



Gavin Newsom
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Kate Gordon
Director

Memorandum

Date: September 4, 2020
To: All Reviewing Agencies
From: Scott Morgan, Director
Re: SCH # 2009091125

**California High-Speed Rail Project, Merced to Fresno Section: Central
Valley Wye Final Supplemental EIR/EIS**

The Lead Agency has corrected some information regarding the above-mentioned project. Please see the attached notice for more specific information. All other project information remains the same.

2009091125

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

AUG 31 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

August 21, 2020

California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
1400 Tenth Street, PO Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Printed Summary for Central Valley Wye – Final Supplemental EIR/EIS

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) recently provided you with a paper copy of the Summary from the Final Supplemental EIR/EIS for the Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye Project Section of the California High-Speed Rail Project.

Since distribution, the Authority has been advised of a page numbering error within the Table of Contents included in this printed document. To remedy this error, the Authority is including a revised Table of Contents for the Summary.

This issue is applicable only to the Table of Contents associated with the *printed* copies of the Summary that the Authority provided to public agencies. The contents of the Summary are not affected.

The entire document remains available on the Authority's website at
https://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_supplemental_merced_fresno.aspx

If you have any questions about this matter or the Final Supplemental EIR/EIS, please contact the Outreach Team by phone at (916) 324-1541 or by email at CentralValley.Wye@hsr.ca.gov.

If you need assistance to interpret or translate this letter in a language other than English, please call (800) 881-5799 for assistance. Si necesita ayuda traduciendo o interpretando esta carta, hay personal disponible que habla español para ayudarle. Por favor llame (800) 881-5799.

Sincerely,



Garth Fernandez
Acting Central Valley Regional Director
(559) 290-7048
Garth.Fernandez@hsr.ca.gov



Mark A. McLoughlin
Director of Environmental Services
(916) 403-6934
Mark.McLoughlin@hsr.ca.gov

Enclosure:

One copy of the table of contents for the Executive Summary of the Final Supplemental EIR/EIS

CONTENTS

S	SUMMARY	S-1
S.1	Introduction and Background	S-1
S.1.1	Final Supplemental EIR/EIS Overview	S-4
S.1.2	Global Changes in the Final Supplemental EIR/EIS	S-4
S.1.3	Revisions in Response to Comments on the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS or to Changes in Regulations/Case Law	S-6
S.2	The Draft and Final Supplemental EIR/EIS as Part of Tiered Environmental Review	S-9
S.3	Issues Raised during Public Outreach on the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS	S-11
S.4	Purpose of and Need for the HSR System and the Merced to Fresno Section	S-12
S.4.1	Purpose of the HSR System	S-12
S.4.2	Purpose of the Merced to Fresno HSR Section	S-12
S.4.3	CEQA Project Objectives for the HSR System in California and in the Central San Joaquin Valley Region	S-13
S.4.4	Need for the HSR System Statewide and within the Central San Joaquin Valley Region	S-13
S.4.5	HSR Benefits	S-14
S.5	Alternatives	S-15
S.5.1	Evaluation and Development of Alternatives	S-15
S.5.2	No Project Alternative	S-15
S.5.3	Central Valley Wye Alternatives	S-16
S.5.4	Central Valley Wye Alternatives Alignments	S-17
S.6	Impact Avoidance and Minimization Features	S-22
S.7	No Project Alternative Impacts	S-22
S.8	Central Valley Wye Alternatives Evaluation	S-24
S.8.1	Central Valley Wye Alternatives Benefits	S-24
S.8.2	Comparison of Impacts for the Central Valley Wye Alternatives	S-24
S.8.3	Summary of Cumulative Impacts under NEPA and CEQA	S-43
S.8.4	CEQA Summary of Impacts and Mitigation	S-43
S.9	Section 4(f) and Section 6(f)	S-50
S.9.1	Section 4(f)	S-50
S.9.2	Section 6(f)	S-51
S.10	Environmental Justice	S-51
S.11	Capital Cost	S-52
S.12	Areas of Controversy	S-52
S.13	Environmental Process	S-53
S.13.1	Public and Agency Comment Summary	S-53
S.13.2	Identification of Preferred Alternative	S-54
S.14	Next Steps in the Environmental Process and California High-Speed Rail Authority Decision-Making under NEPA and CEQA	S-54
S.14.1	FRA Decision-Making	S-55
S.14.2	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Decision-Making	S-55
S.14.3	Surface Transportation Board Decision-Making	S-55
S.14.4	Project Implementation	S-55

Tables

Table S-1 Design Features of Alternatives Carried Forward	S-16
Table S-2 Comparison of Construction Impacts by Alternative	S-27
Table S-3 Comparison of Operations Impacts by Alternative	S-43
Table S-4 CEQA Summary of Resources with Significant Impacts and Applicable Mitigation Measures	S-44
Table S-5 Capital Cost by Alternative (2015\$ Thousands)	S-52
Table S-6 Central Valley Wye Alternatives Milestone Schedule	S-56

Figures

Figure S-1 California High-Speed Rail Statewide System	S-2
Figure S-2 Central Valley Wye Alternatives	S-3
Figure S-3 SR 152 (North) to Road 13 Wye Alternative Alignment and Key Design Features	S-18
Figure S-4 SR 152 (North) to Road 19 Wye Alternative Alignment and Key Design Features	S-19
Figure S-5 Avenue 21 to Road 13 Wye Alternative Alignment and Key Design Features	S-20
Figure S-6 SR 152 (North) to Road 11 Wye Alternative Alignment and Key Design Features	S-21