## Submission P001 (Wayne Amundson, Operating Engineers Local 3, September 21, 2011)

P001-1

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 touches and very likely will damage every aspect of our
    lives.
               Then you once again dismiss the importance of the
     potential damage by saying here, spend every waking moment
     for the next 60 days, ignore your businesses, ignore your
     families, and all else, and pour over at least 500 pages a
     day and give us an intelligent comment on this. I don't
     think that's possible. I don't think we can get through it
     in that amount of time.
10
               I'm sorry to say, this is not the way to treat the
11
     people who will be most damaged by your train. You owe us a
     proper amount of time to dissimulate and digest the EIR, and
     the proper amount of time for that is six months, at least.
     Thank you.
15
               THE FACILITATOR: Thanks, Helen.
16
               Wayne. After that we have Richard Williams. And
17
     Pamela Leal
18
               SPEAKER AMUNDSON: Good afternoon. I'm Wayne
19
     Amundson with the Operating Engineers Local 3.
20
               My organization represents the workers and plans
     that will be driving machines, operating the equipment that
     will build this big project.
23
               We all know too well how high our unemployment
     rates are in the Valley. The timing of this project
     couldn't be better. We need these jobs. High-speed rail is
                                                           Page 30
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 the only big guns as far as job generating coming up right
               Based on these benefits, we strongly support the
     high-speed rail and look forward to working with you any way
     we can to help its proceeding further. Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
               Richard Williams.
               SPEAKER WILLIAMS: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm
     Richard Williams. I'm a native Californian, born in Taft.
     Spent nine and a half years in the Navy in one of the most
     desolate parts of California, China Lake, so I know what
13
               The high-speed rail, I've read briefly some of the
     proposals, it's a term from a movie, "If you build it, they
     will come." I don't see anything in here about upgrade of
     electrical infrastructure right now. This is driven by
     electricity. Are we expecting to have a rolling brownout
     every time a train passes by a municipality? That's jobs
     right there. That's jobs that money can pay for right now
     to upgrade the infrastructure that is going to be required
     to make this happen no matter what move it takes.
              I am not here either for or against the rail right
     now but I have some questions. Who mandated a
     two-and-a-half hour trip, federal, state, voters, who?
    Nothing should be mandated. You can have targets, you can
                                                           Page 31
```

Response to Submission P001 (Wayne Amundson, Operating Engineers Local 3, September 21, 2011)

#### P001-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-09.

## Submission P002 (Shelli Andranigian, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 high-speed rail as a front yard ornament.
               I am asking for 180 days to review the document.
     And I want to leave you with this. Forgive us our
     trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and
     lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
               SPEAKER ANDRANIGIAN: First of all, good evening
     and welcome to Hanford. My name is Shelli Andranigian and I
 9
     represent the Andranigian family.
10
               We have lived in Laton, California for 50 plus
11
     years and also owned and farmed 150-acre parcel of land
     since 1945. This home place is along the coal slough of the
     Kings River and also part of the proposed high-speed rail
14
     route.
15
               My folks have been humanitarians, they have helped
16
     Kings River Conservation District, KRCD, save the town of
17
     Laton in 1969 when our family furnished and built levies to
18
     keep this town from flooding. It took KRCD eight years for
19
     them to bring someone to level the ground where the dirt had
     been excavated so our family could again farm this 30 acres
     of prime farmland they have taken. My dad also farmed and
     saved the land of his neighbors, the Anuey (phonetic) family
23
     in Kingsburg, California, while they were interned in World
24
     War II.
25
               We have two properties in the proposed high-speed
                                                           Page 102
```

P002-1

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 rail's pathway. We are four minutes from the 135 acre home
    place and a 240 acre farm across and adjacent to Highway 43
    by the coal slough of the Kings River. Our land, like many
     other farms and dairies in this Valley, are rich and
     fertile, providing for those all over the world. This is
     also the busiest time of the year as it is harvest season.
               California's farms and dairies have the best to
     offer the world over. I have traveled abroad on both light
     and speed-train so I should do.
10
               I do have a long list of questions as I try to make
     sense out of 30,000 pages of documents in a short time frame
     in order to study and comment on, not just here in a three
     minute allotment but more extensively by October 13th --
14
               THE FACILITATOR: Shelli, could you slow down a
15
     little bit for the court reporter.
16
               SPEAKER ANDRANIGIAN: Okay.
17
               While I appreciate the fifteen extra days to do so,
     comment, review and question from 45 to 60 days, 180 days is
     more necessary, realistic, and fair. It is especially
     important for those of us in the proposed high-speed rail
     route to have ample time to look over and fully prepare for
     something that is not only impacting Californian's today,
     tomorrow, next week, next month, next year, and the years
     following, but for all future generations to come the world
25
                                                          Page 103
```

## Submission P002 (Shelli Andranigian, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
I have two requests. The first is to please fully
 1
     consider extending our comment and review period to 180
 3
     days.
               The second is to propose -- the second is to
     properly address correspondence sent to us. My name is not
     just "owner/occupant," it is legally Shelli Andranigian.
               Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
               Gordon Tessman. Then Maddy Wisecarver and after
10
     that Mary Jane Fagundes.
11
               Please state your name.
12
               SPEAKER TESSMAN: Hi there, my name is Gordon
13
     Tessman and I'm a resident of Kings County.
14
               I don't know why you're here and I wish we didn't
15
     have to deal with this. High-speed rail is a travesty.
     It's not something that we want, not something that we need,
17
     it's not something that we can afford, we've got no place to
18
     put it.
19
               If we were to plan a 3,000 cow dairy in downtown
20
     San Francisco, how long do you think you'll have the EIR
21
     reports reviewed before it was shot down in flames.
22
               This is a travesty upon this area. You are taking
23
     all of these people's way of life and trying to change it
     through your social engineering and it's just flat out
     wrong. You can all sit up here and scowl or do whatever it
                                                           Page 104
```

## Response to Submission P002 (Shelli Andranigian, September 21, 2011)

#### P002-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-07.



P003-1

## Submission P003 (Fred Bader, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1
   Browning?
               THE FACILITATOR: Yes.
               SPEAKER IN CROWD: She's not here, can I take her
     place?
               THE FACILITATOR: No, if you can fill out a speaker
     card and we'll get to you.
               We have Larry Peichot.
 8
               State your name.
               SPEAKER PEICHOT: My name is Larry Peichot, I was
     from Hanford, on the middle of the road, and the only thing
11
     I got to say is we got history repeating itself, and it's a
     history I do not want to see.
13
               I'm referring to May 11th, 1880, Tulare County.
     Some of us know it as "Mussel Slough Tragedy." I hope it
     doesn't come to that, but it looks like it, not violent, but
     it's going to come to that because we have people who do not
17
     believe in compromising and compromising is what a great
18
     leader is. You can compromise, there's always compromise.
19
     Thank you.
20
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
21
               John Rangey. Is John here, I'll set the card
22
     aside.
23
               Fred Bader. And after that we have John Tos.
24
               SPEAKER BADER: Good afternoon, folks, you may
    address me as Fred Bader, and I want to say I'm 100 percent
                                                            Page 47
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

satisfied with the present rail system we have.

2 My wife and I have used it so much we go on a first name basis with station personnel and the conductors. The only improvement I'd like to see on that is to dig a tunnel through the Sierra Madre Mountains so that we don't have to get off the train, we can take the train all the way to the Amtrak. And if you think it's a hard thing to do, Switzerland just made a tunnel like that and they didn't have any problems, and I think we can do this too. And also I can ride a train from here to Hanford for under \$3 -here to Fresno for only \$3, could you beat that? 12 THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, John. 13 SPEAKER TOS: Thank you. My name is John Tos, our family has been farming in Kings County for well over 100 years. The train is going to impact us in six different parcels, three of the parcels we own, three of the parcels we have long term 25-year rents. No one has addressed long-term rents on parcels, you need to do that. 19 In our particular area this is our headquarters. I've figured out that we will be driving an additional 150,000 miles a year because Ninth Avenue, Volkner Avenue,

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

carbon footprint that's going to cost?

25

Excelsior Avenue, all that is going to be impacted, that's

going to cost us \$75,000 more a year. Can you think of the

Whenever a foreign force comes in here as an



Page 48

## Response to Submission P003 (Fred Bader, September 21, 2011)

#### P003-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-14.

P004-1

## Submission P004 (Jessica Bowden, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 make an underpass under the train and it will not wipe out
    near as much land if it should ever come to that. Thank
               THE FACILITATOR: Jessica Bowden.
               State your name, please.
               SPEAKER BOWDEN: My name is Jessica Bowden, I moved
     here from LA seven years ago now. My parents and I drove
     the five hours it took to see me off to Fresno State.
     During that time we talked about all the favorite memories
     we had of me growing up with my brothers, and just
10
11
     everything, holidays. We would have lost those memories if
     we would have rode the train.
13
               Living this far away from my parents has helped me
     learn how to become an adult and no longer had my hand held
15
     by my mom and dad.
16
               Once I graduated from Fresno State, I moved to
17
     Hanford and I learned the importance of our farmland. I
18
     didn't know the importance before, when I lived in LA, all I
19
     knew is that if I wanted food, I went to the grocery store.
     I knew milk came from cows but I didn't know how important
     it was or how often you had to milk those cows.
22
               When my friends come from LA, the first thing they
     say and they smell is the smell from the dairies, and they
     say how disgusting it is. I always respond with, it's not a
    disgusting smell, that's the smell of hard work, labor, and
                                                           Page 118
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
monev.
 2
               That smell, those trees, and those plants coming
     out of the ground that you now want to put a train over.
     that's my meal, those are your meals, those are your kids'
     meals, your grandkids' meals, and this nation's meals.
               This train may be important some day but the
     importance right now is keeping meals at an affordable cost
     for everyone. We're in depression regardless of what this
     nation wants to believe. Poverty is on the rise. Let's
     figure out how to get out of this depression that we're
     currently in before spending more that we don't have for a
     train we currently don't need, nor can ride. Thank you.
13
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
14
               Lou Martinez. Lou Martinez. No. Okay.
15
               Paul Muradian.
16
               SPEAKER MURADIAN: Good evening, my name is Paul
     Muradian, and our property -- like my brother already spoke,
     our property is real close to the rail line.
19
               And I was curious, when did the Rail Authority
     decide to run the rail through Kings County, which is not a
     transportation corridor, unless you consider eight and a
     half a transportation corridor. We really have a hard time
     seeing cars out there, but you're going to come through the
     middle of some of the best ag land in the United States.
25
               Have you gentleman been through these properties?
                                                          Page 119
```

## Response to Submission P004 (Jessica Bowden, September 21, 2011)

#### P004-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-14.



## Submission P005 (Ross Browning, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

P005-1

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 County 57.3 said no, and I really think that there will be a
 2 fight to put this along in this particular area. So I would
    hope that you take that into consideration. That's it.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Beverly.
 5
               Ross Browning
               SPEAKER BROWNING: Good afternoon. My name is Ross
     Browning and I'm a resident of Laton, California.
               I've been sitting there changing what I was going
     to say to you four, or five, six times because you keep
     hearing it, I know that you've heard it before, you're going
11
     to hear it again and again, but there's no point for me to
     say it. So I figure, well, I'm going to take my time and
     try to get across exactly what a billion dollars is.
14
               Now, this project is more than a billion dollars,
15
     but let's just talk about what a billion dollars is. We've
     never had it in our hands, we've never seen one, we'll never
17
     ever have that much money in our life, we don't know what it
18
     can buy, what it can do, we don't know what the benefits it
19
     can do, we don't know what the damage it can do -- well, we
20
     have a pretty good idea about the damage.
21
               But a billion dollars. If I say that one dollar
     equals a minute, so if I have a billion dollars I have now a
     billion minutes. What does what mean. That's
     166,666 hours, or I'm going to round these up, there's no
    point in playing with the decimals, or 6,944 days, or
                                                           Page 92
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

U.S. Department

of Transportation Federal Railroad

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 992 weeks, or 221 -- 229 months, or 19 years. One billion
     minutes equals 19 years.
               If this project is 4 billion dollars or 6 billion
     dollars or 10 billion dollars which it won't be built for,
     multiply that by a factor of ten for ten years, 10 billion
     dollars, you'll find that you're up in 190 years. This is a
     lot of money, folks.
               This is a lot of money. This is money that we
     don't have. This is money that we're never going to get,
     but if this thing goes through as it's planned, I won't be
     around, I'm not going to really worry about it, but I will
     feel sorry for my kids, my grandkids, my great grandkids,
     who I'll never know. I plan to go home and write them a
     letter saying, you know, I let you down, but this is a big
     one that I let you guys down on because you're going to be
     paying for this thing for the rest of your lives.
17
               We will pay for this thing in the debt service of
     that bond, if the bond ever gets sold, we will be paying for
     that thing for about 20 years before any of us will ever be
     able to ride on it. Ouite interesting. How many people
     want to buy a ticket to Disneyland and let it sit around for
     20 years before you can go and enjoy it. I just can't
     understand it.
              I may be back for more so recycle my card would
    you. Thank you.
                                                           Page 93
```

Response to Submission P005 (Ross Browning, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

