



## Negative Declaration & Notice Of Determination

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING  
 976 OSOS STREET • ROOM 200 • SAN LUIS OBISPO • CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5600

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION NO. ED15-095

DATE: November 5, 2015

PROJECT/ENTITLEMENT: Wiebe Conditional Use Permit; DRC2014-00137

APPLICANT NAME: Jacob and Laura Wiebe

ADDRESS: 1250 W. Centre St., Shandon, CA 93461

CONTACT PERSON: Tricia Knight

Telephone: 805-448-4221

**PROPOSED USES/INTENT:** Request by Jacob and Laura Wiebe and Verizon Wireless for a Conditional Use Permit to allow for the construction of an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility consisting of two (2) GPS units, twelve (12) 6 foot tall panel antennas, twelve (12) RRHs, and four (4) ray caps to be concealed within a 40-foot tall artificial water tank, and installation of an electrical meter, prefabricated equipment shelter, standby generator, and an 8 foot tall perimeter fence in a 33 foot by 39 foot lease area. The project will result in the disturbance of approximately 1,316 square feet on a 14 acre parcel.

**LOCATION:** 1250 W. Centre St., Shandon, CA 93461

**LEAD AGENCY:** County of San Luis Obispo  
 Dept of Planning & Building  
 976 Osos Street, Rm. 200  
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040  
 Website: <http://www.sloplanning.org>

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW: YES  NO

**OTHER POTENTIAL PERMITTING AGENCIES:** Environmental Health  
 California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Additional information pertaining to this Environmental Determination may be obtained by contacting the above Lead Agency address or (805)781-5600.

**COUNTY "REQUEST FOR REVIEW" PERIOD ENDS AT ..... 4:30 p.m. (2 wks from above DATE)**

**30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD begins at the time of public notification**

<b>Notice of Determination</b>		State Clearinghouse No. _____	
This is to advise that the San Luis Obispo County _____ as <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Lead Agency</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Responsible Agency</i> approved/denied the above described project on _____, and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:			
The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. Mitigation measures and monitoring were made a condition of approval of the project. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted for this project. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.			
This is to certify that the Negative Declaration with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at the 'Lead Agency' address above.			
Signature	Project Manager Name	Date	Public Agency
	Holly Phipps		County of San Luis Obispo



## Initial Study Summary – Environmental Checklist

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING  
 976 OSOS STREET • ROOM 200 • SAN LUIS OBISPO • CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5600

(ver 5.8) Using Form

**Project Title & No.** Wiebe / Verizon Wireless Conditional Use Permit ED15-095 (DRC2014-00137)

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:** The proposed project could have a "Potentially Significant Impact" for at least one of the environmental factors checked below. Please refer to the attached pages for discussion on mitigation measures or project revisions to either reduce these impacts to less than significant levels or require further study.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards/Hazardous Materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Circulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Water /Hydrology
<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services/Utilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use

**DETERMINATION:** (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the Environmental Coordinator finds that:

- The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Holly Phipps  
 Prepared by (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature *Holly Phipps* Date 10/8/15

Airlin Singewald  
 Reviewed by (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature *Airlin Singewald* Date 10/28/15  
 Ellen Carroll,  
 Environmental Coordinator (for)

**Project Environmental Analysis**

The County's environmental review process incorporates all of the requirements for completing the Initial Study as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. The Initial Study includes staff's on-site inspection of the project site and surroundings and a detailed review of the information in the file for the project. In addition, available background information is reviewed for each project. Relevant information regarding soil types and characteristics, geologic information, significant vegetation and/or wildlife resources, water availability, wastewater disposal services, existing land uses and surrounding land use categories and other information relevant to the environmental review process are evaluated for each project. Exhibit A includes the references used, as well as the agencies or groups that were contacted as a part of the Initial Study. The County Planning Department uses the checklist to summarize the results of the research accomplished during the initial environmental review of the project.

Persons, agencies or organizations interested in obtaining more information regarding the environmental review process for a project should contact the County of San Luis Obispo Planning Department, 976 Osos Street, Rm. 200, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93408-2040 or call (805) 781-5600.

**A. PROJECT**

**DESCRIPTION:** Request by Jacob and Laura Wiebe and Verizon Wireless for a Conditional Use Permit to allow for the construction of an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility consisting of two (2) GPS units, twelve (12) 6 foot tall panel antennas, twelve (12) RRHs, and four (4) ray caps to be concealed within a 40-foot tall artificial water tank, and installation of an electrical meter, prefabricated equipment shelter, standby generator, and an 8 foot tall perimeter fence in a 33 foot by 39 foot lease area. The project will result in the disturbance of approximately 1,316 square feet on a 14 acre parcel. The proposed project is within the Agriculture land use category and is located at 1250 W. Centre Street, on the south side of Centre Street, approximately 900 feet west of the community of Shandon. The site is in the Shandon-Carrizo Sub Area of the North County planning area.

**ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S):** 017-166-007

Latitude: 35 degrees 39' 14.7672" N Longitude: -120 degrees 23' 22.5666" W

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT # 1**

**B. EXISTING SETTING**

**PLAN AREA:** North County

**SUB:** Shandon-Carrizo(North)

**COMM:** Shandon

**LAND USE CATEGORY:** Agriculture

**COMB. DESIGNATION:** None

**PARCEL SIZE:** 14 acres

**TOPOGRAPHY:** Nearly level

**VEGETATION:** Ornamental landscaping, Grasses, Scattered Oaks

**EXISTING USES:** Single-family residence

**SURROUNDING LAND USE CATEGORIES AND USES:**

<i>North:</i> Agriculture; agricultural uses, dry farming, grazing	<i>East:</i> Residential Single Family; single-family residence(s)
<i>South:</i> Agriculture; agricultural uses, wine grapes	<i>West:</i> Agriculture; Single-family residence

**C. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

During the Initial Study process, at least one issue was identified as having a potentially significant environmental effects (see following Initial Study). Those potentially significant items associated with the proposed uses can be minimized to less than significant levels.



**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO  
INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST**

<b>1. AESTHETICS</b>	<b>Potentially Significant</b>	<b>Impact can &amp; will be mitigated</b>	<b>Insignificant Impact</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<i>Will the project:</i>				
a) <i>Create an aesthetically incompatible site open to public view?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Introduce a use within a scenic view open to public view?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Change the visual character of an area?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Create glare or night lighting, which may affect surrounding areas?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Impact unique geological or physical features?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Other: _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Aesthetics**

**Setting.** The subject parcel is located just outside of the Shandon Urban Reserve Line. The project site is relative flat and will not silhouette against any ridgelines. The 14.86-acre parcel is developed with a single family home and accessory structures, including a windmill. The site is vegetated with mature pines, cypress trees, and various shrubs. This vegetation screens the existing single family home from views along West Centre Street, the main public viewing corridor in the area. The site and surrounding land has been intermittently farmed. The parcel immediately to the east contains a small orchard along West Centre Street. More intensive agriculture, including vineyards, is visible in the distance.

Regulatory Setting

**The Land Use Ordinance establishes the following screening standard for wireless communications facilities:**

*All facilities shall be screened with vegetation or landscaping. Where screening with vegetation is not feasible, the facilities shall be disguised to resemble rural, pastoral architecture (ex: windmills, barns, trees) or other features determined to blend with the surrounding area and be finished in a texture and color deemed unobtrusive to the neighborhood in which it is located.*

**Conservation and Open Space Element Policy VR 9.3 states:**

*Locate, design and screen communications facilities, including towers, antennas, and associated equipment and buildings in order to avoid views of them in scenic areas, minimize their appearance and visually blend with the surrounding natural and built environments. Locate such facilities to avoid ridge tops where they would silhouette against the sky as viewed from major public view corridors and locations.*

**Conservation and Open Space Element Policy VR 9.4 states:**

*Encourage collocation of communications facilities (one or more carriers sharing a site, tower, or equipment) when feasible and where it would avoid or minimize adverse visual effects.*

**Impact.** The proposed project would allow the construction of an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility consisting of panel antennas and related equipment within the cylinder portion of a 40-foot tall artificial water tank and ground mounted equipment. The proposed facility will be set back approximately 500 feet south of West Centre Street, where it will be nestled between ornamental landscaping and pine trees. The tank will be designed as a wooden agrarian style water tank, and will be located near an existing windmill on the site. As shown in Figure 1, the proposed facility will be visible from West Centre Street, but will appear to resemble existing rural agrarian features that are characteristic of the project site, such as the existing windmill, and the surrounding area. As such, the proposed facility will be visually compatible with the surrounding landscape and will not significantly alter the visual character of the area.

**Figure 1: Photo-simulation from W. Centre Street**



**Mitigation/Conclusion.** Generally a communications facility is not a use that is inherently compatible with the character of the surrounding residential and agricultural uses; however, the proposed project is a stealth design that would blend with the agrarian setting. The project will be required to use colors and materials that are characteristic of an agrarian-style water tank. Implementation of these mitigation measures (see Exhibit B) will reduce visual impacts to less than significant levels.

**2. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES**

*Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Convert prime agricultural land, per NRCS soil classification, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Impair agricultural use of other property or result in conversion to other uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or Williamson Act program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Agricultural Resources**

**Setting. Project Elements.** The following area-specific elements relate to the property's importance for agricultural production:

Land Use Category: Agriculture

Historic/Existing Commercial Crops: None

State Classification: Farmland of Statewide Importance

In Agricultural Preserve? Yes, Shandon AG Preserve Area

Under Williamson Act contract? No

The soil type(s) and characteristics on the subject property include:

Arbuckle-San Ysidro complex (2 - 9% slope).

**Arbuckle.** This gently sloping coarse loamy soil is considered moderately drained. The soil has moderate erodibility and low shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: slow percolation. The soil is considered Class IV without irrigation and Class II when irrigated.

**San Ysidro.** This gently sloping coarse loamy soil is considered moderately to well drained. The soil has high erodibility and low shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: slow percolation. The soil is considered Class IV without irrigation and Class II when irrigated.

This area is located in the Shandon Agricultural preserve which encompasses much of the planning area. Some areas designated Agriculture are in active production, with lot sizes supporting commercial agricultural operations. The intent of the Agriculture designation is to support continued availability of these areas for production of food and fiber. This property is not enrolled in a Land Conservation contract because the property is relatively small.

The site and surrounding land has been intermittently farmed. The parcel immediately to the east contains a small orchard along West Centre Street. More intensive agriculture, including vineyards, is located to the south of the subject parcel.

**Impact.** The project is located on a site that has been farmed. The footprint of the proposed facility would be located in an area that has not been irrigated or farmed in recent years. The project would not adversely impact adjacent agricultural operations. The Agricultural Commissioner's office has stated that the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the agricultural resources or operations. No significant impacts to agricultural resources are anticipated.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** No mitigation measures are necessary.

