## Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

**Mail to:** State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613  
**For Hand Delivery/Street Address:** 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814  

**SCH #2009091125**

### Project Title: California High-Speed Rail Project, Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye Revised Draft Supplemental E

**Lead Agency:** California High-Speed Rail Authority  
**Contact Person:** Mark A. McLoughlin  
**Phone:** 916-403-6934  
**Mailing Address:** 770 L Street, Suite 620 MS-1  
**City:** Sacramento  
**Zip:** 95814  
**County:** Sacramento

### Project Location: County: Merced, Madera, Fresno, Stanisla  
**City/Nearest Community:** Chowchilla, Fairmead, Madera Acres

**Cross Streets:** Please see attached page  
**Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds):** ° ′ ″ N / ° ′ ″ W  
**Total Acres:** Approx. 55 miles  
**Assessor's Parcel No.:** Various  
**Section:** Various  
**Twp.:** Various  
**Range:** Various  
**Base:**

**Within 2 Miles:** State Hwy #: 59, 99, 132, 140, 152, 233  
**Airports:** Several local airports  
**Railways:** BNSF, UP RR  
**Waterways:** Multiple  
**Schools:** Multiple

### Document Type:

- **CEQA:**  
  - NOP  
  - Early Cons  
  - Supplement/Subsequent EIR  
  - Neg Dec  
  - Mit Neg Dec  
  - Draft EIR  
  - (Prior SCH No.) 2009091125  
- **NEPA:**  
  - NOI  
  - Other: FONSI  
  - Joint Document  
  - Draft EIS  
  - Other: Revised Draft Supp EIR/ 2nd Draft SEIS

### Local Action Type:

- General Plan Update  
- General Plan Amendment  
- General Plan Element  
- Community Plan  
- Specific Plan  
- Master Plan  
- Planned Unit Development  
- Site Plan  
- Rezone  
- Prezone  
- Use Permit  
- Land Division (Subdivision, etc.)  
- Annexation  
- Redevelopment  
- Coastal Permit  
- Coastal Permit  
- Other: Public Works

### Development Type:

- Residential: Units Acres  
- Office: Sq.ft. Acres Employees  
- Commercial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees  
- Industrial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees  
- Educational:  
- Recreational:  
- Water Facilities: Type MGD  
- Transportation: Type Rail (high-speed train)

### Project Issues Discussed in Document:

- Aesthetic/Visual  
- Agricultural Land  
- Air Quality  
- Archeological/Historical  
- Biological Resources  
- Coastal Zone  
- Drainage/Absorption  
- Economic/Jobs  
- Fiscal  
- Flood Plain/Flooding  
- Forest Land/Fire Hazard  
- Geologic/Seismic  
- Minerals  
- Noise  
- Population/Housing Balance  
- Public Services/Facilities  
- Recreation/Parks  
- Schools/Universities  
- Septic Systems  
- Sewer Capacity  
- Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading  
- Solid Waste  
- Toxic/Hazardous  
- Traffic/Circulation  
- Vegetable  
- Water Quality  
- Water Supply/Groundwater  
- Wetland/Riparian  
- Growth Inducement  
- Land Use  
- Cumulative Effects  
- Other:  

### Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Agriculture is the primary land use; other land uses include commercial, industrial, residential, and mixed use.

**Project Description:** (please use a separate page if necessary)  
Please see attached page.
Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X". If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

- X Air Resources Board
- X Boating & Waterways, Department of
- X California Emergency Management Agency
- X California Highway Patrol
- X Caltrans District #6, 10
- X Caltrans Division of Aeronautics
- X Caltrans Planning
- X Central Valley Flood Protection Board
- X Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy
- X Coastal Commission
- X Colorado River Board
- X Conservation, Department of
- X Corrections, Department of
- X Delta Protection Commission
- X Education, Department of
- X Energy Commission
- X Fish & Game Region #4
- X Food & Agriculture, Department of
- X Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of
- X General Services, Department of
- X Health Services, Department of
- X Housing & Community Development
- X Native American Heritage Commission
- X Office of Historic Preservation
- X Office of Public School Construction
- X Parks & Recreation, Department of
- X Pesticide Regulation, Department of
- X Public Utilities Commission
- X Regional WQCB #5
- X Resources Agency
- X Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of
- X S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.
- X San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy
- X San Joaquin River Conservancy
- X Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy
- X State Lands Commission
- X SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
- X SWRCB: Water Quality
- X SWRCB: Water Rights
- X Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
- X Toxic Substances Control, Department of
- X Water Resources, Department of
- X Other: Please see attached page.
- X Other: 

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date March 13, 2020
Ending Date April 27, 2020

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: ICF
Address: 630 K Street
City/State/Zip: Sacramento, CA 95814
Contact: John Cook
Phone: 415-677-7195

Applicant: California High-Speed Rail Authority
Address: 770 L Street, Suite 620 MS-1
City/State/Zip: Sacramento, 95814
Phone: 916-324-1541

