure climate change is accounted for in state planning and investment decisions.

Assembly Bill 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act (2006)

Current State of California guidance and goals for reductions in GHG emissions are generally embodied in AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act. AB 32 was passed by the California state legislature on August 31, 2006, to place the state on a course toward reducing its contribution of GHG emissions. AB 32 follows the 2020 tier of emissions reduction targets established in Executive Order S-03-05.

CARB 2008 Scoping Plan

The final Scoping Plan was adopted by CARB on December 11, 2008. AB 32 directed CARB to adopt discrete early action measures to reduce GHG emissions and outline additional reduction measures to meet the 2020 target. In order to effectively implement the emissions cap, AB 32 directed CARB to establish a mandatory reporting system to track and monitor GHG emissions levels for large stationary sources that generate more than 25,000 MT of CO_2e per year, prepare a plan demonstrating how the 2020 deadline can be met, and develop appropriate regulations and programs to implement the plan by 2012.

The 2008 Scoping Plan identified that GHG emissions in California are anticipated to be approximately 596 $MMTCO_2e$ in 2020. In December 2007, CARB approved a 2020 emissions limit of 427 $MMTCO_2e$ (471 million tons) for the state. The 2020 target requires a total emissions reduction of 169 $MMTCO_2e$, 28.5 percent from the projected emissions of the business-as-usual (BAU) scenario for the year 2020 (i.e., 28.5 percent of 596 $MMTCO_2e$) (CARB 2008).[5]

Since release of the 2008 Scoping Plan, CARB has updated the statewide GHG emissions inventory to reflect GHG emissions in light of the economic downturn and of measures not considered in the 2008 Scoping Plan baseline inventory. The updated forecast predicts emissions to be 545 $MMTCO_2e$ by 2020. The revised BAU 2020 forecast shows that the state would have to reduce GHG emissions by 21.7 percent from BAU. The new inventory also identifies that if the updated 2020 forecast includes the reductions assumed from implementation of Pavley (26 $MMTCO_2e$ of reductions) and the state's 33 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) (12 $MMTCO_2e$ of reductions), the forecast would be 507 $MMTCO_2e$ in 2020. In that case, an estimated 80 $MMTCO_2e$ of additional reductions are necessary to achieve the statewide emissions reduction of AB 32 by 2020, or a 15.7 percent of the projected emissions compared to BAU in year 2020 (i.e., 15.7 percent of 507 $MMTCO_2e$) (CARB 2012).

Key elements of CARB's GHG reduction plan that may be applicable to the project include:

- Expanding and strengthening existing energy efficiency programs as well as building and appliance standards (adopted and cycle updates in progress).
- Achieving a mix of 33 percent for energy generation from renewable sources (anticipated by 2020).

[5] CARB defines BAU in its Scoping Plan as emissions levels that would occur if California continued to grow and add new GHG emissions but did not adopt any measures to reduce emissions. Projections for each emission-generating sector were compiled and used to estimate emissions for 2020 based on 2002–2004 emissions intensities. Under CARB's definition of BAU, new growth is assumed to have the same carbon intensities as was typical from 2002 through 2004.

- A California cap-and-trade program that links with other Western Climate Initiative partner programs to create a regional market system for large stationary sources (adopted 2011).

- Establishing targets for transportation-related GHG emissions for regions throughout California, and pursuing policies and incentives to achieve those targets (several Sustainable Communities Strategies have been adopted).

- Adopting and implementing measures pursuant to state laws and policies, including California's clean car standards (amendments to the Pavley Standards adopted 2009; Advanced Clean Car standard adopted 2012), goods movement measures, and the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (adopted 2009).

- Creating target fees, including a public goods charge on water use, fees on high GWP gases, and a fee to fund the administrative costs of the state's long-term commitment to AB 32 implementation (in progress).

Table 5.5-3 shows the proposed reductions from regulations and programs outlined in the 2008 Scoping Plan. Although local government operations were not accounted for in achieving the 2020 emissions reduction, CARB estimates that land use changes implemented by local governments that integrate jobs, housing, and services result in a reduction of 5 $MMTCO_2e$, which is approximately 3 percent of the 2020 GHG emissions reduction goal. In recognition of the critical role that local governments play in the successful implementation of AB 32, CARB is recommending GHG reduction goals of 15 percent of today's levels by 2020 to ensure that municipal and community-wide emissions match the state's reduction target.[6] Measures that local governments take to support shifts in land use patterns are anticipated to emphasize compact, low-impact growth over development in greenfields, resulting in fewer VMT (CARB 2008).

[6] The Scoping Plan references a goal for local governments to reduce community GHG emissions by 15 percent from current (interpreted as 2008) levels by 2020, but it does not rely on local GHG reduction targets established by local governments to meet the state's GHG reduction target of AB 32.

