MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

FILE: S17-0004

PROJECT NAME: AT&T CAF (Sites 1-5)

NAME OF APPLICANT: AT&T Mobility, Epic Wireless

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NOs.: 099-130-05, 092-031-52, 061-720-55, 046-380-61, 093-160-08

SECTION: 20 **T:** 10N **R:** 11E, **S:** 36 **T:** 9N **R:** 10E, **S:** 31 **T:** 13N **R:** 10E, **S:** 23 **T:** 9N **R:** 11E, **S:** 7 **T:** 9N **R:** 12E

LOCATION: Throughout northern El Dorado County in the vicinity of the Greenwood, Somerset, Nashville, Grey's Corner and Pleasant Valley areas (Attachment 1).

☐ **GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT: FROM: TO:**

☐ **REZONING: FROM: TO:**

☐ **TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP** ☐
SUBDIVISION (NAME):

☒ **SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW:** Construction and operation of five telecommunication towers.

☐ **OTHER:**

REASONS THE PROJECT WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

☐ **NO SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS WERE IDENTIFIED DURING THE INITIAL STUDY.**

☒ **MITIGATION HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED WHICH WOULD REDUCE POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS.**

☐ **OTHER:**

In accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), State Guidelines, and El Dorado County Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA, the County Environmental Agent analyzed the project and determined that the project will not have a significant impact on the environment. Based on this finding, the Planning Department hereby prepares this MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION. A period of thirty (30) days from the date of filing this mitigated negative declaration will be provided to enable public review of the project specifications and this document prior to action on the project by COUNTY OF EL DORADO. A copy of the project specifications is on file at the County of El Dorado Planning Services, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA 95667.

This Mitigated Negative Declaration was adopted by the Planning Commission on December 14, 2017.

_____

Executive Secretary

Exhibit J

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT
EL DORADO COUNTY

INITIAL STUDY AND PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT [S17-0004]

Site 3 Buffalo Hill
(Epic Wireless Group, LLC, c/o Jared Kearsley)

EL DORADO COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT
INITIAL STUDY & PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT [S17-0004]
(Epic Wireless Group, LLC, c/o Jared Kearsley)

1.0 PROJECT INFORMATION

A. **Applicant:** Epic Wireless Group, LLC, c/o Jared Kearsley

B. **Owner:** Georgetown Fire District

C. **Staff Contact:** Evan Mattes

D. **Project Name:** Conditional Use Permit **S17-0004** for Site 3Buffalo Hill

E. **Project Location:** 2065 Sliger Mine Road, Greenwood, CA 95635 (1.25 miles south of the American River, just behind the Georgetown Fire Station 64)

F. **Type of Application**: Conditional Use Permit

G. **Assessor's Parcel Number**: 061-720-55

H. **Parcel Size**: 1.39 acres

I. **Lease area size:** Approximately 1,050 square feet (SF). A 15-foot wide access between the wireless communications facility lease area to Sliger Mine Road.

J. **Zoning:** R2A (Two-Acre Residential)

K. **General Plan Designation**: MDR (Medium Density Residential)

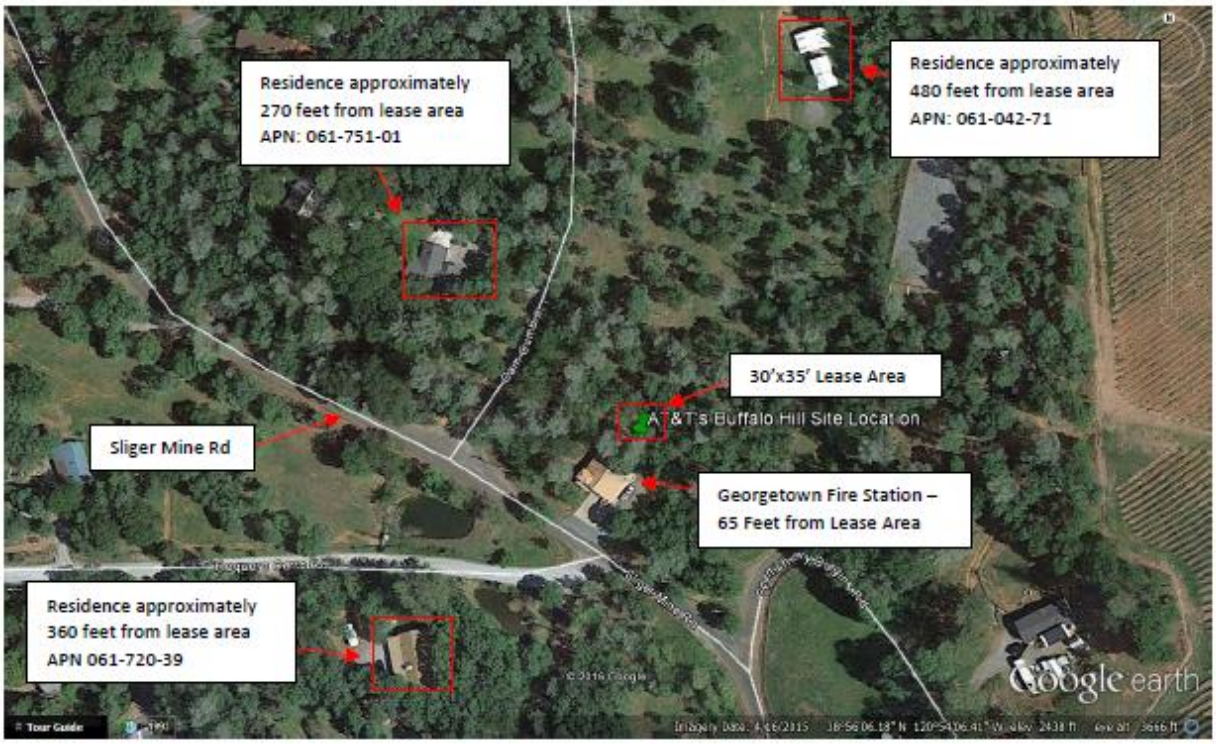
L. **Environmental Setting:** The lease site is approximately 1.25 miles south of the American River, and the area consists of large oak trees, pine trees, and rolling hills with rocky terrain. The site is just behind the Georgetown Fire Station 64 on that property, which has an associated parking lot. The site location's elevation is approximately 2411.8 feet. All equipment is proposed to be located within a 1,050-square foot enclosed lease area. A 15-foot wide access drive between the wireless communications facility lease area to Sliger Mine Road provides access.

The project parcel is located 1.25 miles south of the American River. The Study Area is located in the Todd Creek Watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC 12-180201280504). Water drains

overland to a small ephemeral drainage that flows offsite to the southwest along Sliger Mine Road. From the site, water drains to Greenwood Creek approximately 1.15 miles to the south, which eventually flows to the Middle Fork of the American River. A constructed roadside ditch is present along Sliger Mine Road, but does not exhibit wetland characteristics or an ordinary high water mark, so it is not considered to be a jurisdictional aquatic feature. The project site has an approximate elevation of 2,400 feet above mean sea level and has a gentle slope from north to south. The project parcel and proposed lease area is identified as flood zone "X (Unshaded)." The parcel is not within an Airport Compatibility Zone. The site is not located within an earthquake fault zone.

M. **Surrounding Land Uses**:

There are three rural residences within 500 feet of the facility. The Facility is approximately 480 feet south-west of a residence, approximately 270 feet south-east of another residence, approximately 360 feet north-east of another residence, and approximately 64.5 feet north of the Georgetown Fire House.