**3. AIR QUALITY**

<i>Will the project:</i>	<b>Potentially Significant</b>	<b>Impact can &amp; will be mitigated</b>	<b>Insignificant Impact</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
a) <i>Violate any state or federal ambient air quality standard, or exceed air quality emission thresholds as established by County Air Pollution Control District?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Expose any sensitive receptor to substantial air pollutant concentrations?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Create or subject individuals to objectionable odors?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Be inconsistent with the District's Clean Air Plan?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant either considered in non-attainment under applicable state or federal ambient air quality standards that are due to increased energy use or traffic generation, or intensified land use change?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>GREENHOUSE GASES</b>				
f) <i>Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Air Quality**

**Setting.** The Air Pollution Control District (APCD) has developed and updated their CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012) to evaluate project specific impacts and help determine if air quality mitigation measures are needed, or if potentially significant impacts could result. To evaluate long-term emissions, cumulative effects, and establish countywide programs to reach acceptable air quality levels, a Clean Air Plan has been adopted (prepared by APCD).

**Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions** are said to result in an increase in the earth's average surface temperature. This is commonly referred to as global warming. The rise in global temperature is associated with long-term changes in precipitation, temperature, wind patterns, and other elements of the earth's climate system. This is also known as climate change. These changes are now thought to be broadly attributed to GHG emissions, particularly those emissions that result from the human production and use of fossil fuels.

The passage of AB32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act (2006), recognized the need to reduce GHG emissions and set the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal for the State of California into law. The law required that by 2020, State emissions must be reduced to 1990 levels. This is to be accomplished by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from significant sources via regulation, market mechanisms, and other actions. Subsequent legislation (e.g., SB97-Greenhouse Gas Emissions bill) directed the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop statewide thresholds.

In March 2012, the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) approved thresholds for GHG emission impacts, and these thresholds have been incorporated into the APCD's CEQA Air Quality Handbook. APCD determined that a tiered process for residential / commercial land use projects was the most appropriate and effective approach for assessing the GHG emission impacts. The tiered approach includes three methods, any of which can be used for any given project:

1. Qualitative GHG Reduction Strategies (e.g. Climate Action Plans): A qualitative threshold that is consistent with AB 32 Scoping Plan measures and goals; or,
2. Bright-Line Threshold: Numerical value to determine the significance of a project's annual GHG emissions; or,
3. Efficiency-Based Threshold: Assesses the GHG impacts of a project on an emissions per capita basis.

For most projects the Bright-Line Threshold of 1,150 Metric Tons CO<sub>2</sub>/year (MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/yr) will be the most applicable threshold. In addition to the residential/commercial threshold options proposed above, a bright-line numerical value threshold of 10,000 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/yr was adopted for stationary source (industrial) projects.

It should be noted that projects that generate less than the above mentioned thresholds will also participate in emission reductions because air emissions, including GHGs, are under the purview of the California Air Resources Board (or other regulatory agencies) and will be "regulated" either by CARB, the Federal Government, or other entities. For example, new vehicles will be subject to increased fuel economy standards and emission reductions, large and small appliances will be subject to more strict emissions standards, and energy delivered to consumers will increasingly come from renewable sources. Other programs that are intended to reduce the overall GHG emissions include Low Carbon Fuel Standards, Renewable Portfolio standards and the Clean Car standards. As a result, even the emissions that result from projects that produce fewer emissions than the threshold will be subject to emission reductions.

Under CEQA, an individual project's GHG emissions will generally not result in direct significant impacts. This is because the climate change issue is global in nature. However, an individual project could be found to contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact. Projects that have GHG emissions above the noted thresholds may be considered cumulatively considerable and require mitigation.

**Impact.** As proposed, the project will result in the disturbance of approximately 1,316 square feet. This will result in the creation of construction dust, as well as short- and long-term vehicle emissions. The project will be moving less than 1,200 cubic yards/day of material and will disturb less than four acres of area, and therefore will be below the general thresholds triggering construction-related mitigation. The project is also not in close proximity to sensitive receptors that might otherwise result

in nuisance complaints and be subject to limited dust and/or emission control measures during construction.

From an operational standpoint, based on Table 1-1 of the CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012), the project will not exceed operational thresholds triggering mitigation. The project is consistent with the general level of development anticipated and projected in the Clean Air Plan. No significant air quality impacts are expected to occur.

This project is an unmanned communications facility. Using the GHG threshold information described in the Setting section, the project is expected to generate less than the Bright-Line Threshold of 1,150 metric tons of GHG emissions. Therefore, the project's potential direct and cumulative GHG emissions are found to be less significant and less than a cumulatively considerable contribution to GHG emissions. Section 15064(h)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines provide guidance on how to evaluate cumulative impacts. If it is shown that an incremental contribution to a cumulative impact, such as global climate change, is not 'cumulatively considerable', no mitigation is required. Because this project's emissions fall under the threshold, no mitigation is required.

The project proposes to disturb soils that have been given a wind erodibility rating of # 5, which is considered "moderate" [to "high"].

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** No mitigation measures are necessary.

Due to the distance of any known fault (at least three miles away) or serpentine rock outcrop (at least three miles away), it is not expected that any naturally occurring asbestos would be encountered during any earthmoving activities.

**4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

*Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Result in a loss of unique or special status species* or their habitats?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Reduce the extent, diversity or quality of native or other important vegetation?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Impact wetland or riparian habitat?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Interfere with the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or factors, which could hinder the normal activities of wildlife?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Conflict with any regional plans or policies to protect sensitive species, or regulations of the California Department of Fish &amp; Wildlife or U.S. Fish &amp; Wildlife Service?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\* Species – as defined in Section 15380 of the CEQA Guidelines, which includes all plant and wildlife species that fall under the category of rare, threatened or endangered, as described in this section.

**Biological Resources**

**Setting.** The following are existing elements on or near the proposed project relating to potential biological concerns:

On-site Vegetation: California Central Valley and Southern Coastal Grassland, Southern California

### Coastal Scrub

Name and distance from blue line creek(s): Estrella River is approximately 1,800 feet north of the proposed project.

Habitat(s): farmland, ornamental landscaping

Site's tree canopy coverage: Approximately 2%.

The Natural Diversity Database (or other biological references) identified the following species potentially existing within approximately one mile of the proposed project:

- Bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*) ST
- Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) CSC
- Tulare grasshopper mouse (*Onychomys torridus tularensis*)
- Western pond turtle (*Emys (or Clemmys) marmorata pallida*), CSC, FSC

While the Natural Diversity Database indicates that these species could potentially occur in the area, based on staff's site visit and review of aerial photography, the project sites lacks suitable habitat for these species. The location of the proposed facility is denuded of native vegetation and has been disturbed due to a long history of agricultural use and other anthropogenic activities. There is no standing water, seasonal streams, or other aquatic habitat on the site.

The Natural Diversity Database also identified this area as important habitat for the San Joaquin Kit Fox, a federally listed endangered species and a state listed threatened species.

**Impact.** The proposed project would result in approximately 1,316 square feet of site disturbance for the construction of a telecommunications facility. The proposed project site does not support any sensitive native vegetation, significant wildlife habitats, or special status species.

With regards to the San Joaquin Kit Fox, based on the results of previous Kit Fox Habitat Evaluations that have been conducted for the Shandon Carrizo area, the standard mitigation ratio for projects on parcels less than 40 acres in size has been established as 4:1. This means that all impacts to kit fox habitat must be mitigated at a ratio of 4 acres conserved for each acre impacted (4:1). The project will result in the permanent disturbance of 0.03 acres (1,316 sf) of kit fox habitat.

Applicants have the option of hiring a qualified biologist to conduct a Kit Fox Habitat Evaluation of the project site if the applicant believes that the evaluation would lower the score and reduce the required mitigation ratio. However, the applicant has chosen to accept the standard mitigation ratio of (4:1), which requires that a total compensatory acreage of 0.12 acres to be mitigated.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** With regards to the San Joaquin Kit Fox, the applicant will be required to mitigate the loss of 0.12 acres of kit fox habitat by one of the following ways:

- ✓ Deposit of funds to an approved in-lieu fee program;
- ✓ Provide for the protection of kit foxes in perpetuity through acquisition of fee or conservation easement of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area; or
- ✓ Purchase credits in an approved conservation bank.

To prevent inadvertent harm to kit fox, the applicant has agreed to retain a biologist for a pre-construction survey, a pre-construction briefing for contractors, and monitoring activities in addition to implementing cautionary construction measures. These mitigation measures are listed in detail in Exhibit B Mitigation Summary Table.

The implementation of the above measures will mitigate biological impacts to a level of insignificance.

**5. CULTURAL RESOURCES**

*Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Disturb archaeological resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Disturb historical resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Disturb paleontological resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Cause a substantial adverse change to a Tribal Cultural Resource?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Cultural Resources**

**Setting.** The project is located in an area historically occupied by the Salinan & Chumash. No historic structures are present and no paleontological resources are known to exist in the area. No previous cultural surveys were found for the subject property. A search of ¼ mile around the subject property identified the following previous survey work: 0 reports where no resources were encountered; 0 reports where resources were identified. No specific archaeological reports have been prepared within ¼ mile of the subject property.

AB52 is applicable to projects that are subject to a Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report (does not apply to CEQA exemptions.) The bill specifies that a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, as defined, is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. The bill requires a lead agency to begin consultation with a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project.

**Impact.** The project is not located in an area that would be considered culturally sensitive due to lack of physical features typically associated with prehistoric occupation. In accordance with AB52, a request for consultation letter was sent to the Yak Tityu Tityu – Northern Chumash Tribe, Xolon Salinan Tribe, Northern Chumash Tribal Council, and the Salinan Tribe of Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties representatives on August 19, 2015. No comments were received from the representatives.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** No significant cultural resource impacts are expected to occur, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

**6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

*Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Result in exposure to or production of unstable earth conditions, such as landslides, earthquakes, liquefaction, ground failure, land subsidence or other similar hazards?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Be within a California Geological Survey "Alquist-Priolo" Earthquake Fault Zone", or other known fault zones*?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

*Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
c) <i>Result in soil erosion, topographic changes, loss of topsoil or unstable soil conditions from project-related improvements, such as vegetation removal, grading, excavation, or fill?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Include structures located on expansive soils?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Be inconsistent with the goals and policies of the County's Safety Element relating to Geologic and Seismic Hazards?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Preclude the future extraction of valuable mineral resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\* Per Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication #42

**Setting.** The following relates to the project's geologic aspects or conditions:

Topography: Nearly level

Within County's Geologic Study Area?: No

Landslide Risk Potential: Low to high

Liquefaction Potential: Moderate

Nearby potentially active faults?: No Distance? Not applicable

Area known to contain serpentine or ultramafic rock or soils?: No

Shrink/Swell potential of soil: Low

Other notable geologic features? None

**Geology and Soils**

The project is not within the Geologic Study area designation or within a high liquefaction area, and is not subject to the preparation of a geological report per the County's Land Use Ordinance LUO section 22.14.070 (c) to evaluate the area's geological stability.

A sedimentation and erosion control plan is required for all construction and grading projects (LUO Sec. 22.52.120) to minimize these impacts. When required, the plan is prepared by a civil engineer to address both temporary and long-term sedimentation and erosion impacts.

