

# Department of Energy

Western Area Power Administration
Desert Southwest Customer Service Region
P.O. Box 6457
Phoenix, AZ 85005-6457

NOV 3 0 2007

Dear Interested Party:

RE: Finding of No Significant Impact - Northern Arizona Energy Project, Mohave County, Arizona

The Western Area Power Administration (Western) is pleased to provide you with a copy of the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with errata containing clarifications and corrections found during internal review of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Northern Arizona Energy Project. With the attached errata the EA issued September 17, 2007, may now be considered final.

If you would like an additional copy of the EA, please contact:

Mr. John Holt, Environmental Manager Western Area Power Administration Desert Southwest Region P.O. Box 6547 Phoenix, AZ 85005-6457 Phone: (602) 605-2592

Fax: (602) 605-2414 E-mail: <u>holt@wapa.gov</u>

We appreciate your interest and participation with us in regard to this project. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns that we have not addressed.

Sincerely,

J. Tyler Carlson Regional Manager

Enclosure (FONSI with attached Errata)

## Department of Energy Western Area Power Administration Finding of No Significant Impact Northern Arizona Energy Project

Summary – Northern Arizona Energy, LLC (Applicant) proposes to construct and operate the Northern Arizona Energy Project (NAEP; Proposed Action), a natural gas-fired, simple cycle power plant, on private lands south of Kingman, Arizona. The Proposed Action would be located adjacent to the existing Griffith Energy Project (Griffith Energy) and would interconnect to Western Area Power Administration's (Western) system at the existing Griffith 230-kilovolt (kV) switchyard (Griffith Switchyard). Western's Federal action would be to enter into an interconnection and construction agreement with the Applicant for the requested interconnections (the Federal Action), including modifying its Griffith Switchyard to accommodate the interconnection request. The NAEP would consist of four General Electric (GE) LM6000 combustion turbine generators (CTGs) with a net generation capacity of 175 megawatts (MW) at design conditions. Power purchases by customers would be voluntary wholesale purchases, and all construction costs would be borne by the Applicant.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) titled "Northern Arizona Energy Project," (DOE/EA-1587) was distributed on September 14, 2007, for pre-approval review by the public and Federal, State, local and Tribal agencies that have jurisdiction or permitting authority for the Proposed Action. Three comments were received on the EA, none of which requested changes to the EA. However, in response to internal comments an erratum has been prepared to clarify and correct information in the draft EA. The erratum is issued concurrently with this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Based on findings and analysis in the EA, Western has determined that the NAEP would not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required. The basis for this determination is described in this FONSI.

Additional information and copies of the EA and this FONSI are available to all interested persons and the public through the following contact:

Mr. John Holt, Environmental Manager Western Area Power Administration Desert Southwest Region P.O. Box 6457 Phoenix, AZ 85005-6457

Phone: (602) 605-2592 Fax: (602) 605-2414 E-mail: holt@wapa.gov For general information on DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) activities contact:

Carol M. Borgstrom
Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance, GC-20
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585
Phone: (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756

**Purpose and Need** – Western's purpose and need is to respond to the interconnection and transmission service request under the provisions of its revised Open Transmission Service Tariff. If Western approves the interconnection request, Western would make the necessary modifications within the Griffith Switchyard.

The Applicant requested an interconnection of the NAEP with Western's transmission system at the existing Griffith Switchyard, in order to supply power to load serving entities in Arizona and surrounding regions for the purpose of serving customers during periods of peak electricity demand.

Western based a determination to prepare an EA for the NAEP based on the Applicant's proposal to limit the yearly electrical output of the proposed power plant to less than 50 average MW, or 437,991 megawatt hours (MWh). If this annual production threshold is exceeded, Western would open the breaker and take the units off-line until the start of the next annual period. The proposed power plant would then be operated within the stated production limits. Additionally, the Applicant may, at any time, pursue completion of an EIS to evaluate operation of the Proposed Action above the 50 average MW limit.

Proposed Action Description — The Proposed Action would be located in Mohave County Arizona, just west of I-40, approximately 1.7 miles north of the Griffith interchange, about 9 miles south of Kingman. The Proposed Action would be located just north of the existing Griffith Energy facilities on a 40-acre parcel of undeveloped land controlled by the Applicant in the north one-half of the southwest quarter of section 6, Township 19 North, Range 17 West. The NAEP property occupies the northernmost 700 feet of the original 160-acre parcel of land owned by Griffith Energy (Original Griffith Property). Approximately eight acres of the NAEP property would be utilized to site the power plant and associated equipment and facilities (proposed power plant). Western proposes to enter into an interconnection and construction agreement with the Applicant for the requested interconnection, including modifying its Griffith Switchyard to accommodate the interconnection request. Western's Griffith Switchyard is located at the northeast corner of the Griffith Energy site.

