3.10 Socioeconomics

3.10.1 Affected Environment

The study area for the socioeconomic analysis includes Umatilla County, where the project would be located, and the nearby surrounding cities of Hermiston, Umatilla, and Stanfield where potential impacts are most likely to occur. Information specific to the CTUIR population is located in Section 3.10.1.5. Information also is provided for Morrow County, located west of Umatilla County, where additional work force members are likely to originate from and for the State of Oregon for comparative purposes.

3.10.1.1 Population and Environmental Justice

Umatilla County had a population of over 70,500 people in 2000 (see **Table 3.10-1**). This represented a moderate average annual increase of 1.9 percent from the 59,200 people living in the county in 1990, and that growth rate was similar to the state annual average increase of 2.0 percent. In contrast, the cities of Hermiston, Umatilla, and Stanfield experienced significant average annual growth since 1990. In 2000, Hermiston had 13,400 people with 3.4 percent annual growth, Umatilla had nearly 5,000 people with 7.2 percent annual growth, and Stanfield had nearly 2,000 people with 2.6 percent average annual growth (U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002, 1992).

Table 3.10-1
General Population Characteristics - 1990 and 2000

Jurisdiction	Population		1990-2000 Change	
	1990	2000	Number	Ave Annual %
Hermiston	10,040	13,417	3,377	3.4
Stanfield	1,567	1,971	404	2.6
Umatilla	2,870	4,946	2,076	7.2
Pendleton	15,127	16,262	1,135	0.8
Umatilla County	59,249	70,548	11,299	1.9
Morrow County	7,625	10,995	3,370	4.4
Oregon	2,842,321	3,421,399	579,078	2.0

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002, 1992.

Environmental justice is the evaluation of potential disproportionate impacts to minority and low-income populations. Umatilla and Morrow counties had greater proportions of minority populations in 2000 (18 percent and 25 percent, respectively) than the State of Oregon (13.6 percent, see **Table 3.10-2**). Similarly, minority populations made up 20.9 percent of Hermiston, 30.6 percent of Umatilla, and 31.1 percent of Stanfield in 2000, all substantially greater then the proportion of minorities found in the State. ***The largest single minority group specified in the Census was American Indian and Alaskan natives. All other minority groups, including Hispanics, were*** categorized as "other" by the Census. Hermiston also had a relatively large Asian population. Poverty levels can be used as a measure of low-income populations. In all jurisdictions, the percentage of the population living below the poverty level was somewhat to significantly greater than the 11.6 percent in the State overall. The greatest percentage occurred in Umatilla where 19.4 percent of the population had incomes below the poverty level (U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002).

3.10.1.2 Housing

Umatilla County had more than 27,600 housing units in 2000, of which nearly 2,500 or 9.0 percent were vacant (see **Table 3.10-3**). There were 760 units available for rent year-round and 790 units available on a seasonal basis. Morrow County had an additional 500 vacant units available for rent, with 126 available for rent year-round and 233 units available seasonally. Median gross rent was $481 per month in Umatilla County and $473 per month in Morrow County, substantially less than the $620 per month rent for Oregon, overall (U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002). In addition, there are a number of hotel and motel rooms available within Umatilla County and the surrounding cities. In 2000, the Oregon Lodging Association estimated that Umatilla County had a total of 1,726 rooms available for rent in hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, and resorts in the area (BPA 2001). **Table 3.10-4** summarizes the four hotels/motels located in Hermiston and Umatilla.