**Impact.** As proposed, the project will result in the disturbance of approximately 1,316 square feet.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** There is no evidence that measures above what will already be required by ordinance or codes are needed.

**7. HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Will the project:**

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Create a hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Create a hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within ¼-mile of an existing or proposed school?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Be located on, or adjacent to, a site which is included on a list of hazardous material/waste sites compiled pursuant to Gov't Code 65962.5 ("Cortese List"), and result in an adverse public health condition?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Impair implementation or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>If within the Airport Review designation, or near a private airstrip, result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Increase fire hazard risk or expose people or structures to high wildland fire hazard conditions?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) <i>Be within a 'very high' fire hazard severity zone?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) <i>Be within an area classified as a 'state responsibility' area as defined by CalFire?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) <i>Other: _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Hazards and Hazardous Materials**

**Setting.** The project is not located in an area of known hazardous material contamination. The project is not within a 'high' or 'very high' severity risk area for fire. The project is not within the Airport Review area.

With regards to potential fire hazards, the subject project is within the High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Based on the County's fire response time map, it will take approximately 0-5 minutes to respond to a call regarding fire or life safety. Refer to the Public Services section for further discussion on Fire Safety impacts.

**Impact.** The project does not propose the use of hazardous materials, nor the generation of hazardous wastes. The proposed project is not found on the 'Cortese List' (which is a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5). The project does not present a significant fire safety risk. The project is not expected to conflict with any regional emergency response or evacuation plan.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** No significant impacts as a result of hazards or hazardous materials are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

<b>8. NOISE</b>	<b>Potentially Significant</b>	<b>Impact can &amp; will be mitigated</b>	<b>Insignificant Impact</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<i>Will the project:</i>				
a) <i>Expose people to noise levels that exceed the County Noise Element thresholds?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Generate permanent increases in the ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Cause a temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise in the project vicinity?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Expose people to severe noise or vibration?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>If located within the Airport Review designation or adjacent to a private airstrip, expose people residing or working in the project area to severe noise levels?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Noise**

**Setting.** The project is not within close proximity of loud noise sources, and will not conflict with any sensitive noise receptors (e.g., residences). Based on the Noise Element's projected future noise generation from known stationary and vehicle-generated noise sources, the project is within an acceptable threshold area.

**Impact.** The project is not expected to generate loud noises, nor conflict with the surrounding uses.

A portion of the project site is within close proximity to a transportation noise source (West Centre Street) and development within the following distances from the noise source will exceed the County's acceptable exterior noise threshold of 60 dBs for sensitive uses as follows:

- ✓ Areas within the 60 dB to 65 dB range - 42 feet from road centerline, and closer;
- ✓ Areas within the 65 dB to 70 dB range - 20 feet from road centerline, and closer;

- ✓ Areas above the 70 dB level - 9 feet from road centerline, and closer.

The proposed project would introduce noise generating equipment into a relatively quiet rural/agricultural area. The facility's primary noise sources include AC units to cool the equipment shelter and an emergency back-up generator. This equipment is located approximately 200 feet from the nearest property boundary and 300 feet from the nearest sensitive noise receptor (a neighboring residence) and is not expected to exceed applicable noise thresholds.

The emergency generator is intended to power the facility in the event of a power outage, after the lead acid batteries within the equipment cabinets fail. It would also be operated for about 15 minutes each month for routine maintenance and testing. As conditioned, the generator would only be operated for testing during day-time hours. In addition, the proposed facility will be unmanned and as such would not be considered noise sensitive.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** The proposed project is an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility. No significant noise impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

**9. POPULATION/HOUSING**

*Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Induce substantial growth in an area either directly (e.g., construct new homes or businesses) or indirectly (e.g., extension of major infrastructure)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Displace existing housing or people, requiring construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Create the need for substantial new housing in the area?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Population/Housing**

**Setting** In its efforts to provide for affordable housing, the county currently administers the Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which provides limited financing to projects relating to affordable housing throughout the county. The County's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance requires provision of new affordable housing in conjunction with both residential and nonresidential development and subdivisions.

**Impact.** The project will not result in a need for a significant amount of new housing, and will not displace existing housing.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** No significant population and housing impacts are anticipated. No mitigation measures are necessary.

**10. PUBLIC SERVICES/UTILITIES**

*Will the project have an effect upon, or result in the need for new or altered public services in any of the following areas:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Police protection (e.g., Sheriff, CHP)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Roads?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Solid Wastes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Setting.** The project area is served by the following public services/facilities:

Police: County Sheriff                      Location: Templeton (Approximately 18.62 miles to the southwest)

Fire: Cal Fire (formerly CDF)              Hazard Severity: High                      Response Time: 0-5 minutes

Location: (Approximately .5 miles to the east) 501 West Centre Street

School District: Shandon Joint Unified School District.

**Public Services**

For additional information regarding fire hazard impacts, go to the 'Hazards and Hazardous Materials' section.

**Impact.** The proposed project involves the construction of an unmanned wireless communications facility. No significant project-specific impacts to utilities or public services were identified. This project, along with others in the area, will have a cumulative effect on police/sheriff and fire protection, and schools. The project's direct and cumulative impacts are within the general assumptions of allowed use for the subject property that was used to estimate the fees in place.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** The project was reviewed by Cal Fire for consistency with the Uniform Fire Code and will be required to prepare a fire safety plan. The project will not increase demands for police, fire, or school facilities and therefore no additional mitigation is needed.

**11. RECREATION**

*Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Increase the use or demand for parks or other recreation opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Affect the access to trails, parks or other recreation opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Recreation**

**Setting.** The County's Parks and Recreation Element does not show that a potential trail goes through the proposed project. The project is not proposed in a location that will affect any trail, park, recreational resource, coastal access, and/or Natural Area.

**Impact.** The proposed project will not create a significant need for additional park, Natural Area, and/or recreational resources.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** No significant recreation impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

**12. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION**

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
<i>Will the project:</i>				
a) <i>Increase vehicle trips to local or areawide circulation system?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Reduce existing "Level of Service" on public roadway(s)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Create unsafe conditions on public roadways (e.g., limited access, design features, sight distance, slow vehicles)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Provide for adequate emergency access?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Conflict with an established measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system considering all modes of transportation (e.g. LOS, mass transit, etc.)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Conflict with an applicable congestion management program?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) <i>Result in a change in air traffic patterns that may result in substantial safety risks?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) <i>Other: _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Transportation**

**Setting.** The County has established the acceptable Level of Service (LOS) on roads for this rural area as "C" or better. The existing road network in the area including the project's access street (West Centre Street) is operating at acceptable levels. Based on existing road speeds and configuration (vertical and horizontal road curves), sight distance is considered [acceptable].

Referrals were sent to County Public Works. No significant traffic-related concerns were identified.

**Impact.** Once constructed, the proposed project is estimated to generate approximately one (1) trip per month for routine maintenance. In comparison, the average single family residence generates approximately 10 trips per day (or 300 trips per month). This small amount of additional traffic will not result in a significant change to the existing road service or traffic safety levels. The project does not conflict with adopted policies, plans and programs on transportation.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** No significant traffic impacts were identified, and no mitigation measures above what are already required by ordinance are necessary.

**13. WASTEWATER**

*Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Violate waste discharge requirements or Central Coast Basin Plan criteria for wastewater systems?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Change the quality of surface or ground water (e.g., nitrogen-loading, day-lighting)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Adversely affect community wastewater service provider?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Other: _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Wastewater**

**Setting.** The project is an unmanned communication facility and requires no wastewater service.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** Given that the project is an unmanned communication facility, no mitigation measures are necessary.

**14. WATER & HYDROLOGY**

*Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
<b>QUALITY</b>				
a) <i>Violate any water quality standards?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Discharge into surface waters or otherwise alter surface water quality (e.g., turbidity, sediment, temperature, dissolved oxygen, etc.)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Change the quality of groundwater (e.g., saltwater intrusion, nitrogen-loading, etc.)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide additional sources of polluted runoff?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**14. WATER & HYDROLOGY**

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
<i>Will the project:</i>				
e) <i>Change rates of soil absorption, or amount or direction of surface runoff?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Change the drainage patterns where substantial on- or off-site sedimentation/ erosion or flooding may occur?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Involve activities within the 100-year flood zone?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>QUANTITY</b>				
h) <i>Change the quantity or movement of available surface or ground water?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) <i>Adversely affect community water service provider?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) <i>Expose people to a risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding (e.g., dam failure, etc.), or inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Water**

**Setting.** The project is an unmanned communication facility and does not require a water supply.

The topography of the project is nearly level. The closest creek from the proposed development is approximately 1,800 feet away. As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the soil surface is considered to have moderate erodibility.

Projects involving more than one acre of disturbance are subject to preparing a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to minimize on-site sedimentation and erosion. When work is done in the rainy season, the County's Land Use Ordinance requires that temporary erosion and sedimentation measures to be installed.

**DRAINAGE** – The following relates to the project's drainage aspects:

Within the 100-year Flood Hazard designation? No

Closest creek? Estrella River Distance? Approximately 1,800 feet to the north.

Soil drainage characteristics: Moderately drained

For areas where drainage is identified as a potential issue, the Land Use Ordinance (LUO Sec. 22.52.110) includes a provision to prepare a drainage plan to minimize potential drainage impacts. When required, this plan would need to address measures such as: constructing on-site retention or detention basins, or installing surface water flow dissipaters. This plan would also need to show that the increased surface runoff would have no more impacts than that caused by historic flows.

**SEDIMENTATION AND EROSION** – Soil type, area of disturbance, and slopes are key aspects to analyzing potential sedimentation and erosion issues. The project's soil types and descriptions are listed in the previous Agriculture section under "Setting". As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the

project's soil erodibility is as follows:

Soil erodibility: Moderate

A sedimentation and erosion control plan is required for all construction and grading projects (LUO Sec. 22.52.120) to minimize these impacts. When required, the plan is prepared by a civil engineer to address both temporary and long-term sedimentation and erosion impacts. Projects involving more than one acre of disturbance are subject to the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which focuses on controlling storm water runoff. The Regional Water Quality Control Board is the local extension who monitors this program.

### **Shandon**

Based on the recently approved Community Plan, future population growth in the community at buildout is estimated at about 5,300 residents.

County Service Area 16 serves the community of Shandon with two wells having a combined capacity of 670 gallons per minute. These wells are within the Paso Robles groundwater basin. As of 2004, CSA 16 had 310 service connections serving a population of approximately 1,000 with 150 AFY. A 175,000-gallon water storage tank was completed in 1998. An additional water storage tank was completed in 2002. CSA 16 has been allocated up to 100 AFY under the State Water program. Improvements are needed before this water source could be physically available.

The 2010 Annual Resource Summary Report recommends this community, because of its extracting water from the Paso Robles groundwater basin, it be given a Level of Severity rating III, which is defined as "When the existing water demand equals or exceeds the dependable supply".

