California High-Speed Rail: San Francisco to San Jose Project Section

Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement

Pursuant to:

California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Res. Code § 21000 et seq.)
State of California CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., Tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.)
National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.)
40 C.F.R. Parts 1500–1508, 64 Fed. Reg. 28545, 49 U.S.C. § 303 and 23 U.S.C. § 327

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Abstract: The San Francisco to San Jose Project Section Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement was prepared as a joint document to meet all pertinent requirements of both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Following NEPA Assignment in July 2019, the California High-Speed Rail Authority has assumed the role of federal lead agency on the San Francisco to San Jose Project Section. Specifically, 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 (MOU) dated July 23, 2019, and executed by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the State of California. Prior to the July 23, 2019, MOU, the FRA was the federal lead agency. Accordingly and per the above, the Authority is both the CEQA and NEPA lead agency for this project.

This document considers, describes, and summarizes at a project level of analysis the environmental impacts of a proposed high-speed rail system for intercity travel between San Francisco and San Jose, California. Two end-to-end project alternatives and a no project alternative are analyzed.