3.10.1.3 Employment, Economics, and Fiscal/Taxes

The principal industries in Umatilla County include agriculture, food processing, and forest/wood products. Additional major contributors to the economy include tourism, manufacturing, recreation, aggregate production, and power generation. Overall retail sales in the county were $567.2 million in 1997 (U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002). The three primary agricultural products in the county, as represented by the largest gross farm sales, are vegetable crops, field crops, and

Table 3.10-2
Environmental Justice Characteristics - 2000

Jurisdiction	Population	Race												Below Poverty	
		White Number	%	Black Number	%	Am Indian & Alaskan Number	%	Asian Number	%	Hawaiian & Pacific Isl. Number	%	Other Number	%	Number	%
Hermiston	13,417	10,618	79.1	122	0.9	122	0.9	259	1.9	24	0.2	2,039	15.2	1,655	12.4
Stanfield	1,971	1,359	68.9	6	0.3	15	0.8	14	0.7	0	0.0	503	25.5	279	14.2
Umatilla	4,946	3,432	69.4	206	4.2	35	0.7	13	0.3	0	0.0	1,188	24.0	817	19.4
Pendleton	16,262	14,393	88.5	322	2.0	422	2.6	66	0.4	11	0.1	657	4.0	1,910	13.3
Umatilla County	70,548	57,873	82.0	707	1.0	2,225	3.2	492	0.7	62	0.1	7,679	10.9	8,524	12.7
Morrow County	10,995	8,242	75.0	17	0.2	182	1.7	56	0.5	3	0.0	2,216	20.2	1,617	14.8
Oregon	3,421,399	2,957,510	86.4	53,032	1.6	43,434	1.3	99,136	2.9	7,583	0.2	146,837	4.3	388,740	11.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002.

Table 3.10-3
Housing Characteristics - 2000

Jurisdiction	Total Units	Occupied	Vacant				Median Gross Rent
			Total Number	Percent	For Rent Number	Seasonal Number	
Hermiston	5,421	5,047	374	6.9	226	21	$488
Stanfield	699	648	51	7.3	31	0	$504
Umatilla	1,515	1,378	137	9.0	89	12	$512
Pendleton	6,341	5,945	396	6.2	198	71	$448
Umatilla County	27,676	25,195	2,481	9.0	760	790	$481
Morrow County	4,276	3,776	500	11.7	126	233	$473
Oregon	1,452,709	1,333,723	118,986	8.2	38,901	39,629	$620

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002.

Table 3.10-4
Hotels and Motels in Hermiston and Umatilla

Hotel/Motel	Location	Rooms
Best Western Hermiston Inn	2255 U.S. Highway 395 South, Hermiston	54
Oak Tree Inn	1110 SE 4th Street, Hermiston	62
Oxford Inn	655 North 1 Street, Hermiston	87
Oxford Suites	1050 North 1 Street, Hermiston	127
Tillicum Motor Inn	1481 6th Street, Umatilla	40
Total		**370**

cattle and calves. There are a total of 97 manufacturing facilities in the county, of which 27 are located within Hermiston (Oregon Employment Department 1998; Oregon State University Extension Economic Information Office; and Hermiston City Administration, as cited by the Oregon Economic & Community Development Department 2003).

As shown in **Table 3.10-5**, in 1999 nearly 33,600 people comprised the civilian labor force (age 16 years and older) in Umatilla County with about 7.5 percent of that work force (2,530 people) unemployed that year. The primary employment sectors included services (35.9 percent), retail trade (13.9 percent), and manufacturing (12.8 percent). In comparison, Oregon State's primary employment sectors were services (41.3 percent), manufacturing (14.4 percent), and retail trade (12.5 percent) (U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002).

Table 3.10-5
Employment Characteristics, Persons 16 Years and Over - 1999

Status/Industry	Umatilla County		Hermiston		Oregon
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Status In Labor Force:					
Civilian	33,598		6,672		
Employed	31,068	92.5	6,155	92.3	93.5
Unemployed	2,530	7.5	517	7.7	6.5
Armed Forces	23	0.1	0	0.0	
Industry:					
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, and Mining	2,358	7.6	368	6.0	3.2
Construction	2,109	6.8	350	5.7	6.9
Manufacturing	3,976	12.8	673	10.9	14.4
Transportation, Warehousing, and Other Util.	2,121	6.8	574	9.3	4.7
Information	462	1.5	78	1.3	2.4
Wholesale Trade	925	3.0	226	3.7	4.1
Retail Trade	4,328	13.9	1,066	17.3	12.5
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,073	3.5	273	4.4	6.1
Services	11,147	35.9	2,113	34.3	41.3
Public Administration	2,569	8.3	434	7.1	4.4
Total	31,068	100.0	6,155	100.0	100.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002.