N. **Project Description:** The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit to construct an unmanned wireless telecommunication facility that consisting of a 30' x 35', 1,050 square foot enclosed compound (lease area). The compound will include a 160 foot Stealth Monopine tower, one equipment shelter, one 35kw standby propane generator, and one 500 gallon propane tank. The proposed lease area is centrally located on the property, and the site will not interfere with the existing use of the property. The unmanned facility will provide wireless high speed internet and enhanced wireless network coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Maintenance workers will visit the site approximately once a month. A

15-foot wide access route will be created directly from Sliger Mine Rd. There will be minimal noise from the standby generator, turning on once a week for 15 minutes for maintenance purposes and during emergency power outages.

AT&T is participating in a Federal Government funded project called Connect America Fund (CAF) – which is to provide underserved areas throughout the United States in general and throughout El Dorado County in particular with hi-speed broadband internet. The build-up of hi-speed broadband internet throughout rural/underserved areas will not only drive economic growth in rural America, but will expand the online marketplace nationwide, creating jobs, educational and businesses opportunities across the country. The CAF project is required to provide broadband internet services capable of 10 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload speeds.

AT&T's basis for transmitting and receiving hi-speed broadband internet to residences is executed by providing one site with either a microwave fiber hop or a direct fiber line to the site and transferring the high speeds of fiber to each Living Unit (LU) via wireless signals. Each LU being provided with the service will have a small square antenna located in a vantage point on the property where it has a direct line of site to the tower. The square antenna will send and receive wireless broadband internet providing the LU with a minimum of 10/1 Mbps download and upload speeds, respectively.

AT&T's secondary objective is to provide and enhance AT&T's Wireless Telecommunications services (cellular services) to underserved areas.

AT&T's objective for the Buffalo Hill site is to provide wireless hi-speed broadband internet to a minimum of 164 LU's and cellular services to the nearby residences. This site is to provide hi-speed internet and enhanced cellular coverage and capacity to the Greenwood community, just south east of the search ring which is a relatively dense, underserved area.

Co-Location

The tower will be built to allow for colocation opportunities. However, there are no existing, potential co-location opportunities in the near vicinity of the provided search ring. The targeted area is a relatively low populated area, therefore, typical cellular services are less prone to be present.

Site Selection Process

The selection of a location for a wireless telecommunication facility that is needed to improve service and provide reliable coverage is dependent upon many factors, such as: topography, zoning regulations, existing structures, collocation opportunities, available utilities, access, and the existence of a willing landlord. Wireless communication utilizes line-of-sight technology that requires facilities to be in relative close proximity to the wireless handsets to be served. Each proposed site is unique and must be investigated and evaluated on its own terms.

After establishing the need for the proposed facility, AT&T set out to identify the least intrusive means of achieving the necessary service objective. Upon review of the region AT&T found no existing wireless facility locations that would provide collocation within the search ring. The

majority of the search ring region is rural residential, so a new build tower becomes essential. Two alternative sites were considered, and neither is preferred because they would likely reach fewer residents.

RF Emissions

A EMF/RF Report (Electromagnetic Fields/Radio Frequency) for the proposed wireless facility was prepared and submitted to the El Dorado County Planning Services. It demonstrates compliance with the latest FCC Wireless Facility Standards for emissions and exposure levels.

Construction Schedule

The construction of the facility will be in compliance with all local rules and regulations, and will be limited to 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The crew size will range from two to ten individuals. The construction phase of the project is anticipated to last approximately two months and will not exceed acceptable construction noise levels.

Lighting

The only lighting on the facility will be located by the entry door to the pre-fabricated shelter. The light will be shielded, down-tilted, and include a motion sensor.

Compliance with FCC standards

The proposed project will not interfere with any TV, radio, telephone, satellite, or other signals. Any interference would be against federal law and a violation of AT&T Wireless's FCC license.

O. **Public Agency Approvals:** El Dorado County Community Development Services**,** El Dorado County Building Services, El Dorado County Fire District.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

	Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry Resources		Air Quality
X	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Geology / Soils
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards & Hazardous Materials		Hydrology / Water Quality
	Land Use / Planning		Mineral Resources		Noise
	Population / Housing		Public Services		Recreation
	Transportation/Traffic		Tribal Cultural Resources		Utilities / Service Systems

DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

☒ I find that 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.

☐ I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.

☐ I find that 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 in attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that 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.

