

CHAPTER 4

IMPACT ANALYSIS

Introduction

This chapter presents the likely effects on the natural and human environment that would result from implementing the Proposed Action as discussed in Chapter 2. Impacts are assessed in terms of their duration, intensity (or magnitude), and context (local, regional, or national effects). Direct impacts and indirect impacts based on a reasonably foreseeable development scenario would be analyzed from the Proposed Action as well as the No Action Alternative. If the wells were productive, it is reasonably foreseeable that Vulcan Power would take the next step of developing a power plant at Salt Wells. The type of power plant and extent of the development is unclear; however a general impact analysis of increased disturbance to the area is analyzed. Subsequent NEPA analysis would determine the actual impacts from development of a power plant at Salt Wells.

The Proposed Action would be required to implement standard lease stipulations and road and construction site practices from the State of Nevada Handbook of Best Management Practices (BMPs). In addition to BMPs, mitigation measures designed to avoid or reduce impacts are provided, as needed.