#### P005-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-14.



## Submission P006 (Ross Browning, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

P006-1

P006-2

P006-3

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 those little parcels, are you doing to drill wells for all
   of those little parcels that are left over on the sides, put
     new pipe lines, new drip systems for those folks, is that
     all going to be all mitigated out of this?
               Also there's the environmental aspects of it.
     You're going to go over the Kings River. You know this used
     to be Yokut Indian area, and have you had -- have you talked
     to anyone about Indian artifacts? There's -- they found
     bones on one of our places at one time. Has that been
     discussed, when you cross a burial ground, or do you have
10
11
     native Indians on your panel to discuss this? You're going
     right through the middle of our grounds. Thank you.
13
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
14
               Ross Browning.
15
               SPEAKER BROWNING: Thank you. The name is still
16
     Ross Browning, and I have to thank Paul, he took about half
17
     of my points, so I'm going to start all over again.
18
               I know that you people are not -- you're not here
19
     tonight to answer, you're not here to smile, you're here to
     look stone cold and sober, okay. You can smile a little bit
     if you like. But I know I'm not going to get an answer from
     you. But what does bother me is all the comments that we
23
     turn in, I just don't see any answers coming, so that's my
24
     comment on that.
25
               You refuse to follow the guidelines set out by
                                                           Page 121
```

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proposition 1A, and that is using existing transportation corridors, such as I-5 or the 99. You say you've done it, you say you studied it, you say you came to a conclusion and you got rid of it. I don't see any of that. Help me out. Help me find where that is. Show me make those documents available to me and anybody that wants to see them in the same detail as the current EIR and EIS is. If they're at the same level, we can weigh them, we're not that backward. And we all look forward to receiving your business plans to see how you plan to pay for this budget. You've already heard a lot about the fact that there is no money, I don't see it coming up. The good tooth fairy doesn't drop billions of dollars on people's plates. 14 As far as where to put this train. I think it was John Toss that mentioned you could -- as you've heard plenty of people say, well, they do it in Europe or Japan all the time, they have got these trains going all over, in Japan -let's say Holland -- Netherlands have got more canals than -- almost as many canals as we have in Kings County, and when they wanted to put a train in, they put it underground. The little puppy goes underground and snakes along there for 50 to 100 miles, roughly, I haven't got it in kilometers yet, and pops up to a service station. There's nothing wrong with that. In fact, I'll beat the band for you, I'll carry the flag. Drop that puppy underground in Kings County Page 122

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P006-1

## Submission P006 (Ross Browning, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P006-3

```
1 and don't come up until we see it in Bakersfield, I'm all
     for it. Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. Aaron.
               SPEAKER FUKUDA: There was some comments from the
     group of California for High-Speed Rail and they maligned
     some farmers for selling property for development rights,
     and I just want to clarify. Kings County is not a county
     that does that. We are different than the other counties.
     I think you brought this through and you didn't recognize
     that. But we put our hand out and we wanted to talk to you,
10
11
     you slapped it away.
12
               So here are some facts. Actually, Kings County has
13
     managed growth better than any of the other cities along the
     Highway 99 corridor. I work in Tulare, I will vouch for
15
     that. Tulare has what are called tumbleweed subdivisions
16
     right now, there is nothing going on there. They did not
17
     pay attention to what was going on.
18
               They have a good working relationship with their
19
     city, city of Hanford, city of Corcoran, there's not a lot
20
     of incorporated cities within Kings County.
21
               The Cortez Knots Hurt Bird Act of 2000 required
     counties to look at their sphere of influence and their
23
     municipal service areas.
24
               In 2008 Kings County went back to do their sphere
    of influence and reduced, reduced their sphere of influence,
                                                           Page 123
```

# Response to Submission P006 (Ross Browning, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

#### P006-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02, FB-Response-GENERAL-10.

#### P006-2

The Business Plan identifies a phased implementation strategy for delivering the system over time. It is typical for major infrastructure projects of this nature, which require a number of years to plan, design and construct, to not have all of the necessary funding secured at the outset of project construction. Typically transportation systems like this are built in a series of phases over a period of time and as funding becomes available. That is the case with major freeways and major transit projects such as the BART system in San Francisco and the urban rail system in Los Angeles. Funding has been secured for the Initial Construction Section in the Central Valley and as additional funds are secured from a variety of sources, the project will be expanded in a series of phases. Each phase is designed to provide independent benefits should no additional funding become available. By implementing the program in phases, work can be matched to available funding. The decision to move ahead with the initial section in the Central Valley does not commit the state to proceeding with the full program.

#### P006-3

Three types of HST technology were analyzed by the California Intercity High-Speed Rail Commission for the Statewide Program EIR/EIS (Authority and FRA 2005). These technologies were Steel-Wheel-on-Steel-Rail at Lower Speed (below 200 miles per hour [mph]); Magnetic Levitation Technology (maglev); and Steel-Wheel-on-Steel-Rail (VHS; above 200 mph).

The Authority's enabling legislation, Senate Bill (SB) 1420 (chaptered September 24, 1996, Chapter 796, Statute of 1996), defines high-speed rail as "intercity passenger rail service that utilizes an alignment and technology that makes it capable of sustained speeds of 200 mph (320 kph) or greater." Technologies below 200 mph were therefore eliminated from further consideration. This direction is consistent with foreign HST experience, the experience of the northeast corridor (Boston-New York-Washington, D.C.), and HST studies done elsewhere in the United States, which show that to compete with air transportation and generate high ridership and revenue, the intercity HST travel times between the major transportation markets must be below 3 hours.

#### P006-3

VHS (Steel-Wheel-on-Steel-Rail at Very High Speeds [above 200 mph]) and maglev technologies.

Although a completely dedicated train technology using a separate track/guideway would be required on the majority of the proposed systems for both technologies, requiring such separation everywhere in the system would prohibit direct HST service to certain heavily constrained terminus sections (i.e., the San Francisco Peninsula from San Jose to San Francisco and the existing rail corridor between Los Angeles Union Station and Orange County). Because of extensive urban development and severely constrained rights-of-way, HST service in these terminus sections would need to share physical infrastructure (tracks) with existing passenger rail services in existing or slightly modified corridors. A maglev system, in addition to being a more costly technology, requires separate and distinct guideway configurations that preclude the sharing of rail infrastructure. Because a dedicated (exclusive guideway) high-speed rail service along existing right-of-way corridors in all segments of the system would be infeasible, use of maglev technology for portions of the project would preclude direct HST service without passenger transfer and would not satisfy the travel time requirements of the project purpose and need. Other rail transportation configurations, including monorail, were eliminated from further consideration for not meeting this basic system requirement. A VHS system would be compatible with other trains sharing the tracks. The potential for utilization of shared track allows for individual project segments to meet independent utility requirements. By comparison, maglev technology does not lend itself to incremental improvements and could not satisfy independent utility requirements or meet the project's blended system approach. By taking advantage of the existing rail infrastructure, a shared-use configuration would be mostly at-grade. Shared-use options are less costly and would result in fewer environmental impacts compared with exclusive quideway options. Also, improved regional commuter service (electrified, fully gradeseparated, with additional track and security features) will help mitigate the impacts along existing rail corridors.

Shared-use improvements in these corridors would potentially improve automobile traffic flow at rail crossings and reduce noise impacts because a grade-separated system could eliminate trains blowing warning horns throughout the alignment. Shared-use options would provide the opportunity for a partnership with right-of-way owners and

# Response to Submission P006 (Ross Browning, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### P006-3

commuter rail operators and would provide the opportunity to incrementally improve network segments. For these reasons, maglev technology was eliminated from further investigation in the Final Program EIR/EIS, is not part of the project description, and does not require further consideration in this project-level EIR/EIS.

## Submission P007 (Steve Carpentieri, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 my concerns.
               For 62 years my family has been farming the land
     that the High-Speed Rail Authority plans to cut into two
     pieces. After 62 years of improving the land and providing
     food and fiber for U.S. citizens and the world, we should
     have some authority also.
               There will be no access to the back part of the
     property, as P.G. said, if the rail goes as it's planned at
     this time. Has the High-Speed Rail Authority taken into
     consideration in their cost analysis all of the accesses
11
     they are going to have to make to isolate parcels -- to
     isolated parcels of land? These accesses should be
     convenient to the farmer and their equipment. They should
     not have to go miles and miles out of their way on public
     highways to reach the access roads. I'm sure the public
    highways are not going appreciate more tractors on their
17
     roads either.
18
               Take the high-speed rail out of California fertile
19
     farm and dairy lands. Keep our life-sustaining jobs of
     providing milk and other foods and fiber for our families
     and for the generations to come. Thank you.
22
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Barbara. Steve.
23
               SPEAKER CARPENTIERI: Hello, my name is Steve
     Carpentieri, and I don't represent any farming interest or
    politicians. I have a house here in Hanford.
                                                           Page 22
```

P007-1

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
Generally speaking, my idea of high-speed rail is
    that this money could be spent better elsewhere. We have a
    state drowning in debt, we have companies leaving, jobs
     leaving, and I disagree with Mr. Costa that this is going to
     provide more jobs, I don't think it is. Plainly speaking, I
     don't think it is. I think it's going to drag on and drag
     on and drag on.
               I think there are other and better ways for money
     to be spent in California. I think instead of tearing up
     farms and hurting the farmer, as the environmentalists in
     this state and the Democrats in this state like to do, we
     should be promoting our farms. That's the businesses --
     those are the businesses that create money in this state,
     and create jobs, and that's what we need to protect, not
     tear up, slice up, cut up, and divide. That's how I feel
16
     about it.
17
               Now, I had a couple questions for you, maybe you
     can answer them later.
19
               First of all, your chart in there says that by
     2012, second quarter, you're going to start construction.
     Now, that sounds to me like a rosey estimate, you guys have
     like a worst case scenario estimate, maybe 2015, 2018?
23
               And as this experimental section gets put in the
     middle of the state, experimental section, because we
    haven't seen the plans for the north and the south other
                                                            Page 23
```



## Submission P007 (Steve Carpentieri, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 than a line drawn, I haven't seen environmental studies, so
    you put this section in the center and that ties into your
     project, that sinks you into the ground into California,
     that's how you guys get your hold on all of us taxpayers,
     get this anchor in the ground.
               Now, my other question would be is let's say this
     section is completed and we have problems in the north and
     the south, and who's going to maintain this section, how's
     it going to be maintained? Are you guys going to run a
     train on it up and down from Bakersfield to Fresno?
11
               So those are some of the questions that I have.
     That's how I feel about it, folks, and thank you very much
     for this opportunity to express my opinion. Thank you.
14
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
15
               John Hutson.
16
               SPEAKER HUTSON: Hello, my name is John Hutson.
17
     I'm here today representing the building and construction
18
     trades for Fresno, Madera, Tulare, and Kings County.
19
               My grandfather was a farmer in Selma. We grew up
20
     on farms. But just a few statistics about our Valley
21
     currently before you get started.
22
               The Brookings Institute out of Washington, DC has
23
     labeled Fresno County Appalachia West. Fresno County has
     the largest pockets and the highest pockets of poverty in
     the nation.
                                                           Page 24
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P007-2

## Response to Submission P007 (Steve Carpentieri, September 21, 2011)

#### P007-1

The text of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS has been revised, and the Authority estimates that property acquisition and construction for the Fresno to Bakersfield Section of the HST System would begin in late 2013/early 2014.

#### P007-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-13.

The Authority would maintain all HST facilities, including the right-of-way and fence, and provide appropriate weed and pest control. Maintenance activities are described in the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Chapter 2, Section 2.6, Operations and Service Plan. Section 2.2.8, Maintenance Facilities, describes the different maintenance facilities and activities that would be in place to ensure continued maintenance of the tracks, right-of-way, and train sets.

## Submission P008 (Stephen Coral, Kings County Office of Education, September 21, 2011)

P008-1

P008-2

P008-3

P008-4

## This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 town, this is, no, we've been robbed, let's stop the project
     now.
 3
               I support this project. Build it. I want to see
     shovels in the ground in 2012, and I would like to see some
     of our local officials stop the hypocrisy.
               Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you Roger.
 8
               Stephen Coral.
               SPEAKER CORAL: Hi, thank you. My name is Steve
     Coral. I'm the assistant superintendant for the Kings
11
     County Office of Education, and I want to thank you for
13
               We have a few issues that we wanted to talk about.
     First of all, in the county office, we provide special
15
     education services, support community schools, career ed.
16
     We're also a partner with the thirteen school districts in
17
     Kings County and provide support for them.
18
               We're going to be sending a formal response to the
19
     Draft EIR, but just want to state that our response is
     neutral. We're not looking at the alignment, we're looking
     at the impact of K-12, the impact to schools and to
22
     students.
23
               In March of 2009, the county office center
     responded to the notice of preparation. In that letter, we
     -- and that's documented in the appendix J, agency responses
                                                            Page 18
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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of Transportation Federal Railroad This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

to the notice of preparation, pages 600 through 611. In that we stated we wanted certain areas, such as student transportation, separation of districts, proximity of school sites, safe routes, student safety, and other issues included in the Draft EIR. When I look at it, I don't see that in the package. So another issue that we have also is that the Authority has a list of the schools -- well, in that letter we also gave an attachment of all the school sites and districts, and in the Draft EIR, section A, the county offices, both in Kings County, but also for the Kern and all the way into Merced, were not included in the distribution list, so it looked -- it appears that county offices and school districts should be included in that distribution 15 list. 16 We also -- I can't find a map anywhere that shows the relation of high-speed rail to school district maps. How does it go through a district and how is it impacted? We would like to see those issues addressed. There are several other issues that we would like. Again, we'll have a formal response. One is included in, again, the response, the notice of preparation, addressing those concerns, and also analyzing student populations and projections. 25 The report, on section 3.12, page 73, also states Page 19

## Submission P008 (Stephen Coral, Kings County Office of Education, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P008-4

