

A. INTRODUCTION

Unavoidable adverse impacts occur when a proposed project results in significant adverse impacts for which there are no reasonable or practicable solutions, and for which there are no reasonable alternatives that would meet the purpose and need of the action, eliminate the impact, and not cause other or similar significant adverse impacts.

B. POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

As detailed in Chapters 2 through 16 of this EIS, the Proposed Action would not result in significant adverse environmental impacts. However, the Proposed Action would result in short-term adverse construction effects in addition to long-term impacts on natural resources, which are not considered significant. As described in Chapter 18, "Mitigation," a number of the potential construction impacts, as well as potential long-term impacts, have been avoided through the implementation of abatement measures incorporated into the project design. Nonetheless, as described below, in some cases, the project's potential construction impacts would not be fully abated. It should be noted that construction effects are temporary and are therefore not considered significant.

POTENTIAL SHORT-TERM IMPACTS

As discussed below, and in Chapter 15, "Construction," all potential short-term adverse impacts have been fully avoided or abated to the maximum extent practicable. During the construction period, measures would be implemented to control noise, vibration, and dust. Because installation of the new transmission line would not be continuous in any one location and would last less than a week in any one particular area, no significant adverse impacts would occur.

Following are the short-term impacts anticipated as a result of construction of the Proposed Action:

- Land use and community character-related impacts from increased noise, vibration, and dust;
- Presence of a relatively small number of construction vehicles along the route and area roads;
- Localized noise and vibration from construction vehicles and equipment;
- Traffic impacts due to lane closures during installation of the transmission lines and a small increase in worker vehicular traffic on area roads;
- Localized air quality impacts such as fugitive dust emissions from earth movement;
- Temporary removal of a small area of animal and plant habitat; and

**Southampton to Bridgehampton Transmission Line
and Expansion of Bridgehampton Substation Project**

- Very short-term (one hour or less) loss of electric service at individual houses during moving of the distribution lines.

POTENTIAL LONG-TERM IMPACTS

As described in previous chapters, the Proposed Action would not result in any unavoidable long-term significant adverse environmental impacts. Potential long-term impacts related to historic and archaeological resources would be fully avoided. Natural resources would also not be significantly adversely affected by operation of the proposed project and would be fully avoided or mitigated. When the construction activity ceases permanently, the animals, including reptiles and amphibians, that had left the area during construction would return to nest, reproduce, and forage, except on the cleared portions of the substation expansion site. As discussed in Chapter 9, “Natural Resources,” the permanent loss of the small acreage of the expanded substation is not expected to have a significant adverse impact. Moreover, as discussed in detail in Chapter 10, “Hazardous Materials,” following construction, there would be no further potential for significant adverse hazardous materials-related impacts.

Therefore, the Proposed Action would not result in any unavoidable long-term significant adverse impacts. *