### **Impact – Water Quality/Hydrology**

With regards to project impacts on water quality the following conditions apply:

- ✓ Approximately 1,316 square feet of site disturbance is proposed and the movement of approximately 0 cubic yards of material;
- ✓ The project will be subject to standard County requirements for drainage, sedimentation and erosion control for construction and permanent use;
- ✓ The project is not on highly erodible soils, nor on moderate to steep slopes;
- ✓ The project is not within a 100-year Flood Hazard designation;
- ✓ The project is more than 100 feet from the closest creek or surface water body;
- ✓ All hazardous materials and/or wastes will be properly stored on-site, which include secondary containment should spills or leaks occur;

### **Water Quantity**

Based on the project description, the proposed project will not use any water.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** Based on the proposed amount of water to be use and the water source, no significant impacts from water use are anticipated.

**15. LAND USE**

*Will the project:*

	Inconsistent	Potentially Inconsistent	Consistent	Not Applicable
a) <i>Be potentially inconsistent with land use, policy/regulation (e.g., general plan [County Land Use Element and Ordinance], local coastal plan, specific plan, Clean Air Plan, etc.) adopted to avoid or mitigate for environmental effects?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Be potentially inconsistent with any habitat or community conservation plan?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Be potentially inconsistent with adopted agency environmental plans or policies with jurisdiction over the project?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Be potentially incompatible with surrounding land uses?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Land Use**

**Setting/Impact.** Surrounding uses are identified on Page 2 of the Initial Study. The proposed project was reviewed for consistency with policy and/or regulatory documents relating to the environment and appropriate land use (e.g., County Land Use Ordinance, Local Coastal Plan, etc.). Referrals were sent to outside agencies to review for policy consistencies (e.g., CAL FIRE for Fire Code, APCD for Clean Air Plan, etc.). The project was found to be consistent with these documents (refer also to Exhibit A on reference documents used).

The project is not within or adjacent to a Habitat Conservation Plan area. The project is consistent or compatible with the surrounding uses as summarized on page 2 of this Initial Study.

As described above (see Aesthetics) the proposed project is consistent with the screening requirements of the Telecommunications Ordinance because the proposed panel antennas would be hidden within the cylinder portion of an artificial water tank. The proposed ground equipment will be screened from public view by a proposed 6-foot tall fence and existing trees and shrubs.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** No inconsistencies were identified and therefore no additional measures above what will already be required were determined necessary.

**16. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

*Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or pre-history?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) **Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?**  
**(“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)**                       

c) **Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?**                       

For further information on CEQA or the County's environmental review process, please visit the County's web site at "[www.sloplanning.org](http://www.sloplanning.org)" under "Environmental Information", or the California Environmental Resources Evaluation System at: [http://www.ceres.ca.gov/topic/env\\_law/ceqa/guidelines](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines) for information about the California Environmental Quality Act.

### Exhibit A - Initial Study References and Agency Contacts

The County Planning Department has contacted various agencies for their comments on the proposed project. With respect to the subject application, the following have been contacted (marked with an ) and when a response was made, it is either attached or in the application file:

<u>Contacted</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Response</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Public Works Department	Attached
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Environmental Health Services	Attached
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Agricultural Commissioner's Office	Attached
<input type="checkbox"/>	County Airport Manager	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Airport Land Use Commission	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Air Pollution Control District	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	County Sheriff's Department	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Regional Water Quality Control Board	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	CA Coastal Commission	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA Department of Fish and Wildlife	No Response
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA Department of Forestry (Cal Fire)	Attached
<input type="checkbox"/>	CA Department of Transportation	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Services District	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other <u>Shandon Advisory Committee</u>	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____	Not Applicable

**\*\* "No comment" or "No concerns"-type responses are usually not attached**

The following checked ("") reference materials have been used in the environmental review for the proposed project and are hereby incorporated by reference into the Initial Study. The following information is available at the County Planning and Building Department.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project File for the Subject Application  | <input type="checkbox"/> Design Plan  |
| <u>County documents</u>   | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Plan  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Plan Policies  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual Resource Summary Report                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Framework for Planning (Coastal/Inland)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Circulation Study  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Plan (Inland/Coastal), includes all maps/elements; more pertinent elements: | <u>Other documents</u>  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Element   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean Air Plan/APCD Handbook                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation & Open Space Element   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional Transportation Plan                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Element   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uniform Fire Code   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing Element   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Quality Control Plan (Central Coast Basin – Region 3)       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise Element   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Resources Map                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation Element/Project List  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area of Critical Concerns Map                                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety Element  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special Biological Importance Map                                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use Ordinance (Inland/Coastal)   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CA Natural Species Diversity Database                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building and Construction Ordinance  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Hazard Severity Map  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Facilities Fee Ordinance   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood Hazard Maps   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Real Property Division Ordinance   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey for SLO County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affordable Housing Fund   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GIS mapping layers (e.g., habitat, streams, contours, etc.)       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Airport Land Use Plan  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Wise Plan   |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South County Area Plan/South County sub area and Update EIR                         |   |

In addition, the following project specific information and/or reference materials have been considered as a part of the Initial Study:

1. Photosimulation of the proposed project from West Centre St.; SAC Wireless Engineering Group, no date.

## Exhibit B - Mitigation Summary Table

Per Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the following measures also constitute the mitigation monitoring and/or reporting program that will reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels. These measures will become conditions of approval (COAs) should the project be approved. The Lead Agency (County) or other Responsible Agencies, as specified in the following measures, are responsible to verify compliance with these COAs.

### Visual Resources

**VR-1** At the time of application for construction permits, the construction drawings shall show the following:

- a. The water tank shall be designed to appear as a natural aged-wood tank with realistic appearing color and texture treatments for both the tank and the support structure. No signs, banners or graphic displays shall be painted or otherwise depicted on the tank.
- b. All of the antennas, RRHs, and ray caps shall be located completely within the faux tank.

**Monitoring:** (VR-1 – VR-3) Required prior to issuance of a construction permit. Compliance will be verified by the County Department of Planning and Building.

**VR-2** At the time of application for construction permits, the applicant shall submit accurate scaled engineering and architectural drawings of the water tank exactly as proposed. Water tank plans shall not include generic illustrations of a typical faux tank. The drawings shall include elevations and plan views. Once approved, the water tank plans shall be specifically used (in conjunction with approved color and material samples and other related documents) as a basis for assessing condition compliance during construction. The plans, specifications and estimates and construction schedule shall provide for revisions and corrections to the water tank engineering and architectural plans prior to preparation of the final plans.

**VR-3** Prior to issuance of construction permits, the applicant shall submit material and color test samples of all visible elements of the water tank to the County Department of Planning and Building for review and approval.

**VR-4** Prior to final inspection, the applicant shall implement the approved materials and color board.

**Monitoring:** Required prior to final inspection. Compliance will be verified by the County Department of Planning and Building.

### Biological Resources

#### San Joaquin Kit Fox

Your project will impact 0.03 acres of San Joaquin kit fox habitat. Based on the results of previous Kit Fox Habitat Evaluations that have been conducted for the Paso Robles area, Bob Stafford from the Department of Fish and Game (Department) has determined that the standard mitigation ratio for projects on parcels less than 40 acres in size has been established as 4:1. This means that all impacts be mitigated at a ratio of 4 acres conserved for each acre impacted. You agreed to accept the standard mitigation ratio of 4:1 for your project. Total compensatory mitigation required for your project is 0.12 acres, based on 4 times 0.03 acres impacted. The mitigation options identified in BR-1 through BR-11 apply to the proposed project only; should your project change, your mitigation obligation may also change, and a reevaluation of your mitigation measures would be required.

**BR-1 Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits**, the applicant shall submit evidence to the County of San Luis Obispo, Department of Planning and Building, Environmental and Resource Management Division (County) (see contact information below) that states that one or a combination of the following three San Joaquin kit fox mitigation measures has been implemented:

- a. Provide for the protection in perpetuity, through acquisition of fee or a conservation easement of 0.12 acres of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area (e.g. within the San Luis Obispo County kit fox habitat area, northwest of Highway 58), either on-site or off-site, and provide for a non-wasting endowment to provide for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity. Lands to be conserved shall be subject to the review and approval of the California Department of Fish and Game (Department) and the County.

This mitigation alternative (a.) requires that all aspects if this program must be in place before County permit issuance or initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

- b. Deposit funds into an approved in-lieu fee program, which would provide for the protection in perpetuity of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area within San Luis Obispo County, and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity.

Mitigation alternative (b) above, can be completed by providing funds to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) pursuant to the Voluntary Fee-Based Compensatory Mitigation Program (Program). The Program was established in agreement between the Department and TNC to preserve San Joaquin kit fox habitat, and to provide a voluntary mitigation alternative to project proponents who must mitigate the impacts of projects in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The fee, payable to "The Nature Conservancy", would total \$300.00. This fee is calculated based on the current cost-per-unit of \$2500 per acre of mitigation, which is scheduled to be adjusted to address the increasing cost of property in San Luis Obispo County; your actual cost may increase depending on the timing of payment. This fee must be paid after the Department provides written notification about your mitigation options but prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

- c. Purchase 0.12 credits in a Department-approved conservation bank, which would provide for the protection in perpetuity of suitable habitat within the kit fox corridor area and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity.

Mitigation alternative (c) above, can be completed by purchasing credits from the Palo Prieto Conservation Bank (see contact information below). The Palo Prieto Conservation Bank was established to preserve San Joaquin kit fox habitat, and to provide a voluntary mitigation alternative to project proponents who must mitigate the impacts of projects in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The cost for purchasing credits is payable to the owners of The Palo Prieto Conservation Bank, and would total \$300.00. This fee is calculated based on the current cost-per-credit of \$2500 per acre of mitigation. The fee is established by the conservation bank owner and may change at any time. Your actual cost may increase depending on the timing of payment. Purchase of credits must be completed prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

**Monitoring:** Required prior to issuance of a grading and/or construction permit. Compliance will be verified by the County Division of Environmental and Resource Management.

**BR-2 Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits**, the applicant shall provide evidence that they have retained a qualified biologist acceptable to the County. The retained biologist shall perform the following monitoring activities:

- a. **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits and within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction**, the biologist shall conduct a pre-activity (i.e. pre-construction) survey for known or potential kit fox dens and submit a letter to the County reporting the date the survey was conducted, the survey protocol, survey results, and what measures were necessary (and completed), as applicable, to address any kit fox activity within the project limits.
- b. The qualified biologist shall conduct weekly site visits during site-disturbance activities (i.e. grading, disk, excavation, stock piling of dirt or gravel, etc.) that proceed longer than 14 days, for the purpose of monitoring compliance with required Mitigation Measures BR-3 through BR11. Site-disturbance activities lasting up to 14 days do not require weekly monitoring by the biologist unless observations of kit fox or their dens are made on-site or the qualified biologist recommends monitoring for some other reason (see BR-2-c3). When weekly monitoring is required, the biologist shall submit weekly monitoring reports to the County.
- c. **Prior to or during project activities**, if any observations are made of San Joaquin Kit fox, or any known or potential San Joaquin kit fox dens are discovered within the project limits, the qualified biologist shall re-assess the probability of incidental take (e.g. harm or death) to kit fox. At the time a den is discovered,, the qualified biologist shall contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department (see contact information below) for guidance on possible additional kit fox protection measures to implement and whether or not a federal and/or state incidental take permit is needed. If a potential den is encountered during construction, work shall stop until such time the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/Department determines it is appropriate to resume work.