```
1 about the displacement of students, but doesn't state
    specifically how that would impact districts. How many
     students will, for instance, Kit Carson lose because of the
     high-speed rail. How many students will go to Hanford El
     because they will move into that district. Those are really
     important issues, they're not simple revenue limits, it
     impacts the financial and also budget and facility issues.
 8
               So we thank you for your consideration and we'll
 9
     work and answer any questions the Authority may have to
10
     answer those issues. Thanks.
11
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Steven.
12
               State your name.
13
               SPEAKER STUBER: My name is Paul Stuber, I've been
     before the Board a couple of times already. I want to make
15
     sure that my voice is heard.
16
               I have a farm and right now there's a little
17
     uncertainty, depending on which route north of Corcoran that
18
     is chosen, and it's going to cut off either 80 or 100 acres
19
     off from access, and it's a half mile trip back there.
20
               I estimated, between irrigation and inspection and
21
     other husbandry operations, we make about 1200 trips a year
     back there, and if we don't have some kind of access, it's a
23
     seventeen mile round trip and I don't know if that's going
     to be -- I don't think that was considered on this economic
     impact report, but it's a definite cost.
                                                            Page 20
```

## Response to Submission P008 (Stephen Coral, Kings County Office of Education, September 21, 2011)

#### P008-1

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #15, and Volume II, Technical Appendix 3.12-B, for analysis of the potential effects on school districts.

#### P008-2

A full listing of the parties who received the Draft EIR/EIS and the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS can be found in Chapter 8, EIR/EIS Distribution. Also, schools and school districts that fall within 1/4 mile of any alternative alignment received a hazardous materials notification letter pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21151.4. Additional information regarding the notification to schools and school districts can be found in Section 3.10, Hazardous Materials and Wastes, of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS.

#### P008-3

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #15, and Volume II, Appendix 3.12-B, for analysis of the potential effects on school districts.

#### P008-4

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #15, and Volume II, Appendix 3.12-B, for analysis of the potential effects on school districts.



## Submission P009 (Jim Costa, United States House of Representatives, 20th Congressional District, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 document from the regional consultant team. We also have a
   high-speed rail representative there too that can talk about
    right-of-way process.
               And then part of the management team with us
     tonight is Tom Tracy down at the end of the table.
               I'd like to take a minute at this point and
     recognize some of the elected officials that have come here
     tonight, and I'd first like to introduce and welcome Ian
 9
     Lamay, staff to Congressman Jim Costa.
10
               MR. LAMAY: Good afternoon. As introduced, my name
11
     is Ian Lamay, and I'm here representing Congressman Jim
     Costa this afternoon. He sends his regrets as he is in
     Washington, DC this week. He sent a prepared statement that
     he wanted me to read.
15
               "Thank you all for attending today's public hearing
     on the high-speed rail draft environmental reports.
17
     High-speed rail in California has, over the course of two
18
     decades, matured from just an idea and now has potential of
19
     becoming a reality. Open communication between the
     Authority and every Californian will help ensure that the
     project moves full speed ahead.
22
               "The responsiveness of this of the Authority to
23
     staff my constituents' concerns has at times left much to be
     desired. I'm hopeful that the Authority will continue the
     steps they have taken to ensure every Californian of the
                                                             Page 5
```

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This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P009-1

```
1 Valley is listened to, respected, and takes seriously their
     thoughts and concerns.
               "California's high-speed rail system will succeed
     only if we do it right. With unemployment in the San
     Joaquin Valley well into the double digits, we need
     high-speed rail now more than ever. This transformative
     project will connect the economic powerhouses of California,
     modernize our transportation system, and create hundreds of
     thousands of jobs, both in the construction phase and
10
     afterward.
11
               "High-speed rail will be a true game changer for
     this Valley and California, and your participation today
     will help make that a reality."
14
               The Congressman also wanted me to get it on the
     record that over two weeks ago he submitted a letter to the
     Authority requesting an extension of 30 days to the 60-day
     public comment period to a full 90. He still stands
     steadfast on that. As well as there's a continual open
     invitation to all Authority board members, specifically
     Chairman Umberg, to come visit Kings County and meet those
     who are being impacted. Thank you for having us today.
22
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Thank you.
23
               We also have Kings County Supervisor Doug Verboon.
2.4
               Did you want to say something?
25
               MR. VERBOON: Thank you. Thanks for coming. My
                                                             Page 6
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P009-1

Response to Submission P009 (Jim Costa, United States House of Representatives, 20th Congressional District, September 21, 2011)

#### P009-1

The Authority has and remains committed to soliciting, engaging, and responding to public feedback as the project progresses.



## Submission P010 (Leonard Dias, Kit Carson Union School District, September 21, 2011)

P010-1

P010-2

P010-3

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 consideration these factors and I would appreciate it if
     they would take a closer look at situations as these. Thank
    vou.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Angela -- Kayli.
               Kayli, in terms of Corcoran, is this on -- there's
     multiple alignments in Corcoran, is this for the bypass of
     Corcoran or through-town alignment?
 9
               SPEAKER IN CROWD: It's all of them.
10
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: It's affected by all of them.
11
               SPEAKER LEAL: Yes.
12
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Okay. Thank you.
13
               THE FACILITATOR: After Leonard we have Karen Stout
     and Phyllis Browning.
15
               SPEAKER DIAS: Good afternoon, my name is Leonard
16
     Dias, and I'm the board president of Kit Carson Union School
17
     District
18
               Back in April of this year, we joined the Kings
19
     County Board of Supervisors, along with other Kings County
20
     agencies, in demanding coordination of the High-Speed
     Authority. We were told that you believe that you are bound
     by the state and federal laws regarding infrastructural
     projects going through jurisdiction of other state entities,
     but that you have taken into consideration our comments and
     that all our questions would be answered in the EIR report.
                                                            Page 40
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 I'm not sure how you can address our concerns and give viable options that you have not had interaction with our district to understand who we are and the unique issues that we face every day. We as a district gave you our concerns in writing back in April 1st. By destroying the Ponderosa neighborhood, you will be taking out the homes of families who come, or will come to our school, thus having us lose current enrollment and also future enrollments which will cost our district \$6,585.71 per student per year. Second, since the Ponderosa neighborhood is where most of our current growth is coming from at this time, you're also cutting our school from the income from new building permit fees. 15 Third, there will be a definite negative impact on land investment in our district. The routes you have will be cutting through the western portion of our district which is cutting us off from the projected future growth for when the city of Hanford comes east. By taking the high-speed rail off existing transportation corridors and cutting through our district's families' farms and dairies, you have now drawn a line in the dirt affecting property value and creating a psychological barrier where no one will want to build near the HSR or be inside the other side of the tracks, where once again you are hurting our district Page 41

## Submission P010 (Leonard Dias, Kit Carson Union School District, September 21, 2011) - Continued

P010-6

## This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P010-3

1 financially.2 Four

Fourth, the current -- with the current alignment option of dissecting and destroying the prime farmland in

4 our district, you are also bringing about the loss of

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{5}}$   $\ensuremath{\mathsf{agricultural}}$  jobs that a lot of our parents depend on. When

6 these jobs are gone, so goes our parents and our district,

7 and, again, loss of income to our school.

P010-5

8 Fifth was the possible effect of our current bus

9 routes, mainly Lacey Boulevard, which was just recently

10 extended to Seventh Avenue and Highway 43. This was done to

11 help with the negative impact of Kit Carson School thus

12 closing -- of them closing the Highway 198 off from cross

13 traffic.

14 In the EIR it did mention that the rail will be 15 elevated over Lacey so neighborhoods do have access, but no

16 mention if it will still be open for traffic between

17 Highway 43 and Seventh Avenue.

Being a part of the school board, we have to be

19 good stewards of the public funds, and these hard economic

times, this gets even harder. Even now we are being told to

 $21\,$   $\,$  accept cuts because certain income projections that were

22 used to balance the state budget aren't coming true, and,

23 yes, they will have to cut 1.9 billion dollars to California

 $24\,$   $\,$  schools sometime in January, but that's okay, we can take

the 1.9 billion from the kids --

Page 42

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
THE FACILITATOR: Leonard.
               SPEAKER DIAS: I'm almost done. I deserve a little
     bit more time since I haven't been talked to as a district.
               The California schools to build -- take the 1.9
     from the kids of California to build a train that has far
     exceeded the cost estimates that we were sold to -- that was
     sold to California voters, will go through prime farmland,
     and ruin Kings County major industry, agriculture. And when
     there's no clear idea where the rest of the money will come
     from to complete this project, this doesn't sound like the
     Authority or the state are being very good stewards of the
     public funds. Again, we ask for six months to review.
13
     Thank you.
14
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
15
               SPEAKER STOUT: Good afternoon, my name is Karen J.
     Stout and I'm a resident and farmer in Kings County.
17
               I'd like to address the ag land section 3.14 in
     volume one. On the very first page it says that -- under
     the federal, it says that the Farm Land Protection Policy
     Act of 1981 purpose is to, quote, minimize the extent to
     which federal programs contribute to unnecessary conversion
     of farmland to nonagricultural uses, end quote.
23
               And since federal dollars will be needed and used
     on your project, your project falls under NEPA, the National
    Environmental Policy Act.
                                                            Page 43
```



## Response to Submission P010 (Leonard Dias, Kit Carson Union School District, September 21, 2011)

#### P010-1

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #15, and Volume II, Appendix 3.12-B, for analysis of the potential effects on school districts.

#### P010-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-05.

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #15, and Volume II, Appendix 3.12-B, for analysis of the potential effects on school districts.

See Volume I, Section 3.12, Section 4, for a description of the fiscal conditions of the affected counties and cities in the study area. See Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #3, Impact SO #4, and Impact SO #13, for effects on property and sales tax revenues.

#### P010-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-02, FB-Response-SO-05.

The potential for the project to disrupt or divide established communities is discussed in Chapter 3.12. This discussion includes the potential divisions resulting from the removal of homes, businesses, and important community facilities as well as other environmental impacts such as increases in noise or traffic. The section recognizes that one of the key community facilities in the Ponderosa Road community is the Kit Carson Elementary School.

In the Ponderosa Road community, potentially up to half of the existing homes could be displaced by the project. Remaining homes would be close (less than 200 feet) to the new HST guideway, which would be elevated 40 feet above ground level. The Kings/Tulare Regional Station–East Alternative would be built on the elevated guideway in the immediate vicinity of this community, just north of the existing freight-rail tracks. Given these impacts, the project would affect community character, social interactions, and community cohesion by displacing potentially half of the households, and by exposing the remaining rural residential homes to increased noise, visual, and traffic impacts. This would be of substantial intensity under NEPA and a significant impact under CEQA. Mitigation Measure SO-1: Implement measures to reduce impacts associated with the division of existing rural residential communities in the

U.S. Department

of Transportation Federal Railroad

#### P010-3

unincorporated areas (east of Hanford, northeast of Corcoran, and between Shafter and Bakersfield), was developed to reduce the impacts associated with the division of existing communities, including Ponderosa by conducting special outreach to affected homeowners and residents to fully understand their special relocation needs. Even with this mitigation, the impact related to the division of existing communities would remain significant.

The introduction of a linear feature will have impacts on properties immediately adjacent to its location and has the potential to create a psychological barrier in a community. Hanford is already divided by linear features such as Route 43, Route 198, irrigation canals, and existing freight rail lines. The HST would become an additional linear feature but, because of its need for a grade-separated track, transportation from east to west would be maintained across existing roadways, and would therefore not create a psychological barrier in the community.

#### P010-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

For more information on the economic effects on agriculture, see Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #16.

#### P010-5

No alternatives propose to close Lacey Boulevard between Highway 43 and Seventh Avenue.

#### P010-6

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-07.



