

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

Date: December 28, 2009

From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART
Executive Director

File: Book Item 4.10
Information

Ref: Comments to Notices of Preparation and Draft Environmental Impact Reports

SUMMARY: For the period July 1, 2009 through November 30, 2009, seven Notices of Preparation (NOPs) and three Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIRs) were received for ten projects. As there were no concerns with respect to the alternatives under consideration for these projects, the lead agencies were advised that there were no comments on the environmental impacts of the proposed alternatives. However, staff provided comments to address one or more of the following:

- Where financing was either not identified or not secured, a recommendation was made that the necessary financing should be identified and secured for the project.
- For Proposition 1B projects, the lead agencies and project sponsors were requested to include in their transmittal of final environmental documents information and confirmations relative to project scope of work, schedule, cost and/or benefits in relation to the project baseline agreements for these projects.
- For projects programmed in the Trade Corridors Improvement Fund (TCIF), notification of the Commission's expectation that the Commission will only allocate TCIF to projects that can demonstrate compliance with applicable environmental requirements, including the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures and the expectation that the project sponsor will commit to the implementation of mitigation measures identified as part of its submittal of the final environmental document for future consideration of funding was provided.
- As future actions under the purview of the Commission are not anticipated at this time for High Speed Rail Projects, the California High Speed Rail Authority was requested to notify the Commission as a Responsible Agency, upon such time as future actions under the purview of the Commission are anticipated.

BACKGROUND: At the June 2009 Commission Meeting, the Commission delegated to the Executive Director the authority to provide comments to routine Notices of Preparation (NOPs) and Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) prepared in accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Attachment

Attachment I, Book Item 4.10

Comments to Notices of Preparation & Draft Environmental Impact Reports
July 2009 through November 2009

Comment Date	Description	County	CEQA Lead Agency	Project Title	Comments			
					A	B	C	D
8/17/09	NOP	San Joaquin	Caltrans District 6	State Route 4 Crosstown Freeway		X	X	
10/7/09	DEIR	Los Angeles	LA Metro	Crenshaw Transit Corridor	X			
10/7/09	DEIR	San Benito	Caltrans District 6	Route 156 West Corridor	X			
10/7/09	NOP	Long Beach	Port of Long Beach	Port of Long Beach On-Dock Rail Support Facility		X	X	
11/9/09	NOP	Orange	Caltrans District 12	San Diego Freeway (I-405) Improvement	X			
11/9/09	NOP	Stockton/San Jose	California High-Speed Rail Authority	Altamont Corridor Rail				X
11/9/09	NOP	Fresno/Bakersfield	California High-Speed Rail Authority	High Speed Train Project-Fresno to Bakersfield				X
11/9/09	NOP	Los Angeles/San Diego	California High-Speed Rail Authority	High Speed Train Project-Los Angeles to San Diego				X
11/9/09	NOP	Trinity	Trinity County	Wildwood Road Realignment & Widening	X			
11/9/09	DEIR	Los Angeles	Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority	San Gabriel Valley Grade Separation		X	X	

Comment Legend:

- A** Recommended securing necessary funds to complete the project.
- B** Project is programmed with Proposition 1B funds. Requested notification of changes impacting agreed upon scope, cost, schedule and/or benefits upon completion of the environmental process.
- C** Project is programmed in the Trade Corridors Improvement Fund program of projects. Restated the Commission's expectation with respect to the project sponsor's commitment to adhere to air quality mitigation measures identified through the environmental process.
- D** Requested notification as a Responsible Agency as defined in CEQA Guidelines if future actions under the purview of the Commission are anticipated.