## Natural Gas

### *Short-Term Construction Impacts*

Due to the nature of construction activities, natural gas would not be consumed during site construction. Some natural gas, however, may be consumed during the installation and upgrade of natural gas distribution lines through the Specific Plan Area and during their testing; however, the amount consumed would be negligible and this is not considered a significant impact.

### *Operational Impacts*

As residential subdivisions and commercial uses are constructed within the project, new demands would be placed on TGC natural gas service for heating and cooling. Branching natural gas mains from existing primary transmission lines would also need to be constructed.

In order to determine the volume of natural gas consumed at build-out of the proposed project, Impact Sciences, Inc. calculated consumption based on the allowed land uses using natural gas consumption published by the South Coast Air Quality Management District in its 1994 *Air Quality Handbook*. **Table 4.11.4-5** identifies predicted consumption rates by land use type.

**Table 4.11.4-5**
**Projected Natural Gas Consumption at Total Build-out of the Project**

| Land Use | Quantity | Units | Usage Rate ($Ft.^3$/year) | Total $Ft.^3$/year |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Single Family Residential | 1,477 | Units | 79,980 | 135,086,000 |
| Multi-Family Residential | 1,328 | Units | 48,138 | 63,927,000 |
| Public Facilities | 15.4 | KSF | 24 | 370 |
| Commercial/Office | 2,485 | KSF | 34.8* | 86,478,000 |
| **Total** | **N/A** | **N/A** | **N/A** | 285,492,000 |

*Source: South Coast Air Quality Management District, Air Quality Handbook for Preparing EIRs, Revised April 1987.*
** Higher usage factor of Commercial and Office in the South Coast Air Quality Management Guide.*

As shown in **Table 4.11.4-5**, total natural gas consumption by the project at build-out would be approximately 285,491,000 cubic feet per year. According to the 1999 Fuels Report, that natural gas supplies to California will remain plentiful for the next several decades. The total resource base for the lower 48 states is estimated to be 975 trillion cubic feet, enough to continue current production levels

for more than 50 years. Technology enhancements will continue to enlarge the resource base; however production capacity increases remain less certain. Despite this concern, production from lower 48 states is expected to increase from its base year of 1994 from 17.1 trillion cubic feet to 25.9 trillion cubic feet in 2019.[9]

Because the RiverPark project can be accommodated within the long-term source and distribution planning of TGC, and because future uses on the project site would be required to comply with Title 24 of the *California Administrative Code* as mitigation against the wasteful use of energy, it is concluded that the project would not result in significant impacts to natural gas service provided by TGC.

## CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Build-out of the City of Oxnard's *2020 General Plan* along with development of other uses in the service areas of SCE and TGC will result in the development of a variety of projects which will require natural gas and electricity service. Such projects would contribute to a cumulative increase in energy demand within the City and region. As discussed above, energy supply projections prepared by the California Energy Commission indicate supplies will be sufficient to meet anticipated demands for the foreseeable future. Based on these projections, no significant cumulative impact on energy supplies is anticipated. Both SCE and TGC have ongoing facilities planning to ensure that distribution networks with sufficient capacity are built to serve new development. For this reason, no significant cumulative impacts to energy distribution networks are anticipated.

## MITIGATION MEASURES

No mitigation measures are required as no significant impacts have been identified.

## UNAVOIDABLE SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

No unavoidable significant impacts to energy supplies or distribution networks will result from the RiverPark Project.

9 California Energy Commission, 1999 Fuels Report, September 1999.