In Hermiston, nearly 6,700 people comprised the civilian labor force (age 16 years and older) with about 7.7 percent of that work force (517 people) unemployed that year. Similar to Umatilla County overall, the primary employment sectors in Hermiston included services (34.3 percent), retail trade (17.3 percent), and manufacturing (10.9 percent) (U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002). The five largest employers in Hermiston are summarized in **Table 3.10-6**.

Table 3.10-6
Five Largest Employers in the City of Hermiston

Company	Product/Service	Number of Employees
Wal-Mart	Distribution facility	1,000
JR Simplot	Food products	850
Lamb-Weston, Inc.	French fries	500
Marlette Homes, Inc.	Manufactured homes	460
Hermiston Foods	Frozen foods	450

Source: Hermiston City Administration, as cited by the Oregon Economic & Community Development Department 2003.

As shown in **Table 3.10-7**, all of the jurisdictions in the study area had somewhat to significantly lower median household, median family, and per capita income levels in 1999 than for the State, overall. Umatilla County had a median household income of $39,249 compared to $40,916 for the State, a median family income of $41,850 compared to $48,680 for the State, and a per capita income of $16,410 compared to $20,940 for the State of Oregon (U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002).

There is no general sales tax levied in Oregon. Property taxes are assessed using permanent rates set for all taxing districts in fiscal year 1997-1998. The tax rates cannot exceed $15 per $1,000 of real market value. Construction occurring since July 1, 1995, is valued at the average rate of similar properties in the area, and is limited to a 3-percent annual growth rate. The total assessed value of property in Umatilla County was $3.760 billion in 2000 and $3.627 billion in 1999. Corporations conducting or authorized to conduct business in the state pay an Oregon excise tax, and corporations not conducting or authorized to conduct business in the state but having income from Oregon are required to pay an Oregon income tax. Employers in the state also are required to pay unemployment insurance. New employers as of 2002 are required to pay a fixed rate of 3 percent of the taxable wage base. Investor-owned utilities operating within the state also are required to pay an annual fee, based on 0.25 percent of gross operating revenues. Finally, other fees that represent sources of revenue for the state, county, or city include motor vehicle licensing, driver licensing, fuels, hunting and fishing licenses, hotel-motel, and emergency communications (911) taxes and fees (Oregon Economic & Community Development Department 2003).

Table 3.10-7
Income Characteristics - 1989 and 1999

Jurisdiction	Median Household			Median Family			Per Capita		
	1989	1999	Ave Annual %	1989	1999	Ave Annual %	1989	1999	Ave Annual %
Hermiston	$20,674	$35,354	7.1	$25,501	$42,881	6.8	$9,729	$17,075	7.6
Stanfield	$23,564	$35,286	5.0	$24,449	$38,145	5.6	$8,815	$12,842	4.6
Umatilla	$20,799	$33,844	6.3	$21,976	$32,969	5.0	$8,481	$11,469	3.5
Umatilla County	$22,791	$36,249	5.9	$27,459	$41,850	5.2	$11,178	$16,410	4.7
Morrow County	$23,969	$37,521	5.7	$26,825	$40,731	5.2	$10,412	$15,802	5.2
Oregon	$27,250	$40,916	5.0	$32,336	$48,680	5.1	$13,418	$20,940	5.6

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2002 and 1992.

Table 3.10-8 summarizes Umatilla County's budget for fiscal year 2004. The total budget was almost $48.5 million. Sources of revenue included almost $21.3 million in various revenues (e.g., unrestricted funds, beginning balances, and transfers into the account), almost $7.4 million from local funds, over $18.8 million in state funds, and $972,000 in federal funds. (Umatilla County 2003).

