

CONCLUSIONS

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As noted in Section 4.3.5, Placer County has undertaken a detailed review of the Placer Vineyards Specific Plan Final EIR in order to ensure full compliance with the California Supreme Court's ruling in the *Vineyard* decision. Consistent with direction provided by the Court, the County has used available information to describe probable sources of water and to disclose the reasonably foreseeable impacts of supplying water to the project. The County has also identified alternative sources of water supply, in the short-term as well as the long-term. There is a reasonable likelihood that the project's water supply will be available and adequate for project buildout. As shown on by Table 4.3.5-1, an immediate supply is available for at least the first four to five years of activity. Secondary supplies have also been identified that would extend the initial supply until approximately 2019. A long-term supply has been identified that is being actively pursued in accordance with the Water Forum Agreement and an act of Congress. The known probable effects of this supply as well as the initial supplies have been fully evaluated. Finally, alternative supplies have been identified that could eliminate infrastructure limitations on the initial supply, permitting it to be used for a longer period of time, and two American River long-term alternative options have been identified in the event problems develop with the preferred long-term supply option.

The Court advised that a water supply cannot be assumed. Herein and in the Final EIR, the County has fully reported all of the potential water supplies and has provided all of the information currently available about those water supplies. The County's disclosure has included the use of extremely sophisticated modeling techniques to disclose the effects of water diversions not only on the local environment, but also on a regional and statewide scale. In Section 4.13 of this *Second Partially Recirculated Revised Draft EIR*, the County has also elaborated on the effects of climate change on future water supplies. Finally, the County has incorporated and summarized PCWA's Integrated Water Resources Plan in the Final EIR, the most recent information from the most authoritative source on regional water supply. With the use of data gathered from PCWA, the County has shown the reasonable likelihood that the Placer Vineyards Specific Plan and other projects in western Placer County would have an adequate supply of water through buildout.

The Court advised that analysis cannot be limited to the first few years of development. To the extent reasonably possible the effects of producing the long-term supply should be reported. As is documented in the Revised Draft EIR and Final EIR, a long-term water supply (Sacramento River Diversion) has been assessed using advanced modeling techniques specific to the Placer Vineyards project. In addition, all available relevant information concerning the water diversion project has been reported in the Revised Draft EIR and this *Second Partially Recirculated Revised Draft EIR*. This includes information from the *Sacramento River Water Reliability Study Initial Alternatives Report* and other publicly available information on the project. Quantification of long-term supplies that will be available to western Placer County have been reported (Tables 4.3.5-1 and 4.3.5-2) and a buildout scenario was developed shown how and when projects would be served.

The Court found that water sources must bear a likelihood of actually proving available. The Court provides that water sources cannot be speculative. The County has described real water supplies from PCWA's Middle Fork project and real water supplies from PCWA's CVP contract supply. Subject to the qualifications set forth early in this chapter, there is no doubt or question as to the existence of the water rights and contract rights needed for these water supplies. The only constraints are the need to comply with various regulatory requirements and the final selection of the best alternative diversion point in the case of CVP/Middle Fork Project water rights exchange water and the construction of necessary infrastructure to deliver the water supplies to western Placer County. Because some of this work is still in progress, the County has presented and analyzed, to the extent feasible, all of the available short-term and long-term options. This includes:

- Water immediately available through the Roseville system from PCWA's Middle Fork Project.
- A Middle Fork Project supply that will be available upon completion of the Ophir Water Treatment Plant (now in final design) and a pipeline (partially constructed) bringing the supply to western Placer County.
- A potentially available Middle Fork Project supply from Folsom Reservoir (6,000 AFA contracted to SSWD) that still requires agreements with other parties for treatment and delivery. The analysis in the Revised Draft EIR includes water supply pipelines delivering the water supply to Placer Vineyards.
- A probable long-term or buildout CVP contract/Middle Fork Project water rights exchange water supply from the Sacramento River that is currently in the environmental review and preliminary design phases. The analysis in the Revised Draft EIR includes a water supply pipeline delivering the water supply to Placer Vineyards.
- An alternative long-term CVP contract water supply from the American River system. According to its purveyor-specific Water Forum Agreement, PCWA may seek this alternative supply if it fails to obtain the proposed Sacramento River water supply. This American River proposal includes two additional options: water from Folsom Reservoir or water from the American River Pump Station. One of these two options would be pursued in the event the Sacramento River diversion did not proceed. A pipeline delivering the American River Pump Station supply to the project is included in the EIR analysis.

Where there is some uncertainty regarding water availability, the Court required a discussion of replacement sources or alternatives and the environmental consequences of any contingency supplies. As noted above, the County has examined several alternative sources of water supply and has presented all of the available facts available concerning those supplies. There are three "short-term" options that could take the project substantially through build-out and two long-term options. Although the County believes that there is a reasonable likelihood that one or more of the analyzed short-term supplies and long-term supplies will be available to the project, the County has provided for a project curtailment contingency (Mitigation Measures 4.11.7.1a and 4.11.7.1c) in the event unforeseen circumstances arise. Consistent with the Court's direction

the effects of curtailment are analyzed both from a temporary perspective as well as a permanent one in this *Second Partially Recirculated Revised Draft EIR*.

ENDNOTES

ENDNOTES

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