

State Water Resources Control Board

MAR 12 2014

Mr. Mark McLoughlin, Deputy Director
California High Speed Rail Authority
770 L Street, Suite 880
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. McLoughlin:

CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION; CALIFORNIA HIGH SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY; HIGH SPEED TRAIN MERCED TO FRESNO PERMITTING PHASE 1 (FILE NO. SB13001IN, RM# 391375) U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FILE NUMBER SPK-2009-01483

On May 17, 2013, the California High Speed Rail Authority (HSRA) submitted an application to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for issuance of a Clean Water Act (CWA) section 401 water quality certification (Certification) for the High Speed Train Project – Merced to Fresno Permitting Phase 1 (Project). State Water Board staff deemed the application complete on June 17, 2013.

State Water Board staff reviewed the information submitted by HSRA describing activities, proposed water quality protection measures and mitigation, and compensatory mitigation for the Project. State Water Board staff additionally conducted Project field reviews with HSRA staff on May 13, 2013 and August 1, 2013, to review proposed impact areas.

Pursuant to title 23, section 3838 of the California Code of Regulations, Enclosed is the Certification for the Project. Attachments A through G of the enclosure are part of this Certification.

If you require further assistance, please contact me at (916) 341-5483 or clifford.harvey@waterboards.ca.gov. You may also contact Mr. Bill Orme, Chief of the 401 Certification and Wetlands Protection Unit, at (916) 341-5464 or bill.orme@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Cliff Harvey
Environmental Scientist
Division of Water Quality, CWA Section 401 Certification Unit

Enclosures and cc: see next page.

Enclosures (8): CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification

Attachment A. Signatory Requirements

Attachment B. Project Information Sheet

Attachment C. Project Area Maps

Attachment D. Certification Deviation Procedures

Attachment E. Mitigation Ratios

Attachment F. Financial Assurances

Attachment G. CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations

cc w/o enc: (next page)

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