Table 5.5-3 Scoping Plan GHG Reduction Measures and Reductions toward 2020 Target

Recommended Reduction Measures	Reductions Counted toward 2020 Target of 169 MMT CO_2e	Percentage of Statewide 2020 Target
Cap and Trade Program and Associated Measures		
California Light-Duty Vehicle GHG Standards	31.7	19%
Energy Efficiency	26.3	16%
Renewable Portfolio Standard (33 percent by 2020)	21.3	13%
Low Carbon Fuel Standard	15	9%
Regional Transportation-Related GHG Targets[1]	5	3%
Vehicle Efficiency Measures	4.5	3%
Goods Movement	3.7	2%
Million Solar Roofs	2.1	1%
Medium/Heavy Duty Vehicles	1.4	1%
High Speed Rail	1.0	1%
Industrial Measures	0.3	0%
Additional Reduction Necessary to Achieve Cap	34.4	20%
Total Cap and Trade Program Reductions	146.7	87%
Uncapped Sources/Sectors Measures		
High Global Warming Potential Gas Measures	20.2	12%
Sustainable Forests	5	3%
Industrial Measures (for sources not covered under cap and trade program)	1.1	1%
Recycling and Waste (landfill methane capture)	1	1%
Total Uncapped Sources/Sectors Reductions	27.3	16%
Total Reductions Counted toward 2020 Target	174	100%
Other Recommended Measures – Not Counted toward 2020 Target		
State Government Operations	1.0 to 2.0	1%
Local Government Operations[2]	To Be Determined	NA
Green Buildings	26	15%
Recycling and Waste	9	5%
Water Sector Measures	4.8	3%
Methane Capture at Large Dairies	1	1%
Total Other Recommended Measures – Not Counted toward 2020 Target	42.8	NA

Source: CARB 2008.

Notes: The percentages in the right-hand column add up to more than 100 percent because the emissions reduction goal is 169 $MMTCO_2e$ and the Scoping Plan identifies 174 $MTCO_2e$ of emissions reductions strategies which are based on the IPCC's Second Assessment Report GWPs.

$MMTCO_2e$: million metric tons of CO_2e

[1] Reductions represent an estimate of what may be achieved from local land use changes. It is not the SB 375 regional target.

[2] According to the Measure Documentation Supplement to the Scoping Plan, local government actions and targets are anticipated to reduce vehicle miles by approximately 2 percent through land use planning, resulting in a potential GHG reduction of 2 million metric tons of CO_2e (or approximately 1.2 percent of the GHG reduction target). However, these reductions were not included in the Scoping Plan reductions to achieve the 2020 target.

First Update to the Scoping Plan

CARB completed a five-year update to the 2008 Scoping Plan, as required by AB 32, which was adopted at the May 22, 2014, board hearing. The Update to the Scoping Plan defines CARB's climate change priorities for the next five years and lays the groundwork to reach post-2020 goals in Executive Orders S-03-05 and

B-16-2012. The update includes the latest scientific findings related to climate change and its impacts, including short-lived climate pollutants. The GHG target identified in the 2008 Scoping Plan is based on IPCC's GWPs identified in the Second and Third Assessment Reports (see Table 5.5-1). IPCC's Fourth and Fifth Assessment Reports identified more recent GWP values based on the latest available science. CARB recalculated the 1990 GHG emission levels with the updated GWPs in the Fourth Assessment Report, and the 427 $MMTCO_2e$ 1990 emissions level and 2020 GHG emissions limit, established in response to AB 32, is slightly higher, at 431 $MMTCO_2e$ (CARB 2014). CARB projected that statewide BAU emissions in 2020 would be approximately 509 million $MTCO_2e$.[7] Therefore, to achieve the AB 32 target of 431 million $MTCO_2e$ (i.e., 1990 emissions levels) by 2020, the state would need to reduce emissions by 78 million $MTCO_2e$ compared to BAU conditions, a reduction of 15.3 percent from BAU in 2020 (CARB 2014).[8]

The update highlights California's progress toward meeting the near-term 2020 GHG emission reduction goals defined in the original 2008 Scoping Plan. As identified in the Update to the Scoping Plan, California is on track to meeting the goals of AB 32. However, the Update to the Scoping Plan also addresses the state's longer-term GHG goals within a post-2020 element. The post-2020 element provides a high level view of a long-term strategy for meeting the 2050 GHG goals, including a recommendation for the state to adopt a midterm target. According to the Update to the Scoping Plan, local government reduction targets should chart a reduction trajectory that is consistent with, or exceeds, the trajectory created by statewide goals (CARB 2014).

According to the Update to the Scoping Plan, reducing emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels will require a fundamental shift to efficient, clean energy in every sector of the economy. Progressing toward California's 2050 climate targets will require significant acceleration of GHG reduction rates. Emissions from 2020 to 2050 will have to decline several times faster than the rate needed to reach the 2020 emissions limit (CARB 2014).

Second Update to the Scoping Plan

The new Executive Order B-30-15 requires CARB to prepare another update to the Scoping Plan to address the 2030 target for the state. According to CARB, the Scoping Plan will be updated by late 2016 to address the new 2030 interim target to achieve a 40 percent reduction below 1990 levels by 2030 (CARB 2015c).

Senate Bill 375

In 2008, Senate Bill 375 (SB 375), the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act, was adopted to connect the GHG emissions reductions targets established in the 2008 Scoping Plan for the transportation sector to local land use decisions that affect travel behavior. Its intent is to reduce GHG emissions from light-duty trucks and automobiles (excludes emissions associated with goods movement) by aligning regional long-range transportation plans, investments, and housing allocations to local land use planning to reduce VMT and vehicle trips. Specifically, SB 375 required CARB to establish GHG emissions reduction targets for each

[7] The BAU forecast includes GHG reductions from Pavley and the 33% Renewable Portfolio Standard.