## Submission P011 (Megan Dias, Hanford Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011)

P011-1

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 Joaquin Valley. We're talking about ripple effects across
     the whole Valley that are going to result in Kings County
     impacts.
               You have not complied with state and federal laws
     on terms of your environmental impact and impact statement.
     And we do have a letter that goes to Rebecca Nicholas which
     she probably received today, and this is in response to
     Federal Rail Administration not wanting to meet with our
     board of supervisors. In relation to Federal Railroad
     Administration, you're not even following your own
10
11
     procedures that you have outlined in your own documents that
     state that you will -- you will engage in consultation with
     the local agencies to address these impacts.
14
               In conclusion, you are repeating history. You
15
     heard 130 years ago Southern Pacific Railroad took property
     away and there was a big gun fight. Today there's not going
17
     to be a gun fight, and that is with this and the attorneys,
18
     and that is what you're destined for.
19
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Greg.
20
               Megan Dias. Beverly Rodriguez, after that, and
     then Ross Browning.
22
               If you could state your name, please.
               SPEAKER DIAS: Hello, my name is Megan Dias, and
23
24
     I'm the president of the Hanford FFA.
25
               First of all, I'm a student at Hanford High School.
                                                            Page 89
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 I'm going to college next year. I am planning on paying for
    tuition, but if I'm going to pay for tuition, which is
    supposedly going up higher this next year and probably still
     rising in future years, how am I supposed to pay for the
     high-speed rail. If I'm going to go up north somewhere to
     college or down south, which I'm planning on, I won't be
     able to use the high-speed rail at all because I don't have
     the money to.
               And keeping it in Kings County. There's a lot of
     family traditions going on. There's 569 properties going
     through in Kings County that are going to be affected by the
     high-speed rail. A lot of family tradition is going to be
13
14
               It is -- this high-speed rail is going through a
     lot of prime agricultural land. It is going through eleven
     dairies, five of which are going to be destroyed, six of
     them are going to be affected by it tremendously. We are
     the -- Kings County is the number one commodity is milk. If
     we destroy five of those dairies in Kings County, how are we
     going to keep that milk commodity still number one. We are
     the top percentage that raises milk for the state of
     California and for the whole United States. How are we
     going to keep that percentage up if we destroy five dairies,
24
     it's not going to happen.
25
               For me going to school every day I will have to
                                                           Page 90
```

## Submission P011 (Megan Dias, Hanford Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 drive because the high-speed rail is supposedly going right
    behind my house. I will have to drive four to five miles
     out of my way to get back on track to go to high school.
     That's more gas, more money out of my pocket with high taxes
     already, and that means more pollution in the air. Isn't
     that what you're trying to get away from, is more pollution?
               So thank you for the time, and, again, I'm the
     president of the Hanford FFA and I am strongly discouraging
 9
     the high-speed rail.
10
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Megan.
11
               Beverly.
12
               SPEAKER RODRIGUEZ: Hello, what I have to say --
13
               THE FACILITATOR: State your name, please.
14
               SPEAKER RODRIGUEZ: Beverly Rodriguez.
15
               Okay. I'm hoping what I say is applicable to what
     this venue is. I just know that the State of California has
16
17
     their initiative process and in proposition 1A initiative
     was a one size fits all, and so what I did was looked to see
18
19
     what the voting block was and I saw that the whole western
20
     side of California agreed with the high-speed rail, but when
     I looked at the eastern side of California it was really
     against it. I will say that Kern County, they passed it, it
     was 50.8, so it barely passed. Fresno passed it by 54.9,
     and it is somewhat more. But what I notice is that Tulare
    County, 55.4 said no. Kings County, 52.5 said no, Madera
                                                           Page 91
```



## Response to Submission P011 (Megan Dias, Hanford Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011)

#### P011-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

See Volume I, Chapter 3.12, Impact SO#16, and Volume II, Technical Appendix 3.14-B, for impacts to confined animal agriculture.

## Submission P012 (Glenda Dwyer, Kings County Tea Party, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 think that what's going to happen is more than likely we're
    going to start paying lawyers someplace along the line and
     we're going get some oversight.
               Bottom line is, let me say this, California cities
     and counties are in financial despair. The State of
     California and our federal government is broke. There is no
     money so why are we here tonight talking about a system
     that's only going to build 114 miles of rail.
 9
               I'll probably talk later. Thank you.
10
               THE FACILITATOR: Glenda.
11
               SPEAKER DOYER: Hi, my name is Glenda Doyer, I live
     here in Hanford. I represent not only this wonderful county
     but the Kings County Tea Party. We are a chapter of Central
     Tea Party and we met you people yesterday in Fresno, and I
15
     think I see some of the same ties that were there yesterday,
16
     but I have the same shirt on, so -- no, not you.
17
               On your Web site you asked for all of us to
     input -- give you our input. Then in the second paragraph
18
19
     you stated, and, I quote, your input will help us plan,
     design, build the high-speed rail system that will make
     California economy more competitive in the long term.
22
               Well, I agree with that statement but this is --
23
     there's no place on here that this is what you say. So
     according to your statement you don't plan on anybody
    opposing you. You reject any other viewpoint other than the
                                                           Page 85
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 phony environmental one that you all use with the fish. And
    everything else to get us off the land, out of our cars, and
     whatever
               We all know that government doesn't create jobs, it
     redistributes wealth. Private business is the job creator.
     But I don't know if any of you are in private business or
     have ever been in private business.
               You require taxpayer money whether we have it or
     not, you demand it. You're going to use it, you're going to
     need it, you can't build this rail without our money. The
     money that our farmers, businessmen, land owners, residents,
     we work hard for that money and we pay taxes on it. The
     same farmers, land owners, and businessmen from Kings County
     are going to lose their property for a project that you say
     just can't be delayed, we got to do it now.
16
              Five hundred -- roughly 569 properties in our great
     county have been identified along that high-speed rail path.
     The sad fact is a great many of them, land owners, they have
     not even been contacted. Most if not all of those
     properties will be condemned or split. That just sickens me
     to think that.
               I mean, you guys all look like normal people up
     there. As a member of the tea party I believe in fiscal
     responsibility. Now, you don't have to be a member of the
    tea party to believe in fiscal responsibility. I think we
                                                           Page 86
```

## Submission P012 (Glenda Dwyer, Kings County Tea Party, September 21, 2011) - Continued

Page 87

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 all know what that means, you don't spend what you don't

have. Let me say that again. You don't spend what you P012-1 don't have, and we don't have any money. And I haven't seen anything that shows you have the money, other than the 5 billion dollars that one of these guys said yesterday that you got in the bank so --THE FACILITATOR: Glenda, times up. 8 MS. DOYER: I'll come back. THE FACILITATOR: Thank you so much. 10 Greg Gatzka. 11 SPEAKER GATZKA: Greg Gatzka, I'm the Kings County Community Development agency Director, also the LAFCO 13 executive director for Kings LAFCO, and also the planning intelligent section chief for Kings Office of Emergency 15 Services. 16 In starting off, the stakes are very high for Kings 17 County. The economic impacts that will be resulting here in 18 Kings County simply cannot be taken into account when that 19 may be collateral damage for unfounded project, speculative 20 development project, for high speed railing. 21 Just to give you an example, we've estimated 1 million dollars in property tax -- annual property tax

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

loss, 7 million dollars in potential ag production loss, 35 million in supporting industry loss, and approximately 40 to 50 million in dairy impact loss. You add that up, we're



## Response to Submission P012 (Glenda Dwyer, Kings County Tea Party, September 21, 2011)

#### P012-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.

This comment assumes that a lead agency must define its project based on available funding. CEQA includes no such rule, and courts cannot impose procedural or substantive requirements beyond those explicitly stated in the statute or guidelines (Pub. Res. Code § 21083.1). Such a rule would force lead agencies to re-define their projects every time funding changes, a result in direct conflict with the "rule of reason" that governs EIRs (Laurel Heights Improvement Assn. v. UC Regents [1988] 47 Ca1.3d 376, 406-407).

## Submission P013 (Glenda Dwyer, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 the expectation was a third of the money would come from the
    federal government, and that private enterprise would pony
     up the other third, for a total of 33 billion dollars.
               This project is now estimated at 67 billion
     dollars. The federal government has not ponied up a third
     of the 33 billion much less a third of the 67 billion. The
     state hasn't borrowed its third and there is no private
     investment. So this project cannot be completed as I
     understand it. The benefits will not come but the damage
     will if we rush to spend the money just to spend the money.
11
               We request, the same request, that you work with
     our local officials, that you communicate with our people
     here in this county, and that you extend the review period
     for this EIR which continues the no build benefits to six
15
     months, since really even if you build it, it's a no build
16
     because you don't have the money to complete the project.
17
     Thank you.
18
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Frank.
19
               Glenda and then Anne Gaspar and Steve Gaspar.
20
               SPEAKER DWYER: Hi, my name is Glenda Dwyer. I'm
     up here again. And since I have a full three minutes and
     only a small portion, I just want to make a comment on the
23
     little study lesson that was up here a little bit ago.
24
               I didn't really understand what he was saying but I
     thought he was telling us that they could better make use of
                                                           Page 111
```

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## This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P013-1

```
our farmland, he who wears a suit that probably hasn't owned
    a pair of boots. And that's very dangerous "landage" when
     they're talking to us because what he's talking about is the
     sustainable development and what he's talking about is
     agenda 21, and you all know what I'm talking about. So the
     high-speed rail doesn't just stop when we get the high-speed
     rail
               Okay. Back to business. I want to talk about the
     Draft EIR report, and yet, as everybody says, it's over
     30,000 pages. This 30,000 page report is right out of the
     playbook for the left. You overwhelm the opposition.
     Anybody in this audience that doesn't think that you guys
     came up with this so we couldn't read it, we couldn't get
     through it, they're nuts, we know why you did it.
15
               But I want to tell you something that I don't think
     you do know. Our United States Constitution contains
     roughly 4500 words in total, and we've lived by those
     4500 words all this time and did a pretty damn good job of
     that -- with it. The men that wrote that were two scholars
     and they believed in our republic, they believed in us as
     individuals, they let us run our own lives.
22
               You and the lawyers that wrote up this ridiculously
     long EIR report are simply products of our failed school
     system. This project is simply a money making venture, we
     all know it, we all know the people that are going to get
                                                          Page 112
```

## Submission P013 (Glenda Dwyer, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 rich off it, it's probably never going to get built, it's
     going to be tracks to nowhere.
               We're going to continue to fight this. As God as
     my witness, we'll be back. Thank you.
               SPEAKER GASPAR: Hi, my name is Anne Gaspar, and I
     would just start off by saying that I'm kind of offended,
     that I feel like a lot of people that are questioning the
     rail, that we're coming across as anti government, anti
     environment, anti progress, and really what it is it's
     really difficult to talk about the rail and all the benefits
1.0
11
     that it has, and it's difficult to talk about it when it's
     going through your property, through your house, and you're
     the one that's having to make all the sacrifices for it.
14
               Like Frank said, the station is proposed. When you
15
     look at the map, all the other stations are laid out, and
     our station is proposed. So a lot of the benefits that
17
     everyone is talking about the rail has to do with the
     station, and that's not even set in stone. So I don't think
18
19
     that's fair.
20
               Our family is one of the dairies that Megan Dias
     mentioned that's being affected by the rail. When
     everyone's talking about the acreage that's being effected,
     we're talking about the slice that the Rail Authority is
     going to take. But it's not just the seven to eight acres
     that are going to be taken, it's our entire 120-acre
                                                          Page 113
```



## Response to Submission P013 (Glenda Dwyer, September 21, 2011)

#### P013-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-14.



P014-2

## Submission P014 (Jerry Fagundes, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 on land use now, then we're really going to continue this
    process, and that's unacceptable.
               And so the choice is now we can either decide to
     put our heads in the sand and say we're just going to keep
     building more highway lanes -- you know, two tracks of rail
     equals six to eight lanes of highway -- you know, we're just
     going to keep expanding our roads just to use more farmland.
     That's the real issue of farmland and high-speed rail.
 9
     Thank you.
10
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Daniel.
11
               Jerry Fagundes. After Jerry we have Shelli
     Andranigian and after that Gordon Tessman.
13
               SPEAKER FagUNDES: Good evening, my name is Jerry
     Fagundes, and there's a lot of papers to read. I'm not
15
     college educated, I do know how to read. I found a couple
     of interesting tidbits that pertain to me.
17
               CEQA guidelines, where, noise and vibrations, state
18
     severe impact at 1400 feet from the track. That is in the
19
     guideline sheet, first section. How many of you have your
     house within 1400 feet of this project? Anybody?
21
               My residence is within 75 feet of the rail, that is
     35 feet, maybe 40 feet above the ground. I have been told
     that my property is not being impacted. Does anybody want
     to buy a house that likes the rail? You have a 24/7 view.
   I want you to think about that. My front yard has
                                                          Page 101
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

high-speed rail as a front yard ornament. I am asking for 180 days to review the document. And I want to leave you with this. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen. THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. SPEAKER ANDRANIGIAN: First of all, good evening and welcome to Hanford. My name is Shelli Andranigian and I represent the Andranigian family. 10 We have lived in Laton, California for 50 plus years and also owned and farmed 150-acre parcel of land since 1945. This home place is along the coal slough of the Kings River and also part of the proposed high-speed rail 14 route. 15 My folks have been humanitarians, they have helped Kings River Conservation District, KRCD, save the town of Laton in 1969 when our family furnished and built levies to keep this town from flooding. It took KRCD eight years for them to bring someone to level the ground where the dirt had been excavated so our family could again farm this 30 acres of prime farmland they have taken. My dad also farmed and saved the land of his neighbors, the Anuey (phonetic) family in Kingsburg, California, while they were interned in World 24 War II. 25 We have two properties in the proposed high-speed Page 102

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P014-1

# Response to Submission P014 (Jerry Fagundes, September 21, 2011)

#### P014-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-N&V-03, FB-Response-N&V-05.

#### P014-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-07.

### Submission P015 (Mary Jane Fagundes, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 Studies have shown that students achieve better
    scholastically with the art and music being offered in the
     programs which are currently being budget cut.
               As a senior in high school, the problem is that I
     have -- like, I'm going to a college, and tuition is so high
     in the California UCs that now I am better off going to out
     of state schools rather than staying in the hometown of
     California.
 9
               And another comment. There is a water system built
     for 20 million people, yet 36 million currently are using
11
     it. What's going to happen when more people come?
12
               First let's improve the education and the water
     system, then maybe we should talk about the high-speed rail.
     Thank you.
15
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
16
               SPEAKER FagUNDES: My name is Mary Jane Fagundes,
17
     my address is 9785 Ponderosa, Hanford, California.
18
               I won't talk about snakes slithering on the ground
19
     because you are. I won't talk about pigs in a slop
     devouring all of us because you are.
21
               What I will say is this. We want 180 days to
     review the EIR. How do you expect us to read 30,000 pages
     and still be able to, one, take care of our homes that you
     may steal from us, or, two, work the jobs that we may not
    have after you destroyed the ag land that maintains the jobs
                                                           Page 106
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
my husband and others have, or, three, keep us healthy
     enough, mentally and physically, to fight this ridiculous,
     insane pipe dream of yours.
               We want to make educated, logical, and informed
     comments, unlike the information you have in this
     environmental impact report. We want 180 days.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
               Next up we have Ruben Perez and Frank Oliveira,
 9
     Glenda Dwver.
10
               SPEAKER PEREZ: Hi, my name is Ruben Perez and I'm
     currently serving as the San Joaquin Regional FFA president
     but I only represent the honest opinions and concerns of
13
14
               I've always considered myself to be a very forward
     thinking individual, who at the same time being ecologically
     conscious. So when I initially heard about this project I
     actually thought it sounded like a great idea. It was a way
     to reduce some of the pollution while at the same time
     decongesting our roads.
               Well, as I more and more actually started to
     research this project the more and more I started to
     actually find out that this project wasn't all that it
     seemed to be.
               This project claims to be forward thinking but you
    have to take into consideration that California is often
                                                          Page 107
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P015-1

## Response to Submission P015 (Mary Jane Fagundes, September 21, 2011)

#### P015-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-07, FB-Response-GENERAL-26.

# Submission P016 (Maureen Fukuda, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 nation, and you want us to sit down and read this in
   60 days. Give us six months. If you're coming through our
     town, our county you're taking away our livelihood, it's the
     least you can do. Give us six months, be respectful. You
     know, if you want us to show you respect, you have to give
     us some
               On many different occasions we have asked the CHSRA
     to start working with our local officials and to stop
     ignoring the citizens and all of our concerns. The land
     owners, including myself, have submitted comments, and we've
10
11
     received no feedback from you guys.
12
               The Authority is not concerned about the
     involvement with NEPA processes. Based on the past behavior
     of the Rail Authority, it's obvious, they're not
15
     cooperating. This thing clearly is not your guys's strong
16
     point. It's obvious to me that members of this board have
17
     not proven themselves worthy to be sitting there and most of
18
     them lack any expertise that is relevant to a project that's
19
     going to stand to devastate California.
20
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Donna.
21
               SPEAKER FUKUDA: My name is Maureen Fukuda, I am an
     honorary member of the CCHSRA.
23
               Well, I'd like to start by saying that we were
     asked to say something that we liked about the high-speed
    rail and make comments about things that we don't like, so
                                                           Page 73
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 I'd like to start what I like about the program. You have
   helped solidify the people of Kings County like they have
     never been solidified before.
               I was born and raised in Hanford, I went to school
     here, I taught here, and I didn't know our community could
     be this way. I've met people that I have never known
     before. These are wonderful people from Kings County.
     We're not from Fresno, we're not from San Francisco, we're a
     different breed
10
              And that brings me to what I don't like.
11
     Mr. Hutson here said that in terms of people that are being
     impacted, it's much like Darwinism. I taught Darwinism. He
     didn't take it a step farther. If there is change in the
     environment the specie must, one, adapt. Two, move. Or
     three, die. Those are the choices you're giving us; adapt,
     move, or die. That's Darwinism.
17
               The other thing that I would like to bring out is
     Mayor Swearengin yesterday, first to speak, spoke on behalf
19
     of Fresno, she is an elected mayor, represents the people of
     Fresno, and she said that this high-speed rail will benefit
     Fresno agriculture and San Joaquin Valley. I'm sorry, I did
     not vote for her to be mayor of San Joaquin Valley.
23
               Two, true, it may benefit economically Fresno but
     if this high-speed rail goes up and down San Joaquin Valley
     and the millions of people that are going to ride it, will
                                                           Page 74
```

