SECTION 6.0 SIGNIFICANT IRREVERSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES RELATED TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

This section of the Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR) summarizes the potential for implementation of the 2008 Owens Valley PM₁₀ Planning Area Demonstration of Attainment State Implementation Plan (proposed project) to result in significant irreversible environmental changes. Such a change refers to an irretrievable commitment of non-renewable resources, or other environmental changes that commit future generations to similar uses. Irreversible environmental changes can also result from potential accidents associated with the proposed project.

The implementation of the proposed dust control measures (DCMs) would not result in significant irreversible changes to the existing environmental conditions in the project area. The analysis performed in Section 3, Regulatory Framework, Existing Conditions, Impacts, Mitigation, and Level of Significance after Mitigation, determined that the proposed project would not result in significant irreversible environmental changes that would commit future generations to similar uses. Potential long-term impacts related to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems would be reduced to below the level of significance through the implementation of mitigation measures and compliance with the applicable federal, state, and local requirements for conformance with the Uniform Building Code, County Building Code, Section 401 water quality certification, and Section 404 discharge permits pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act (if necessary), Section 1600 of the State Fish and Game Code, State of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, CEQA Technical Advice Series, and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System requirements. As indicated in Section 3, short-term construction-related impacts to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems would be mitigated for the duration of construction. In addition, there were no environmental changes related to the consumption of non-renewable resources or from accidents identified for any issue area analyzed in Section 3.