[8] If the GHG emissions reductions from Pavley I and the Renewable Electricity Standard are accounted for as part of the BAU scenario (30 million $MTCO_2e$ total), then the state would need to reduce emissions by 108 million $MTCO_2e$, which is a 20 percent reduction from BAU.

of the 18 metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). SCAG is the MPO for the Southern California region, which includes the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, and Imperial.

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee, CARB adopted per capita reduction targets for each of the MPOs rather than a total magnitude reduction target. SCAG's targets are an 8 percent per capita reduction from 2005 GHG emission levels by 2020 and a 13 percent per capita reduction from 2005 GHG emission levels by 2035 (CARB 2010). SB 375 requires CARB to periodically update the targets, no later than every 8 years. CARB plans to propose updated targets for consideration in 2016, with the intent to make them effective in 2018. Sustainable communities strategies (SCSs) adopted in 2018 would be subject to the updated targets (CARB 2015b).

The 2020 targets are smaller than the 2035 targets because a significant portion of the built environment in 2020 has been defined by decisions that have already been made. In general, the 2020 scenarios reflect that more time is needed for large land use and transportation infrastructure changes. Most of the reductions in the interim are anticipated to come from improving the efficiency of the region's transportation network. The targets would result in 3 $MMTCO_2e$ of reductions by 2020 and 15 $MMTCO_2e$ of reductions by 2035. Based on these reductions, the passenger vehicle target in CARB's Scoping Plan (for AB 32) would be met (CARB 2010).

CARB is currently in the process of updating the next round of targets and methodology to comply with the requirement for updates every eight years. Considerations for the next round of targets include whether to change the nature or magnitude of the emissions reduction targets for each of the MPOs, and whether the target-setting methodology should account for advances in technologies that reduce emissions. Such changes in methodology would permit cities to account for emissions reductions from advances in cleaner fuels and vehicles and not only from land use and transportation planning strategies.

SCAG's RTP/SCS

SB 375 requires the MPOs to prepare a sustainable communities strategy in their regional transportation plan. For the SCAG region, the 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) was adopted in April 2016 (SCAG 2016). The SCS outlines a development pattern for the region, which, when integrated with the transportation network and other transportation measures and policies, would reduce GHG emissions from transportation (excluding goods movement). The SCS is meant to provide growth strategies that will achieve the regional GHG emissions reduction targets. However, the SCS does not require that local general plans, specific plans, or zoning be consistent with the SCS; instead, it provides incentives to governments and developers for consistency.

The 2016-2040 RTP/SCS projects that the SCAG region will meet or exceed the passenger vehicle per capita targets set in 2010 by CARB. Pursuant to the 2016-2040 RTP/SCS, SCAG anticipates lowering GHG emissions below 2005 levels by 8 percent by 2020, 18 percent by 2035, and 21 percent by 2040. Land use strategies to achieve the region's targets include planning for new growth around High Quality Transit Areas, Livable Corridors, and creating Neighborhood Mobility Areas to integrate land use and transportation and plan for more active lifestyles (SCAG 2016).

Assembly Bill 1493

California vehicle GHG emission standards were enacted under AB 1493 (Pavley I). Pavley I is a clean-car standard that reduces GHG emissions from new passenger vehicles (light-duty auto to medium-duty vehicles) from 2009 through 2016 and is anticipated to reduce GHG emissions from new passenger vehicles by 30 percent in 2016. California implements the Pavley I standards through a waiver granted to California by the EPA. In 2012, the EPA issued a Final Rulemaking that sets even more stringent fuel economy and GHG emissions standards for model year 2017 through 2025 light-duty vehicles (see also the discussion on the update to the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards under *Federal Laws*, above). In January 2012, CARB approved the Advanced Clean Cars program (formerly known as Pavley II) for model years 2017 through 2025. The program combines the control of smog, soot, and global warming gases and requirements for greater numbers of zero-emission vehicles into a single package of standards. Under California's Advanced Clean Car program, by 2025, new automobiles will emit 34 percent fewer global warming gases and 75 percent fewer smog-forming emissions.

Executive Order S-01-07

On January 18, 2007, the state set a new low carbon fuel standard (LCFS) for transportation fuels sold within the state. Executive Order S-01-07 sets a declining standard for GHG emissions measured in carbon dioxide equivalent gram per unit of fuel energy sold in California. The LCFS requires a reduction of 2.5 percent in the carbon intensity of California's transportation fuels by 2015 and a reduction of at least 10 percent by 2020. The standard applies to refiners, blenders, producers, and importers of transportation fuels, and would use market-based mechanisms to allow these providers to choose how they reduce emissions during the "fuel cycle" using the most economically feasible methods.

Senate Bills 1078, 107,and X1-2, and Executive Order S-14-08

A major component of California's Renewable Energy Program is the RPS established under Senate Bills 1078 (Sher) and 107 (Simitian). Under the RPS, certain retail sellers of electricity were required to increase the amount of renewable energy each year by at least 1 percent in order to reach at least 20 percent by December 30, 2010. Executive Order S-14-08 was signed in November 2008, which expanded the state's Renewable Energy Standard to 33 percent renewable power by 2020. This standard was adopted by the legislature in 2011 (SBX1-2). The increase in renewable sources for electricity production will decrease indirect GHG emissions from development projects because electricity production from renewable sources is generally considered carbon neutral.