The NAEP property is located within the existing I-40 Industrial Corridor which is zoned for heavy industrial/manufacturing (MX) by Mohave County. This zoning designation permits the siting of industrial facilities including electric generation facilities.

Agency Consultation and Public Participation Process – The public participation program for the NAEP included: contacts with individuals and Federal, State, and local agencies; public

notices; the mailing of a scoping letter; agency and public meetings, and the review of the EA by the public and interested agencies and stakeholders.

Public scoping for the EA developed by Western included mailing a scoping letter to all interested parties (including all property owners within two miles of the NAEP). In addition, the following meetings were held for agency personnel and the public to discuss and collect comments on the NAEP:

An informational open house meeting for the public, hosted by the Applicant, was held on February 5, 2007, in Golden Valley from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. This open house meeting was advertised in local papers and 400 announcements were mailed directly to all property owners within five miles of the NAEP property.

A forum was held by the Applicant in Lake Havasu on February 5, 2007, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. with key community leaders and elected officials.

Western consulted informally with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on the Endangered Species Act and received concurrence on its determinations. Western determined the Proposed Action was not likely to adversely affect any of the listed species that could potentially occur in the area.

Consultation with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPO) was conducted by Western in accordance with procedures provided in section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 800 "Protection of Historic Properties"). Because no resources were identified by surveys of the project property, Western determined that this undertaking would have no adverse effect on historic properties...

Consultations with tribes have been ongoing during the EA preparation. The Hualapai Tribal Historic Preservation Office participated in field surveys on the NAEP property. The EA was distributed to the tribes for review and comment. Two tribes provided comments, neither of which requested changes to the EA.

Mohave County, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), and the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) were invited to become cooperating agencies in the EA process. Mohave County and ADWR accepted the invitation. ADEQ declined to be a cooperating agency but has been a contributing party as an informational resource.

In September 2007, Western distributed a draft EA for pre-approval review to Federal, State, local and tribal governments, other interested parties, and local libraries. Western also sent a letter to others who had expressed an interest in other projects or similar actions in the general area, to inform them of the availability of the EA and provide them with the opportunity to review and comment on the Proposed Project.

Alternatives – Under the No Action Alternative, Western would not grant permission to the Applicant to interconnect with Western's transmission system. Without the ability to interconnect to Western's transmission system, the Proposed Action would not be feasible and would not be built. If the Proposed Action is not built, the impacts associated with the

construction and operation of the facility would not occur, and the current environmental conditions and impacts would not change.

Environmental Impacts – Findings on the impacts and their significance resulting from the Proposed Action, including proposed environmental protection measures, are based on information contained in the EA, and the measures addressed in the revised list of committed mitigation measures attached to this determination as an errata sheet for the EA.

The existing environmental and potential environmental impacts were identified and evaluated for the following resources: geology and soils; water resources; air quality; biological resources (including vegetation, wetlands and riparian, wildlife, special status plant and wildlife species); cultural resources; land use and recreation; transportation; visual resources; noise; socioeconomics; environmental justice; and health and safety. Cumulative impacts are also addressed in the EA. Cumulative impacts are those additive or interactive effects that would occur due to the Proposed Action's incremental impact when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such actions. Western and NAEP have proposed environmental mitigation measures that would be implemented with the Proposed Action. Western's conclusions on environmental impacts are summarized below.

#### Geology and Soils

Geology: Construction of the proposed power plant would have little impact on the gently sloping topography located at the NAEP property. The Proposed Action would not impact important geological features and would result in minimal loss of mineral resources. Structure failures caused by earth movement are not anticipated due to stable soils and gentle slopes. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to geology would occur from the Proposed Action.

Soils: Soil disturbance may result in short-term erosion in localized areas, primarily where construction requires clearing and grading. The Proposed Action includes environmental protection measures that would minimize erosion. The Proposed Action would not result in severe erosion, loss of soil productivity, or damage to soils that support threatened or endangered species. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to soils would occur from the Proposed Action.

