

4.10 MINERAL RESOURCES

This section of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) presents an analysis of the proposed project's effect on the mineral resources in the project area. Information available from the California Geological Survey (CGS) and the East County Area Plan (ECAP) were used in determining whether impacts to mineral resources would be significant environmental effects.

4.10.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The project site is irregularly shaped with topography characterized by gently rolling hills with elevations varying by approximately 100 feet from the highest and lowest locations on the site. Approximately 35 acres of the site is developed with the racetracks and support facilities. The remainder of the site and the surrounding lands are vegetated with grasslands.

4.10.2 REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

4.10.2.1 State and Local

The California Legislature enacted the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) in 1975 to address the need for a continuing supply of mineral resources, and to prevent or minimize the negative impacts of surface mining to public health, property, and the environment. SMARA requires the California Department of Conservation (CDC), CGS, to conduct Mineral Land Classification surveys. These surveys designate land areas, such as mineral resources zones or aggregate resource zones, depending on the type of resources identified in the area. Maps of mineral land classifications are available through the CDC. The CGS has mapped aggregate availability in the state, and no aggregate resource zones have been identified on the project site or surrounding the project site. Therefore, SMARA is not applicable to the project site because no mineral resources have been identified on the project site.

4.10.2.2 Alameda East County Area Plan

The ECAP, as the governing general plan for the eastern portion of Alameda County, does not delineate the project site as a locally important mineral recovery site. The ECAP also does not identify mineral resources of value to the region or residents of the state at the project site.

4.10.3 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

4.10.3.1 Thresholds of Significance

The proposed project would result in a significant impact if it would:

- result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state, or
- result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan.

4.10.3.2 Thresholds of Significance

Information available from the CGS Survey and the ECAP were used in determining whether impacts to mineral resources would be significant environmental effects.

4.10.3.3 Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Potential Impact 4.10-1: Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

Implementation of the proposed project would not result in the conversion of vacant, undeveloped land because the racetrack and supporting facilities already exist on site. As previously noted, no known mineral resources, mineral resource recovery sites, or aggregate resource zones are located on the project site. The area is not mapped by the state geologist in accordance with the state mineral land classification system. The proposed project would not result in impacts related to the loss of availability of a known mineral resource or mineral recovery site. Therefore, implementation of the project would have no impact to mineral resources.

Conclusion: No impact

Mitigation Measure: None required

Potential Impact 4.10-2: Would the project result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

There are no mineral resources or mineral recovery sites identified in the ECAP or other local land use plans on or near the project site as described above. The proposed project would not result in impacts related to the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local

general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. Therefore, implementation of the project would have no to impact to mineral resource recovery zones.

Conclusion: No impact

Mitigation Measure: None required