Senate Bill 350

Senate Bill 350 (de Leon), was signed into law September 2015. SB 350 establishes tiered increases to the RPS of 40 percent by 2024, 45 percent by 2027, and 50 percent by 2030. SB 350 also set a new goal to double the energy efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas through energy efficiency and conservation measures.

Executive Order B-16-2012

On March 23, 2012, the state identified that CARB, the California Energy Commission (CEC), the Public Utilities Commission, and other relevant agencies worked with the Plug-in Electric Vehicle Collaborative and the California Fuel Cell Partnership to establish benchmarks to accommodate zero-emissions vehicles in major metropolitan areas, including infrastructure to support them (e.g., electric vehicle charging stations). The executive order also directs the number of zero-emission vehicles in California's state vehicle fleet to increase through the normal course of fleet replacement so that at least 10 percent of fleet purchases of light-duty vehicles are zero-emission by 2015 and at least 25 percent by 2020. The executive order also establishes a target for the transportation sector of reducing GHG emissions from the transportation sector 80 percent below 1990 levels.

California Building Code: Building and Energy Efficiency Standards

Energy conservation standards for new residential and non-residential buildings were adopted by the California Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (now the CEC) in June 1977 and most recently revised in 2013 (Title 24, Part 6, of the California Code of Regulations [CCR]). Title 24 requires the design of building shells and building components to conserve energy. The standards are updated periodically to allow for consideration and possible incorporation of new energy efficiency technologies and methods. On May 31, 2012, the CEC adopted the 2013 Building and Energy Efficiency Standards, which went into effect on July 1, 2014. Buildings that are constructed in accordance with the 2013 Building and Energy Efficiency Standards are 25 percent (residential) to 30 percent (nonresidential) more energy efficient than the 2008 standards as a result of better windows, insulation, lighting, ventilation systems, and other features.

Most recently, the CEC adopted the 2016 Building and Energy Efficiency Standards. The 2016 Standards will continue to improve upon the current 2013 Standards for new construction of, and additions and alterations to, residential and nonresidential buildings. These standards will go into effect on January 1, 2017. Under the 2016 Standards, residential buildings are 28 percent more energy efficient than the 2013 Standards, and nonresidential buildings are 5 percent more energy efficient than the 2013 Standards (CEC 2015a).

The 2016 standards will not achieve zero net energy. However, they do get very close to the state's goal and make important steps toward changing residential building practices in California. The 2019 standards will take the final step to achieve zero net energy for newly constructed residential buildings throughout California (CEC 2015b).

California Building Code: CALGreen

On July 17, 2008, the California Building Standards Commission adopted the nation's first green building standards. The California Green Building Standards Code (24 CCR, Part 11, known as "CALGreen") was adopted as part of the California Building Standards Code. CALGreen established planning and design standards for sustainable site development, energy efficiency (in excess of the California Energy Code requirements), water conservation, material conservation, and internal air contaminants.[9] The mandatory

[9] The green building standards became mandatory in the 2010 edition of the code.

provisions of the California Green Building Code Standards became effective January 1, 2011, and were updated most recently in 2013.

2006 Appliance Efficiency Regulations

The 2006 Appliance Efficiency Regulations (20 CCR §§ 1601–1608) were adopted by the CEC on October 11, 2006, and approved by the California Office of Administrative Law on December 14, 2006. The regulations include standards for both federally regulated appliances and non–federally regulated appliances. Though these regulations are now often viewed as "business as usual," they exceed the standards imposed by all other states, and they reduce GHG emissions by reducing energy demand.

Solid Waste Regulations

California's Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939, Public Resources Code §§ 40050 et seq.) set a requirement for cities and counties throughout the state to divert 50 percent of all solid waste from landfills by January 1, 2000, through source reduction, recycling, and composting. In 2008, the requirements were modified to reflect a per capita requirement rather than tonnage. To help achieve this, the act requires that each city and county prepare and submit a source reduction and recycling element. AB 939 also established the goal for all California counties to provide at least 15 years of ongoing landfill capacity.

AB 341 (Chapter 476, Statutes of 2011) increased the statewide goal for waste diversion to 75 percent by 2020 and requires recycling of waste from commercial and multifamily residential land uses.

The California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act (AB 1327, Public Resources Code §§ 42900 et seq.) requires areas to be set aside for collecting and loading recyclable materials in development projects. The act required the California Integrated Waste Management Board to develop a model ordinance for adoption by any local agency requiring adequate areas for collection and loading of recyclable materials as part of development projects. Local agencies are required to adopt the model or an ordinance of their own.

Section 5.408 of the 2013 CALGreen also requires that at least 50 percent of the nonhazardous construction and demolition waste from nonresidential construction operations be recycled and/or salvaged for reuse.