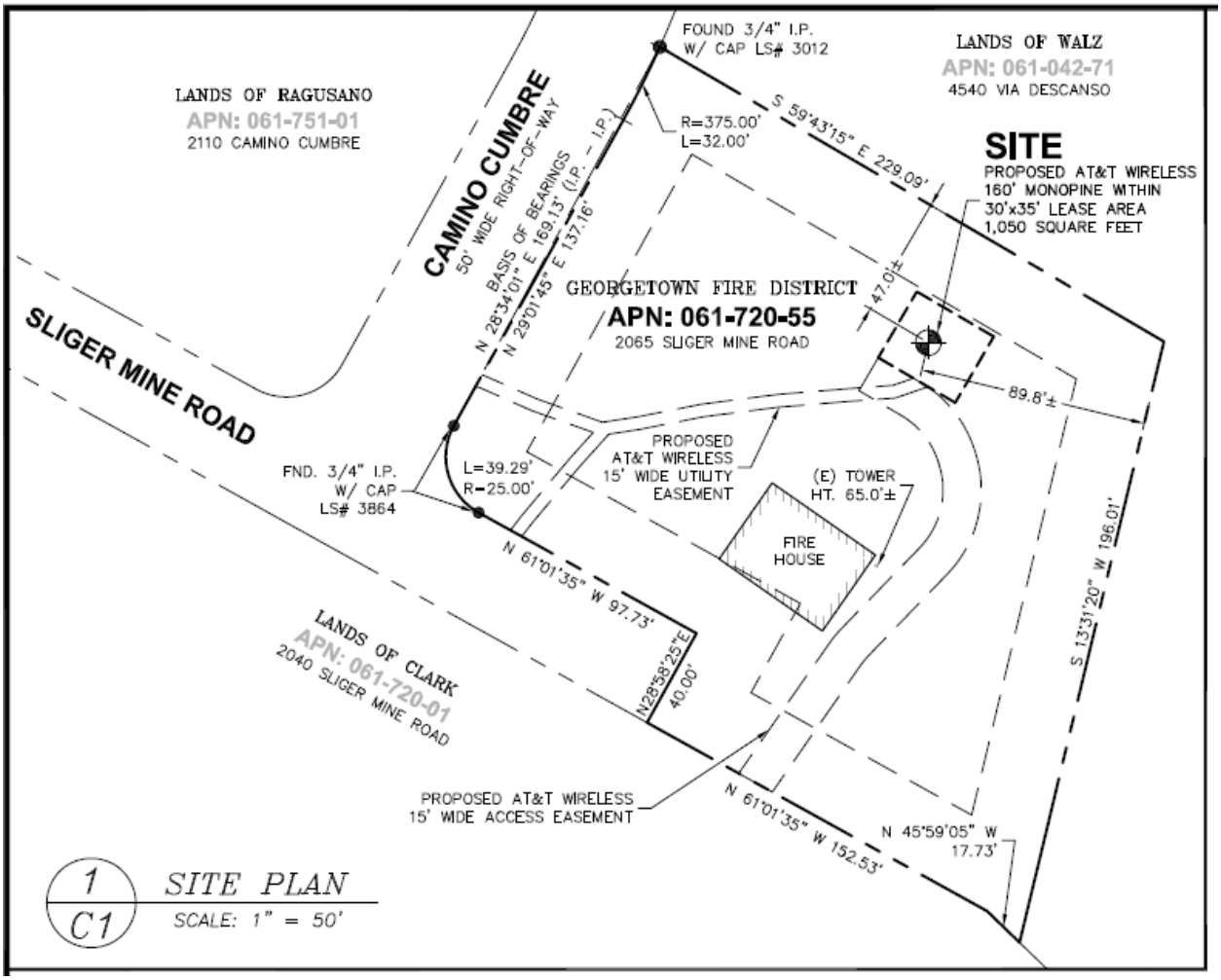
Signature: Evan Mattes Date: 10-31-2017

Printed Name: Evan Mattes, Assistant Planner For: El Dorado County

Signature: Roger Trout Date: 11-1-17

Printed Name: Roger Trout, Planning Director For: El Dorado County

VICINITY MAP


FOUND 3/4" I.P.
W/ CAP LS# 3012
LANDS OF WALZ
APN: 061-042-71
4540 VIA DESCANSO
LANDS OF RAGUSANO
APN: 061-751-01
2110 CAMINO CUMBRE
CAMINO CUMBRE
50' WIDE RIGHT-OF-WAY
R=375.00'
L=32.00'
S 59°43'15" E 229.09'
SITE
PROPOSED AT&T WIRELESS
160' MONOPINE WITHIN
30'x35' LEASE AREA
1,050 SQUARE FEET
BASIS OF BEARINGS
(I.P. - I.P.)
N 28°34'01" E 169.13'
N 29°01'45" E 137.16'
GEORGETOWN FIRE DISTRICT
APN: 061-720-55
2065 SLIGER MINE ROAD
47.0'±
89.8'±
SLIGER MINE ROAD
PROPOSED
AT&T WIRELESS
15' WIDE UTILITY
EASEMENT
(E) TOWER
HT. 65.0'±
FND. 3/4" I.P.
W/ CAP
LS# 3864
L=39.29'
R=25.00'
FIRE
HOUSE
N 61°01'35" W 97.73'
S 13°31'20" W 196.01'
LANDS OF CLARK
APN: 061-720-01
2040 SLIGER MINE ROAD
N28°58'25"E
40.00'
PROPOSED AT&T WIRELESS
15' WIDE ACCESS EASEMENT
N 61°01'35" W 152.53'
N 45°59'05" W
17.73'
1
C1
SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 50'

2.0 POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS CHECKLIST SETTING

A. Environmental Factors Potentially Affected:

The environmental factors checked below could be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

[ ] 4.1 Aesthetics	[ ] 4.2 Agriculture Resources	[ ] 4.3 Air Quality
[X] 4.4 Biological Resources	[ ] 4.5 Cultural Resources	[ ] 4.6 Geologic Processes
[ ] 4.7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions	[ ] 4.8 Hazards/Hazardous Material	[ ] 4.9 Hydrology/Water Quality
[ ] 4.10 Land Use	[ ] 4.11 Mineral Resources	[ ] 4.12 Noise
[ ] 4.13 Housing	[ ] 4.14 Public Services	[ ] 4.15 Recreation
[ ] 4.16 Transportation/Traffic	[ ] 4.17 Tribal Cultural Resources	[ ] 4.18 Utilities/Service Systems
[X] 4.19 Mandatory Findings of Significance		

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

3.1 AESTHETIC/VISUAL RESOURCES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

views in the area?					

Setting:

The project site area is characterized as primarily rural residential. The 1.39-acre project parcel is developed with a fire station and associated parking lot. The project site contains several oak trees. The project site has an approximate elevation of 2,400 feet above sea level and has a gentle slope from north to south. The site is not located within, or in the vicinity of, a scenic corridor or highway.

Impact Discussion:

(a) & (b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project parcel is located at 2065 Sliger Mine Road, in Greenwood. The tower will be located in a portion of the parcel that is comprised of oak trees. The project site is not located along a designated state scenic-highway or an identified scenic area.

Due to the existing vegetation and distance between the facility and surrounding residences, the ground equipment will not be visible from properties in the vicinity. The tower itself has been designed as a stealth monopine, and will blend into its surrounding environment.

The nearest off-site residential dwellings from the proposed communication tower are 480 feet north-east, approximately 270 feet north-west, and approximately 360 feet south-west.

The applicant supplied photo simulations of the proposed monopine tower as seen from different locations in the project area. Please see the Project Support Statement submitted for this project.

(c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project site area and immediate vicinity is of gently rolling hills with limited views in all directions. A stealth monopine is designed to resemble a pine tree to blend in better with the surrounding environment. In this case, there are oak trees on the property. The monopine would be similar in size, albeit taller, to the surrounding trees. This vegetation is fairly dense on the project parcel, which will substantially reduce the facility's visibility from public rights of way and surrounding properties. The location proposed will not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the site and is not expected to result in a significant impact to scenic vistas and to the area's visual aesthetics for the purpose of CEQA.

(d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The tower will not be lighted, and the County discourages additional lighting in the area. Further, any future lighting would be subject to section 130.34.020 of the El Dorado County Zoning Code, which requires that all outdoor lighting shall be located, adequately shielded, and directed such that no direct light falls outside the property line, or into the public right-of-way. Proposed lighting for the equipment shed will meet these requirements. With the implementation of outdoor lighting regulations at the time of development, the proposed project would not create new sources of substantial lighting or glare that would generate a significant impact.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.2 AGRICULTURE RESOURCES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

(a) **No Impact.** The project site is zoned R2A. The R2A zone allows wireless communications facilities, with approval of a Conditional Use Permit pursuant to El Dorado County Zoning Code section 130.24.020.

The site is not on "Farmland in El Dorado County" or "Choice Agricultural Land in El Dorado County" per General Plan Figure AF-1 and AF-2. The project site and surrounding area are also

not used or zoned for agriculture. The project would not have impacts of converting prime farmland to a non-agricultural use.

(b) **No Impact.** The project parcel and parcels in the project vicinity are not under a Williamson Act Contract. The project parcel and surrounding area have residential zoning designation.

(c) **No Impact**. The project site is not located in a timber resource zoning category such as Forest Resource (FR), or Timber Production (TPZ). The project site is also not classified as forest land, pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 12220(g). Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with, or cause the rezoning of, a timber resource zoning designation.

(d) **No Impact.** The project site is not considered forest land and therefore, the proposed project would not result in loss or conversion of forest land to a non-forest use.

(e) **No Impact.** The project site is not farmland or considered forest land and therefore, the proposed project would not result in loss or conversion farmland to a non-agricultural use or the loss or conversion of forest land to a non-forest use.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.3 AIR QUALITY:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Setting:

El Dorado County's air pollution management is the responsibility of the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (EDCAQMD), and the project is subject to federal, state, and local regulations. The wider Sacramento Region, including portions of El Dorado County, is currently designated nonattainment for federal 8-hour ozone and PM2.5, while it currently meets the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and lead.

The federal Clean Air Act (CAA) requires plans which identify how nonattainment areas will attain and/or maintain the NAAQS. The CAA requires the US EPA to review each plan and any plan revisions and to approve the plan or plan revisions if consistent with the CAA. Key elements of these plans include emission inventories, emission control strategies and rules, air quality data analyses, modeling, air quality progress and attainment or maintenance demonstrations. The Sacramento Air Quality Management District has a prepared attainment plans, available at: http://www.airquality.org/air-quality-health/air-quality-plans/federal-planning.

The CARB also prepares and submits to the EPA a State Implementation Plan (SIP) explaining how the state will attain compliance with Federal clean air standards. The EDCAQMD rules are federally enforceable as parts of the SIP, and are available at: https://www.arb.ca.gov/drdb/ed/cur.htm.