P016-1

# Submission P016 (Maureen Fukuda, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 that thing stop at In and Out on my way to Fresno? Will it 2 stop at In and Out on the way to LA? Will it stop at Denny's at the base of the Grapevine? These people all along the rail are going to lose economically. The counties are going to lose their tax base. Did you figure that out? You're draining San Joaquin Valley. That train is taking people, zip, right through the Valley. There's money in their pockets. If they're in their car, they will stop, get 9 a soda. 10 Number two, citizens of Hanford are given a chance 11 to voice and respond to the EIR, however, we're not given choices. Here it is. We're not given choices, A, B or C, which brings me to -- I'd like to continue on what I tried to say in Bakersfield but I was only given 90 seconds in 15 Bakersfield, and there are those in the audience here that 16 were not given the opportunity to speak at all, but I would 17 like to continue that. 18 The relocation authority relocated 127,000 Japanese 19 Americans from all along the west coast and put them in 20 relocation camps for three years, myself included --21 THE FACILITATOR: Maureen. 22 SPEAKER FUKUDA: -- for three years. Okay. 70,000 were American citizens. I was an American citizen and you put me in a relocation camp for three years. The relocation authority, they didn't give us a choice, they just put us Page 75

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

## This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 in.
               THE FACILITATOR: Maureen, we have a number of
     other comments.
               SPEAKER FUKUDA: Okay. Real quick, I just want to
     say, Eleanor Roosevelt, in regard she said, to undue a
     mistake is always harder than not to create one originally,
     that's from Eleanor Roosevelt.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Maureen.
              Next up we have Frank Oliveira. And we have Aaron
10
     Fukuda and Tony Mattos.
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: Welcome to Kings County.
               Kings County is a uniquely agricultural county.
     It's unique because that's how most of the money is made,
     the economy operates.
15
               There are problems with this environmental impact
     report process. We need six months to review this process.
     The last report done, I believe, was in 2004 or 2005,
     six months were given, six months were given to review that
     less-detailed report. You folks have expected us to review
     this 30,000 page document in 60 days, 500 pages a day to
21
22
               I've heard good solutions, good suggestions from
     rail people. They said, hey, why don't you give a section
     to people and somebody else will read a section. Well, you
    know what, we're trying do that, but that environmental
                                                           Page 76
```



# Response to Submission P016 (Maureen Fukuda, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

#### P016-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-05.

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #3, Impact SO #4, and Impact SO #13, for effects on property and sales tax revenues.

### Submission P017 (Frank Fukuda, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 impact report should be clear, sound, and something that I
   or anybody in this audience can read by themselves and
    figure out what you folks are doing, and that is not the
     case, 500 pages a day, 500 pages a day.
               Yesterday I asked a Rail Authority official who is
     here today, is there anybody on your staff that can
     summarize 30,000 pages in three minutes because three
     minutes is what we're being given. We need six months, it's
     reasonable. If you want people to actually participate in
     the CEQA/NEPA process, if public comments and evaluation is
10
11
     really what you want, give us six months.
12
               If you don't want us to have any input or comment
     in the process, if you are not concerned with complying with
     NEPA or CEQA, give us the 60 days. It's that simple.
15
               We see you, who you are, we've been dealing with
16
     most of the Rail Authority for over a year. You do not work
17
     with our elected officials, you cannot say that you do. It
     hasn't happened, I've been watching that -- that thing since
18
19
     February. You do not work with ag, even though you say you
     do. You work with people you want to work with, they love
     you in Fresno. That's okay. They get action, we don't.
     You don't handle rejection well. Give us six months. We
23
     need that to participate. Thank you.
24
              THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Frank.
25
               SPEAKER FUKUDA: Man, I didn't think I had to
                                                           Page 77
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P017-1

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
follow up mv mom.
               Well, thank you for coming to Kings County.
     Welcome. For many of you it's the first time I've seen you
     here so I'd like to invite you out to my property too. I
     invite everybody every time I see them and yet I haven't
     been taken up.
               I'd like to kind of share something with you.
    You'll get my comments later, trust me, I'm at twenty pages,
     and I'm only halfway through the document.
10
               I want to share a little thought with you -- I'll
     finish up with my mom's because I was going to use it too,
     so she keeps getting cut off. To undue a mistake is always
     harder than not to create one originally. And that was from
     Eleanor Roosevelt.
15
               I realize that many of you have long days and
     you've been on the road for a long time and you have to put
     up with this barrage of screaming and yelling and issues,
     and things like that. And I hope when you get home you can
     walk in your door and maybe if you have family you tell them
     hello and sit and get to relax a little bit and reflect of
     what's going on in these communities. Because let me share
     a little bit about what we do when we go home. Okay.
               So when we go home many of us had have a hard time
     understanding why no Authority member knocked on our door
     and said, I'm with the California High-Speed Rail Authority,
                                                            Page 78
```



### Submission P017 (Frank Fukuda, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P017-1

```
1 I'm a professional engineer, let me sit down and talk with
   you, I've got a wonderful project, and I'd like to explain
     the impacts. No, we found out through back doors, your
     staff traipses some maps around the Valley trying to drum up
     support from other engineering friends.
               We heard from other neighbors, we had FFA students
     talking about it in class and discovered that their home was
     in the alignment. Many people found out earlier this year,
     many found out a couple weeks ago. That is criminal. They
     should have been informed as long as you've had that
11
     alignment in your hands.
12
               I worry that the Rail Authority -- and I want to
     discriminate because there are some that are working on this
     project that are consultants -- that they define that the
15
     responsible actions are defined as the minimum practice
     dictated by law, which the Authority has told us is what are
17
     called by "drive by assessments." So what we were told --
     and I picture this in my mind -- there's a car driving
18
19
     around with four people, seedy looking people in it, they
20
     reach down on the floor and what do they pop up with, a
     camera, a notepad, and a survey rod.
22
               So I encourage you to actually get with the French
23
     rail people. They had an excellent system about dealing
     with people and their impacts. Because this is what it's
    about, it's about the impacts.
                                                           Page 79
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P017-2

```
If the property is located in ag, you not only have
    to contend with the loss of land but you also have to deal
     with the meandering alignment through this countryside and
     all the impacts that are going to be associated with that
     because they're not in your EIR. The impacts are not in
     your EIR. That are my comments, you can address that later
               And if you're a homeowner in the rural area, I've
     explained it to you many times, this is not as simple as
     you're equating it out to me.
11
               We engaged with the Rail Authority, we were met
     with lies, misleading information, and simple, we turn in a
     card and ask a question. We have yet to hear back on any of
     those cards here in Kings County. That is criminal. Those
     gentlemen right there have those cards, they have not
     answered a single one --
17
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Excuse me. You're cutting into
     Aaron's time when you interrupt him as such, please do not
     interrupt him.
20
               SPEAKER FUKUDA: I will wrap up right now.
               So when you drive home and you walk in your home, I
     want you to sit down, because you're the decision makers,
     you're the professionals, you're the educated people that
     will be making these decisions, and you think about all
    these people out here and what you've put them through over
                                                            Page 80
```

## Submission P017 (Frank Fukuda, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 the last year and a half. I personally have had it, I mean
    it is too much.
               So what I'm going ask that my mom was trying to do
     is I'm going to ask the people in the crowd, to undue a
     mistake is always harder than not to create one originally.
               Is this a mistake?
               SPEAKER MATTOS: Tony Mattos. I have a farm here
     in Hanford, dairy farm. I got a couple dairies right around
     me. You guys got this train coming right through my
     property, splitting my property in half, taking my farm
11
     grounds that I need to feed my cattle and survive. And I
     paid a lot of money when I moved over there to move a canal,
     I paid them all myself to move that canal to have all my
     farm ground squared off, and now you guys are coming and
     putting this at an angle, building overpasses on my ground.
    I'm going to lose my ground, and here I am farming back in
17
     angles again.
18
               And what I don't understand is why are you guys
19
     turning -- making that turn through the dairies. There's no
20
     reason for that. It's not a roller coaster ride. Make this
     thing straight. If you're going to build it, build it
     right, don't do something you're going to regret later.
23
               I'm not against this thing, it could be a good
     thing some day, but not right now. I don't think we're
    ready for this, there's no money for it, so I just don't
                                                           Page 81
```



### Response to Submission P017 (Frank Fukuda, September 21, 2011)

#### P017-1

The public outreach process for the Fresno to Bakersfield Section of the HST System has been extensive. The process has consisted of hundreds of public meetings and briefings where public comments have been received, participation in community events where participation has been solicited, and the development and distribution of educational materials to encourage feedback. These efforts are listed in Chapter 7, Public and Agency Involvement, of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS. Public notification regarding the draft environmental documents took place in the following ways: a notification letter, an informational brochure, and a NOA were prepared in English and Spanish and sent to landowners and tenants within 300 feet of all alignment alternatives. The letters notified landowners and tenants that their property may be necessary for construction (within the project construction footprint) of one or more of the alternative alignments or project components being evaluated. Anyone who has requested to be notified or is in our stakeholder database was sent notification materials in English and Spanish. An e-mail communication about the notification materials was distributed to the entire stakeholder database. Public notices were placed in Englishand Spanish-language newspapers. Posters in English and Spanish were posted along the project right-of-way.