Water Efficiency Regulations

The 20x2020 Water Conservation Plan was issued by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in 2010 pursuant to Senate Bill 7, which was adopted during the 7th Extraordinary Session of 2009–2010 and therefore dubbed "SBX7-7." SBX7-7 mandated urban water conservation and authorized the DWR to prepare a plan implementing urban water conservation requirements (20x2020 Water Conservation Plan). In addition, it required agricultural water providers to prepare agricultural water management plans, measure water deliveries to customers, and implement other efficiency measures. SBX7-7 requires urban water providers to adopt a water conservation target of 20 percent reduction in urban per capita water use by 2020 compared to 2005 baseline use.

The Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 (AB 1881) requires local agencies to adopt the updated DWR model ordinance or equivalent. AB 1881 also requires the CEC to consult with the DWR to adopt, by

regulation, performance standards and labeling requirements for landscape irrigation equipment, including irrigation controllers, moisture sensors, emission devices, and valves to reduce the wasteful, uneconomic, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy or water.

5.5.1.3 EXISTING EMISSIONS

The approximately two-acre project site consists of the 23,632-square-foot OCMA building. GHG emissions generated by the OCMA building were modeled with CalEEMod 2013.2.2 based on, among other things, trip generation provided by DKS Associates. GHG emissions are shown in Table 5.5-4, *Existing GHG Emissions Inventory*.

Table 5.5-4 Existing GHG Emissions Inventory

Source	GHG Emissions $MTCO_2e$/Year	
	Existing	Percent of Total
Area[1]	<1	<1%
Energy	129	44%
Transportation[2]	129	44%
Waste	13	5%
Water	21	7%
Total All Sectors	292	100%

Source: CalEEMod Version 2013.2.2.
[1] Emissions from architectural coatings, household consumer products, and landscaping equipment.
[2] Based on 2016 vehicle emission rates.

5.5.2 Thresholds of Significance

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would normally have a significant effect on the environment if the project would:

GHG-1 Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment.

GHG-2 Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

5.5.2.1 SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

To provide guidance to local lead agencies on determining significance for GHG emissions in their CEQA documents, SCAQMD has convened a GHG CEQA Significance Threshold Working Group. Based on the last Working Group meeting (Meeting No. 15) in September 2010, the SCAQMD Working Group identified a tiered approach for evaluating GHG emissions for development projects where SCAQMD is not the lead agency:

- **Tier 1.** If a project is exempt from CEQA, project-level and cumulative GHG emissions are less than significant.

- **Tier 2.** If the project complies with a GHG emissions reduction plan or mitigation program that avoids or substantially reduces GHG emissions in the project's geographic area (i.e., city or county), project-level and cumulative GHG emissions are less than significant.

For projects that are not exempt or where no qualifying GHG reduction plans are directly applicable, SCAQMD requires an assessment of GHG emissions. SCAQMD has identified a "bright-line" screening-level threshold of 3,000 $MTCO_2e$ annually for all land use types or the following land-use-specific thresholds: 1,400 $MTCO_2e$ for commercial projects, 3,500 $MTCO_2e$ for residential projects, or 3,000 $MTCO_2e$ for mixed-use projects. This bright-line threshold is based on a review of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research database of CEQA projects. Based on their review of 711 CEQA projects, 90 percent of CEQA projects would exceed the bright-line thresholds identified above. Therefore, projects that do not exceed the bright-line threshold would have a nominal, and therefore, less than cumulatively considerable impact on GHG emissions:

- **Tier 3.** If GHG emissions are less than the screening-level threshold, project-level and cumulative GHG emissions are less than significant.

- **Tier 4.** If emissions exceed the screening threshold, a more detailed review of the project's GHG emissions is warranted.

SCAQMD has identified an efficiency target for projects that exceed the bright-line threshold: a 2020 efficiency target of 4.8 $MTCO_2e$ per year per service population ($MTCO_2e$/year/SP) for project-level analyses and 6.6 $MTCO_2e$/year/SP for plan-level analyses (e.g., general plans). Service population is defined as the sum of the residential and employment population of a project. The per capita efficiency targets are based on the AB 32 GHG reduction target and 2020 GHG emissions inventory prepared for CARB's 2008 Scoping Plan.[10]

The buildout year of the project is 2020. For the purpose of this project, if project-related emissions exceed the screening threshold of 3,000 $MTCO_2e$ per year, project emissions would be compared to the per capita target of 4.8 $MTCO_2e$ per year per service population.[11] If the per capita efficiency target is exceeded, GHG emissions would be considered potentially significant in the absence of mitigation measures.

5.5.3 Environmental Impacts

5.5.3.1 METHODOLOGY

The analysis in this section is based on buildout of the proposed project as modeled using CalEEMod, version 2013.2.2, for the following sectors:

[10] SCAQMD took the 2020 statewide GHG reduction target for land use only GHG emissions sectors and divided it by the 2020 statewide employment for the land use sectors to derive a per capita GHG efficiency metric that coincides with the GHG reduction targets of AB 32 for year 2020.

[11] Although SCAQMD's guidance identifies a threshold of 3,500 $MTCO_2e$ for residential projects, the 3,000 $MTCO_2e$ threshold applicable to mixed-use projects was applied to be conservative. Because the project's GHG emissions would be below the lower threshold, as discussed below, they would also be below the higher threshold applicable to residential projects.

- **Transportation.** GHG emissions are based on the trip generation provided by DKS Associates (Appendices L1 and L2).