#### Water Resources

Surface Water: The Proposed Action would not contaminate surface water, and no Federal and/or State water quality standards would be violated. The existing drainage pattern would not be altered or cause off-site erosion, siltation, or adverse effects to adjacent properties. Impacts to the ephemeral washes would not violate sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) Wastewater generated by the proposed power plant would be sent to the Griffith Energy wastewater treatment system. Site-specific spill plans would be developed for the Proposed Action for storage and use of fuel, lubricants, and other fluids. On-site and off-site stormwater runoff would be routed to the stormwater retention basin by means of swales, ditches, berms, and/or sheet flow. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to surface water would occur from the Proposed Action.

Groundwater: Water for the Proposed Action would be obtained from the Sacramento Valley aquifer. The Proposed Action would not degrade groundwater quality. The groundwater withdrawal rates from the Proposed Action are considered to be insignificant and would not affect existing or proposed future uses of the Sacramento Valley aquifer. Groundwater withdrawal would not cause ground subsidence. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to groundwater would occur from the Proposed Action.

## Air Quality

Construction activities associated with the Proposed Action would result in localized fugitive dust and vehicular emissions during the construction phase. Impacts from fugitive dust would be short in duration and would not be expected to exceed State or National ambient air quality standards. The operation of the Proposed Action would not exceed State and/or Federal ambient air quality or Class I standards. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to air quality would occur from the Proposed Action.

## **Biological Resources**

Vegetation: Most impacts to vegetation would be minimal due to the existing infrastructure and human activity already in place adjacent to the Proposed Action at the Griffith Power Plant. Potential impacts to vegetation would be associated with ground disturbance related to construction of the Proposed Action. Permanent vegetation loss would occur due to placement of new structures and associated with construction of facilities. The environmental protection measures would be implemented to minimize impacts to vegetation. The Proposed Action would not result in the loss of rare plants, native plant communities or other sensitive resources. Vegetation impacts would not result in a species being listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered. Although no noxious weeds have been found on the site, it is possible that the Proposed Action would facilitate the introduction and spread of a noxious weed species because of the new disturbance. In response, the Applicant would implement a noxious weed monitoring and eradication program to minimize the spread of noxious weeds. The noxious weed monitoring and eradication program would be implemented to prevent a possibly significant impact and it is addressed in the revised list of committed mitigation measures attached to this determination. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to vegetation would occur from the Proposed Action.

Wetlands and Riparian: There are no wetlands or riparian vegetation present within the vicinity of the Proposed Action. Therefore, there are no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to wetland or riparian areas that would occur from the Proposed Action.

Wildlife: Potential impacts to wildlife associated with construction of the Proposed Action are expected to be minimal due to small size of the area that would be disturbed and the industrial facilities and human activity already in place adjacent to the NAEP property. Construction activities associated within the Proposed Action would temporarily disturb wildlife utilizing these habitats. In addition, direct mortality could occur for any small mammals and reptiles that may use the area for habitat.

Impact to wildlife would be less than significant because the NAEP project would disturb only eight acres of habitat that has been subject to prior disturbance and that is widely distributed in the region. Therefore, loss of this habitat would neither affect the viability of any species, nor interfere with the movement of any species for more than two reproductive seasons. Also, it is unlikely that the proposed action would interfere with nesting, breeding periods, or reduce the range of any species. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to wildlife would occur from the Proposed Action.

Special Status Plant and Wildlife Species: The construction and operation of the Proposed Action is not expected to have any adverse impacts on Federal and/or State listed wildlife and plant species of special concern. Previous surveys did not identify the presence of any Federal-and/or State-listed wildlife or plant species of special concern. Impact to endangered species and Critical Habitat areas would be less than significant because there are no known occurrences on the NAEP property or nearby areas. The Proposed Action would not jeopardize the continued existence of a federally-listed species, cause the loss of individuals that would result in a change in species status, or adversely modify Critical Habitat to the degree it would no longer support the species for which it was designated. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to endangered, threatened, proposed, candidate and sensitive species would occur from the Proposed Action.

#### Cultural Resources

A cultural resource inventory was completed for the 160-acre Griffith Energy property. This survey included the NAEP property and identified no prehistoric or historic sites. The NAEP property was resurveyed in 2007 with members of the Hualapai Tribe. An isolated grinding slick was documented on the property but outside the area that would be disturbed and no other cultural resources were found.

No historic properties have been identified that would be affected by the Proposed Action. There would be no damage to or loss of, any known site of archaeological, tribal, or historical value that is listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. If human remains are encountered during the Proposed Action, all work would be halted and the tribes, SHPO, and Western would be notified. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to cultural resources would occur from the Proposed Action.