#### P017-2

The EIR/EIS identifies impacts associated with the conversion of Important Farmland to non-agricultural uses in Section 3.14, Agricultural Lands. Section 3.14 also addresses the impacts of project noise and vibration on livestock, the impacts of dust from the HST System on crops, and drift from agricultural spraying. Section 3.12, Socioeconomics, Communities, and Environmental Justice, discusses project impacts on agricultural businesses and labor in the project region.

### Submission P018 (Aaron Fukuda, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 and don't come up until we see it in Bakersfield, I'm all
    for it. Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. Aaron.
               SPEAKER FUKUDA: There was some comments from the
     group of California for High-Speed Rail and they maligned
     some farmers for selling property for development rights,
     and I just want to clarify. Kings County is not a county
     that does that. We are different than the other counties.
     I think you brought this through and you didn't recognize
     that. But we put our hand out and we wanted to talk to you,
10
11
     you slapped it away.
12
               So here are some facts. Actually, Kings County has
     managed growth better than any of the other cities along the
     Highway 99 corridor. I work in Tulare, I will vouch for
15
     that. Tulare has what are called tumbleweed subdivisions
16
     right now, there is nothing going on there. They did not
17
     pay attention to what was going on.
18
               They have a good working relationship with their
19
     city, city of Hanford, city of Corcoran, there's not a lot
     of incorporated cities within Kings County.
21
               The Cortez Knots Hurt Bird Act of 2000 required
     counties to look at their sphere of influence and their
23
     municipal service areas.
24
               In 2008 Kings County went back to do their sphere
    of influence and reduced, reduced their sphere of influence,
                                                           Page 123
```

P018-1

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 and you all know what a sphere of influence is, by 11,000
    acres. We are not Fresno County, we are not Tulare County,
     and we are not Kern County.
               Also, we have an extensive ag preservation policy,
     and that lends to the fact that they do not actually allow
     any more rural development in the ag community. They want
     to keep blocks in of twenty, forty and eighty acres, so
     they're trying to preserve agriculture. We're not perfect
     but they're trying and they have got the implemented policy.
10
               And also part of the San Joaquin Valley blueprints,
     they plan their growth out to 2050, and they have enforced
     or put in their programs what's called the Efficient Land
     Use Policy. And I think in reality, I think under Governor
     Brown, when he was at the Attorney General's Office, they
     actually utilized Kings County new general plan as a
     blueprint for the rest of the state and said, this is how
     you should do it.
18
               Now we get the Rail Authority coming through, you
     slice twenty acre parcels, forty acre parcels into little
     bitty pieces, you turn around everything that we tried
     desperately to preserve, and then you don't answer the
     questions about how you handle that.
23
               So really what he's proposing is Kings County as a
     bad planning area because we go to subdivisions, it's a
     national thing, and they're trying to put their arms around
                                                          Page 124
```



# Submission P018 (Aaron Fukuda, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P018-2

```
1 it. You guys are encouraging it. You're putting your rail
     east of Hanford. Hanford is not scoped out for utilities or
     growth east of Highway 43. That's where you want your
     station. And in your EIR, you emphasize that high-speed
     rail creates concentric dense growth.
               It's kind of like urban, the urban planning policy.
     There is no urban area where you're at, you went clear
     around it to get away from it, so you violated your own
 9
10
               THE FACILITATOR: Lou Martinez.
11
               SPEAKER MARTINEZ: Thank you. My name is Lou
     Martinez and I just want to ask you gentlemen up there, how
     many of you have read this EIR. Anybody? I haven't read
     it, I can't afford to read it, I can't afford to pay anyone
     to read it for me, so you know it's a document that's going
     to take more time for the people of this area to read and
17
     analyze and try to get some feedback to you. You haven't
     given us that opportunity.
18
19
               I myself, I voted for high-speed rail. I voted for
20
     high-speed rail, but the project that's being proposed is
     not the project that I voted for. It's almost like bait and
     switch, it's a scam. This is what it is, a genuine scam,
     you're guilty of switching what you -- what the people voted
24
     for. That's wrong, very, very wrong.
25
               The other thing is also do you -- have you ever
                                                          Page 125
```



### Response to Submission P018 (Aaron Fukuda, September 21, 2011)

#### P018-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02 and FB-Response-AG-03.

#### P018-2

In addition to the BNSF Alternative that bypasses Hanford to the east, the Authority and FRA reintroduced an alternative route that bypasses Hanford to the west, along with an alternative station location to serve the Kings/Tulare region in response to stakeholder, agency, and public feedback. This alternative route—the Hanford West Bypass Alternative—was previously identified in the 2005 Statewide Program EIR/EIS (Authority and FRA 2005), and its inclusion in the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS is consistent with input from regulatory agencies. Potentially feasible alignments that pass west of Hanford have been studied in order to identify the most viable alignment and station location that both minimize environmental impacts and provide a feasible option for the Authority. The Authority will use the information in the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS and input from the agencies and public to identify the Preferred Alternative.



P019-1

### Submission P019 (Anne Gaspar, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 rich off it, it's probably never going to get built, it's
     going to be tracks to nowhere.
               We're going to continue to fight this. As God as
     my witness, we'll be back. Thank you.
               SPEAKER GASPAR: Hi, my name is Anne Gaspar, and I
     would just start off by saying that I'm kind of offended,
     that I feel like a lot of people that are questioning the
     rail, that we're coming across as anti government, anti
     environment, anti progress, and really what it is it's
     really difficult to talk about the rail and all the benefits
10
11
     that it has, and it's difficult to talk about it when it's
     going through your property, through your house, and you're
     the one that's having to make all the sacrifices for it.
14
               Like Frank said, the station is proposed. When you
     look at the map, all the other stations are laid out, and
     our station is proposed. So a lot of the benefits that
17
     everyone is talking about the rail has to do with the
18
     station, and that's not even set in stone. So I don't think
19
     that's fair.
20
               Our family is one of the dairies that Megan Dias
     mentioned that's being affected by the rail. When
     everyone's talking about the acreage that's being effected,
     we're talking about the slice that the Rail Authority is
     going to take. But it's not just the seven to eight acres
     that are going to be taken, it's our entire 120-acre
                                                           Page 113
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

U.S. Department

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#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 facility that's going to be affected. The fact that some of our land is going to be on one side and some of the land is going to be on the other side, that's very different than saying, oh, it's just eight pieces, you can walk over to land mart, buy the eight acres with the money that the Authority is going to provide us with, and we will be made whole. 8 All of our neighbors are also going be in the market for more property, so we're all going to be trying to make our places whole with the land that's not there because we can't -- only God creates land, we can't get it anywhere 13 And all of our eggs are in this basket, are in this dairy, so of course we're very concerned as how we're going to be able to continue to dairy with the proposed alignment, with the train coming through. 17 The gentleman that spoke about the urban development, we're on the east side of 43, no subdivision is going to come knocking on our door saying, hey, we want to buy your property and put a subdivision. We're on the east side of 43, that is not an option for us. Our place has been a dairy for over 100 years. Frank Oliveira can say better. It's been a dairy a long time, it is going to continue to stay a dairy. There was no mini mart or shopping mall that was going to be coming our Page 114

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P019-1

# Submission P019 (Anne Gaspar, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P019-2

```
1
    way.
 2
               On a personal level, I'm a mother of three. My
     oldest son is autistic and sensitive to sound. My
     mother-in-law's house is in the alignment of the Rail
     Authority of the rail line. My house is not in the line but
     I'm going to be a very close neighbor to the line. And I
     realize that there are people that live near a train and
     they adjust fine. I would never purchase property near a
     train because of my son's diagnosis. Now I don't have a
10
     choice, the train is coming.
11
               We live on the dairy, we live where we work --
12
               THE FACILITATOR: Anne.
13
               SPEAKER GASPAR: I'm sorry. It's going to suck.
14
               SPEAKER GASPAR: Hello, my name is Steve Gaspar.
15
               Hello, Jeff.
16
               We own and operate the dairy facility that's going
17
     to be directly impacted by the high-speed rail. I'm with
     the cows 24/7, that's how we make our lives, that's how
18
19
     we've been able to stay in this business, is producing milk.
20
     I know what it takes and I know that this rail is going to
21
     devastate our facility beyond repair.
22
               I'm very worried because you guys -- I'm sorry to
23
     say, you guys don't have a clue about the dairy industry,
     about farming. What kind of people are you guys going to
    hire as right-of-way agents to delegate our situations? You
                                                          Page 115
```

### Response to Submission P019 (Anne Gaspar, September 21, 2011)

#### P019-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02, FB-Response-AG-06.

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #16, and Volume II, Appendix 3.14-B, for impacts on animal operations.

#### P019-2

Noise calculations were conducted at this residence to determine the potential future impact. The ambient level was estimated to be 56 decibels (dB) day-night average sound level (Ldn), which is consistent with noise measurement site HE-026 to the west. This home is shown as located 575 feet from the alignment, which is currently proposed to be about 11 feet above the ground. At this distance, the project-related noise exposure level at this house would be 66 dB Ldn, for a total noise level of 67 dB Ldn. This noise level would represent an increase of 11 dB over the existing ambient level and would result in a severe impact. The homes along this portion of the alignment are spaced too far apart to make a noise barrier financially feasible; therefore the home would be eligible for the next level of mitigation, which would be the building noise insulation program. This program is designed to reduce the level of noise exposure within the home. If the BNSF Alternative is selected for the Hanford area, then a detailed analysis would be conducted for this residence to determine the level of mitigation necessary to sufficiently reduce the noise impacts. Based on this detailed analysis, it would be determined whether noise insulation is sufficient to reduce impacts to a lessthan-significant level, or if relocation may need to be considered.



### Submission P020 (Steve Gaspar, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 way.
 2
               On a personal level, I'm a mother of three. My
     oldest son is autistic and sensitive to sound. My
     mother-in-law's house is in the alignment of the Rail
     Authority of the rail line. My house is not in the line but
    I'm going to be a very close neighbor to the line. And I
     realize that there are people that live near a train and
     they adjust fine. I would never purchase property near a
     train because of my son's diagnosis. Now I don't have a
10
     choice, the train is coming.
11
               We live on the dairy, we live where we work --
12
               THE FACILITATOR: Anne.
13
               SPEAKER GASPAR: I'm sorry. It's going to suck.
14
               SPEAKER GASPAR: Hello, my name is Steve Gaspar.
15
               Hello, Jeff.
16
               We own and operate the dairy facility that's going
17
     to be directly impacted by the high-speed rail. I'm with
     the cows 24/7, that's how we make our lives, that's how
18
19
     we've been able to stay in this business, is producing milk.
     I know what it takes and I know that this rail is going to
     devastate our facility beyond repair.
22
               I'm very worried because you guys -- I'm sorry to
     say, you guys don't have a clue about the dairy industry,
     about farming. What kind of people are you guys going to
    hire as right-of-way agents to delegate our situations? You
                                                          Page 115
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P020-2

```
1 guys are going to take seven or eight acres and it directly
    impacts 120? What are we going to do with the other 120,
     what are we going to do with the other acres of property?
     How's it going to be mitigated? These are all questions
               Since the May 18th meeting, we tried contacting the
     high-speed rail with no response. I did talk with Jeff
     Abercrombie in late July and he would like to have met with
     me. All of sudden they went from not responding to my
     calls, not responding to anything, to wanting to meet with
     me, and we're a little worried about that. He took 45 days
     to respond to my e-mail. Forty-five days to respond to an
     e-mail, that's not good. That's not right at all. I mean,
     how could you guys look at yourselves in the mirror at
     night. This isn't right. This isn't right.
16
               We definitely are going to need more time to
     respond to this EIR. We're going to need at least six
     months we need six months
19
               Jeff, you're smiling back there. I wish we could
     have a talk later, but the fact of the matter is you guys
     are not handling this whole thing right. You guys need to
     open up this book called the Bible, you guys need to open
     the Judges 7, and you also need to look at the eighth
     Commandment, thou shall not bear false witness, because a
    lot of this stuff going on is not right.
                                                          Page 116
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P020-1

# Submission P020 (Steve Gaspar, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
I did not come prepared to make a speech. This is
 1
    not how I make my living, milking cows, and all I know is
     you guys are going to devastate us beyond repair.
               You guys please reconsider what you're doing, get
     different jobs. Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: We have Mark Muradian, Ross
     Browning, and because we're running out of time, I'm going
     to allow the people who haven't spoken yet a chance. Okay.
     And then we have Jessica Bowden.
10
               SPEAKER MURADIAN: Hi, my name is Mark Muradian.
11
     My ranch is very near where it's going and my comment is
     about why do you build this thing here where it's not
14
               Have you seen the traffic in Los Angeles? It's a
15
     parking lot. Take this money, build something down there to
     alleviate the traffic problems down there. We don't have a
17
     traffic problem here, we don't have a problem getting from
     Los Angeles to San Francisco, there's planes for that. We
18
19
     don't have a problem getting to work each day. Why don't
20
     you take this money and build a train to Lancaster or Las
21
     Vegas, they said they wanted that.
22
               Now, another thing, if this should even happen,
23
     it's very near my house. They're going to make this
     enormous overpass over an elevated railway. Why don't
     they -- they got all these huge overpasses. Why don't they
                                                          Page 117
```