- **Solid Waste Disposal.** Indirect emissions from waste generation are based on CalRecycle's estimated solid waste generation rates.

- **Water/Wastewater.** GHG emissions from this sector are associated with the embodied energy used to supply water, treat water, distribute water, and then treat wastewater and fugitive GHG emissions from wastewater treatment. Emissions are based on the water use and wastewater generation rates provided by the Water Demand Report and Sewer Analysis Report prepared by Fusco Engineering.

- **Area Sources.** GHG emissions from this sector are from use of fireplaces and landscaping equipment used for property maintenance. It is assumed that all residential units contain only natural gas fireplaces.

- **Energy.** GHG emissions from this sector are from use of electricity and natural gas by the residential land uses. New buildings would exceed the 2016 Building and Energy Efficiency. Standards, which are 33.5 percent more energy efficient for nonresidential buildings than the 2008 standards. (Multifamily of four stories and higher is treated as nonresidential for the Building and Energy Efficiency Standards.) Therefore, modeling for this sector provides a worst-case estimate of the increase in building energy use for the new structures.

- **Construction.** GHG emissions are from construction-related vehicle and equipment use and are based on CalEEMod defaults in addition to past similar projects for the construction equipment mix and worker, vendor, and haul trips. Emissions are amortized over a 30-year period and are included as part of the overall inventory.

Life cycle emissions are not included in this analysis because not enough information is available for the proposed project, and therefore life cycle GHG emissions would be speculative.[12] GHG modeling is included in Appendix E of this Draft EIR.

5.5.3.2 IMPACT ANALYSIS

The following impact analysis addresses thresholds of significance for which the Initial Study disclosed potentially significant impacts. The applicable thresholds are identified in brackets after the impact statement.

[12] Life cycle emissions include indirect emissions associated with materials manufacture. However, these indirect emissions involve numerous parties, each of which is responsible for GHG emissions of their particular activity. The California Resources Agency, in adopting the CEQA Guidelines Amendments on GHG emissions found that lifecycle analyses was not warranted for project-specific CEQA analysis in most situations, for a variety of reasons, including lack of control over some sources, and the possibility of double-counting emissions (see Final Statement of Reasons for Regulatory Action, December 2009). Because the amount of materials consumed during the operation or construction of the Proposed Project is not known, the origin of the raw materials purchased is not known, and manufacturing information for those raw materials are also not known, calculation of life cycle emissions would be speculative. A life-cycle analysis is not warranted (OPR 2008).

Impact 5.5-1: Development of the proposed project would not result in a substantial increase of GHG emissions that would exceed the South Coast Air Quality Management District's significance criteria. [Threshold GHG-1]

Impact Analysis: Global climate change is not confined to a particular project area and is generally accepted as the consequence of global industrialization over the last 200 years. A typical project, even a very large one, does not generate enough greenhouse gas emissions on its own to influence global climate change significantly; hence, the issue of global climate change is, by definition, a cumulative environmental impact.

The proposed project would generate GHG emissions from vehicle trips generated by the project, energy use (indirectly from purchased electricity use and directly through fuel consumed for building heating), area sources (e.g., equipment used on-site, consumer products, coatings), water/wastewater generation, and waste disposal. Annual GHG emissions were calculated for construction and operation of the project. Total construction emissions were amortized over 30 years and included in the emissions inventory to account for the short-term GHG emissions from the construction phase of the project. Project-related GHG emissions are shown in Table 5.5-5, *Net Increase in Project-Related GHG Emissions*. As shown in the table, the proposed project at buildout would generate a net of 1,340 $MTCO_2e$ emissions per year. The total net increase of GHG emissions onsite from the project would not exceed the SCAQMD's bright-line threshold of 3,000 $MTCO_2e$, and the proposed project's cumulative contribution to GHG emissions is less than significant. In addition, the proposed project would be built to achieve Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification, and the landscape irrigation systems would be designed with weather sensors, timers, and low-flow irrigation devices to further reduce the overall water use in the community. No mitigation measures are required.

Table 5.5-5 Net Increase in Project-Related GHG Emissions

Source	$MTCO_2e$/year[1]	Percent of Project Total
Existing		
Area	<1	<1%
Energy	129	44%
Mobile	129	44%
Waste	13	5%
Water	21	7%
Total	292	100%
Proposed Project		
Area	26	2%
Energy[1]	365	22%
Mobile	402	25%
Waste	102	6%
Water	683	42%
Amortized Construction Emissions[2]	54	3%
Total	1,632	100%
Net Change		
Area	26	2%
Energy[1]	236	18%
Mobile	273	20%
Waste	88	7%
Water	662	49%
Amortized Construction Emissions[2]	54	4%
Total Emissions	1,340	100%
SCAQMD's Bright-Line Threshold	3,000	NA
Exceeds Bright-Line Threshold	No	NA

Source: CalEEMod Version 2013.2.2.
$MTCO_2e$: metric tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent
Note: Percent changes from each source may not total to 100 percent due to rounding.
[1] Assumes implementation of the 2013 California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen) and 2016 Building and Energy Efficiency Standards. Multi-family of 4 stories and higher are treated as non-residential for the Building and Energy Efficiency Standards. The 2016 Building and Energy Efficiency Standards are 33.5 percent more energy efficient than the 2008 Standards for non-residential buildings. Modeling assumes all structures onsite would be 33.5 percent more energy-efficient than the 2008 building code for non-residential structures. The condominium tower would be constructed to exceed the required 2016 Building and Energy Efficiency Standards; and therefore modeling is conservative.
[2] Construction emissions are amortized over a 30-year project lifetime per recommended SCAQMD methodology.