#### Land Use and Recreation

The Proposed Action would be in conformance with the Mohave County Zoning Ordinance and planned land uses in the vicinity. The Proposed Action would not have any appreciable long-term adverse impacts on surrounding land uses due to the localized nature of disturbance and because no existing residences or other sensitive land uses were identified in the immediate vicinity. The Proposed Action would result in long-term foreclosure of the property for uses other than industrial; however, industrial land uses on the NAEP property and within the I-40 Industrial Corridor would be compatible with Mohave County's previously planned land uses for development as outlined in Mohave County's amended General Plan. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to land use and recreation would occur from the Proposed Action.

## Transportation

Impacts on transportation for construction of the Proposed Action would be short-term. Construction of the Proposed Action would be expected to occur over a 9- to 12- month period. While employment levels would fluctuate each month, peak employment would occur in the fourth month, with as many as 162 workers. Over-the-road hazards associated with the transport of hazardous materials and wastes would be minimized by adherence to the applicable U.S. Department of Transportation and ADOT regulations. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to transportation would occur from the Proposed Action.

#### Visual Resources

Impacts to the visual resources in the vicinity of the Proposed Action from the development of the proposed power plant and the ancillary facilities would occur as a long-term addition of facilities to the landscape. Long-term visual impacts resulting from the installation and operation of the Proposed Action would be minimized by implementing mitigation focused on facility design measures. Mitigation measures would include painting plant facilities with colors similar to the surrounding desert landscape, principally tan, sand, and buff colors. The Proposed Action would not significantly change the character of the existing landscape because the new facilities would repeat the form, line, color, scale, and texture elements of the existing Griffith Energy facilities, which characterize the existing landscape and are adjacent to the Proposed Action. The most visible component of the Proposed Action facilities from all viewpoints would be the exhaust stacks that would create additional columns and vertical forms that would be visible to viewers on I-40. However, the stacks would be smaller in scale than the existing Griffith Energy facilities. The Proposed Action would not conflict with visual standards of any agency or the lighting standards of Mohave County. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impact to visual resources would occur from the Proposed Action. The facility design measures to be implemented to minimize visual impact are addressed in the revised list of committed mitigation measures in the attached errata.

#### **Noise**

The nearest noise receptor (residence) to the NAEP property would be approximately 2.5 miles to the northwest. At this distance, the noise from construction of the Proposed Action would be low and near the background level. Construction noise generated by the Proposed Action would be intermittent in nature and would be temporary, as the construction period is estimated to be nine to twelve months. Impacts to noise resources from the Proposed Action are expected to be minor during operations. The proposed power plant would emit operational sound levels that would be below existing background sound levels. The proposed power plant is not expected to exceed local, State, or Federal noise regulations or guidelines. There is currently no planned residential development in the vicinity of the NAEP property, and there would be no noise level restrictions. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant noise impacts would occur from the Proposed Action.

#### Socioeconomics

The peak construction workforce would be 162 employees. It is expected that most construction workers are available within the Kingman, Yucca, and Lake Havasu areas. The Proposed Action would not require a large influx of new employees into the region. The potential demand for new permanent housing is expected to be minimal. The local economy would be affected positively by direct project spending and induced economic effects, which occur as a result of employees and businesses spending within the area. In the long term, the available power would provide greater reliability of electrical service in area communities. The newly available power would also contribute to the stability of the regional power grid. The Proposed Action would provide two to four relatively high-paying permanent jobs. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative, significant socioeconomic impacts would occur from the Proposed Action.

#### **Environmental Justice**

Disproportionately high and significant effects to minority populations are unlikely, because there is a lower percentage of minority populations in the census tract containing the NAEP property as compared with Mohave County as a whole, and because the Proposed Action is not anticipated to have any significant adverse impacts on any population. Native American Tribes were contacted about the Proposed Action and given the opportunity to express their concerns and interests. There would be no disproportionately high and adverse effects to low-income populations expected to be caused by the Proposed Action. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or cumulative significant impacts to Environmental Justice communities would occur under the Proposed Action.