Table 3.10-8
Umatilla County Fiscal Year 2004 Budget

Fund/ Department	Local Revenue	State Revenue	Federal Revenue	Other Revenue	Expenditure
General	$1,953,985	$2,122,123	$41,900	$12,925,079	$17,043,087
Special Revenue	3,238,895	4,899,859	278,606	3,080,009	11,497,369
Road	180,500	3,347,000	651,000	1,909,777	6,088,277
Children & Families	8,800	749,122	0	397,222	1,155,144
Mental Health	877,600	7,742,580	0	1,623,357	10,243,537
Capital Projects	1,000	0	0	539,902	540,902
Other Requirements	1,126,884	0	0	790,000	1,916,884
Total	$7,387,664	$18,860,684	$971,506	$21,265,346	$48,485,200

Source: Umatilla County 2003.

Tables 3.10-9 and **3.10-10** summarize the City Hermiston's budget for 2001-2002. Total revenues were over $31.0 million and total expenditures were over $29.0 million. The greatest sources of revenue were non-revenue receipts, cash forward, and energy services. Major capital costs now or in the near future include completion of the system capital acquisition costs for Hermiston Energy Services (a new municipal energy utility), construction of a new community pool at Butte Park (an estimated total of up to $3.64 million), and improvements to the wastewater treatment plant (an estimated total of up to $8.7 million over several years). In the 1996-1997 budget, the City of Hermiston had $370,267,000 in assessed property value. Total taxes of $25.28 per $1,000 in property value were assessed that year, including $6.52/$1,000 for the city, $15.68/$1,000 for the school district, and $3.08/$1,000 value for other taxing districts.

3.10.1.4 Public Services and Utilities

The Hermiston Fire and Emergency Services District provides fire prevention, fire suppression, emergency medical services, and hazardous materials response to the City of Hermiston and to

Table 3.10-9
City of Hermiston 2001-02 Budget Revenues and Expenditures

Fund	Revenues	Expenditures
Bonded Debt	$1,539,408	$1,430,700
Bancroft Bond	0	0
General Fund	5,852,800	4,847,174
State Tax Street	574,843	574,843
Transient Room	116,439	46,223
Utility	3,123,670	2,662,108
Regional Water	1,051,470	680,052
Revolving Loan	251,949	
Energy Services	15,242,763	14,708,121
Pool Construction	0	0
Reserve	3,273,409	4,110,627
Total	$31,026,751	$29,059,848

Source: City of Hermiston 2003b.

Table 3.10-10
City of Hermiston 2001-02 Sources of Revenues

Revenue Source	Revenues
Property Taxes	$2,351,395
Local Assessments	75,140
License & Franchise	561,400
Fines & Penalties	90,000
Use of City Money	347,600
From other Agencies	1,520,170
Service Charges	520,720
Non-Revenue Receipt	11,115,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	230,000
Sewer Service	1,070,000
Water Service	1,826,500
Energy Service	5,374,000
Transfer from Other Funds	1,619,395
Cash Forward	5,775,870
Total	$32,477,190

Source: City of Hermiston 2003b.

northwestern Umatilla County. The District provides fire services to a 135-square-mile area and ambulance services to a 500-square-mile area. In addition, the District has mutual-aid agreements with five neighboring fire departments. The District has 21 paid and 30 volunteer personnel staffing its three fire stations and equipment:

Stations

- Station 1 – the headquarters and primary station at the Public Safety Center at 330 S. First Street
- Station 2 – at Diagonal Boulevard and Craig Road
- Station 3 – at Westland Road

Equipment

- 3 light fire attack engines
- 4 full-size fire attack engines
- 1, 75-foot Quint Aerial Ladder
- 1 rescue engine
- 3 water tenders
- 4 ambulances
- 5 hazardous materials response assets
- 3 staff vehicles
- 1 parade engine

The district had an Insurance Services Organization rating of 4. **Table 3.10-11** provides a summary of the District's fire responses in 2001 (City of Hermiston 2003).

