



December 22, 2010

Paul Maniccia  
Project Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street, Room 1480  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Carolyn Mulvihill  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Environmental Review Office, CED-2  
U.S. EPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

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Re: California High Speed Train Program  
Fresno to Bakersfield Project Purpose & Need

To All:

Thank you again for meeting with us on December 8 to discuss revisions to the Fresno to Bakersfield Project Purpose & Need. Based on that conversation, attached is a revised version of the document which is submitted as the package for Checkpoint A: Purpose & Need in accordance with the NEPA/404/408 MOU for California HST Program for your review and concurrence.

During our December 8 meeting, we discussed comments provided by EPA and the USACE on November 22, 2010. In response, all the Authority's and FRA's text revisions with regard to EPA's comments were found to be acceptable. For the USACE, we worked together and agreed to use the following text under Section 2.2.2 describing the purpose of the Fresno to Bakersfield HST section.

*The purpose of this project is to implement the Fresno to Bakersfield section of the CA HST system to provide the public with electric-powered high-speed rail service that provides predictable and consistent travel times between major urban centers and connectivity to airports, mass transit, and the highway network in the south San Joaquin Valley, and connect the Northern and Southern portions of the system.*

Following our meeting on December 8, USACE staff provided text describing the integration of the procedural and substantive requirements of the NEPA, Clean Water Act Section 404 and Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899, and participation in the environmental review process. New text that was not already included has been incorporated into the revised Purpose and Need document, primarily in the section describing the HST environmental review process. Again, we hope you find our changes acceptable.

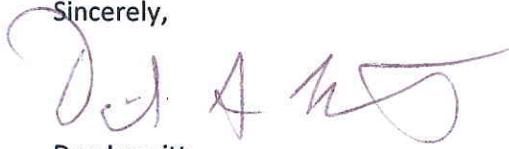
Should you have comments, we would like to discuss these by conference call during the week of January 3. If there are no comments, please provide the

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Authority and FRA written agreement of your concurrence. Any questions regarding this submission please contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Dan Leavitt', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Dan Leavitt  
Deputy Director, CHSRA

Attachment: Fresno to Bakersfield Project Purpose & Need

cc: David Valenstein and Melissa DuMond, FRA  
Connell Dunning, USEPA  
Leah Fisher and Zachary Simmons, Sacramento District, USACE  
Veronica Chan, Los Angeles District, USACE  
Ann Koby and Tom Tracy, CHSRA PMT