If incidental take of kit fox during project activities is possible, **before project activities commence**, the applicant must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department. The results of this consultation may require the applicant to obtain a Federal and/or State permit for incidental take during project activities. The applicant should be aware that the presence of kit foxes or known or potential kit fox dens at the project site could result in further delays of project activities.

- d. In addition, the qualified biologist shall implement the following measures:
  1. **Within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction**, fenced exclusion zones shall be established around all known and potential kit fox dens. Exclusion zone fencing shall consist of either large flagged stakes connected by rope or cord, or survey laths or wooden stakes prominently flagged with survey ribbon. Each exclusion zone shall be roughly circular in configuration with a radius of the following distance measured outward from the den or burrow entrances:
    - a) Potential kit fox den: 50 feet
    - b) Known or active kit fox den: 100 feet
    - c) Kit fox pupping den: 150 feet
  2. All foot and vehicle traffic, as well as all construction activities, including storage of supplies and equipment, shall remain outside of exclusion zones. Exclusion zones shall be maintained until all project-related disturbances have been terminated, and then shall be removed.
  3. If kit foxes or known or potential kit fox dens are found on site, daily monitoring during

ground disturbing activities shall be required by a qualified biologist.

**Monitoring:** Required prior to issuance of a grading and/or construction permit. Compliance will be verified by the County Division of Environmental and Resource Management.

- BR-3 Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits**, the applicant shall clearly delineate as a note on the project plans, that: *"Speed signs of 25 mph (or lower) shall be posted for all construction traffic to minimize the probability of road mortality of the San Joaquin kit fox"*. Speed limit signs shall be installed on the project site **within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction**.

In addition, **prior to permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities**, conditions BR-3 through BR-11 of the Developer's Statement/Conditions of Approval shall be clearly delineated on project plans.

- BR-4 During the site disturbance and/or construction phase**, grading and construction activities after dusk shall be prohibited unless coordinated through the County, during which additional kit fox mitigation measures may be required.
- BR-5 Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permit and within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction**, all personnel associated with the project shall attend a worker education training program, conducted by a qualified biologist, to avoid or reduce impacts on sensitive biological resources (i.e. San Joaquin kit fox). At a minimum, as the program relates to the kit fox, the training shall include the kit fox's life history, all mitigation measures specified by the county, as well as any related biological report(s) prepared for the project. The applicant shall notify the County shortly prior to this meeting. A kit fox fact sheet shall also be developed prior to the training program, and distributed at the training program to all contractors, employers and other personnel involved with the construction of the project.
- BR-6 During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, to prevent entrapment of the San Joaquin kit fox, all excavation, steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of two feet in depth shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Trenches shall also be inspected for entrapped kit fox each morning prior to onset of field activities and immediately prior to covering with plywood at the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be thoroughly inspected for entrapped kit fox. Any kit fox so discovered shall be allowed to escape before field activities resume, or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist and allowed to escape unimpeded.
- BR-7 During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, any pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of four inches or greater, stored overnight at the project site shall be thoroughly inspected for trapped San Joaquin kit foxes before the subject pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. If during the construction phase a kit fox is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe will not be moved, or if necessary, be moved only once to remove it from the path of activity, until the kit fox has escaped.
- BR-8 During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, all food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps generated shall be disposed of in closed containers only and regularly removed from the site. Food items may attract San Joaquin kit foxes onto the project site, consequently exposing such animals to increased risk of injury or mortality. No deliberate feeding of wildlife shall be allowed.
- BR-9 Prior to, during and after the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, use of

pesticides or herbicides shall be in compliance with all local, State and Federal regulations. This is necessary to minimize the probability of primary or secondary poisoning of endangered species utilizing adjacent habitats, and the depletion of prey upon which San Joaquin kit foxes depend.

**BR-10 During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, any contractor or employee that inadvertently kills or injures a San Joaquin kit fox or who finds any such animal either dead, injured, or entrapped shall be required to report the incident immediately to the applicant and County. In the event that any observations are made of injured or dead kit fox, the applicant shall immediately notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department by telephone (see contact information below). In addition, formal notification shall be provided in writing within three working days of the finding of any such animal(s). Notification shall include the date, time, location and circumstances of the incident. Any threatened or endangered species found dead or injured shall be turned over immediately to Department for care, analysis, or disposition.

**BR-11 Prior to final inspection, or occupancy, whichever comes first**, should any long internal or perimeter fencing be proposed or installed, the applicant shall do the following to provide for kit fox passage:

- a. If a wire strand/pole design is used, the lowest strand shall be no closer to the ground than 12".
- b. If a more solid wire mesh fence is used, 8" x 12" openings near the ground shall be provided every 100 yards.

Upon fence installation, the applicant shall notify the County to verify proper installation. Any fencing constructed after issuance of a final permit shall follow the above guidelines.

**Monitoring (San Joaquin Kit Fox Measures BR-3 – BR-11):** Compliance will be verified by the County Division of Environmental and Resource Management in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game. As applicable, each of these measures shall be included on construction plans.

**DEVELOPER'S STATEMENT FOR  
WIEBE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT / DRC2014-00137**

The applicant agrees to incorporate the following measures into the project. These measures become a part of the project description and therefore become a part of the record of action upon which the environmental determination is based. All development activity must occur in strict compliance with the following mitigation measures. These measures shall be perpetual and run with the land. These measures are binding on all successors in interest of the subject property.

**Note:** The items contained in the boxes labeled "Monitoring" describe the County procedures to be used to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures.

The following mitigation measures address impacts that may occur as a result of the development of the project.

**Visual Resources**

VR-1 **At the time of application for construction permits**, the construction drawings shall show the following:

- a. The water tank shall be designed to appear as a natural aged-wood tank with realistic appearing color and texture treatments for both the tank and the support structure. No signs, banners or graphic displays shall be painted or otherwise depicted on the tank.
- b. All of the antennas, RRHs, and ray caps shall be located completely within the faux tank.

**Monitoring: (VR-1 – VR-3)** Required prior to issuance of a construction permit. Compliance will be verified by the County Department of Planning and Building.

VR-2 **At the time of application for construction permits**, the applicant shall submit accurate scaled engineering and architectural drawings of the water tank exactly as proposed. Water tank plans shall not include generic illustrations of a typical faux tank. The drawings shall include elevations and plan views. Once approved, the water tank plans shall be specifically used (in conjunction with approved color and material samples and other related documents) as a basis for assessing condition compliance during construction. The plans, specifications and estimates and construction schedule shall provide for revisions and corrections to the water tank engineering and architectural plans prior to preparation of the final plans.

VR-3 **Prior to issuance of construction permits**, the applicant shall submit material and color board/test samples of all visible elements of the water tank to the County Department of Planning and Building for review and approval.

VR-4 **Prior to final inspection, the applicant shall implement the approved materials and color board.**

**Monitoring:** Required prior final inspection. Compliance will be verified by the County Department of Planning and Building.

### **Biological Resources**

#### **San Joaquin Kit Fox**

Your project will impact 0.03 acres of San Joaquin kit fox habitat. Based on the results of previous Kit Fox Habitat Evaluations that have been conducted for the Paso Robles area, Bob Stafford from the Department of Fish and Game (Department) has determined that the standard mitigation ratio for projects on parcels less than 40 acres in size has been established as 4:1. This means that all impacts be mitigated at a ratio of 4 acres conserved for each acre impacted. You agreed to accept the standard mitigation ratio of 4:1 for your project. Total compensatory mitigation required for your project is 0.12 acres, based on 4 times 0.03 acres impacted. The mitigation options identified in BR-1 through BR-11 apply to the proposed project only; should your project change, your mitigation obligation may also change, and a reevaluation of your mitigation measures would be required.

BR-1 **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits**, the applicant shall submit evidence to the County of San Luis Obispo, Department of Planning and Building, Environmental and Resource Management Division (County) (see contact information below) that states that one or a combination of the following three San Joaquin kit fox mitigation measures has been implemented:

- a. Provide for the protection in perpetuity, through acquisition of fee or a conservation easement of 0.12 acres of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area (e.g. within the San Luis Obispo County kit fox habitat area, northwest of Highway 58), either on-site or off-site, and provide for a non-wasting endowment to provide for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity. Lands to be conserved shall be subject to the review and approval of the California Department of Fish and Game (Department) and the County.

This mitigation alternative (a.) requires that all aspects of this program must be in place before County permit issuance or initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

- b. Deposit funds into an approved in-lieu fee program, which would provide for the protection in perpetuity of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area within San Luis Obispo County, and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity.

Mitigation alternative (b) above, can be completed by providing funds to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) pursuant to the Voluntary Fee-Based Compensatory Mitigation Program (Program). The Program was established in agreement between the Department and TNC to preserve San Joaquin kit fox habitat, and to provide a voluntary mitigation alternative to project proponents who must mitigate the impacts of projects in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The fee, payable to "The Nature Conservancy", would total \$300.00. This fee is calculated based on the current cost-per-unit of \$2500 per acre of mitigation, which is scheduled to be adjusted to address the increasing cost of property in San Luis Obispo County; your actual cost may increase depending on the timing of payment. This fee must be paid after the

Date: October 19, 2015

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Department provides written notification about your mitigation options but prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

- c. Purchase 0.12 credits in a Department-approved conservation bank, which would provide for the protection in perpetuity of suitable habitat within the kit fox corridor area and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity.

Mitigation alternative (c) above, can be completed by purchasing credits from the Palo Prieto Conservation Bank (see contact information below). The Palo Prieto Conservation Bank was established to preserve San Joaquin kit fox habitat, and to provide a voluntary mitigation alternative to project proponents who must mitigate the impacts of projects in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The cost for purchasing credits is payable to the owners of The Palo Prieto Conservation Bank, and would total \$300.00. This fee is calculated based on the current cost-per-credit of \$2500 per acre of mitigation. The fee is established by the conservation bank owner and may change at any time. Your actual cost may increase depending on the timing of payment. Purchase of credits must be completed prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

**Monitoring:** Required prior to issuance of a grading and/or construction permit. Compliance will be verified by the County Division of Environmental and Resource Management.