Impact 5.5-2: The proposed project would not conflict with the Southern California Association of Governments' 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy or the California Air Resources Board's Scoping Plan. [Threshold GHG-2]

Impact Analysis: Applicable plans adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions include CARB's Scoping Plan and SCAG's 2016-2040 RTP/SCS. A consistency analysis with these plans is presented below.

CARB Scoping Plan

In accordance with AB 32, CARB developed the 2008 Scoping Plan to outline the state's strategy to achieve 1990 level emissions by year 2020. The CARB Scoping Plan is applicable to state agencies and is not directly applicable to cities/counties and individual projects. Nonetheless, the Scoping Plan has been the primary tool that is used to develop performance-based and efficiency-based CEQA criteria and GHG reduction targets for climate action planning efforts.

Since adoption of the 2008 Scoping Plan, state agencies have adopted programs identified in the plan, and the legislature has passed additional legislation to achieve the GHG reduction targets. Statewide strategies to reduce GHG emissions include the LCFS, California Appliance Energy Efficiency regulations, California Building Standards (i.e., CALGreen and the Building and Energy Efficiency Standards), RPS, and changes in the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards (e.g. Pavley I and California Advanced Clean Cars [Pavley II]). The project GHG emissions shown in Table 5.5-5 include reductions associated with statewide strategies that have been adopted since AB 32. The proposed project would comply with these GHG emissions reduction measures as they are statewide strategies. However, the Scoping Plan itself is not directly applicable to the proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project would not obstruct implementation of the CARB Scoping Plan, and impacts would be less than significant.

SCAG's 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy

SCAG's 2016 RTP/SCS was adopted April 7, 2016. The RTP/SCS identifies multimodal transportation investments, including bus rapid transit, light rail transit, heavy rail transit, commuter rail, and high-speed rail; active transportation strategies (e.g., bike ways and sidewalks); transportation demand management strategies; transportation systems management; highway improvements (interchange improvements, high-occupancy vehicle lanes, high-occupancy toll lanes) and arterial improvements; goods movement strategies; aviation and airport ground access improvements; and operations and maintenance to the existing multimodal transportation system.

SCAG's RTP/SCS identifies that land use strategies that focus on new housing and job growth in areas served by high quality transit and other opportunity areas would be consistent with a land use development pattern that supports and complements the proposed transportation network. The overarching strategy in the 2016 RTP/SCS is to allow the southern California region to grow in more compact communities in existing urban areas; provide neighborhoods with efficient and plentiful public transit and abundant and safe opportunities to walk, bike, and pursue other forms of active transportation; and preserve more of the region's remaining natural lands (SCAG 2016). The 2016 RTP/SCS contains transportation projects to help more efficiently distribute population, housing, and employment growth, as well as a forecast development that is generally consistent with regional-level general plan data. The projected regional development pattern—when integrated with the proposed regional transportation network identified in the RTP/SCS—would reduce per capita vehicular travel-related GHG emissions and achieve the GHG reduction per capita targets for the SCAG region. The RTP/SCS does not require that local general plans, specific plans, or zoning be consistent with the RTP/SCS, but provides incentives for consistency for governments and developers. Table 5.5-6, *SCAG 2016 RTP/SCS Consistency*, evaluates the project in comparison to the three primary

transportation-land use strategies in the RTP/SCS. Therefore, the proposed project would not interfere with SCAG's ability to implement the regional strategies outlined in the 2016-2040 RTP/SCS. No impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

