

## 2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Chapter 2 describes the existing environmental conditions at the VCSNS site, the site vicinity, and the region. The environmental descriptions provide sufficient detail to identify those environmental resources that have the potential to be affected by the construction, operation, or decommissioning of the new units. The chapter is divided into nine sections:

- Site Location ([Section 2.1](#))
- Land ([Section 2.2](#))
- Water ([Section 2.3](#))
- Ecology ([Section 2.4](#))
- Socioeconomics ([Section 2.5](#))
- Geology ([Section 2.6](#))
- Meteorology, Air Quality, and Noise ([Section 2.7](#))
- Related Federal and Other Project Activities ([Section 2.8](#))
- Existing Plant Parameters ([Section 2.9](#))

The standard for reporting elevations in the COLA is to use NAVD88 elevations. The difference between NAVD88 and NGVD29 elevations (the other system commonly used) is approximately 0.7 feet. Most of the elevations reported in Chapter 2 are for information only and may be rounded. Only in cases where precision is needed or where use of NGVD29 elevations is required (for example, to match permit limits) is the elevation system specified.