Medical services are provided by the Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston. This is a 48-bed facility that provides complete medical/surgical, ob/gyn, critical care, surgery services, and ambulance services. The Center has a Trauma Level 3 Emergency Room that is open 24 hours a day. It has over 30 physicians and 400 employees. The Center, as part of the Good Shepherd Health Care System, is affiliated with TLC Home Health, Vange John Memorial Hospice, Good Shepherd Clinic Pharmacy, Good Shepherd Medical Group, and the Cascade East Health Plans (Good Shepherd Health Care System 2003).

Table 3.10-11
Hermiston Fire and Emergency Services District Fire Responses - 2001

Type of Response	Number of Responses
Structure fires	189
Vehicle fires	23
Natural cover fires	122
False alarms	96
Hazardous materials responses	5
Rescue	11
Mutual-aid	3
Other types of responses	170
Total	**619**

Source: City of Hermiston 2003.

Law enforcement services are provided by the Hermiston Police Department, the Umatilla County Sheriff's Department, the Oregon State Patrol, and by other local municipal police departments. The Hermiston Police Department is housed in the Public Safety Center at 330 South First Street in Hermiston. The department has a total of 42 staff, including 8 dispatchers, 1 dispatch supervisor, 17 police officers, 9 reserve officers, 4 sergeants, 1 lieutenant, 1 chief, 0.5 nuisance abatement staff, and 0.5 administrative assistant (City of Hermiston 2003).

The Umatilla County Sheriff Department's Criminal/Patrol Division has 12 sworn deputies. Nine of those deputies are assigned to criminal investigations and patrol duties, two are assigned to the domestic violence investigation unit, and one is assigned to the drug task force. The department's Corrections Division/Jail includes the Umatilla County Correctional Facility, a 250-bed jail in Pendleton. The department's Communication Division includes the Umatilla County Dispatch Center, which provides emergency 911 and non-emergency services to a number of cities (including Stanfield) and unincorporated areas in the county. The center receives over 7,500 calls annually (Umatilla County Sheriff's Department 2003).

In addition to the law enforcement services in the project study area and within Umatilla County, TRCI is located outside of the Umatilla city limits, on Beach Access Road about 1.5 miles west of the project site. The facility is designed to hold about 1,550 medium custody male inmates. As of November 2002, the facility housed 1,452 inmates. Although it is a medium custody facility, more

violent offenders have been housed there. The facility is staffed by about 250 correctional officers, corporals, and sergeants and about 100 non-custody support staff (American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees 2003; Oregon Department of Corrections 2002).

The project site does not currently have electrical, natural gas, water, wastewater, or telecommunications services. Electrical service to the surrounding area is provided by the Umatilla Electric Cooperative and natural gas is provided by Cascade Natural Gas. Water is supplied to the region by the Port of Umatilla from a pumping station at RM 293 on the Columbia River. The City of Hermiston obtains water from deep and shallow wells, a surface water intake on the Columbia River and a regional water treatment facility (part of the Port of Umatilla regional water supply system), pump and booster pump stations, storage tanks, and reservoirs. Wastewater collection and treatment is conducted by the City of Hermiston, with a 2.94-MGD capacity system being used at less than half its capacity at 1.2 MGD. Telecommunication services in Hermiston are provided by U.S. West and E.O. Telecom, and cable television service is provided by Charter Cable (City of Hermiston 2003).

3.10.1.5 CTUIR Demographics and Socioeconomic Issues

The total CTUIR Reservation population grew 72 percent between 1960 and 2000 while the Tribal population grew by 131 percent in the same time period. Both populations have seen significant increases in the last decade after several decades of general decline. Based on the demographic statistics below (**Table 3.10-12**), 36 percent of the Tribal population on the Reservation was 20 years old or younger.

Between 1990 and 2000, the unemployment rate for the Tribal population on the Reservation declined from 32 percent to 11 percent. Much of this decline can be attributed to the growth in Tribal government and enterprises such as the Wildhorse Resort and Casino. The per capita income of Indians on the Reservation has more than doubled since 1990 and has grown to 73 percent of the county per capita income.

