

affect one of these build alternatives. The potential of a seiche from Lake Elsinore or Diamond Valley Lakes affecting a build alternative is low to nonexistent, since both lakes are located over 1.6 km (1 mi) from any bandwidth. The potential for tsunami is nonexistent, since the nearest ocean, the Pacific, is over 40 km (25 mi) from the HCLE Corridor study area.

4.9.2.8 Subsidence

Subsidence occurs predominantly at the base of mountains where alluvial soil forms from rapid runoff accumulation. The west and east portions of the HCLE Corridor study area, which includes all alternative bandwidths, is spotted with subsidence susceptible areas. Clay is absorbent and easily swells and shrinks with the presence or absence of water. This action links soils containing clay particles with an increased risk for subsidence. Small areas of clay soil underlie all build alternatives. Without mitigation, structural damage and hazards associated with subsidence are potential effects for all of the build alternatives.

4.9.3 Potential Mitigation Measures to be Considered in Tier 2

- 4.9.3.1 The recommendations of the project engineering geologist shall be implemented as part of the construction level geologic review and investigation for the selected alternative.
- 4.9.3.2 The proposed Riverside County General Plan policies applicable to geology shall be implemented.
- 4.9.3.3 In the event that excavation activities expose buried and unanticipated paleontological resources on portions of the project, the construction foreman should temporarily halt or divert equipment and call the Lead Agency to contact a qualified paleontologist to evaluate the significance of the resource.

4.9.4 Tier 2 Studies

Following the selection of a preferred alternative in Tier 1, Tier 2 engineering studies will evaluate a variety of alternatives (including modes facility type, precise alignments, and design features). More detailed Tier 2 environmental studies will evaluate these alternatives more closely and identify potential impacts with more certainty. A geotechnical evaluation will be conducted to identify specific geological concerns for the preferred alternative.