Impact Discussion:

(a) – (d) Less Than Significant Impact. Construction activities, a source of organic gas emissions, will be limited to the monopine, related ground equipment, utilities and access drive. During construction, various diesel-powered vehicles and equipment would be in use. Construction diesel emissions are temporary, affecting an area for a period of days or perhaps weeks. Additionally, construction-related sources are mobile and transient in nature. Because of its temporary duration and the limited area of disturbance, health risks from construction emissions of diesel particulate would be less-than-significant impact. The project is not expected to create any significant amounts of fugitive dust, oxides of nitrogen, or reactive organic gases emissions.

The applicant, Epic Wireless, is proposing a propane back-up generator as part of the project. The standby generator is for emergency use only, therefore the project would not create on-going emissions. The ongoing project is not expected to generate any significant amounts of fugitive dust because the only soil disturbance would be some very minor excavation for the facility.

Construction dust would affect local air quality at various times during construction of the proposed project. The dry, windy climate of the area during the summer months creates a high potential for dust generation when and if underlying soils are exposed. Clearing, grading and earthmoving activities have a high potential to generate dust whenever soil moisture is low and particularly when the wind is blowing.

The effects of construction activities would be an increase in dustfall, and locally elevated levels of particulates downwind of construction activity. Construction dust has the potential to create a nuisance at nearby properties or at previously completed portions of the proposed project. In addition to nuisance effects, excess dustfall can increase maintenance and cleaning requirements and could adversely affect sensitive electronic devices.

However, due to its limited construction and operational scope, the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan.

Negligible amounts of emissions would be generated by construction equipment during site development activities, because of the limited amount of construction equipment and time needed to install the facility.

Construction activities would be temporary, and compliant with El Dorado Air Quality Management District (AQMD) Rules would also ensure fugitive dust from construction activities remains within the project area or within 50 feet of disturbed areas. Impacts would be less than significant.

(e) Less Than Significant Impact. Potential standby generators are for emergency use only and will not result in objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. Otherwise, the proposed monopine and ground related equipment will not use anything that will generate objectionable odors to the surrounding properties or area.

3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐

b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 or the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means)?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish and wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources such as a tree preservation policy ordinance?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

The 1.39-acre project parcel is developed with a fire house and associated parking lot, and is largely vegetated with oak trees.

Jurisdictional Waters of the United States, including Wetlands

Waters of the United States (U.S.), including wetlands, are broadly defined to include navigable waterways, and tributaries of navigable waterways, and adjacent wetlands. Although definitions vary to some degree, wetlands are generally considered to be areas that are periodically or permanently inundated by surface water or groundwater, supporting vegetation adapted to life in saturated soil. Jurisdictional wetlands are vegetated areas that meet specific vegetation, soil, and hydrologic criteria defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The USACE holds sole authority to determine the jurisdictional status of waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Jurisdictional wetlands and Waters of the U.S. include, but are not limited to, perennial and

intermittent creeks and drainages, lakes, seeps, and springs; emergent marshes; riparian wetlands; and seasonal wetlands. Wetland and waters of the U.S. provide critical habitat components, such as nest sites and reliable source of water for a wide variety of wildlife species.

The general topography of the project site is gently sloping from approximately 2,402 feet above mean sea level (MSL) along the southern boundary to 2,425 feet above MSL along the northern boundary of the area (732 to 740 meters). The proposed cellular tower location is located northeast of the firehouse building within the mixed oak woodland. The area is located in the Todd Creek Watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC 12-180201280504). Water drains overland to a small ephemeral drainage that flows offsite to the southwest along Sliger Mine Road. From the project site, water drains to Greenwood Creek approximately 1.15 miles to the south, which eventually flows to the Middle Fork of the American River. A constructed roadside ditch is present along Sliger Mine Road, but does not exhibit wetland characteristics or an ordinary high water mark, so it is not considered to be a jurisdictional aquatic feature.

Special-Status Species

Many species of plants and animals within the State of California have low populations, limited distributions, or both. Such species may be considered "rare" and are vulnerable to extirpation as the state's human population grows and the habitats these species occupy are converted to agricultural and urban uses. A sizable number of native species and animals have been formally designated as threatened or endangered under State and Federal endangered species legislation. Others have been designated as "Candidates" for such listing; still others have been designated as "Species of Special Concern" by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) has developed its own set of lists of native plants considered rare, threatened or endangered. Collectively, these plants and animals are referred to as "special status species."

Limited, direct and indirect impacts to biological resources may result from the small amount of development enabled by the project, including the loss and/or alteration of existing undeveloped open space that may serve as habitat. California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15065 requires a mandatory finding of significance for projects that have the potential to substantially degrade or reduce the habitat of a threatened or endangered species, and to fully disclose and mitigate impacts to special status resources.

(a) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB Rarefind 5, Government Version, August 2017) was reviewed to determine if any special status animal and plant species or habitats occur on the project site or in the project area.

According to the records search, 31 special-status plant species have the potential to occur on or in the vicinity of the site. Based on field surveys and literature review, there are two species conservatively considered to have a high potential to occur onsite. The first is the Nissenan manzanita – CNPS Rank 1B. There is only one documented CNDDB record for this species within 5 miles of the site. On May 8, 2017, two Foothill Associates biologists conducted a focused botanical survey and positively identified all manzanita plants on the site. None were the Nissenan manzanita. It is therefore concluded that this species is not present on site. The Red

Hills soaproot – CNPS Rank 1B was also identified as a species with high potential to occur, and has two documented occurrences within 5 miles of the site. Special-status plant species identified with a low potential to occur are the Brandgee's clarkia (CNPS Rank 4.2), Butte County fritillary (CNPS Rank 3.2), Dubious pea (CNPS Rank 3), and Humboldt lily (CNPS Rank 4.2). In a May 8, 2017 survey conducted during the evident and identifiable blooming period for the above five species, none of the species was observed. It is therefore concluded that these species are not present on site. None of the plant species identified are federally or state listed endangered, threatened or species of concern. Because these species are not present on site, no mitigation is required.

According to the records search, 48 special-status animal species have the potential to occur onsite or in the vicinity. Based on field surveys and literature review, however, only six species were determined to have the potential to occur on the site, consisting of five protected migratory bird species and one invertebrate species. Species that are known to be present or that are considered to have a high potential to occur onsite include Nuttall's woodpecker (Picoides nuttallii) and oak titmouse (Baeolophus inornatus). Species that are considered to have a low potential onsite include Lewis' woodpecker (Melanerpes lewis), olive-sided flycatcher (Contopus cooperi), Williamson's sapsucker (Sphyrapicus thyroideus), silver-haired bat (Lasionycteris noctivagans), Townsend's big-eared bat (Corynorhinus townsendii), and Yuma myotis (Myotis yumanensis), and western bumble bee (Bombus occidentalis).

The nests of raptors and most other birds are protected under the MBTA. Raptors are also protected by Section 3503.5 of the California Fish and Game Code, which makes it illegal to destroy any active raptor nest. Additionally, the USFWS and CDFW identified a number of avian species of conservation concern that do not have specific statutory protection. Avian species forage and nest in a variety of habitats throughout El Dorado County. The mixed oak woodland on and surrounding the Study Area may provide nesting and foraging habitat for raptors and other protected birds, including: Lewis' woodpecker, Nuttall's woodpecker, oak titmouse, olive-sided flycatcher, and Williamson's sapsucker. An active oak titmouse nest was observed in an on-site tree. No evidence of bat roosts, such as guano, were observed during the site survey, and there are no recorded observations of any of these species within 5 miles of the site. However, because the oak trees and structures provide potential roosting habitat, this species in considered to have a low potential for occurrence on site. The mixed oak woodland within the site provides suitable habitat for the Western Bumble Bee, but there are no recorded observations of any within 5 miles of the site. Therefore, this species has a low potential to occur.

