SECURE COMMUNITY REENTRY FACILITIES

ENVIRONMENTAL CRITICAL ISSUES

Air Quality

Identify air quality issues affecting the site and assess the potential of these regulations on the following areas of concern: (1) major source status (criteria and hazardous air pollutants), (2) requirements for pre- or post-construction ambient monitoring, (3) impacts of district prohibitory and source specific rules, and (4) other permitting or siting issues which could potentially delay or defeat successful project development.

Agricultural Resources

Determine the Williamson Act Status of the project site and discuss the issues related to farmland conversion, if applicable.

Biological Resources

Determine whether species of plants and animals listed as endangered or threatened on either the federal or state lists have been found in the general project area. Conduct a preliminary visual reconnaissance level site survey and assess the general likelihood of encountering these species on site, based on their known habitat requirements.

Conduct a reconnaissance-level survey of the project site to assess if and where the project will encounter jurisdictional waters of the United States and hence require permits under the Federal Clean Water Act (Section 404 individual, regional, or nationwide permit, Section 401 water quality certification). Determine whether or not the project will encounter wetlands that are part of or adjacent to waters of the United States.

Visual Resources

Conduct a general assessment of project area viewsheds and overall landscape and prepare an assessment of the project's possible effects on local viewsheds. Identify key viewpoints and their proximity to the project site and examine the project area for viewpoints of high sensitivity (recreation areas, scenic highways, etc.). Identify the location and distances of the nearest residences. Determine if the zoning ordinances for height limits within the applicable zone would require a zoning variance.

Land Use

Determine that the site has all necessary permits and entitlements to develop the site to meet the CDCR objectives and goals. Identify any performance standards that may apply in a given land use zone (height restriction, noise limits, lot line setbacks, etc.) that may constrain development in some way. Describe potential land use compatibility issues that may constrain development, and other sensitive land uses.

Cultural Resources

Assess the general sensitivity of the project area in terms of historic and prehistoric archaeological resources. Determine whether it is likely that project construction will encounter deeply stratified prehistoric archaeological deposits that would be expensive to mitigate or that may contain Native American burials and thus lead to adverse publicity and demands for avoidance. This assessment should be performed by conducting a cultural resources records search within the project Area of Potential Effect (APE) and within a 1-mile radius of the APE.

Noise

Determine noise levels that the project would be required to meet, and assess whether these requirements will impact project feasibility. This will include applicable noise limitations for the site and adjacent zoning areas and for the site boundary.

Geological Resource and Hazards

Determine whether or not the project site lies within an Alquist-Priolo earthquake fault special studies zone, which would constrain project design or engineering. Assess other geologic hazards due to ground rupture, liquefaction, flooding and tsunami potential. Determine whether the safety element of the County General Plan presents any potential issues for project compliance.

Hydrology, Water Quality, Water Supply, and Water Treatment

Assess the hydrology of the project study area and determine the potential for Flood Hazards and drainage issues. Assess the Water Quality and Water supply to determine if the site could support the potable water requirements of the proposed Reentry facility. Identify any storm drainage critical issues and potential impacts.

Utilities and Service Systems

Provide available infrastructure capacity and design standards information from the local jurisdiction or special districts. Disclose any potential infrastructure concerns with water, sewer and storm drainage, flood risks as well as potential grading issues.

Determine which utilities will be extended to provide service to the project site and which would be abandoned and/or left at their current terminus along the project boundary.

Confirm capacities, locations, and availability of service options for providing storm drainage discharge, sanitary sewer and water and flood protection or elimination of flood risks. Based on this information, assess permitting issues. Identify supply and discharge alternatives and the permitting strategies necessary for these alternatives.

Transportation

review transportation infrastructure requirements to support a 120 acre campus and improvements costs for anticipated transportation improvements. Issues with Caltrans and the Kern County Road Department will be investigated and disclosed. The future Alignment of “H” Street will be reviewed and analyzed relative to impacts of siting the 120 acre campus. Identify transportation issues as they relate to roadway improvements and potential of requirements such as intersection signalization. Determine potential requirements for encroachment permits and opportunities for ingress/egress at each site.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Identify potential hazards and hazardous materials associated with the project study area that could be a fatal flaw for developing a Reentry facility such as High-Voltage Power Lines, High-Pressure Gas Lines, Crude Oil Pipelines, and Navigable Airspace Hazards.