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## 4.10 AIR QUALITY

### ***Proposed Action***

#### ***Direct Impacts***

The construction phase would involve both fugitive dust and diesel emissions that would have temporary impacts on air quality. Fugitive dust emissions would be realized through ground-disturbing activities and transportation along unpaved roads used to access the project area from US Highway 50. Fugitive dust emissions would be negligible compared to levels of particulate matter suspended in the air during and after dust storms in the region. Diesel emissions would result from construction equipment, and any diesel-fueled vehicles used to access the project site.

The proposed project would be required to implement standard lease stipulations and road and construction site practices from the State of Nevada Handbook of Best Management Practices. These measures would reduce fugitive dust emissions during construction.

Operational emissions could include venting of small amounts of hydrogen sulfide from the wells, slight heating of the local atmosphere, and diesel emissions from on-site vehicles and maintenance equipment.

#### ***Indirect Impacts Based on a Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario***

Future actions based on the reasonable development scenario could result in indirect impacts. Temporary construction-related emissions would result from ground disturbing activities, construction vehicle exhaust emissions, diesel generator and power tool use, and worker vehicle emissions. Operational emissions could include venting hydrogen sulfide from the wells, localized fogging around the wells, and slight heating of the local atmosphere. Implementing standard lease stipulations would reduce fugitive dust emissions during construction; additional measures to reduce fugitive dust could be included as a requirement of development plans. However, the required BLM review and any necessary environmental reviews prior to development are expected to lessen the possibility of such impacts. Subsequent NEPA analysis would determine the actual impact to air quality.

#### ***No Action Alternative***

The No Action Alternative would have no air quality impacts.