Table 5.5-6 SCAG 2016 RTP/SCS Consistency

SCAG Transportation-Land Use Strategies	Implementing Policies/Strategies	Consistency
Focus new growth around High Quality Transit Areas (HQTA). The 2016 RTP/SCS overall land use pattern reinforces the trend of focusing new housing and employment in the region's high quality transit areas (HQTA). The 2016 RTP/SCS assumes that 46 percent of new housing and 55 percent of new employment locations developed between 2012 and 2040 will be located within HQTAs, which comprise only three percent of the total land area in the SCAG region (SCAG 2016).	Additional local policies that ensure that development in HQTAs achieve the intended reductions in VMT and GHG emissions include: ▪ Affordable housing requirements ▪ Reduced parking requirements ▪ Adaptive reuse of existing structures ▪ Density bonuses tied to family housing units such as three- and four bedroom units ▪ Mixed-use development standards that include local serving retail ▪ Increased Complete Streets investments around HQTAs.	Consistent: The proposed project and the entire Newport Center are identified in a HQTA. The proposed project would convert an existing institutional land use to a residential land use. As a result, the proposed project would increase residential land use density near existing services and places of employment in Newport Center.
Plan for growth around Livable Corridors. SCAG's livable corridors strategy seeks to revitalize commercial strips through integrated transportation and land use planning that results in increased economic activity and improved mobility options.	Additional livable corridors strategies include: ▪ Transit improvements, including dedicated lane Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) or semi-dedicated BRT-light. The remaining corridors have the potential to support other features that improve bus performance (enhanced bus shelters, real-time travel information, off-bus ticketing, all door boarding and longer distances between stops to improve speed and reliability). ▪ Active transportation improvements: Livable corridors include increased investments in complete streets to make these corridors and the intersecting arterials safe for biking and walking. ▪ Land use policies: Livable Corridor strategies include the development of mixed-use retail centers at key nodes along the corridors, increasing neighborhood-oriented retail at more intersections and zoning that allows for the replacement of under-performing auto-oriented strip retail between nodes with higher density residential and employment.	Not Applicable: The proposed project is not identified located within a transportation corridor. However, the proposed project would revitalize the existing area by investing in additional infrastructure that supports residential land uses near existing services. The project site is also located near existing bus routes and the OCTA Newport Transportation Center.
Provide more options for short trips in Neighborhood Mobility Areas and Complete Communities: Neighborhood mobility areas have a high intersection density, low to moderate traffic speeds and robust residential retail connections. These areas are suburban in nature, but can support slightly higher density in targeted locations. The land use strategies include shifting retail growth from large centralized retail strip malls to smaller distributed centers throughout a neighborhood mobility area.	▪ Neighborhood mobility area land use strategies include pursuing local policies that encourage replacing motor vehicle use with Neighborhood Electric Vehicle (NEV) use. NEVs are a federally designated class of passenger vehicle rated for use on roads with posted speed limits of 35 miles per hour or less. Steps needed to support NEV use include providing state and regional incentives for purchases, local planning for charging stations, designating a local network of low speed roadways and adopting local regulations that allow smaller NEV parking stalls	Consistent: The local roads in the project area have posted speed limits of 35 miles per hour or less. Therefore, residents of the proposed project could purchase NEVs to access nearby retails and services. Pedestrians leaving the project site are within a quarter-mile walking distance from banks, cleaners, community center, department stores, fire stations, fitness center, supermarkets, restaurants, offices, and other retails and services. Also, the proposed project is

Table 5.5-6 SCAG 2016 RTP/SCS Consistency

SCAG Transportation-Land Use Strategies	Implementing Policies/Strategies	Consistency
	▪ Complete communities strategies include creation of mixed-use districts through a concentration of activities with housing, employment, and a mix of retail and services, located in close proximity to each other. Focusing a mix of land uses in strategic growth areas creates complete communities wherein most daily needs can be met within a short distance of home, providing residents with the opportunity to patronize their local area and run daily errands by walking or cycling rather than traveling by automobile.	connected directly to the City of Newport Beach's extensive network of bike and walking trails, lanes, and sidewalks via the sidewalk on San Clemente Drive. Up to 3 percent of the parking spaces at the proposed condominium tower would be designed to have electrical vehicle charging stations. The building would also provide a dedicated storage space for 200 bicycles and a bike shop for the residents. In addition, the proposed project would be built to achieve LEED Silver certification and would incorporate design elements for green building.

Source: SCAG 2016.

5.5.4 Cumulative Impacts

Project-related GHG emissions are not confined to a particular air basin but are dispersed worldwide. Therefore, impacts identified under Impact 5.5-1 are not project-specific impacts, but the proposed project's contribution to the cumulative impact of global warming. Implementation of the proposed project would result in a nominal increase in GHG emissions. Thus, the proposed project's GHG emissions and contribution to global climate change impacts are not considered cumulatively considerable, and therefore are less than significant.

5.5.5 Existing Regulations and Standard Conditions

Existing Regulations

State

- AB 32: California Global Warming Solutions Act
- Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act (SB 375)
- Executive Order S-03-05 and Executive Order B-30-15: Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Targets
- Pavley Fuel Efficiency Standards (AB 1493)
- California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939)
- California Mandatory Commercial Recycling Law (AB 341)
- California Advanced Clean Cars CARB/ Low-Emission Vehicle Program – LEV III (Title 13 CCR)
- Heavy-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Measure (Title 17 CCR)
- Low Carbon Fuel Standard (Title 17 CCR)

- Title 24 California Code of Regulations, Part 6 (Building and Energy Efficiency Standards)
- Title 24 California Code of Regulations, Part 11 (California Green Building Code)
- Title 20 California Code of Regulations (Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards)
- Title 17 California Code of Regulations (Low Carbon Fuel Standard)
- California Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 (AB 1881)
- California Water Conservation Act of 2009 (SBX7-7)
- Statewide Retail Provider Emissions Performance Standards (SB 1368)
- Renewable Portfolio Standards (SB 1078, 701, and X1-2)

City of Newport Beach Standard Conditions of Approval

There are no specific City-adopted standard operating conditions of approval related to greenhouse gas emissions that are applicable to the proposed project at this time; however, project-specific conditions of approval may be applied to the project by the City during the discretionary approval (site development review, tentative tract map, etc.) subsequent design, and/or construction process.

5.5.6 Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Upon implementation of regulatory requirements and standard conditions of approval, the following impact would be less than significant: 5.5-1 and 5.5-2.

5.5.7 Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are required.

5.5.8 Level of Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant.

5.5.9 References

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