SECTION 7.0 GROWTH-INDUCING IMPACTS

This section of the Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR) analyzes the potential for the 2008 Owens Valley PM₁₀ Planning Area Demonstration of Attainment State Implementation Plan (proposed project) to result in growth-inducing impacts. Such impacts normally occur when the proposed project fosters economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly in the surrounding environment. The types of projects that are normally considered to result in growth-inducing impacts are those that provide infrastructure that would be suitable to support additional growth or remove an existing barrier to growth.

The proposed project would not result in a significant growth-inducing impact. Although the proposed project would require as many as 200 people during construction, the jobs related to construction of the proposed project would be short-term in nature and would last only the duration of project construction. The proposed project would result in about 75 permanent jobs in the area. However, these jobs currently exist for operation and maintenance of the existing dust control measures on the lake. A significant demand for additional housing would not be created as a result of the proposed project. No new infrastructure that could support future growth is part of the proposed project. The air quality in all communities in the Owens Valley would be expected to improve dramatically as a result of the proposed project's reduction of PM10 emissions. Therefore, the implementation of the proposed dust control measures may constitute the removal of an existing barrier to growth in the Owens Valley, and may result in some future population growth. However, due to the lack of vacant private land in the area, this growth is expected to be minor and would not constitute a significant impact for the immediate area of the proposed project.