Mitigation Measure #2, below, requires pre-construction surveys and the implementation of avoidance measures in the event these wildlife species are detected. With this mitigation incorporated, impacts would be less than significant.

(b) and (c) No impact. The project site is located in a rural residential area and does not have any, streams, creeks or riparian habitat on site. The American River is approximately 1.25 miles away, but the proposed project will not affect the river. The project site is located in an area where no federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act exists, or within proximity to the project site. A small ephemeral drainage crosses the eastern portion of the area and flows to the southwest. This is expected to be considered a water of the U.S. The

drainage will not be impacted by the proposed project, so no regulatory permits are required, and there is no impact.

(d) Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. The proposed ground equipment of the communication facility and the monopine will be located within a 1,050 square foot fenced area and include a 15-foot access drive off of Sliger Mine Road. The fenced area will not substantially interfere with native wildlife migration in the area. The project site area is characterized as primarily rural residential, with disturbed and vegetated areas. It is not considered a wildlife migration corridor, and therefore is not expected to result in impacts to wildlife migration corridors. While the site is located within an Important Biological Corridor identified by the El Dorado County General Plan, it will not create a barrier to wildlife movement, since the only fences constructed will be around the small lease area adjacent to an existing building, fire station. The proposed project will not cause significant reduction in the ecological functions of the site because the habitat in the area are already disturbed by human activities.

The construction of new communication towers creates a potentially significant impact on migratory birds covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 U.S.C. 703-712) and related Code of Federal Regulations designed to implement the MBTA, the Endangered Species Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Act. Interim guidelines regarding siting communications towers were developed by Fish and Wildlife Service personnel from research conducted in several eastern, midwestern, and southern states, and have been refined through Regional review. They are based on the best information available at this time, and are the most prudent and effective measures for avoiding bird strikes at monopoles. Some of the guidelines are:

- New facilities should be collocated on existing towers or other existing structures.
- Towers should be less than 200 feet above ground level
- Towers should be freestanding (i.e., no guy wires)
- Towers and attendant facilities should be sited, designed and constructed so as to avoid or minimize habitat loss within and adjacent to the monopole "footprint".
- New towers should be designed structurally and electrically to accommodate the applicant/licensee's antennas and antennas for at least two additional users (minimum of three users for each monopole structure.
- Security lighting for on-ground facilities and equipment should be down-shielded to keep light within the boundaries of the site.
- Monopoles no longer in use or determined to be obsolete should be removed within 12 months of cessation of use.

The project is consistent with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service interim guidelines above. The footprint of the proposed lease area would not encroach onto any environmentally sensitive habitat.

Although the proposed project will be in a relatively small area of the project site, there is the potential for impact to the nesting of migratory and raptors in the project area. Mitigation Measure 3 is therefore included to avoid potential impacts.

(e) Less Than Significant Impact. A total of 1.08 acres of mixed-oak woodland habitat was mapped in the Study Area and approximately 0.59 acres of oak canopy is present, totaling 42 percent of the Study Area. Under General Plan Policy 7.4.4.4, 80% of the existing canopy must be retained. A total of 65 oak trees were surveyed in the Study Area consisting of 56 blue oaks and 9 black oaks. A total of 19 trees totaling 0.07 acres of oak canopy (12%) will be removed by the project. Additionally, 9 trees will be impacted by ground disturbing work within the canopy but are not expected to require removal. This impact assessment assumes that underground electrical and telecommunications lines will be installed by boring or lateral drilling and that bore pits can be located outside of existing tree canopy. If this is not possible, additional tree impacts and removals may be required. The project as proposed will retain 88% of the existing oak canopy and therefore complies with Interim Oak Guidelines. Oak tree removal, revegetation, and mitigation will be implemented in accordance with the regulations in force at the time, and with the requirements in Mitigation Measure 2, below. There will therefore be a less than significant impact.

(f) No Impact. This site is not located within an approved habitat conservation plan area.

Mitigation Measure #1:

1. Special-Status Bat Species:
   - A qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey within 14 days prior to clearing or grading operations and removal of trees. If no bats are observed, a letter report shall be prepared to document the survey, and no additional measures are recommended. If construction does not commence within 14 days of the pre-construction survey, or halts for more than 14 days, an additional survey is required prior to starting work.

   - If special-status bat species are present and roosting on or within 100 feet of the Study Area, then the biologist shall establish an appropriate buffer around the roost site. At minimum, no trees shall be removed until the biologist has determined that the bat is no longer roosting in the tree. Additional mitigation measures for bat species, such as installation of bat boxes or alternate roost structures, would be recommended only if special-status bat species are found to be roosting within the project area.

   - Pre-construction worker awareness training shall be conducted alerting workers to the presence of and protections for various bat species.

Mitigation Measure #2:

All vegetation clearing including removal of trees and shrubs shall be completed between September 1 and February 14, if feasible. If vegetation removal and grading activities begin during the nesting season (February 15 to August 31), a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey of the project footprint for active nests. Additionally, the surrounding 500 feet shall be surveyed for active raptor nests where accessible. The pre-construction survey shall

be conducted within 14 days prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities. If the pre-construction survey shows that there is no evidence of active nests, a letter report shall be prepared to document the survey. If construction does not commence within 14 days of the pre-construction survey, or halts for more than 14 days, an additional survey is required prior to starting work.

If nests are found and considered to be active, the project biologist shall establish buffer zones to prohibit construction activities and minimize nest disturbance until the young have successfully fledged. Buffer width will depend on the species in question, surrounding existing disturbances, and specific site characteristics, but may range from 20 feet for some songbirds to up to 500 feet for raptors. If active nests are found within any trees slated for removal, then an appropriate buffer shall be established around the trees and the trees shall not be removed until a biologist determines that the nestlings have successfully fledged or until the nest is no longer active. In addition, a pre-construction worker awareness training shall be conducted alerting workers to the presence of and protections for the active avian nests. If construction activities are proposed to begin during the non-breeding season (September 1 through January 31), a survey is not required and no further studies are necessary.

Mitigation Measure #3

Oak Woodland

- The applicant is required to comply with the Interim Interpretive Guidelines for El Dorado County General Plan Policy 7.4.4.4, which are oak canopy retention standards:[1] The applicable requirement is to retain at least 80% of the existing canopy cover, and the project adheres to the tree canopy retention standards by retaining 88% percent of the existing canopy cover.

- The Replacement Provisions of Policy 7.4.4.4 also require the project to replace woodland habitat removed at 1:1 ratio, thus the project shall replace 0.07 acres of woodland to be planted on-site or off-site, at a ratio of 200 saplings or one gallon trees per acre (14 trees or saplings), to the satisfaction of the Development Services Director. Replacement (and execution of related maintenance and monitoring agreements) shall be completed to the County's satisfaction prior to final grading or building inspection of the project.

