

6. Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

At the end of Chapter 1, *Executive Summary*, is a table that summarizes the impacts, mitigation measures, and levels of significance before and after mitigation. Mitigation measures would reduce the level of impact, but the following temporary impact would remain significant, unavoidable, and adverse after mitigation measures are applied.

6.1 NOISE

Impact 5.10-1

Construction activities are expected to occur over approximately 17 months and would result in temporary noise increases in the vicinity of the proposed project. The highest expected construction-related noise levels would be up to approximately 79 dBA Leq at residential receptors to the east. For individual equipment items that could be used very near a project site boundary, construction activity noise levels could be potentially higher and exceed an increase of 20 dB above average levels. The mitigation measure identified above would reduce potential impacts associated with construction noise to the extent feasible. The temporary noise barrier/curtain between residential receptors can conservatively provide noise level reduction of 5 dBA. Therefore, even with the incorporation of best management practices and a temporary noise barrier required by Mitigation Measure N-1, construction related noise levels could be approximately 75 dBA Leq. This would result in a substantial increase in noise levels above ambient conditions. Although construction-related noise impacts are temporary and would occur during the least noise-sensitive portion of the day, the proposed project would exceed the 55 dBA Leq speech interference threshold and would result in a significant unavoidable adverse impact.

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