Health and Safety: During construction and operation of the Proposed Action, the Applicant and its contractors would comply with the requirements of the applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration and Arizona Division of Safety and Health regulations. Public health and safety would likely be protected by the Applicant's compliance with all applicable Federal and State laws, including spill prevention and control measures for hazardous materials and wastes. Potential public health and safety impacts during construction and operation of the Proposed Action would also be minimized by implementation of mitigation measures. A comprehensive occupational safety and health program would be developed and implemented to optimize safe and healthy working conditions during all phases of construction and operation of the Proposed Action. The contractor would be required to prepare and conduct an Applicant-approved safety program in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, local, and Applicant safety standards and requirements. The safety program would include, but not be limited to, procedures for accident prevention, use of protective equipment, medical care of injured employees, safety education, fire protection, and general health and safety of employees and the public. Employees would be trained to minimize hazards during both construction and operations. Training would also be required for spill response and use of spill containment equipment. The Applicant would also establish provisions for taking appropriate actions in the event that the contractor fails to comply with the approved safety program. NAEP would implement the standard operating procedures as described in the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan for the transfer, storage, and use of hazardous materials including fuels and non-fuel substances. The Proposed Action would include an underground firewater loop interfaced with the existing firewater system at Griffith Energy. Western has concluded that no direct, indirect, or

cumulative significant impacts to health and safety would occur from the Proposed Action. The comprehensive occupational safety and health program would be implemented to avoid a significant impact and is addressed in the table of committed mitigation (errata) attached to this FONSI.

**Determination** – Based on the analysis in the EA, Western has determined that the noxious weed monitoring and eradication program, and a comprehensive occupational safety and health program are needed to reduce the potential for significant environmental impacts. These measures shall be implemented as addressed in the list of committed mitigation measures issued concurrently with this FONSI. The analyses contained in the EA, along with the mitigation commitments, indicate that the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, Western has determined that preparation of an EIS is not required.

Issued:

Regional Manager

Desert Southwest Region



# **Department of Energy**

Western Area Power Administration P.O. Box 281213 Lakewood, CO 80228-8213

540 ( 8 7007

Dear Interested Party:

RE: Errata to the Northern Arizona Energy Project EA

Please find enclosed the Errata Sheet for the Northern Arizona Energy Project Environmental Assessment. The errata consists of three pages mistakenly omitted from the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) mailed to you on November 30, 2007. Please append the errata to the FONSI.

If you have any questions regarding the EA, errata or FONSI, please contact me at 720-962-7203.

Thank you,

Glenn Wallace

Glenn Wollace

# ERRATA SHEET For The Northern Arizona Energy Project ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

This table of committed mitigation measures from the EA has been revised to include the additional measures that were identified in chapter 4 of the EA analysis, consolidate measures, and make editorial corrections. This table replaces Table 2-6 Mitigation on pages 2-33 and 34 in the EA.

## **Table 2-6 Mitigation**

- During construction and operation, supervisory staff shall ensure that all activities are conducted under all
  applicable regulations, laws, and permits. This applies to all regulated activities associated with Project air
  emissions, wastewater discharges, stormwater discharges, water use, solid waste disposal, and other
  applicable areas.
- 2. The limits of construction activities would be predetermined, with activity restricted to and confined within those limits. All construction vehicle movement would be restricted to predesignated access, contractor acquired access, or public roads.
- 3. In construction areas where recontouring is not required, vegetation would be left in place wherever possible, and original contour would be maintained to avoid excessive root damage and allow for resprouting.
- 4. Applicant shall prepare an erosion control plan for construction. All construction shall be conducted in a manner that minimizes disturbance to vegetation and drainage features. In construction areas where substantial ground disturbance has occurred surface restoration would occur as indicated by Best Management Practices. Restoration methods shall consist of contouring to near natural conditions, elimination of ruts, reseeding with a regionally native seed mixture, placement of erosion control measures, and other measures evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- 5. Excavated material or other construction materials shall not be stockpiled or deposited near or within the drainage features where they can be washed away by high water or storm runoff or can in any way encroach upon the actual watercourse itself.
- 6. Applicant would file a NOI to obtain coverage under Arizona's General Stormwater Discharge Permit No. 2 for stormwater runoff during construction and operation. A pollution prevention plan shall be prepared consistent with the general permit requirements.
- 7. The Applicant shall include in its Site Grading Plan measures to ensure that any archaeological discoveries are properly protected. All construction supervisors shall be instructed on the protection of cultural and ecological resources. Construction supervisors shall be familiar with specific procedures outlined in the Site Grading Plan that would be followed in case of an archaeological discovery. Inadvertent discoveries of human remains would be immediately reported to the Director of the Arizona State Museum as required by Arizona Revised Statute 41-865.
- 8. Consideration of cultural resources would continue during ground disturbance phases of Project implementation. In consultation with State Historic Preservation Officer, specific mitigation measures would be developed and implemented to mitigate any identified adverse impacts. These may include Project modifications to avoid adverse impacts, monitoring of construction activities, and data recovery studies. Native American tribes would be involved in these consultations to determine whether there are effective or practical ways of addressing impacts.
- 9. If human remains are encountered during construction of the Project, all work would be halted immediately and Western would be notified. Western would then notify the tribes, and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).
- 10. All requirements of those entities having jurisdiction over air quality matters would be adhered to, and any permits needed for construction activities would be obtained. Open burning of construction trash would not