The poverty rate among Tribal members on the Reservation dropped from 35 percent to 23 percent during the 1990-2000 time period. The 2000 poverty rate is twice the statewide poverty rate and 10 percent higher than the county wide rate.

Table 3.10-12
Demographic Statistics

Age Class	Number in Age Class	Percentage of Total
0-10	441	18
11-20	440	18
21-30	363	15
31-40	340	14
41-50	370	15
51-60	200	8
61-70	127	5
71-80	89	4
81-90	32	1
91 or older	1	Less than 1
Total	**2,404**	

Data provided by CTUIR. Department of Economic and Community Development.

The number of homes occupied by Indians on the Reservation has increased by 49 percent in the last decade, outpacing the total Indian population growth of 42 percent. Indian ownership on the Reservation has increased by 62 percent through an increase of 93 homes. Housing patterns on the Reservation are generally scattered site development on parcels ranging from 0.25 acre to hundreds of acres. Most of the population is concentrated in the Mission area where there is subsidized public housing. The number of homeowners on the Reservation that are paying more than 30 percent of their income for mortgage costs has increased from 11 percent to 16 percent in the last decade while the number of renters paying more than 30 percent has increased from 13 percent to 25 percent. This is indicative of a tight housing market and a community increasingly at risk of losing their homes.

3.10.2 Environmental Consequences and Mitigation

3.10.2.1 Population and Environmental Justice

No residents would be displaced as a result of construction of the project facilities. Construction activity on the project would vary throughout the 24- to 26-month construction period that would begin in ***fourth quarter 2005***. It is estimated that the work force could include:

- Power plant – 100 to 600 workers through construction;
- Natural gas pipeline – 80 workers over 3 months;
- Water discharge pipeline – 20 workers over 3 months; and
- Electrical transmission line – 120 workers over 4 months.

Management and specially skilled workers, possibly comprising 10 percent of the work force (i.e., maximum of 60 workers), would likely originate from throughout Washington, Oregon, or possibly remainder of the United States. These workers would most likely rent a hotel/motel room, apartment, or house relatively close to the project site (i.e., Hermiston, Umatilla, or Pendleton). As much as 30 percent of the construction work force (i.e., a maximum of 180 workers) could be hired locally from within Umatilla and Morrow counties. The 2,530 unemployed people in Umatilla County in 1999 indicates that an adequate local work force exists to fill these local jobs. The local workers would likely to remain at their existing residences and commute to the project construction sites on a daily basis. The remaining 60 percent (i.e., maximum of 360 workers) of the peak power plant work force would likely originate from outside of the study area, such as from the Tri-Cities area in Washington. These workers may elect to commute daily to the project site, or may rent a room during the work week and travel home for the weekends.

Assuming that each direct construction job generates an additional 0.3 indirect/secondary jobs (Weber and Howell 1982), an estimated 180 indirect jobs would be generated by the project during the peak construction period. These jobs would likely to be generated in the hotels/motels, restaurants, gas stations, and retail stores that would be providing additional services to the direct construction work force.

Although Umatilla County and its cities have a greater proportion of minorities and low-income people than the state, they would not be disproportionately negatively affected by the facilities because no residents would be displaced. However, because of their greater presence in the study area, they may benefit from the higher-paying maximum 180 direct construction jobs that would likely be generated by the project and up to 180 secondary jobs that could be generated.

The project would not cause impacts to Indian Trust Assets (Tribal cultural, traditional, and subsistence fishing in the Columbia River). The Wanapa Project is in discussions with CTUIR to reach an agreement regarding tribal employment at the Wanapa Energy Center.

3.10.2.2 Housing

As indicated earlier, there were an estimated 760 vacant units available for rent in Umatilla County, 126 units available in Morrow County, and an additional 1,726 hotel/motel rooms available to rent in Umatilla County (370 in Hermiston alone) in 2000. Thus, adequate housing would likely be available for the 60 to 420 maximum power plant workers that would be seeking temporary to long-term residences near the power plant site during construction.

