



**SECTION 5.13
WASTEWATER**

5.13 WASTEWATER

This section addresses the impacts of the proposed project on wastewater conveyance and treatment facilities. The analysis identifies the service area the project site lies within, indicates the nature and location of related infrastructure in the local area, and estimates demands of the proposed project at buildout.

It should be noted that the analysis evaluates the potential wastewater impacts associated with Development Scenarios E and F, since these two development scenarios would result in the highest generation of wastewater of all six development scenarios. These scenarios are described in detail in [Section 3.0, Project Description](#) and the calculation of wastewater generation for each scenario is detailed in Appendix I, Public Service and Utility Calculations.

5.13.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

WASTEWATER FACILITIES

Sewer lines in the City are maintained by the City's Department of Public Works, Sewer Maintenance Division. The treatment and disposal of effluent is currently being provided under contract with the City of Los Angeles at the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant located in Van Nuys (in the San Fernando Valley's Sepulveda Basin). The Tillman Reclamation Plant has a current treatment capacity of 80 million gallons/day (mgd)

The project area is currently serviced by a 15-inch sewer line running down San Fernando Road and an 8-inch sewer line running down Celis Street. These lines merge at Maclay Avenue and continue east to Jessie Street as a combined 15-inch sewer line. At Jessie Street, the sewer line expands to 18 inches in diameter and continues to Fox Street where the line turns south near O'Melveny Street and hits the Los Angeles City Sewer Interceptor, where it is conveyed to the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant in Van Nuys, California. The 18-inch sewer line near O'Melveny Street and the Los Angeles Sewer interceptor currently have capacity constraints. Presently, an estimated 2.3 mgd flows through the 18-inch sewer trunk connecting to the Los Angeles City Sewer Interceptor.

EXISTING EFFLUENT GENERATION

The current flow generation from the project sites is limited to the flow from the Firestone Tire Center. This facility generates approximately 959 gallons per day (gpd), assuming 137 gallons per day per 1,000 square feet of automobile repair use.

5.13.2 SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLD CRITERIA

The environmental analysis in this section is patterned after the Initial Study Checklist recommended by the *CEQA Guidelines*, as amended, and used by the City of San Fernando in its environmental review process, which is contained in Appendix A of the EIR. The Initial Study includes questions relating to waste water. The issues presented in the Initial Study Checklist have been utilized as thresholds of significance in this section. Accordingly, a project may create a significant environmental impact if it causes one or more of the following to occur:

- Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board;
- Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects; and
- Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it does not have adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments.

Based on these standards, the effects of the proposed project have been categorized as either a "less than significant impact" or a "potentially significant impact." Mitigation measures are recommended for potentially significant impacts. If a potentially significant impact cannot be reduced to a less than significant level through the application of mitigation, it is categorized as a significant unavoidable impact.

5.13.3 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- ◆ **DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT COULD GENERATE WASTEWATER THAT COULD EXCEED THE CAPACITY OF CONVEYANCE AND TREATMENT FACILITIES THAT SERVE THE PROJECT AREA.**

Level of Significance Before Analysis and Mitigation: Potentially Significant Impact.

Impact Analysis: Development of the proposed project would result in an increase in wastewater effluent generated on the project sites. The current effluent from the project sites is limited to flow from the Firestone Tire Center, which generates 959 gpd.¹ The proposed project would generate an effluent flow of approximately 75,469 gpd under Development Scenario E or F. The net increase would be 74,510 gpd. This represents a 3.2 percent increase in flow in the

¹ City of San Fernando Draft Waste Water Flow Factor Study 2007/2008.

18-inch City sewer line, which connects to the Los Angeles City Sewer Interceptor, and 0.093 percent of the capacity at the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant.

TABLE 5.13-1
Proposed Project Wastewater Generation

Proposed Project	DU or SF	Consumption Factor	Projected Consumption (gallons per day)
Residential	261 du	183 gpd/du	47,763
Retail/Restaurant	59,948 sf	85.39 gpd/1,000 sf	2,560
	50% Retail & 50% Restaurant	826.42/1,000 sf	24,771
Commercial	4,400 sf	85.39 gpd/1,000 sf	375
Total			75,469
Existing Firestone Center			-959
Net Increase			74,510

du = dwelling unit; sf = square feet
Source: State of California Department of Conservation, and The San Fernando Corridors Specific Plan Mitigated Negative Declaration.
1. Based upon an estimate of 4.281 persons per household. State of California, Department of Finance, *E-5 Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 Benchmark*. Sacramento, California, May 2007.
2. Based upon employment generation factor of 2.36 employees per 1,000 square feet of retail/service uses. The Natelson Company, Inc., *Employment Density Study Summary Report*, prepared for Southern California Association of Governments, October 31, 2001.

Current information for the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant indicates that there is sufficient treatment capacity to receive and process the effluent generated by the proposed project. Thus, less than significant impacts would occur in this regard.

The proposed project would create an impact to the 18-inch City sewer line near O’Melveny Street, as this line is currently experiencing capacity constraints. While the proposed project represents only three percent increase over existing conditions, this impact is considered significant due to the existing constraints. The Public Works Department has indicated that as a condition of approval, a sewer assessment would need to be prepared by the project applicant to determine that effluent flow and sewer line capacities meet the following performance standards:

- pipes of 12 inches or more must not exceed ¾ depth of diameter average flows with project flows included;
- pipes less than 12-inches must not exceed ½ dept of diameter with project flows included.

With implementation of Mitigation Measure WW-1 and adherence to above performance standards, impacts to the City’s sewer lines would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures:

WW-1 Prior to issuance of connection permits, the project applicant shall pay all applicable fees required by the City of San Fernando Public Works Department including fees to remedy any conveyance infrastructure short-falls.

Level of Significance After Analysis and Mitigation: Less Than Significant Impact.

5.13.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- ◆ DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT AND OTHER RELATED CUMULATIVE PROJECTS COULD RESULT IN CUMULATIVELY CONSIDERABLE IMPACTS TO WASTEWATER GENERATION AND FACILITIES.

Level of Significance Before Analysis and Mitigation: Potentially Significant Impact.

Impact Analysis: The following discussion focuses on the cumulative impacts to wastewater treatment facilities associated with current and future projects in the City and in the general vicinity of the project site, which are listed in Section 4.0, Basis of Cumulative Analysis.

All of the identified cumulative projects would be served by the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant. Given the excess capacity of the treatment plant, the cumulative projects would not create the need for new or expanded wastewater treatment facilities. In addition, each of the cumulative projects would be required to pay the connection fee, which would be required to construct an incremental expansion of the wastewater system to accommodate new sources of wastewater. Payment of this fee would mitigate the cumulative impacts on the existing wastewater system.

Because cumulative wastewater treatment capacity exceeds future wastewater flow, cumulative development, including the proposed project, would not result in significant unavoidable impacts to wastewater treatment; therefore, cumulative mitigation measures are not required with respect to the treatment and discharge of wastewater.

Mitigation Measures: Refer to Mitigation Measure WW-1. No additional mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance After Analysis and Mitigation: Less Than Significant Impact.

5.13.5 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

All impacts to the wastewater system and facilities resulting from implementation of the proposed project are either at less than significant levels or can be reduced to less than significant levels with the imposition of mitigation measures. As such, no significant unavoidable impacts would result from development of the San Fernando Parking Lots Project.

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