



*Press Release*

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## High-Speed Rail Authority and Energy Commission Team Up to Make California Greener

**SACRAMENTO** – Today, the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) and the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) announced that they have agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will ensure that the high-speed rail program will help California meet its climate goals and become a greener state.

The MOU allows increased cooperation between the Authority and the Energy Commission to explore the latest green technology and best practices during the design and construction of the nation’s first high-speed rail system. It will help facilitate the use of renewable energy, the delivery of zero net energy buildings and incorporation of zero emission vehicle infrastructure in California as part of the rail system.

“California has always been a leader when it comes to using renewable energy, reaching our climate goals and fighting global warming,” said Jeff Morales, Authority CEO. “This MOU with the Energy Commission is another step in the right direction that will help us build a first class high-speed rail system in our state.”

“Transportation is the single largest source of the state’s greenhouse gas emissions,” said Robert B. Weisenmiller, California Energy Commission Chairman. “California high-speed rail can provide an alternative, greener transportation option for residents. The plan to power the system with 100 percent renewable energy, have zero net energy stations and use alternative fuels in support vehicles shows, once again, the state’s commitment to a more sustainable future.”

In response to Assembly Bill 758, the Energy Commission adopted the policy goals of reducing energy consumption in existing residential buildings by 40 percent by 2020 and reaching zero net energy in 50 percent of California’s existing commercial buildings by 2030.

The Authority is committed to powering the high-speed rail system with 100 percent renewable energy sources, maximizing the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions throughout design and construction, and making energy efficiency a priority in design. This includes constructing zero net energy buildings and electric vehicle charging infrastructure at rail stations as well as partnerships with local public transit agencies.

A link to this MOU can be found here: [http://hsr.ca.gov/docs/about/partnerships/mou/MOU\\_with\\_Energy\\_Commission\\_June\\_2016.pdf](http://hsr.ca.gov/docs/about/partnerships/mou/MOU_with_Energy_Commission_June_2016.pdf)

### **About the California Energy Commission**

*The California Energy Commission is the state’s primary energy policy and planning agency. The agency was established by the California Legislature through the Warren-Alquist Act in 1974. It has seven core responsibilities: advancing state energy policy, encouraging energy efficiency, certifying thermal power plants, investing in energy innovation, developing renewable energy, transforming transportation, and preparing for energy emergencies. To learn more, visit the Commission’s website at [www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov), join us on [facebook.com/CAEnergy](https://www.facebook.com/CAEnergy) and follow us at [twitter.com/CalEnergy](https://twitter.com/CalEnergy).*

### **About the High-Speed Rail Authority**

*The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is responsible for planning, designing, building and operation of the first high-speed rail system in the nation. By 2029, the system will run from San Francisco to the Los Angeles basin in under three hours at speeds capable of over 200 miles per hour. The system will eventually extend to Sacramento and San Diego, totaling 800 miles with up to 24 stations. In addition, the Authority is working with regional partners to implement a statewide rail modernization plan that will invest billions of dollars in local and regional rail lines to meet the state’s 21st century transportation needs. To learn more visit the Authority’s website at [www.hsr.ca.gov](http://www.hsr.ca.gov) and join us on [facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail](https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaHighSpeedRail) and follow us at [twitter.com/cahsra](https://twitter.com/cahsra).*