    - Off-Site Replacement of Canopy Area. The applicant may be permitted to procure an off-site planting area for the replacement trees and/or planting of acorns, preferably in close proximity and/or in connection with any oak woodland contiguous to the project site or within or adjacent to an Important Biological Corridor or Ecological Preserve as designated in the General Plan, to implement the replacement planting. The size of the off-site replacement planting area shall

[1] The guidelines are available at: https://www.edcgov.us/government/planning/oakwoodlands/documents/OakGuidelinesRevised.pdf. See also the Draft Oak Resources Management Plan being considered by the Board of Supervisors available at: https://www.edcgov.us/Government/longrangeplanning/environmental/Pages/biopolicyupdate.aspx. The El Dorado Board of Supervisors is expected to consider the adoption of this updated policy in the last quarter of 2017.

equal at a minimum the total area of oak canopy cover proposed to be removed. Oaks planted shall have characteristics of the receiver site. Replacement shall occur at a 1:1 ratio as defined in these Guidelines or as otherwise specified by a qualified professional approved by the County. A Conservation Easement to the satisfaction of County Counsel and the Director shall be required to ensure the long-term maintenance and preservation of any on or off-site replacement trees and/or acorns planted. The Conservation Easement shall provide for the preservation of the designated area in perpetuity and shall include such terms, conditions, and financial endowments for monitoring and management deemed necessary by the County to ensure the long-term preservation of the oak woodland within the easement area. The Conservation Easement shall be in favor of the County or a County approved conservation organization. Maintenance and monitoring shall be required for a minimum of 10 years (15 years for acorns) after planting. Any trees that do not survive during this period of time shall be replaced by the property owner; or

- Off-Site Conservation Easement to Protect Existing Oak Woodland In lieu of Replacement. The applicant may obtain a Conservation Easement on property off-site with healthy oak woodland canopy area equivalent to 100 percent of the oak canopy area proposed to be removed. The conservation easement site should either be in close proximity and/or in connection with any oak woodland contiguous to the project site or within or adjacent to an Important Biological Corridor or Ecological Preserve as designated in the General Plan. The Conservation Easement shall provide for the preservation of the designated area in perpetuity and shall include such terms, conditions, and financial endowments for monitoring and management deemed necessary by the County to ensure the long-term preservation of the oak woodland within the easement area. The Conservation Easement shall be in favor of the County or a County approved conservation organization.

3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

geologic feature?					
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Impact Discussion:

(a) – (d) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. Cultural resources include prehistoric and historic period archaeological sites; historical features, such as rock walls, water ditches and flumes, and cemeteries; and architectural features. Cultural resources consist of any human-made site, object (i.e., artifact), or feature that defines and illuminates our past. A complete records search of the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) maps for cultural resource site records and survey reports in El Dorado County within a ¼ mile radius of the proposed project area revealed that the proposed area contains zero (0) prehistoric-period resource(s) and zero (0) historic-period cultural resource(s).

3.6 GEOLOGIC PROCESSES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
1. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
2. Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
3. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
4. Landslides?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1- B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

property?					
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal system where sewers are not available for the disposal or wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a.1) - a.4) Less Than Significant Impact. No seismic impacts, including seismic-related ground failure impacts are anticipated since no rupture of a known earthquake fault exists in the project area. Further, the proposed project would be consistent with El Dorado County General Plan Objective 6.3.2, to address county-wide seismic hazards.

Like most of north central California, the site can be expected to be subjected to strong seismic ground shaking at some future time. Accordingly, the proposed wireless communications facility extension would be designed and installed in accordance with building code requirements. Because the project appears to be located such that the probability of significant ground shaking is low, and because any structures that are built during the course of the project will be designed and installed in accordance with building code standards for the appropriate Seismic Hazard Zone, potential geologic impacts would be less than significant. Due to the relatively level proposed project area, minimum disturbance of the project and existing vegetation on the site, the potential for a land slide is unlikely.

(b) – (d) Less Than Significant Impact. The project does not involve large amounts of soil disturbance that could result in significant soil erosion impacts. The construction activities would result in a land disturbance of less than one acre and therefore are not expected to require a Storm water Pollution Prevention Permit (SWPPP) from State Water Resources Control Board prior to construction. Due to the relatively small amount of soils disturbance required for construction, erosion potential will be minimal. Due to the relatively small amount of soils disturbance required for construction, the potential for unstable soils, liquefaction, and expansion is minimal. Further, the project would be required to comply with applicable portions of the building code, which would offset potential impacts resulting from expansive soils.

(e) No Impact. The project does not require the use of septic systems.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.7 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?					

Impact Discussion:

Global climate change is the observed increase in the average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans along with other significant changes in climate (such as precipitation or wind) that last for an extended period of time. The term "global climate change" is often used interchangeably with the term "global warming," but "global climate change" is preferred to "global warming" because it helps convey that there are other changes in addition to rising temperatures. Global surface temperatures have risen by 0.74°C ± 0.18°C over the last 100 years (1906 to 2005). The rate of warming over the last 50 years is almost double that over the last 100 years.[2] The prevailing scientific opinion on climate change is that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributable to human activities. The increased amounts of carbon dioxide (CO2) and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) are the primary causes of the human-induced component of warming. GHGs are released by the burning of fossil fuels, land clearing, agriculture, and other activities, and lead to an increase in the greenhouse effect.[3]

GHGs are present in the atmosphere naturally, are released by natural sources, or are formed from secondary reactions taking place in the atmosphere. The following are the gases that are widely seen as the principal contributors to human-induced global climate change:[43]

- Carbon dioxide (CO_2)
- Methane (CH_4)
- Nitrous oxide (N_2O)
- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
- Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
- Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF_6)

Over the last 200 years, human activities have caused substantial quantities of GHGs to be released into the atmosphere. These extra emissions are increasing GHG concentrations in the atmosphere and enhancing the natural greenhouse effect, which is believed to be causing global warming, while

[1] Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), 2007. *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the IPCC*.

[2] The temperature on Earth is regulated by a system commonly known as the "greenhouse effect." Just as the glass in a greenhouse allows heat from sunlight in and reduces the amount of heat that escapes, greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide in the atmosphere keep the Earth at a relatively even temperature. Without the greenhouse effect, the Earth would be a frozen globe; thus, although an excess of greenhouse gas results in global warming, the *naturally occurring* greenhouse effect is necessary to keep our planet at a comfortable temperature.

The greenhouse gases listed are consistent with the definition in Assembly Bill (AB) 32 (Government Code §38505).

manmade GHGs include naturally-occurring GHGs such as CO_2, methane, and N_2O, some gases, such as HFCs, PFCs, and SF_6 are completely new to the atmosphere.

Section 15064.4 of the CEQA Guidelines sets forth guidance for determining the significance of Impacts from Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The guidelines allow impacts from a particular project to be described quantitatively or qualitatively and direct that impacts should be evaluated in consideration of existing environmental setting, applicable thresholds of significance, and compliance with regulations and requirements adopted to implement the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions.

Section 15064 (h)(3)of the CEQA Guidelines specifies that a project's contribution to a cumulative effect may be found 'not cumulatively considerable' if the project will comply with the requirements in a previously approved plan or mitigation program, including plans or regulations for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. El Dorado County has not adopted a plan or mitigation program for the reduction of greenhouse gases as of the publication of this study. Likewise, it has not adopted thresholds of significance for evaluating greenhouse gas emissions. However, the General Plan provides applicable county-wide goals and policies aimed at improving energy efficiency, improving transportation efficiency, and reducing air emissions, which could reduce or sequester GHGs, including Goal TC-1, Policies TC-1p and TC-1q, Goal 5.6, Objective 5.6.2, and Policies 5.6.2.1 and 5.6.2.2.

(a) **Less Than Significant.** The proposed project is a communication tower that would not significantly contribute to the existing greenhouse gas inventory for El Dorado County. Short term construction GHG emissions will occur during installation of the tower and ground equipment. Standby generators will only be used during power outages and for short duration during testing. Vehicle trips will be associated with construction and routine maintenance. GHG emissions generated by the development and vehicle trips would be of a limited scope and duration, but may be cumulatively considerable. With incorporation of the other construction practices consistent with AQMD Rules, impacts will be less than significant.