The 30 operational employees would likely be partially hired from within the study area and the rest would move to Umatilla County with their families, if applicable. If all workers were hired from outside of the study area and there were an average of 2.6 people per household, a maximum of 78 people would in-migrate as a result of operation of the power plant. Because there is an adequate number of houses for sale, or the workers may decide to buy property and construct their own homes, no long-term impacts are likely to occur to local population levels or housing as a result of the operational work force.

3.10.2.3 Employment, Economics, and Fiscal/Taxes

One potential direct impact would be the temporary loss of crop production along the natural gas supply/wastewater discharge pipeline and electrical transmission line construction ROWs. The affected land would be taken out of production while these facilities are constructed. Although the disruption might last as little as one to several weeks, it might result in loss of an entire growing season. These landowners would be compensated for the lost income as part of the negotiated fees for the easements to cross their properties. Potential longer-term reductions in crop production also could occur as a result of compacted or disturbed topsoils. Best management construction practices would be used to separate and set aside topsoil during construction, replace it appropriately, and to till the soil to ensure that compaction is eliminated.

During construction, the project would have a positive impact by generating increased sales to local merchants and wholesalers from the purchase of local construction materials such as gravel, concrete, lumber, equipment, and other goods. Similarly, the construction work force expenditures within the study area also would have a positive impact, leading to increased business for local hotels and motels, restaurants, gas stations, and retail stores.

Since the power plant would be sited on land held in trust by the United States for the CTUIR, the beneficial owners, state and county taxation would not be applicable. However, the power plant would pay a tribal tax to the CTUIR, equivalent to the aggregate of State taxation. CTUIR would spend these tax revenues on goods and services mainly in Umatilla County, thereby directly introducing these revenues into the local economy. All project "tax advantages" are realized in the federal taxation scheme through a federal provision for accelerated depreciation for projects built on tribal land. Therefore, the power plant would introduce the same amount of revenues through taxation into the local and Oregon economies but the manner of introduction would be different. Any "tax breaks" would be at the federal level. Further, the power plant has committed to spend environmental mitigation funds in the local area. The power plant would pay for all local services used by the facility at rates negotiated with the local authorities. Because BPA buys easements from landowners for the placement of electrical transmission lines on private land, rather than being bought in fee, the land would remain in private ownership and would not be converted to tax exempt property. Thus, there would be no change in county or city tax revenues as a result of construction of the electrical transmission line. However, the natural gas supply/***plant*** discharge ***water*** pipeline would be subjected to property taxes and would generate additional tax revenues for Umatilla County and the various jurisdictions to which property tax revenues are dispersed.

The 10-mile natural gas supply/***plant*** discharge ***water*** pipelines for the project would be subjected to several annual taxes:

- County property tax - 1.5%, or $15 per $1,000 value
- Tax to the Oregon Department of Energy - less than 0.2%
- Gross operating revenue tax to the Oregon Public Utility Commission - 0.25%
- City franchise tax (if applicable) - about 3.0%

It is estimated that it would cost about $10 million to construct the natural gas supply/***plant*** discharge ***water*** pipelines. Based on this figure, an estimated $150,000 in county property taxes and $20,000 in Oregon Department of Energy taxes would be generated by the project on an annual basis. Gross operating revenues have not yet been estimated for the project.

As indicated above, during operation the plant also would provide 30 full-time jobs and an in-migrating population of up to 78 people. As with the construction work force, these workers would have a positive impact by generating additional revenues for local business from purchasing goods and services. The plant also would have a positive impact on the local economy by purchasing and

consuming about 10.2 million cubic feet of natural gas per hour. Other power plant purchases that are likely to occur include miscellaneous parts and supplies, aqueous ammonia for the air pollution control system, various treatment and laboratory chemicals, and diesel fuel.