## Response to Submission P020 (Steve Gaspar, September 21, 2011)

#### P020-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-01.

#### P020-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02, FB-Response-AG-03.

### Submission P021 (Greg Gatzka, Kings County Community Development Agency, September 21, 2011)

P021-2

P021-3

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 all know what that means, you don't spend what you don't
 2 have. Let me say that again. You don't spend what you
    don't have, and we don't have any money. And I haven't seen
     anything that shows you have the money, other than the
     5 billion dollars that one of these guys said yesterday that
     you got in the bank so --
               THE FACILITATOR: Glenda, times up.
 8
               MS. DOYER: I'll come back.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you so much.
10
               Greg Gatzka.
11
               SPEAKER GATZKA: Greg Gatzka, I'm the Kings County
     Community Development agency Director, also the LAFCO
     executive director for Kings LAFCO, and also the planning
     intelligent section chief for Kings Office of Emergency
15
     Services.
16
               In starting off, the stakes are very high for Kings
17
     County. The economic impacts that will be resulting here in
18
     Kings County simply cannot be taken into account when that
19
     may be collateral damage for unfounded project, speculative
     development project, for high speed railing.
21
               Just to give you an example, we've estimated
     1 million dollars in property tax -- annual property tax
     loss, 7 million dollars in potential ag production loss, 35
     million in supporting industry loss, and approximately 40 to
    50 million in dairy impact loss. You add that up, we're
                                                           Page 87
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
close to 100 million dollars impact to Kings County.
               In relation to Kings County being an agricultural
     rural county it has 150,000 population. Minus the prison
     population, you're looking at 130,000 people. You are
     directly looking at economy's soil. You're directly
     impacting one of the most vulnerable counties, agricultural
     counties in the San Joaquin Valley, but yet the jobs created
     and economic benefits are going to benefit Fresno and Kern
     County. And you heard from the assistant city manager of
     Visalia, Visalia will benefit from it, but those economic
     benefits will not be here. In reality there is no
     high-speed rail station in Kings County.
13
               With those impacts, Kings County cannot accept this
     project that is coming through in the manner that you're
     conducting it. Your EIR and EIS is inaccurate, it's vague,
     it crosses over into the pragmatic EIR description of the
     whole entire system. It is incomplete in the study of all
     the impacts. It is incomplete in the evaluation of
     mitigation that would result from impacts that were not
     studied.
21
               In specific, Baker Commodities and our Kings County
     fire station number four, which has our regional firefighter
     regional training center, Sky Life medical helicopter, and
     also Cal Fire regional fire and rescue helicopter. Baker
     Commodity serves about 800 dairies throughout the whole San
                                                           Page 88
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P021-1

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration

# Submission P021 (Greg Gatzka, Kings County Community Development Agency, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 Joaquin Valley. We're talking about ripple effects across
     the whole Valley that are going to result in Kings County
     impacts.
               You have not complied with state and federal laws
     on terms of your environmental impact and impact statement.
     And we do have a letter that goes to Rebecca Nicholas which
     she probably received today, and this is in response to
     Federal Rail Administration not wanting to meet with our
     board of supervisors. In relation to Federal Railroad
     Administration, you're not even following your own
10
11
     procedures that you have outlined in your own documents that
     state that you will -- you will engage in consultation with
     the local agencies to address these impacts.
14
               In conclusion, you are repeating history. You
     heard 130 years ago Southern Pacific Railroad took property
15
     away and there was a big gun fight. Today there's not going
17
     to be a gun fight, and that is with this and the attorneys,
18
     and that is what you're destined for.
19
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Greg.
20
               Megan Dias. Beverly Rodriguez, after that, and
21
     then Ross Browning.
22
               If you could state your name, please.
               SPEAKER DIAS: Hello, my name is Megan Dias, and
23
24
     I'm the president of the Hanford FFA.
25
               First of all, I'm a student at Hanford High School.
                                                            Page 89
```



# Response to Submission P021 (Greg Gatzka, Kings County Community Development Agency, September 21, 2011)

#### P021-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04, FB-Response-AG-01, FB-Response-SO-05.

For information on the economic effects on agriculture, see the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #16. See Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #3, Impact SO #4, and Impact SO #13, for effects on property and sales tax revenues.

#### P021-2

The HST is envisioned as a system that will provide speedy and efficient ground access from the Bay Area to Los Angeles Basin, as well as reduce travel times between the state's coastal areas and the Central Valley. Improving access to the Central Valley will provide broad economic benefits that stretch beyond those areas served by stations. Construction job opportunities will not be restricted to residents of Fresno and Kern Counties, as the commenter infers. Kings County residents will almost certainly make up a portion of the construction work force. Improved access will improve the general business climate, including that of the agricultural industry.

The report Economic Impact of the California High-Speed Rail in the Sacramento/Central Valley Area (Kantor 2008) prepared by an economist from UC Merced offers a compelling case for these broad economic benefits.

The EIR/EIS analyzes two alternative sites for a HST station in Kings County -- one west of Hanford and one east of Hanford. As envisioned, regular shuttle service to the stations would be provided from nearby Hanford, Tulare, and Visalia central locations. Either of these station sites would provide Kings County residents with convenient access to the HST system.

#### P021-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-04.

For information about the impacts on Baker Commodities, see the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #12, and for information on mitigation measures for this important facility, refer to Section 7, Mitigation Measure

#### P021-3

SO-4. Baker Commodities is also mentioned in Section 5.2.4 of the Community Impact Assessment Technical Report under agricultural displacements and in Section 6.4.3 of the Draft Relocation Impact Report under special relocation considerations (Authority and FRA 2012h).

Information about the South Hanford Fire Station can be found in Volume I, Section 3.12.4.4, Affected Environment. Impact SO #1 describes the potential for construction to affect important community facilities and explains that emergency vehicle access for police and fire protection services would be maintained at all times.

P022-2

P022-3

P022-4

### Submission P022 (Alisa Gomez, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 to be respectful for everybody so they all have their opportunity to comment. So Alisa Gomez. After that we have Kavli Holt, and SPEAKER GOMEZ: Good afternoon, my name is Alisa Gomez, I am a high school ag teacher at Corcoran High School. One of the alignments does run through my home. One of my first questions is, and we look at this from an economic standpoint, is our state in a position 10 financially to be putting a project like this into play. I 11 stand in front of my students every day and I teach them the record book and their projects, that they need to be responsible and planning this, they need to come up with an itemized budget which will tell them if they will have 15 enough money to see the project through from start to finish. We expect these kids to be responsible but they see 17 projects like this not being responsible. 18 It will upset me if this project goes through and 19 takes my home, but it will really upset me if this project takes my home and does not end up being finished. 21 With my situation, I've saved up for ten years to buy my dream home. I have a husband, and I'm raising four children in this household. Homes like this are scarce. I live on a one-acre parcel in Corcoran, and when all of us -when these homes are taken from all us, they say that they Page 36

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

U.S. Department

of Transportation Federal Railroad

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

are going to give us the money, the fair market value for this, and we are to find somewhere else to live like this. These areas are in high demand and a lot of us will be looking for them which will drive the price up, and I don't know if we'll be able to get a property like we have right now with what we will be given. We've purchased our house two years ago and I know that the economy has gone down, so fair market value may be less. And then that brings me to point out some lack of communication. The way that I found that this high-speed rail was going through my house was I was -- something was sent to my house, did not even have my name on it, it said, owner/occupant, and it said you guys are having a meeting in Corcoran to notify the public. It was there that I stood over a map and I found out that this rail will travel 16 through my home. 17 Within the last six months we have put over \$46,000 into our property. This was without knowing that the high-speed rail was going to go through. We just built a \$30,000 shop, we put in a driveway, a patio, and have done some landscaping. If I would have known that this high-speed rail might go through my land, none of this would have happened because this is money that I'm not going to be 24 able to get back. 25 This rail is supposed to benefit people in the

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P022-1

P022-2

Page 37

### Submission P022 (Alisa Gomez, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 community, but for Corcoran, I don't see any benefit for
    Corcoran. I started teaching here 12 years ago and when I
     go back to Cal Poly my instructors tell me, I am surprised
     that you're still there.
               I like Corcoran because it is a small community,
     people know each other, and this project is going to tear
     that town apart no matter what it does. That is my home
     now, that is what I call home, and I would just like you
     guys to be a little more smarter about this project. Thank
10
11
              THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
12
               Kayli.
13
               SPEAKER HOLT: Good afternoon, my name is Kayli
     Holt, and I'm a Corcoran resident, as well as an officer of
15
     the Corcoran FFA.
16
              I come to you today to ask you to consider
17
    relocating the alignment of the high-speed rail. I grew up
     on a farm just north of the city of Corcoran where I watched
18
19
     and helped my dad run our family farm which has been in
20
     business since 1917.
21
               My dad is a third generation farmer and works hard
     every day to support our family. Our family farm is roughly
23
     500 acres where we grow alfalfa, cotton, wheat, and corn.
     The current alignment of the high-speed rail travels through
     our farmland consuming 100 acres. The elimination of these
                                                           Page 38
```



### Response to Submission P022 (Alisa Gomez, September 21, 2011)

#### P022-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.

#### P022-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-01.

#### P022-3

The public outreach process for the Fresno to Bakersfield Section of the HST has been extensive and includes hundreds of public meetings and briefings where public comments have been received, participation in community events where participation has been solicited, and educational materials, which have been developed and distributed to encourage feedback. These efforts are cited in Ch. 7 of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS. Public notification regarding the draft environmental documents took place in the following ways: a notification letter, informational brochure, and Notice of Action were translated in English and Spanish and sent to landowners and tenants within 300 feet of all alignment alternatives. The letters notified landowners and tenants that their property may be necessary for construction (within the project construction footprint) of one or more of the alignment alternatives or project components being evaluated. Anyone who has requested to be notified or is in our stakeholder database was sent notification materials in English and Spanish. An e-mail communication of the notification materials was distributed to the entire stakeholder database. Public notices were placed in English and Spanish newspapers. Posters in English and Spanish were posted along the project right-of-way.

#### P022-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-01.



### Submission P023 (Kathy Hamilton, Community Coalition on High Speed Rail, September 21, 2011)

P023-1

P023-2

P023-3

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 do better. We need to be proactive in implementing that
 2 plan to make sure that we reduce significantly, if we don't
     eliminate, that 100,000 acres per year loss across the
               If we do that, we can achieve those savings but
     that vision California, as its basis and anchor, requires
     that we move forward with high-speed rail because it is
    high-speed rail that provides that impetus and the anchor to
     the Central Valley to allow starter growth. And that is
     another reason that we support high-speed rail and moving
10
11
     forward and building it quickly in the next year. Thank
13
               THE FACILITATOR: Kathy Hamilton. And then Pamela
     Leal and Richard Williams
15
               SPEAKER HAMILTON: Hi, my name is Kathy Hamilton,
16
     I'm from the Bay Area with the Community Coalition on
17
     High-Speed Rail.
18
               I just would like to make an impromptu comment
19
     after listening to Mr. Stanke that the cost of doing nothing
     is the same as cost of doing something because high-speed
     rail will not be ridden by many people across the state
     because it will be unaffordable, yet all of the people in
23
     the state will have to pay for it, so there will be no
24
     savings.
25
               The Senate Transportation Appropriations Committee
                                                            Page 64
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 in Washington, DC approved a version for their fiscal year 2012 that they zeroed out all monies for high-speed rail. They joined the House Appropriations Committee that did the same. This was seen as a casualty of the debt crisis. There appears to be little to nothing in the pipeline for high-speed rail in the near future and it appears Amtrak may well be what you consider the plan B or the independent utility for this Central Valley area that may become the plan A. And I think you have inadequately addressed how Amtrak will use those tracks when, in fact, it would be particularly damaging to the city of Hanford, which is three miles east of town, and the current station is the anchor point for downtown. It is also understood that heavy diesel trains could actually damage the tracks needed for 15 wider high-speed rail. I suggest you look into this. 16 And then there's the question of legality of any plan starting anywhere that normally lays tracks. AB304 clearly states that the tracks have to be high-speed rail ready, including electrification and proof of financial independence on ridership. 21 They didn't say do it in little parts, they didn't say to do it in initial construction, this has to be the whole segment or independent or the usable segment thereof between stations. It will be interesting to see how this part of the law is examined when the Authority comes up with Page 65