(b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The El Dorado County General Plan establishes numerous policies relative to greenhouse gases. The everyday operation of the proposed communication facility would not generate greenhouse gas emissions. Due to the short term construction, limited vehicle trips to the site and monthly testing of the standby generators, the anticipated increase in emissions would not conflict with the applicable with policies adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

3.8 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environmental through the routine transport use, or disposal of hazardous	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
materials?					
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one- quarter mile of an existing or proposed schools?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites complied pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
g. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
h. Expose people or structures to a significant risk or loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) Less Than Significant Impact. The project is proposed to utilize a standby propane generator for back-up power, and would include a separate propane tank. The storage of propane is required only for emergency purposes during a power outage and will not be routinely used or transported. The amount of propane stored would be similar to that for a residential use. Storage and handling of propane, or any other chemicals or hazardous materials, would be subject to a Hazardous Materials Business Plan, administered by the El Dorado County Public Health Department at the time of development of the project. The plan would include an inventory of hazardous materials and chemicals handled or stored on the site, an emergency response plan, and a training program in safety procedures.

Construction activities associated with the development of the proposed project would involve the use of potentially hazardous materials, including vehicle fuels, oils, and transmission fluids. However, all potentially hazardous materials would be contained, stored, and used in accordance with manufacturers' instructions and handled in compliance with applicable standards and regulations. In the event of an accidental release, construction personal who are experienced in containing accidental releases of hazardous materials will likely be present to contain and treat affected areas in the event a spill occurs. If a larger spill were to occur, construction personal would generally be on-hand to contact the appropriate agencies. Hazardous materials used during construction would ultimately disposed of by a licensed hazardous waste transporter at an authorized and licensed disposal facility or recycling facility.

Radiofrequency (RF) Emissions

Radiofrequency (RF) radiation emanates from antenna on cellular towers and is generated by the movement of electrical charges in the antenna. The energy levels it generates are not great enough to ionize, or break down, atoms and molecules, so it is known as "non-ionizing" radiation.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is the government agency responsible for the authorization and licensing of facilities such as cellular towers that generate RF radiation. For guidance in health and safety issues related to RF radiation, the FCC relies on other agencies and organizations for guidance, including the EPA, FDA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and OSHA, which have all been involved in monitoring and investigating issues related to RF exposure. The FCC has developed and adopted guidelines for human exposure to RF radiation using the recommendations of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), with the support of the EPA, FDA, OSHA and NIOSH. According to the FCC, both the NCRP exposure criteria and the IEEE standard were developed by expert scientists and engineers after extensive reviews of the scientific literature related to RF biological effects. The exposure guidelines are based on thresholds for known adverse effects, and they incorporate wide safety margins. In addition, under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) the FCC is required to evaluate transmitters and facilities for significant impacts on the environment, including human exposure to RF radiation. When an application is submitted to the FCC for construction or modification of a transmitting facility or renewal of a license, the FCC evaluates it for compliance with the RF exposure guidelines, which were previously evaluated under NEPA. Failure to show compliance with the FCC's RF exposure guidelines in the application process could lead to the additional environmental review and eventual rejection of

an application. The proposed telecommunication facility is subject to the FCC exposure guidelines, and must fall under the FCC's American National Standards Institute (ANSI) public limit standard of .58 mW/cm2.

Finally, it should be noted that Section 704 of the Telecommunication Act of 1996 states that "No State or local government or instrumentality thereof may regulate the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the Commission's regulations concerning such emissions." Because the proposed facility would operate under federally mandated limits on RF radiation for cellular towers and is regulated by the FCC in this respect, the County may not regulate the placement or construction of this facility based on the RF emissions.

An EMF/RF Report (Electromagnetic Fiels/Radio Frequency) has been prepared and submitted for the project. This report summarizes the results of RF-EME modeling in relation to relevant FCC RF-EME compliance standards for limiting human exposure to RF-EME fields. It demonstrates compliance. Should the facility's emissions exceed FCC standards, the applicant would be responsible for the cost of additional tests and corrective measures to establish compliance with FCC standards. These County development standards would be reflected as conditions of approval in the use permit.

The applicant has also provided a Hazardous Materials and Emissions Questionnaire to the County If materials exceed applicable thresholds outlined in the Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Law of 1985 (The Business Plan Act), a Hazardous Materials Business Plan would need to be obtained. The plan, when implemented, would address potential impacts associated with the accidental spill or release of chemicals and/or hazardous materials used during operations.

b) Less Than Significant Impact. See discussion under 3.8(a), above.

c) Less Than Significant Impact. There are no schools within one-quarter mile of the project site. As discussed above, the proposed project may require the use of potentially hazardous materials during construction and operation of the telecommunication facility, including the storage of diesel fuel. Standard construction practices and implementation of the Business Plan Act, would minimize the potential for accidental release of hazardous materials within proximately to or on the school site to a less than significant level.

d) Less Than Significant Impact. A review of regulatory agency databases, which included lists of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to California Government Code Section 65962.5, did not identify contamination sites as being located within, or in the vicinity of, the project site.

e) No Impact. No public use airports have been identified to be located within the vicinity of the project site. The proposed project is located outside the compatibility zones for the area airports, and therefore, would not result in a safety hazard to people working and residing on the project site.

f) No Impact. No known private airstrips have been identified within two miles of the project site. As a result, no safety hazards associated with airport operations are anticipated to affect people working or residing within the project site.

g) No Impact. The proposed project is an unmanned facility, so no evacuation and/or emergency response plans are necessary. The proposed project does not include any actions that physically interfere with any emergency response or emergency evacuation plans. Development of the proposed project would add a small amount of trips onto the area roadways; however, area roadways and intersections would continue to operate at an acceptable level of service. In the event future construction activities require work to be performed in the roadway, appropriate traffic control plans would be prepared in conjunction with County requirements.

h) No impact. The proposed use is unmanned and will not subject additional people to risk of fire.

Mitigation Measure: None required

3.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of preexisting nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

e. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
g. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped by Federal Flood Hazard Boundary, Flood Insurance Rate Map, or other flood hazard delineation map?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
h. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
i. Expose people or structures to a significant risk or loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) & b) No Impact. The project does not require the use of water and would not create any water discharges.

(c) - f) Less Than Significant Impact. An equipment shelter is proposed within the 1,050-square foot fenced lease area. The proposed area to be developed, including the monopine location and the ground equipment area in oak trees and disturbed areas. The 15-foot wide access easement will not create any significant impact to drainage patterns or create significant amount of runoff.

(g) - i) No Impact. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for mapping areas subject to flooding during a 100-year flood event (i.e., 1 percent chance of occurring in a given year). According to floodplain mapping of the project area, the project site is located within the X zone (Unshaded). The X zone (Unshaded) is defined by FEMA as areas of minimal flood hazard from the principal source of flood in the area and determined to be outside of the 0.2 percent annual chance floodplain.

(j) No Impact. The project site has an approximate elevation of 2,400 feet above sea level and the height of the improvements to the tower for collocation indicate that it will not be subject to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

Mitigation Measures: None required.

3.10 LAND USE:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Conflict with an applicable land use plan, policy, or regulations of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

The project parcel is zoned R2A. The monopine tower meets the necessary setback requirements from the all property lines.

Once constructed and operational, the communications facility would provide 24-hour service to customers seven days a week. Apart from initial construction activity, no personnel will be stationed at the site. Routine maintenance and inspection of the facility would occur once a month during normal business hours. No water or sewer service is required as the site would be unmanned.