- BR-2 **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits**, the applicant shall provide evidence that they have retained a qualified biologist acceptable to the County. The retained biologist shall perform the following monitoring activities:
- a. **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits and within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction**, the biologist shall conduct a pre-activity (i.e. pre-construction) survey for known or potential kit fox dens and submit a letter to the County reporting the date the survey was conducted, the survey protocol, survey results, and what measures were necessary (and completed), as applicable, to address any kit fox activity within the project limits.
  - b. The qualified biologist shall conduct weekly site visits during site-disturbance activities (i.e. grading, disking, excavation, stock piling of dirt or gravel, etc.) that proceed longer than 14 days, for the purpose of monitoring compliance with required Mitigation Measures BR-3 through BR11. Site- disturbance activities lasting up to 14 days do not require weekly monitoring by the biologist unless observations of kit fox or their dens are made on-site or the qualified biologist recommends monitoring for some other reason (see BR-2-c3). When weekly monitoring is required, the biologist shall submit weekly monitoring reports to the County.
  - c. **Prior to or during project activities**, if any observations are made of San Joaquin Kit fox, or any known or potential San Joaquin kit fox dens are discovered within the project limits, the qualified biologist shall re-assess the probability of incidental take (e.g. harm or death) to kit fox. At the time a den is discovered,, the qualified biologist shall contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department (see contact information below) for guidance on possible additional kit fox protection measures to implement and whether or not a federal and/or state incidental take permit is needed. If a potential den is encountered during construction, work shall stop until such time

Date: October 19, 2015

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the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/Department determines it is appropriate to resume work.

If incidental take of kit fox during project activities is possible, **before project activities commence**, the applicant must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department. The results of this consultation may require the applicant to obtain a Federal and/or State permit for incidental take during project activities. The applicant should be aware that the presence of kit foxes or known or potential kit fox dens at the project site could result in further delays of project activities.

- d. In addition, the qualified biologist shall implement the following measures:
1. **Within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction**, fenced exclusion zones shall be established around all known and potential kit fox dens. Exclusion zone fencing shall consist of either large flagged stakes connected by rope or cord, or survey laths or wooden stakes prominently flagged with survey ribbon. Each exclusion zone shall be roughly circular in configuration with a radius of the following distance measured outward from the den or burrow entrances:
    - a) Potential kit fox den: 50 feet
    - b) Known or active kit fox den: 100 feet
    - c) Kit fox pupping den: 150 feet
  2. All foot and vehicle traffic, as well as all construction activities, including storage of supplies and equipment, shall remain outside of exclusion zones. Exclusion zones shall be maintained until all project-related disturbances have been terminated, and then shall be removed.
  3. If kit foxes or known or potential kit fox dens are found on site, daily monitoring during ground disturbing activities shall be required by a qualified biologist.

**Monitoring:** Required prior to issuance of a grading and/or construction permit. Compliance will be verified by the County Division of Environmental and Resource Management.

- BR-3 **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits**, the applicant shall clearly delineate as a note on the project plans, that: "*Speed signs of 25 mph (or lower) shall be posted for all construction traffic to minimize the probability of road mortality of the San Joaquin kit fox*". Speed limit signs shall be installed on the project site **within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction**.

In addition, **prior to permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities**, conditions BR-3 through BR-11 of the Developer's Statement/Conditions of Approval shall be clearly delineated on project plans.

- BR-4 **During the site disturbance and/or construction phase**, grading and construction activities after dusk shall be prohibited unless coordinated through the County, during which additional kit fox mitigation measures may be required.
- BR-5 **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permit and within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction**, all personnel associated with the

Date: October 19, 2015

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project shall attend a worker education training program, conducted by a qualified biologist, to avoid or reduce impacts on sensitive biological resources (i.e. San Joaquin kit fox). At a minimum, as the program relates to the kit fox, the training shall include the kit fox's life history, all mitigation measures specified by the county, as well as any related biological report(s) prepared for the project. The applicant shall notify the County shortly prior to this meeting. A kit fox fact sheet shall also be developed prior to the training program, and distributed at the training program to all contractors, employers and other personnel involved with the construction of the project.

- BR-6 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, to prevent entrapment of the San Joaquin kit fox, all excavation, steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of two feet in depth shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Trenches shall also be inspected for entrapped kit fox each morning prior to onset of field activities and immediately prior to covering with plywood at the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be thoroughly inspected for entrapped kit fox. Any kit fox so discovered shall be allowed to escape before field activities resume, or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist and allowed to escape unimpeded.
- BR-7 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, any pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of four inches or greater, stored overnight at the project site shall be thoroughly inspected for trapped San Joaquin kit foxes before the subject pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. If during the construction phase a kit fox is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe will not be moved, or if necessary, be moved only once to remove it from the path of activity, until the kit fox has escaped.
- BR-8 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, all food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps generated shall be disposed of in closed containers only and regularly removed from the site. Food items may attract San Joaquin kit foxes onto the project site, consequently exposing such animals to increased risk of injury or mortality. No deliberate feeding of wildlife shall be allowed.
- BR-9 **Prior to, during and after the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, use of pesticides or herbicides shall be in compliance with all local, State and Federal regulations. This is necessary to minimize the probability of primary or secondary poisoning of endangered species utilizing adjacent habitats, and the depletion of prey upon which San Joaquin kit foxes depend.
- BR-10 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, any contractor or employee that inadvertently kills or injures a San Joaquin kit fox or who finds any such animal either dead, injured, or entrapped shall be required to report the incident immediately to the applicant and County. In the event that any observations are made of injured or dead kit fox, the applicant shall immediately notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department by telephone (see contact information below). In addition, formal notification shall be provided in writing within three working days of the finding of any such animal(s). Notification shall include the date, time, location and circumstances of the incident. Any threatened or endangered species found dead or injured shall be turned over immediately to Department for care, analysis, or disposition.
- BR-11 **Prior to final inspection, or occupancy, whichever comes first**, should any long internal or perimeter fencing be proposed or installed, the applicant shall do the following to provide for kit fox passage:





SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Wade Horton, Director

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County Government Center, Room 207 • San Luis Obispo CA 93408 • (805) 781-5252  
Fax (805) 781-1229 email address: pwd@co.slo.ca.us

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Date: May 11, 2015  
To: Holly Phipps, Project Planner  
From: Tim Tomlinson, Development Services  
Subject: **Public Works Comments on DRC2014-00137, Wiebe CUP, Centre St., Shandon, APN 017-066-007**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information on the proposed subject project. It has been reviewed by several divisions of Public Works, and this represents our consolidated response.

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**Public Works Comments:**

- A. The project appears to not meet the applicability criteria for a Stormwater Management (it creates or replaces less than 2500 sf of impervious area). Therefore no Stormwater Control Plan is required.

**Recommended Project Conditions of Approval:**

**Stormwater Control Plan**

1. **At the time of application for construction permits**, the applicant shall demonstrate whether the project is subject to the LUO Section for Stormwater Management. Applicable projects shall submit a Stormwater Control Plan (SWCP) prepared by an appropriately licensed professional to the County for review and approval. The SWCP shall incorporate appropriate BMP's, shall demonstrate compliance with Stormwater Quality Standards and shall include a preliminary drainage plan, a preliminary erosion and sedimentation plan. The applicant shall submit complete drainage calculations for review and approval.



**CAL FIRE**  
**San Luis Obispo**  
**County Fire Department**

635 N. Santa Rosa • San Luis Obispo, CA 93405  
Phone: 805-543-4244 • Fax: 805-543-4248  
www.calfireslo.org

Robert Lewin, Fire Chief

May 12, 2015

County of San Luis Obispo  
Department of Planning & Building  
County Government Center  
San Luis Obispo, CA. 93408

Subject: DRC2014-00137 (WIEBE) Conditional Use Permit to construct 12 new cellular antennas located on a 40-foot tall faux water tank structure, eight foot fence around 33X39 foot lease area, pre-fabricated equipment shelter and an emergency diesel generator. Two GPS units, one electrical meter, 12 RRH's and four raycaps.

Ms. Phipps,

CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire Department recently conducted an onsite review of existing conditions and proposed improvements at 1250 Centre Street in Shandon, CA. The project site is located in *Local Responsibility Area* (LRA). The proposed project site has an approximate 2 minute response time from the nearest CAL FIRE/County Fire station (#51-Shandon).

The project and applicant shall comply with the 2013 CA. Building Code (C.B.C), the 2013 CA. Fire Code (C.F.C.), the Public Resources Code (P.R.C.) and any other applicable fire/building codes.

The following are requirements that must be satisfied prior to final inspection:

- The roadway providing access from Centre Street to the proposed project site must provide a minimum 12-foot edge to edge all-weather driving surface capable of supporting a 20-ton load capacity.
- Vertical clearance of 13'6" is required the entire length of the roadway.
- Roadways shall also provide for a 10-foot fuel modification zone on both sides.
- A fire engine turnaround is required near the cell site structure.
- Annual fuel modification must be maintained in accordance with the Public Resources Code, Title 19 and California Fire Code.
- Access to all associated equipment shall be controlled by means of a locked gate or fence.
- If a proposed gate is added at the access point off of Templeton Road, CAL FIRE/ SLO County Fire may require a "Knox" lock to ensure access during emergencies.
- A minimum 40:BC rated fire extinguisher required in all structures.

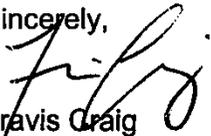
ATTACHMENT 3

- Any fuel storage associated with the proposed emergency generator must meet the standards listed within Chapter 34 of the 2013 CA. Fire Code.
- All installed fire protection systems must be maintained in operable condition.

The proposed project will require final inspection. Please contact this office at (805)543-4244, extension 3429 to schedule the final inspection once all requirements have been satisfied.

If I may be of additional assistance regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (805)543-4244, extension 3427.

Sincerely,



Travis Craig  
Fire Captain



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

**Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures**

2156 SIERRA WAY, SUITE A • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA 93401-4556

(805) 781-5910 • FAX (805) 781-1035

Martin Settevendemie

www.slocounty.ca.gov/agcomm

Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

AgCommSLO@co.slo.ca.us

**DATE:** May 22, 2015

**TO:** Holly Phipps, Project Manager

**FROM:** Lynda L. Auchinachie, Agriculture Department *JA*

**SUBJECT:** Wiebe/Verizon Conditional Use Permit DRC2014-00137 (1828)

**Summary of Findings**

The Agriculture Department's review finds that the proposed Wiebe/Verizon Conditional Use Permit to allow for the development of a wireless communication facility within an approximately 1,300 square foot lease area adjacent to existing agricultural accessory structures will have:

- Potential** to create a significant environmental impact(s) to agricultural resources or operations.
- Less than significant** impacts to agricultural resources or operations because the lease area is limited to only 1,300 square feet in size and the facility will be compatible with existing on-site and adjacent agricultural uses.
- No anticipated impact** to agricultural resources or operations.

Comments and recommendations are based on policies in the San Luis Obispo County Agriculture Element and the Conservation and Open Space Element, the Land Use Ordinance, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and on current departmental policy to conserve agricultural resources and to provide for public health, safety and welfare while mitigating negative impacts of development to agriculture.

If you have questions, please call 781-5914.