#### Table 2-6 Mitigation

occur unless allowed by appropriate jurisdictional authorities.

- 11. Fugitive dust emissions would be minimized by using water trucks to moisten soil areas and by limiting vehicle use in construction areas. Oil or other petroleum products would not be used for dust control. All construction vehicles would adhere to posted speed limits and any speed limits enforced on the project site.
- 12. During operations, Applicant would operate the power plant in compliance with all conditions of the Title V air permit issued by the ADEQ.
- 13. All construction waste, including trash and litter, garbage, other solid waste, petroleum wastes (other than used oilwhich would be collected by a licensed waste oil handling contractor), and other potentially hazardous wastes, would be sent to a disposal facility authorized to accept such wastes. Where possible, wastes would be recycled or reused.
- 14. No nonbiodegreadable debris would be deposited on site. Biodegradable debris would be left in place or disposed of in accordance with agency requirements.
- 15. Regulated materials, hazardous liquids, or wastes would not intentionally be released onto the ground or into drainage areas. If an accidental spill of hazardous materials occurs, the construction contractor or operator would mitigate the spill per applicable clean-up regulations.
- 16. R-123 refrigerant from the chillers would be reclaimed with certified equipment operated by certified technicians if the materials are to be recycled or disposed.
- 17. The Applicant shall prepare a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan. The plan would identify any hazardous materials that would be used, precautions to prevent spills, and employee awareness training.
- 18. Construction activities shall be performed by methods that would prevent entrance, or accidental spillage, of solid matter contaminants, debris, and any other objectionable pollutants and wastes into dry watercourses. Such pollutants and waste include, but are not restricted to, refuse, garbage, cement, concrete, sanitary waste, industrial waste, oil and other petroleum products, aggregate processing tailing, and mineral salts.
- 19. A comprehensive occupational safety and health program will be developed and implemented to optimize safe and healthy working conditions during all phases of construction and operation of the Proposed Action. The contractor will be required to prepare and conduct an Applicant-approved safety program in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, local, and Applicant safety standards and requirements. The safety program will include, but shall not be limited to, procedures for accident prevention, use of protective equipment, medical care of injured employees, safety education, fire protection, and general health and safety of employees and the public. Employees will be trained to minimize hazards during both construction and operations. Training will also be required for spill response and use of spill containment equipment. The Applicant would also establish provisions for taking appropriate actions in the event that the contractor fails to comply with the approved safety program.
- 20. Mitigation measures for biological resources developed in conjunction with Federal, and State authorities would be adhered to. The Applicant shall implement a noxious weed monitoring and eradication program to minimize the spread of noxious weeds.
- 21. To mitigate visual impacts, fences would be maintained, entrances and roadways would be kept in good condition, and lighting impacts would be minimized by placing security lighting downward. Long-term visual impacts would be minimized by implementing mitigation focused on facility design measures. Mitigation measures would include painting plant facilities with colors similar to the surrounding desert landscape, principally tan, sand, and buff colors.
- 22. All maintenance activities during operations would be conducted to minimize disturbance to vegetation and drainage features. Upon completion of construction or maintenance work, all work areas except access roads shall be scarified or left in a condition which would facilitate natural revegetation, provide for proper drainage, and prevent erosion.
- 23. Equipment and vehicles that show excessive emissions of exhaust gases due to poor engine adjustments or other inefficient operating conditions shall not be operated until they are repaired or adjustments are made.
- 24. The contractor shall make all necessary provisions in conformance with safety requirements for maintaining the flow of public traffic and shall conduct its construction operations to offer the least possible obstruction

# Table 2-6 Mitigation

and inconvenience to public traffic.

Sources: Griffith, 1998b; Exira, 2003; Western Construction Standard 13