(a) Less Than Significant Impact. No new parcels or substantial development, that would substantially divide an existing community, would result from this project. The project would not divide any established community.

(b) Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project was reviewed for consistency with the zoning code and General Plan, and is consistent with both. The proposed monopine tower is conditionally permitted use in the R2A zone with a Conditional Use Permit, which the proposed project is seeking. The proposed project is subject to and will meet the development standards for communication facilities contained in El Dorado County Zoning Code Section 130.40.130.D, and the impact will therefore be less than significant.

(c.) No Impact. This site is not located within a habitat conservation or natural community plan area.

Mitigation Measure: None Required.

3.11 MINERAL RESOURCES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) & b) No Impact. The California Geological Survey (CGS) has not classified the project site as being located in a Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ). The proposed project would not use or extract any mineral or energy resources and would not restrict access to known mineral resource areas.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.12 NOISE:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

vicinity above levels existing without the project?					
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

The project site is located in an area with rural residential uses and a fire station. Noise levels vary in the project area. Noise is expected to be limited to construction of the proposed facility and occasional use of the emergency generator. The proposed wireless communications facility is unmanned and would not expose people at the facility to noise levels.

a) & c) Less Than Significant Impact. Uses associated with this project would not create a significant increase in ambient noise levels within or in proximity to the project site. The potential use of onsite emergency standby generators would provide power until normal power is restored. The use of standby generators will be short term in duration and will not create significant impacts. After calculating all decibel levels at each nearby residence's property line and actual residence, the onsite Emergency Backup Generator and HVAC systems are within El Dorado County's noise level standards according to the El Dorado County Title 130 Zoning and Noise Ordinance, Chapter 130.37 – Noise Standards.

(b) No Impact. The proposed project would not include the development of land uses that would generate substantial ground-borne vibration or noise or use construction activities that would have such effects. No structures are proposed that would require heavy footings where the use of heavy pile drivers would be required.

(d) Less Than Significant Impact. Construction activity on the site has the potential to generate high noise levels on and adjacent to the project site intermittently during project development activities. During construction, the highest noise levels would result from operation of heavy equipment, which can be expected to generate noise levels of between 85 to 90 decibels (dBA) at a distance of 50 feet from the source. Noise levels will be reduced, however, by a factor of six dBA with each doubling of distance from the noise source and by intervening topography. Construction noise activities related to the construction is temporary in nature and is not seen will not be significant, given the distance, approximately 270 feet to the nearest offsite residence. Consistent with County requirements, noise generating construction activities will be limited to daytime hours between 7:00am and 7:00 pm on weekdays and non-holidays, and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on weekends. Given the distance from the nearest off-site residential structures, construction

noise is not expected to have a significant impact on nearby residence. Furthermore, any such noise disturbance would be intermittent, short-term in nature and required to be in compliance with County requirements. The impact would therefore be less than significant.

e) & f) No Impact. The project is located more than two miles from the nearest airport or private airstrip.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.13 HOUSING:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) No Impact. The project would not affect the population of the area because no new parcels would be created and no additional dwellings would be placed on the project site as a result of this project.

b) & c) No Impact. The project would not displace individuals or housing. The project does not require the extension of any infrastructure, such as roads, water, or sewer systems. Therefore, the project would not induce substantial population growth in the project area.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.14 PUBLIC SERVICES:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document

a. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of or need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Police Protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
f. Other public services?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) - b) No Impact. The project would not increase the level of fire protection service needed on the site because wireless communication facilities do not normally require such services.

c) No Impact. The proposal is not expected to result in an increase in demand for police services because wireless communication facilities do not normally require such services.

d) No Impact. The communication facility is an unmanned facility and therefore will not result in an increase in demand for school facilities in the area.

e) No Impact. The communication facility is an unmanned facility and therefore will not create an increase in park usage.

e) No Impact. The communication facility is an unmanned facility and therefore will not require other public services

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.15 RECREATION:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

	deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?					
b.	Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) & b) No Impact. The communication facility is an unmanned facility and therefore will not create an increase in park usage. No recreational facilities are proposed under this proposal and none are located on the project site. No impacts on existing or future recreational facilities would occur.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.16 TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
f. Result in inadequate parking capacity?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
g. Conflict with accepted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

Access to the facility will be provided by a 15-foot wide access drive from Sliger Mine Road.

(a) & (b) Less Than Significant Impact. The project area is rural residential, and there are low traffic volumes. The proposed wireless communication facility would temporally generate additional vehicle traffic in the project area during construction activities. This would be minor and would not have a significant impact on vehicular circulation in the project area. Once construction has been completed, traffic will return to pre-construction levels. After construction activities have been completed, the project would require only one to two site visits per month. This very low number of vehicle trips would not have any impact on vehicular circulation in the project area.

(c) No Impact. The project site is not located within an Airport Compatibility Zone.

(d) No Impact. The project design does not involve any modifications to Sliger Mine Road, nor create any additional hazards of safety concerns.

(e) – (g) No Impact. Since the project is an unmanned facility and does not involve a substantial number of vehicle trips, the project will not result in inadequate emergency access.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.17 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and this is:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**	**Reviewed Under Previous Document**
a. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k) or	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code section 5024.1. In apply the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of the Public Resources Code section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) **No impact.** The United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria (UAIC), the Wilton Rancheria, the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, the Ione Band of Miwok Indians, the Nashville-El Dorado Miwok, the T'si-Akim Maidu, and the Shingle Springs Back of Miwok Indians were notified of the proposed project and given access to all project documents. No other tribes had requested to be notified of the proposed projects for consultation in the project area at the time. In response to a request from the UAIC, the Cultural Resources Search for the project was sent to the tribe via email. No other requests for further information or formal consultation were received for this project. Pursuant to the Records Search, by the North Central Information Center, the geographic area of the project sites are not known to contain any resources listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or considered

significant by a California Native American tribe. The impact would be less than significant.

a)

b) Less than significant impact. See discussion 4.17(a) – *Tribal Cultural Resources.*

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.18 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS:

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐
g. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes, and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐

Impact Discussion:

(a) - g) No Impact. Implementation of the project would not require domestic water or wastewater treatment, or solid waste facilities. It would not be in non-compliance with any statutes or regulations relating to solid waste, nor would it employ equipment that would introduce interference into any system. Thus, the project would have no impact on any utilities or service systems.

Mitigation Measure: None required.

3.19 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE (SECTION 15065):

Would the proposal:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
a. Have the potential to substantially 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 prehistory?	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒
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. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐

Impact Discussion:

a) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. With the implementation of mitigation measures included in this Initial Study, the proposed project would not degrade the quality of the environment; result in an adverse impact on fish, wildlife, or plant species including special status species, or prehistoric or historic cultural resources. Prehistoric or historic cultural resources would not be adversely affected because no archeological or historic resources are known to exist in the project area and project implementation includes following appropriate procedures for avoiding or preserving artifacts or human remains should they be uncovered during project excavation.

b) Less Than Significant Impact. This project has the potential to contribute impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable with respect to air quality, biological resources and cultural resources.

Past, current, and probable future projects in the vicinity of the project site were reviewed to determine if any additional cumulative impacts may occur with the approval of this project. A two-mile radius was used in determining cumulative impacts. No additional cumulative impacts were discovered.

c) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. There have been no impacts discovered through the review of this application demonstrating that there would be substantial adverse effects on human beings either directly or indirectly. However, the proposed project has the potential to cause both temporary and future impacts to the area by project-related impacts relating to air, biological resources, and cultural resources. With implementation of mitigation measures included in this Initial Study, these impacts would be effectively mitigated to a less than significant level.