3.10.2.4 Public Services and Utilities

A fire protection system meeting the Uniform Fire Code would be installed within the buildings and yard areas of the power plant site. The system would include a fire water system, dry chemical extinguishing system, a CO_2 extinguishing system, and portable fire extinguishers. Construction and operational work forces would be trained in the use of the equipment and fire suppression, and in first aid. When needed, the plant managers would call upon local and/or regional firefighting and emergency medical services to provide services.

The generating plant would use about ***8*** to ***12*** million gallons per day of water from the Port of Umatilla intake and pump facility and its existing water right. This would represent about ***8*** to ***12*** percent of the Port's 100.2 MGD water right. The Port would benefit from the additional revenue stream that would be created from selling this water to the project owners. The power plant minimizes water use by using a recirculating cooling system with mechanical draft evaporative cooling towers.

Plant discharge water would meet local permitting requirements and would be discharged into the end of the canal discharging into the Cold Springs Reservoir. This water would have a positive impact by supplementing the water flowing into the reservoir and later being used to irrigate farmlands. ***Domestic sewage*** generated at the power plant would be ***piped to the City of Umatilla's sewage treatment plant***. ***Storm*** water would be collected and diverted to a retention pond with sufficient volume to hold the design storm event.

The generating plant would generate an estimated 1,200 cubic yards of waste annually. Recyclable materials would be separated from the wastes and taken to a recycler, and the remaining waste would be taken by a private contractor to a licensed disposal facility. Chemicals, lubricating oils and grease, and other similar wastes also would be taken by a private contractor to an approved hazardous materials disposal facility.

3.10.3 Proposed Action Impact Summary

Overall, the proposed project would result in beneficial impacts to socioeconomics. When combining all project components, construction activities would create a total of 320 to 820 temporary jobs during a 3- to 36-month period. An estimated 180 indirect/secondary jobs also would be generated during construction. Project operation would result in 30 permanent workers. Adequate housing would be available for the estimated work force numbers. Beneficial impacts also would occur from increased sales in the local area, additional tax revenues from the gas supply/water discharge pipeline ROW property taxes, and the purchase/use of additional natural gas. Since the power plant would be sited on land held in trust by the United States for the CTUIR, the beneficial owners, state and county taxation would not be applicable. However, the power plant would pay a tribal tax to the CTUIR, equivalent to the aggregate of State taxation. CTUIR would spend these tax revenues on goods and services mainly in Umatilla County, thereby directly introducing these revenues into the local economy. All project "tax advantages" are realized in the federal taxation scheme through a federal provision for accelerated depreciation for projects built on tribal land. Therefore, the power plant would introduce the same amount of revenues through taxation into the local and Oregon economies but the manner of introduction would be different. Any "tax breaks" would be at the federal level. Further, the power plant has committed to spend environmental mitigation funds in the local area. The power plant would pay for all local services used by the facility at rates negotiated with the local authorities. Potential adverse impacts would occur due to a temporary loss of crop production along the gas supply/water discharge pipelines and electric transmission line ROWs. Public utilities and services are available and would be used during plant operation. A fire protection system would be installed at the power plant site for fire control and protection. Local services would be available to handle solid wastes produced by the plant.

3.10.4 Component Alternatives Impact Summaries

Construction of the Proposed Action gas supply pipeline and plant discharge water pipeline routes would result in potential crop losses on 37 acres of prime farm land for 1 to 2 years. Construction of the pipelines along alternative routes would result in a range of prime farmland disturbance from 34 acres (Alternative 6) to 45 acres (Alternative 2).

The capital costs, and therefore, taxable value, of the Proposed Action gas supply pipeline and plant water discharge pipelines, and electrical transmission lines can be compared with the

components based on the length of the various facilities. The length of the Proposed Action gas supply/plant discharge water pipeline is 11.2 miles; the remaining alternatives range between 10.8 and 12 miles, a relatively small difference from the Proposed Action. The BPA proposed transmission line would not be subject to local property taxes. The taxable value of a plant discharge water pipeline from the plant site to Cold Springs Reservoir (about 7.5 miles on private, federal, and state lands) would be substantially greater than a 0.5 mile pipeline from the plant site to the Columbia River.