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

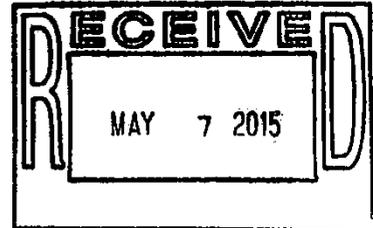
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

THIS IS A NEW PROJECT REFERRAL

DATE: 5/6/2015

TO: ENV HEALTH

FROM: Holly Phipps (805-781-1162 or hhipps@co.slo.ca.us)  
North County Team / Development Review



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** DRC2014-00137 WIEBE – Proposed conditional use permit for a wireless communication facility with a 40-ft faux water tank, eight-ft wood fence around a 33x39-ft lease area, one prefab equipment shelter, two GPS units, one standby generator, one electrical meter, 12 six-foot panel antennas, 12 RRHs, and four raycaps. Site location is 1250 W Centre St, Shandon. APN: 017-166-007

Return this letter with your comments attached no later than: 14 days from receipt of this referral. CACs please respond within 60 days. Thank you.

PART 1 - IS THE ATTACHED INFORMATION ADEQUATE TO COMPLETE YOUR REVIEW?

- YES (Please go on to PART II.)
- NO (Call me ASAP to discuss what else you need. We have only 10 days in which we must obtain comments from outside agencies.)

PART II - ARE THERE SIGNIFICANT CONCERNS, PROBLEMS OR IMPACTS IN YOUR AREA OF REVIEW?

- YES (Please describe impacts, along with recommended mitigation measures to reduce the impacts to less-than-significant levels, and attach to this letter)
- NO (Please go on to PART III)

PART III - INDICATE YOUR RECOMMENDATION FOR FINAL ACTION.

Please attach any conditions of approval you recommend to be incorporated into the project's approval, or state reasons for recommending denial.

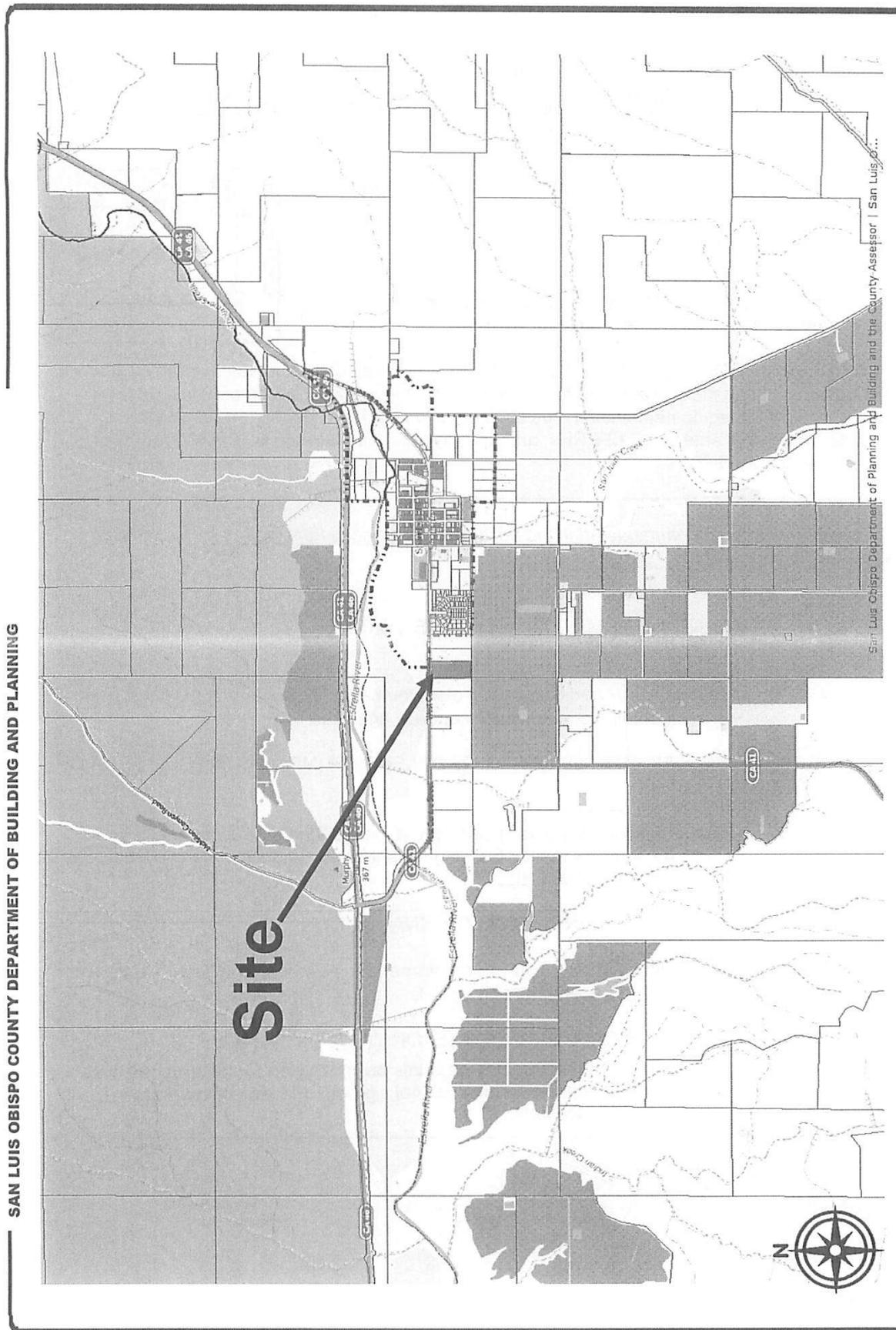
IF YOU HAVE "NO COMMENT," PLEASE SO INDICATE, OR CALL.

Applicant shall submit, to this office, the hazardous materials business plan for the proposed cell site. The plans shall be reviewed and approved prior to final sign-off. Please contact Aaron LaBarre at 781-5595 if you have any questions.

5/1/15  
Date

[Signature]  
Name

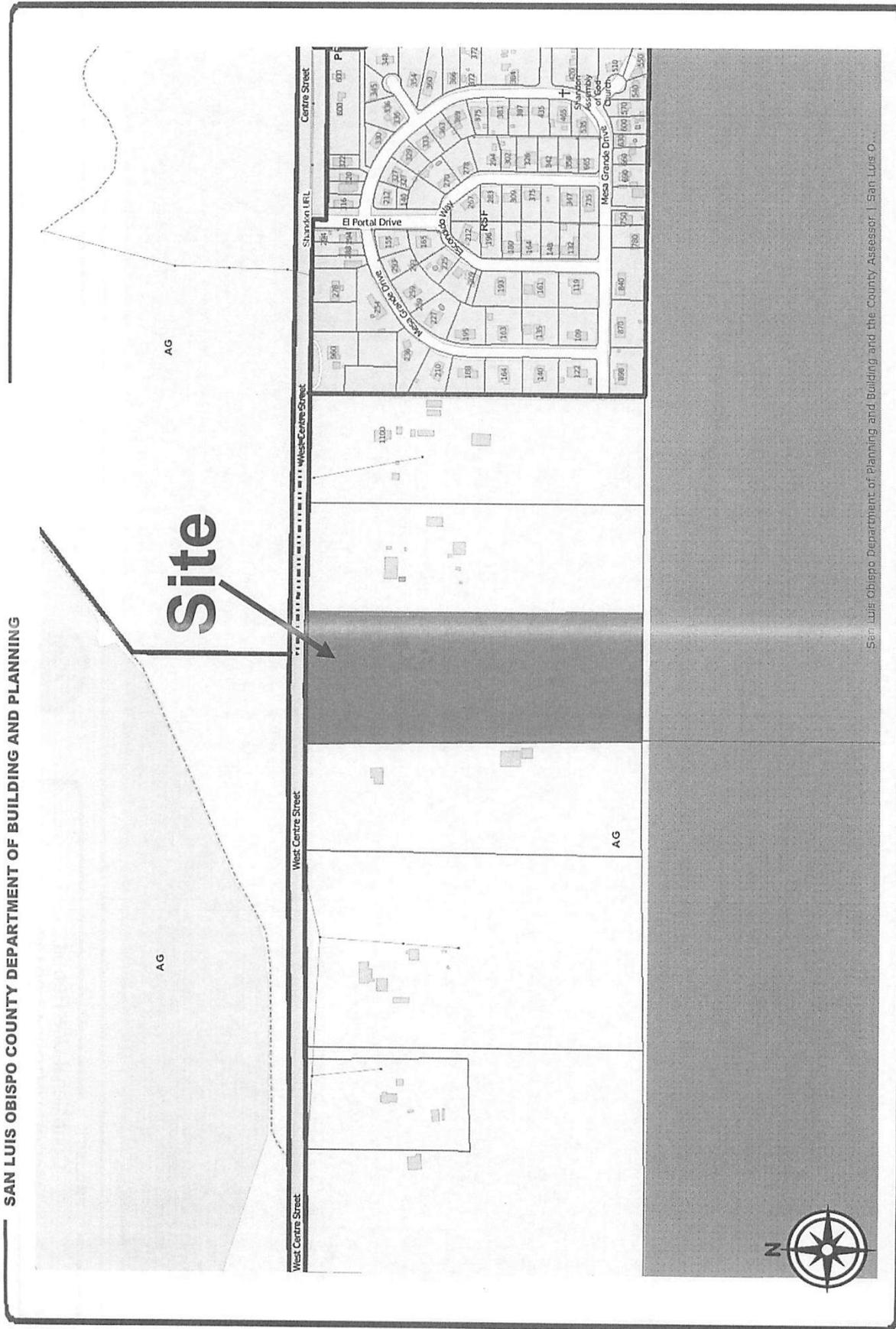
8551  
Phone



**EXHIBIT**  
Vicinity Map



**PROJECT**  
Conditional Use Permit  
WIEBE / DRC2014-00137



San Luis Obispo Department of Planning and Building and the County Assessor | San Luis O...

