

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This chapter describes the direct and indirect environmental impacts that would be caused by the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the proposed Project. The Department has issued this Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement that builds on the analysis completed in August 2011. That analysis has been revised, expanded, and updated to include significant new circumstances or information that is now available. Particular attention has been placed on impacts within those portions of the proposed Project and its connected actions that differ from the previously proposed Keystone XL pipeline route. Cumulative environmental impacts of the proposed Project and other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects are described separately in Section 4.15, Cumulative Effects Assessment. Impacts associated with alternatives to the proposed Project are described in Chapter 5.0, Alternatives. As noted in Chapter 3.0, Affected Environment, this Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement does not include an analysis of environmental impacts from the proposed Project in Canada, as these have been assessed separately by the Canadian government consistent with Executive Order 12114 (Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions).

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