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: Signed by Mark McLaughlin, Director of Environmental
Date: March 11, 2020

NOTICE OF COMPLETION - ATTACHMENT

Project Name
California High-Speed Rail Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye

Project Location, Cross Streets
The proposed Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye is located in Merced and Madera Counties near the City of Chowchilla with related electrical facilities extending into Fresno and Stanislaus Counties. The project termini are located at Henry Miller Road/Carlucci Road on the west (lat/long 37° 5'51.46"N - 120°40'48.84"W), Ranch Road/SR 99 on the north (lat/long 37°13’21.29"N - 120°22'40.69"W), and Avenue 19 near Madera Acres on the south (lat/long 37° 1’31.84"N - 120°46'61"W). The nearest major state highway intersection is State Route 99 (SR 99) and State Route 152 (SR 152).

Project Description
The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) proposes to construct and operate the Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye as part of the larger, 800-mile California High-Speed Rail (HSR) system planned throughout California. The HSR system will connect the major population centers of Sacramento, the San Francisco Bay Area, the Central Valley, Los Angeles, the Inland Empire, Orange County, and San Diego. As part of the Merced to Fresno Section of the statewide HSR system, the Central Valley Wye would create the east-west HSR connection between the San Jose to Merced Section to the west and the north-south Merced to Fresno Section to the east.

The Authority is issuing a limited revision of its previously published Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement (Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being or have been carried out by the State of California pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated July 23, 2019 and executed by the Federal Railroad Administration and the State of California.

This document is entitled “Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye Revised Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report/Second Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Biological Resources Analysis” (referred to below as “Revised/Second Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS”).

Following the Authority’s publication of the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS for CEQA purposes in May 2019 and subsequent publication of the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS for NEPA purposes in September 2019, the Authority learned of the new listing by the State of California Department of Fish and Wildlife of a bumble bee species that may be present in the relevant resource study area for the Central Valley Wye alternatives.

The California Fish and Game Commission provided notice on June 18, 2019 that four bumble bee species are candidate species as defined by Section 2068 of the Fish and Game Code. Only one such species, the Crotch bumble bee (Bombus crotchii) is assumed to be present in the resource study area for the Central Valley Wye alternatives based on historic records as well as the presence of suitable habitat for the species.

The sections and appendix comprising the Revised/Second Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS are:

1. Section 3.7, Biological Resources and Wetlands
2. Section 3.19.6.6, Cumulative Impacts, Biological Resources and Wetlands, with text as presented in the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS
3. Appendix 3.7-C-2, Biological Resources and Wetlands Special-Status Wildlife
Within Section 3.7, substantive changes related to the Crotch bumble bee were made in the following subsections:

1. Section 3.7.5.3, Methods for NEPA and CEQA Impact Analysis
2. Section 3.7.6.3, Special-Status Species
3. Section 3.7.7, Environmental Consequences
   - Table 3.7-13 Direct Impacts on Special-Status Wildlife Species Habitat by Central Valley Wye Alternative (acres)
   - Construction Impacts
     - Impact BIO#3 Direct Impacts on Special-Status Wildlife – Invertebrates
     - Impact BIO#4 Indirect Impacts on Special-Status Wildlife – Invertebrates
   - Operations Impacts
     - Impact BIO#27 Direct Impacts on Special-Status Wildlife – Invertebrates
     - Impact BIO#28 Indirect Impacts on Special-Status Wildlife – Invertebrates
4. Section 3.7.8 Mitigation Measures
   - BIO-MM#54: Conduct Surveys and Implement Avoidance Measures for Crotch Bumble Bee
   - BIO-MM#55: Provide Compensatory Mitigation for Impacts on Crotch Bumble Bee

The Authority reviewed other sections of the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS and found, based on research and a review of the evidence, that no other substantive changes would be required, including Section 3.19, Cumulative Impacts.

Section 3.7 includes new mitigation measures related to the Crotch bumble bee. These will be incorporated into the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program and Enforcement Plan (to be included as part of the CEQA/NEPA decision documents).

The text of Section 3.7.4.1, Coordination with Regulatory Agencies for NEPA and CEQA Compliance, has also been revised to reflect that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service issued biological opinions for the project, thereby concluding the consultation requirements under Section 7 of the United States Endangered Species Act. At the time of publication of the Draft Supplemental EIR/EIS, the text stated that these biological opinions were anticipated from both federal agencies. In this document, Section 3.7.4.1 has been revised with the dates the Authority received biological opinions from each agency. These biological opinions will be published as appendices with the Record of Decision for the project.
## Reviewing Agencies Checklist - Other

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency, Secretary, CA</td>
<td>Sacramento, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Environmental Protection Agency, Secretary for Environmental</td>
<td>Sacramento, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection, Sacramento, CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Geologic Survey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Health and Human Services Agency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State Transportation Agency, Secretary, Sacramento, CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Transportation Commission, Executive Director, Sacramento, CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, Mather, CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>