EXHIBIT

Land Use Category Map



PROJECT

Conditional Use Permit  
WIEBE / DRC2014-00137

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND PLANNING

W Centre Street / Old Hwy 41

Show/URL



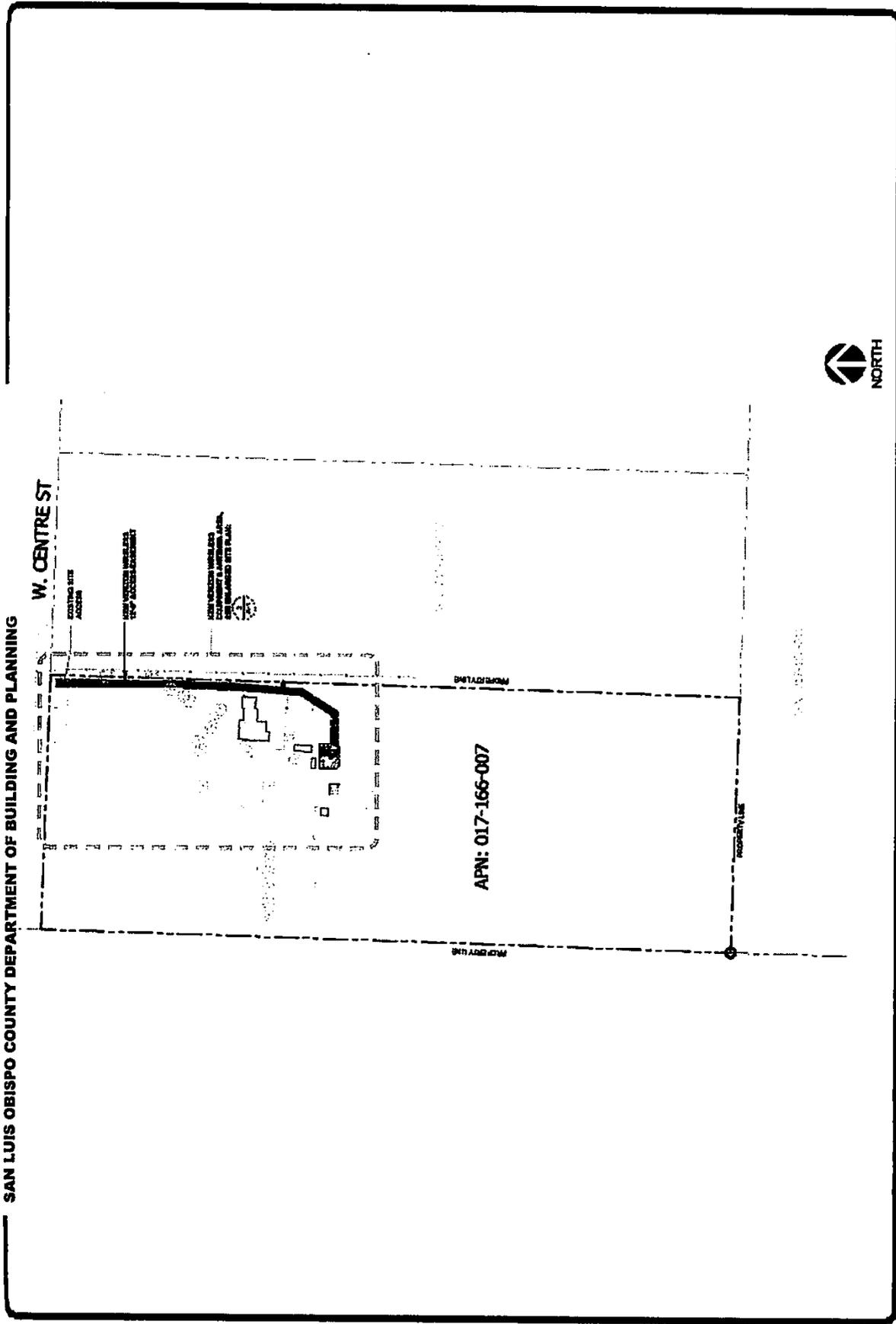
PROJECT

Conditional Use Permit  
WIEBE / DRC2014-00137

EXHIBIT

Aerial Photograph





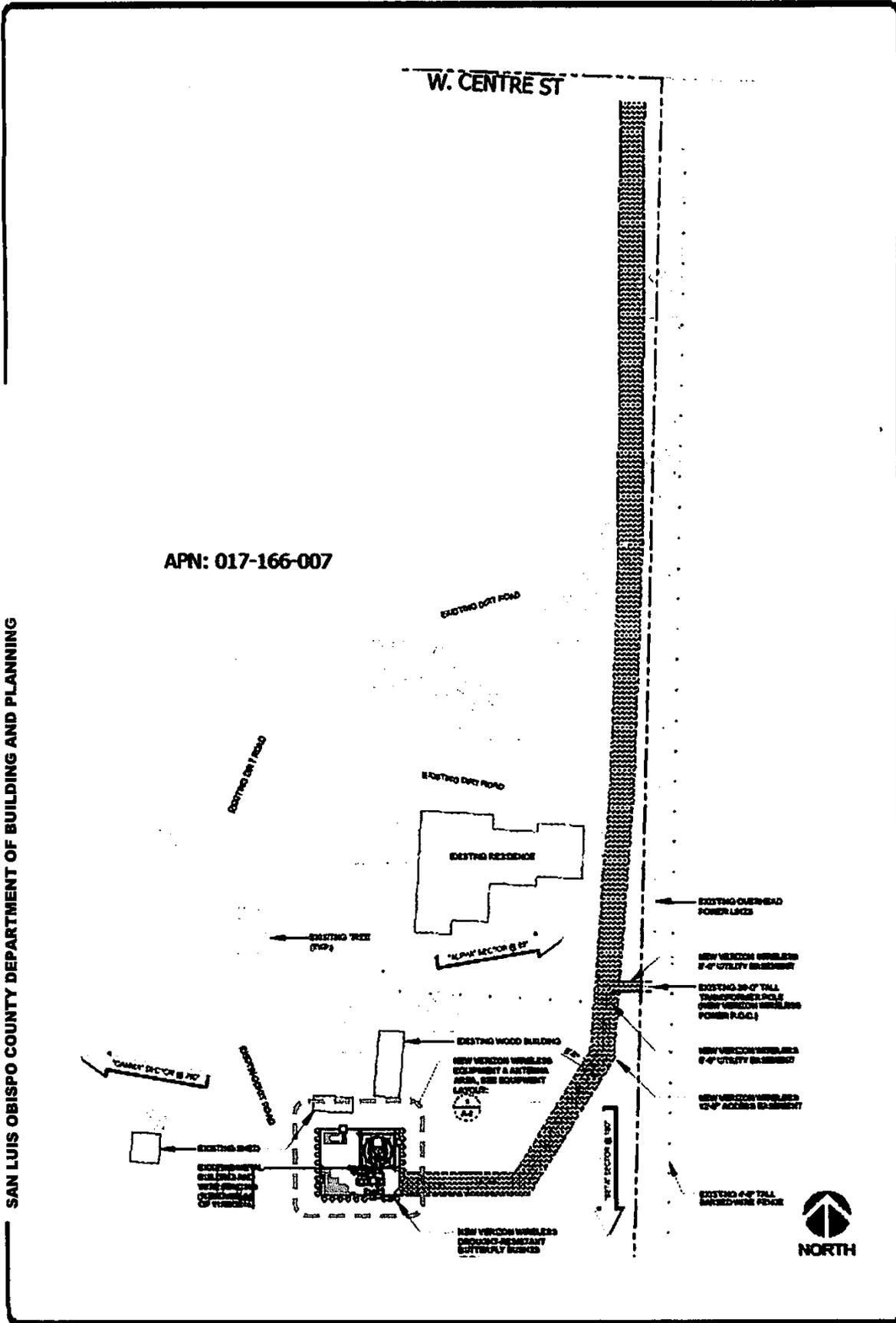
**EXHIBIT**  
Site Plan



**PROJECT**  
Conditional Use Permit  
WIEBE / DRC2014-00137

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND PLANNING

APN: 017-166-007



EXHIBIT

Enlarged Site Plan



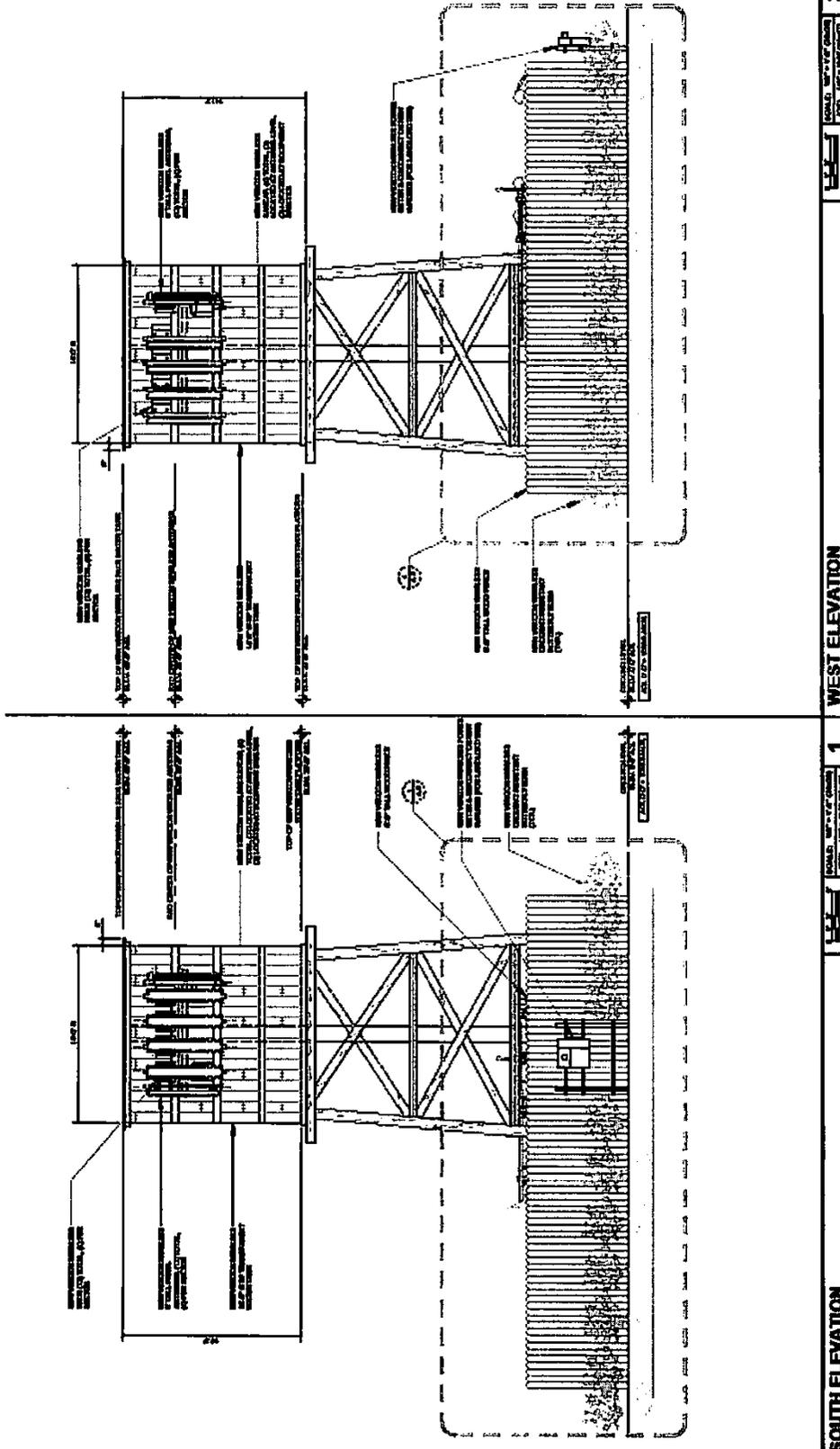
PROJECT

Conditional Use Permit  
WIEBE / DRC2014-00137





SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND PLANNING



EXHIBIT

South and West Elevations



PROJECT  
Conditional Use Permit  
WIEBE / DRC2014-00137



