

Introduction

This section serves as an introduction to Chapter 3 and presents an overview of the approach and principles that guide the evaluation of potential environmental impacts in this Draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Statement (SEIR). Sections 3.1 through 3.11 present the affected environment and environmental consequences of the West Harbor Modification Project (Proposed Project) for each environmental issue, as described in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, of this Draft SEIR.

Sections 3.1 through 3.11 each present the following information for the respective resource areas:

- Environmental setting – the physical conditions that currently exist and any changes that may have occurred to the setting since the *2009 San Pedro Waterfront (SPW) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (2009 SPW EIS/EIR) (Port 2009)* and *2016 Addendum to the San Pedro Waterfront Project Environmental Impact Report for the San Pedro Public Market Project (2016 SPPM Addendum) (ICF 2016)*; see Section 2.2, *Existing Setting and Project Description*;
- Significance criteria – the criteria against which the significance of impacts is judged;
- Impact assessment methodology;
- Impacts of the Proposed Project and mitigation measures to reduce or avoid significant impacts; and
- Residual impacts.

Significant cumulative impacts to which the Proposed Project would contribute are summarized in Chapter 4, *Cumulative Impacts*.

Terminology Used in This Environmental Analysis

In evaluating the potential impacts of the Proposed Project, the level of significance is determined by applying the threshold of significance (i.e., significance criteria) for each resource evaluation area. The following terms are used in the impact analysis for each resource area.

- *No Impact*: No adverse changes in the environment are expected.
- *Less-than-Significant Impact*: The Proposed Project would cause no substantial adverse change in the environment (i.e., the impact would not exceed thresholds of significance).
- *Significant Impact*: The Proposed Project would create a substantial or potentially substantial adverse change in physical conditions within the Proposed Project area that would exceed the

applicable significance threshold established by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), but the impact would be reduced to less than significant by the application of feasible mitigation.

- *Significant and Unavoidable Impact:* A residual impact that would cause a substantial adverse effect on the environment that could not be reduced to a less-than-significant level by feasible mitigation.
- *Mitigation:* This term refers to measures that would be implemented to avoid or lessen significant impacts. Mitigation includes the following:
 - Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;
 - Minimizing the impact by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation;
 - Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment;
 - Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; or
 - Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

The mitigation measures would be proposed for implementation as conditions of Proposed Project approval and would be monitored to ensure compliance and implementation.

- *Residual Impact:* This is the level of impact after the implementation of mitigation measures.