# Submission P023 (Kathy Hamilton, Community Coalition on High Speed Rail, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
its business plan.
               We need to put people to work but we need to put
     people to work fixing existing infrastructure, roads,
     bridges, and schools, not new infrastructure. Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
               Pamela.
               SPEAKER LEAL: The Authority snubs both the
     Williamson Act and the FPPA. The Authority has not notified
     the California Department of Conservation that the proposed
     alignment may require the acquisition of this protected
11
     land.
12
               Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they
13
     may irreversibly convert farmland, directly or indirectly,
     to nonagricultural use and are completed by a federal agency
     or with the assistance from a federal agency. The
     high-speed rail project will convert farmland to urban use
17
     as the project is to be a permanent design intended to serve
     the transportation needs for the large urban population
18
19
     center.
20
               All of the Authority's advanced alignments that run
21
     through Kings County will require the development of a new
     transportation corridor. With this new corridor will come
23
     increased urban sprawl into now extremely productive and
     invaluable agricultural land. The only alternative that
     would avoid this is the high-speed rail to stay on Highway
                                                            Page 66
```



# Response to Submission P023 (Kathy Hamilton, Community Coalition on High Speed Rail, September 21, 2011)

#### P023-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-12, FB-Response-GENERAL-13.

#### P023-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-11.

#### P023-3

As laid out in the Draft 2012 Business Plan, operations will begin with the completion of one of the two possible Initial Operating Segments (IOS). Both options will include full electrification, will run high-speed services, will be financially viable, and will not require an operating subsidy. These conditions satisfy the provisions of AB 3034 and Prop 1A.

### Submission P024 (Larry Hanshew, City of Corcoran, September 21, 2011)



September 20, 2011

Board of Directors California High Speed Rail Authority 770 L Street, Suite 800 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairman and Members of the Board,

The City Council of the City of Corcoran has followed with interest the development of the High Speed Rail and in recent months has solicited input from residents of the community regarding the proposed routes. As a result of numerous open forums including public comment in council meetings and a special town hall meeting, the City Council expresses for the public record its opposition to the three routes intended to pass through or near Corcoran and as identified in the draft environmental impact report (EIR).

P024-1

P024-21 P024-3 Of particular concern to the City of Corcoran is the oversight and negligence of the High Speed Rail Authority as it pertains to issues relating to environmental justice. Specifically, the EIR fails to outline a plan to mitigate the economic and social impairment that will be imposed on minority and low-income neighborhoods and businesses. Furthermore, the proposed routes do not conform to the City's approved general plan and the report does not mitigate the impact that the rail will have on the existing state prison and substance abuse treatment facility. As an underserved community, the City of Corcoran lacks the monetary resources and staff time to adequately identify and discuss the numerous concerns that are evident in the EIR and which should have been addressed prior to the document's distribution.

P024-4

Additionally disconcerting, the High Speed Rail Authority has failed to provide answers to many of the questions posed by the City of Corcoran during the various informal and non-public meetings between the two entities. As posed by the City of Corcorn during the Authority's unwillingness to acknowledge the City's petitions, a letter from the City dated September 12, 2011 supporting a request from the J.G. Boswell Company to extend the comment period to 180 days remains unanswered. The lack of communication is likewise demonstrated by the fact that many property owners potentially affected by the routes, a large percentage of which are non-English speaking, were never contacted by the Authority or its representatives.

At this time, the City of Corcoran reiterates its position that it does not support the high speed rail routes outlined in the draft EIR and reaffirms its concern about the detrimental consequences that high speed rail have on the

Lary & Spreken

Larry Hanshew

Mayor

CITY OFFICES:

U.S. Department

of Transportation Federal Railroad

832 Whitley Avenue 

Corcoran, CA 93212

Phone 559/982-2151

www.cityofcorcoran.com

### Response to Submission P024 (Larry Hanshew, City of Corcoran, September 21, 2011)

#### P024-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-07.

The environmental justice analysis in Volume I, Section 3.12, Socioeconomics, Communities, and Environmental Justice, of the Final EIR/EIS adheres to the definition outlined in Executive Order 12898 and in the U.S. Department of Transportation Order 5610.2, which define an environmental justice effect as a "disproportionately high and adverse effect on minority and low-income populations." This effect is an adverse effect that is predominately borne by a minority population and/or a low-income population or that would be appreciably more severe or greater in magnitude for the minority and/or a low-income population than the adverse effect that would be suffered by the non-minority and/or non-low-income population along the project.

Environmental justice effects are described in Impact SO #18.

The project includes mitigation measures that would minimize or avoid the impacts on the population, including communities of concern. These include:

- Mitigation Measure SO-1: Implement measures to reduce impacts associated with the division of existing rural residential communities in the unincorporated areas (east of Hanford, northeast of Corcoran, and between Shafter and Bakersfield).
- Mitigation Measure SO-2: Implement measures to reduce impacts associated with the division of existing communities in the Bakersfield Northeast District.
- Mitigation Measure SO-3: Implement measures to reduce impacts associated with the division of existing communities in the Bakersfield Northwest District.
- Mitigation Measure SO-4: Implement measures to reduce impacts associated with the relocation of important facilities.

The project also includes specific mitigation measures that would minimize or avoid the impacts on environmental justice populations. These include:

I. Public Outreach

#### P024-1

See Mitigation Measure SO-6: Continue outreach to disproportionately and negatively impacted environmental justice communities of concern. The Authority will continue to conduct substantial environmental justice outreach activities in adversely affected neighborhoods to obtain resident feedback on potential impacts and suggestions for mitigation measures. Input from these communities will be used to refine the alternatives during ongoing design efforts.

An explanation is provided in Environmental Justice Effects, Section 3.12, Impact SO #18, that the Authority would also continue activities similar to the workshops that have been held in the city of Fresno to discuss the HST project and collect community input. At meetings held during September 2011 and February 2012, the Authority provided overviews of the relocation process and distributed the brochure, "Your Property, Your High-Speed Train Project," and other brochures on the Relocation Assistance Program. The Authority has also made information available on the right-of-way process (Appendix 3.12-A), with emphasis on property and business owners' rights under federal and state laws and regulations. The overview consisted of a presentation followed by a question-and-answer period.

#### II. Memorandum of Understanding

The Authority and FRA, along with the EPA, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), have also entered into an Interagency Partnership and established a "Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Achieving an Environmentally Sustainable High-Speed Train System in California," which includes a common goal of integrating HST station access and amenities into the fabric of surrounding neighborhoods. The principles for this partnership are to help improve access to affordable housing, increase transportation options, lower transportation costs, and protect the environment in communities nationwide.

The implementation of the MOU would be beneficial to all populations, but could help intensify project benefits in the areas most affected by project impacts, especially communities of concern. For example, the Authority would establish a temporary relocation field office to help facilitate relocation efforts in areas with substantial relocation needs. Project relocation field offices would be open during convenient hours and during evening hours if necessary. In addition to these services, the Authority would be required to coordinate its relocation activities with other agencies that cause displacements to ensure that all persons displaced receive fair and consistent relocation benefits, including persons within communities of concern.

### Response to Submission P024 (Larry Hanshew, City of Corcoran, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### P024-1

#### III. Community Benefits Policy

Jobs created by construction and operation of the project would likely be filled by workers in the region. To help offset any disproportionate effects, the Authority has approved a Community Benefits Policy that supports employment of individuals who reside in disadvantaged areas and those designated as disadvantaged workers, including veterans returning from military service. This policy helps to remove potential barriers to small businesses, disadvantaged business enterprises, disabled veteran business enterprises, women-owned businesses, and microbusinesses that want to participate in building the high-speed rail system. Under the Authority's Community Benefits Policy, design-build construction contracts will be required to adhere to the National Targeted Hiring Initiative, which states that a minimum of 30% of all project work hours will be performed by national targeted workers and a minimum of 10% of national targeted workers hours will be performed by disadvantaged workers. According to the National Targeted Hiring Initiative, disadvantaged workers either live in an economically disadvantaged area or face any of the following barriers to employment: being homeless, being a custodial single parent, receiving public assistance, lacking a GED or high school diploma, having a criminal record or other involvement with the criminal justice system, being chronically unemployed, being emancipated from the foster care system, being a veteran, or being an apprentice with less than 15% of the required graduating apprenticeship hours in a program. The Community Benefits Policy will supplement the Authority's Small Business Program, which has an aggressive 30% goal for small business participation, and includes goals of 10% for disadvantaged business enterprises and 3% for disabled veteran business enterprises.

#### IV. Title VI Plan

The Authority, as a federal grant recipient, is required by the Federal Railroad Administration to conform to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes. The Authority's subrecipients and contractors are required to prevent discrimination and ensure non-discrimination in all of their programs, activities, and services. The Authority is committed to ensuring that no person in the state of California is excluded from participation in, nor denied the benefits of, its programs, activities, and services on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability, as afforded by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes.

As permitted and authorized by Title VI, the Authority will administer a Title VI program

#### P024-1

in accordance with the spirit and intent of the non-discrimination laws and regulations. The Authority has assembled a Title VI project team with a coordinator and technical and policy consultants who can be contacted via the Authority's website.

#### V. Project Benefits

According to Executive Order 12898, the offsetting benefits associated with the project should be considered as part of the environmental justice analysis. The project would provide benefits that would accrue to all populations, including communities of concern. These benefits would include improved mobility within the region, improved traffic conditions on freeways as modes divert to HST, improvements in air quality within the region, and new employment opportunities during construction and operation.

Station construction and planned station area improvements in downtown Fresno and Bakersfield would improve the aesthetics and visual environment in both of these locations and benefit the nearby minority and low-income communities. Other station-related benefits, including improved accessibility and property value increases, would benefit those who live and work closest to the new stations. In Fresno and Bakersfield, these benefits would be disproportionately incurred in minority and low-income communities.

#### P024-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-07 and FB-Response-LU-02.

Individual properties and projects were analyzed per the CEQA guidelines. The level of detail in the environmental analysis is to "correspond to the degree of specificity involved in the underlying activity which is described in the EIR" (14 CCR 15146). Therefore, the EIR/EIS is based on the level of engineering and planning necessary to identify potential environmental impacts and to identify the appropriate mitigation measures.

#### P024-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-01, FB-Response-GENERAL-21, FB-Response-LU-03.

Individual properties and projects were analyzed per the CEQA guidelines. The level of detail in the environmental analysis is to "correspond to the degree of specificity involved

### Response to Submission P024 (Larry Hanshew, City of Corcoran, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### P024-3

in the underlying activity which is described in the EIR" (14 CCR 15146). Therefore, the EIR/EIS is based on the level of engineering and planning necessary to identify potential environmental impacts and to identify the appropriate mitigation measures. Furthermore, because the HST project is a state project, consistency with local plans and policies is not required by law. Nonetheless, in order to comply with the principles set out in Proposition 1A, the HST project has been designed to minimize conflicts and to be compatible with future and planned uses to the extent possible.

#### P024-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-16.

### Submission P025 (Kayli Holt, Corcoran Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011)

P025-1

P025-2

P025-3

P025-4

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 community, but for Corcoran, I don't see any benefit for
    Corcoran. I started teaching here 12 years ago and when I
     go back to Cal Poly my instructors tell me, I am surprised
     that you're still there.
               I like Corcoran because it is a small community,
     people know each other, and this project is going to tear
     that town apart no matter what it does. That is my home
     now, that is what I call home, and I would just like you
     guys to be a little more smarter about this project. Thank
10
11
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
12
               Kayli.
13
               SPEAKER HOLT: Good afternoon, my name is Kayli
     Holt, and I'm a Corcoran resident, as well as an officer of
15
     the Corcoran FFA
16
               I come to you today to ask you to consider
17
     relocating the alignment of the high-speed rail. I grew up
     on a farm just north of the city of Corcoran where I watched
18
19
     and helped my dad run our family farm which has been in
     business since 1917.
21
               My dad is a third generation farmer and works hard
     every day to support our family. Our family farm is roughly
     500 acres where we grow alfalfa, cotton, wheat, and corn.
     The current alignment of the high-speed rail travels through
     our farmland consuming 100 acres. The elimination of these
                                                           Page 38
```

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Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

100 acres alone will cost our family \$44,000 worth of income each year. This does not include the cost of having to reconfigure our irrigation systems and increased fuel costs due to the additional five miles that will need to be traveled multiple times per day to get to the other side of the farm. One of the reasons for constructing the high-speed rail was to reduce pollution emissions. In our farming situations, as well as many others, cutting through farmlands will do just the opposite. I also have safety concern regarding this issue. Our farm is located on Highway 43, which is a very heavily traveled and dangerous highway. It is hard enough for us to cross this highway at a 90-degree angle with slow-moving 15 tractors and implements. 16 If this high-speed rail were to split our property, it would force us to drive our equipment on a 55-mile per hour, two-lane highway. This poses a hazard in the wintertime months when it is extremely foggy. Although I do not know how wide the overpasses are going to be I fear that we will not have enough room to move our equipment over these overpasses in a safe manner. Many of our implements go across two lanes. What happens when we meet a car going over the overpass with the implement in the fog. 25 I don't think the committee has taken into Page 39

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P025-1

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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### Submission P025 (Kayli Holt, Corcoran Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011) - Continued

# This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 consideration these factors and I would appreciate it if
     they would take a closer look at situations as these. Thank
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Angela -- Kayli.
               Kayli, in terms of Corcoran, is this on -- there's
     multiple alignments in Corcoran, is this for the bypass of
     Corcoran or through-town alignment?
 9
               SPEAKER IN CROWD: It's all of them.
10
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: It's affected by all of them.
11
               SPEAKER LEAL: Yes.
12
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Okay. Thank you.
13
               THE FACILITATOR: After Leonard we have Karen Stout
     and Phyllis Browning.
15
               SPEAKER DIAS: Good afternoon, my name is Leonard
16
     Dias, and I'm the board president of Kit Carson Union School
17
     District.
18
               Back in April of this year, we joined the Kings
19
     County Board of Supervisors, along with other Kings County
20
     agencies, in demanding coordination of the High-Speed
     Authority. We were told that you believe that you are bound
     by the state and federal laws regarding infrastructural
     projects going through jurisdiction of other state entities,
     but that you have taken into consideration our comments and
     that all our questions would be answered in the EIR report.
                                                           Page 40
```

### Response to Submission P025 (Kayli Holt, Corcoran Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011)

#### P025-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02, FB-Response-AG-04, FB-Response-TR-02.

Compensation for the loss of infrastructure (irrigation facilities, wells, etc.) would be paid and the farm owner would have time to restore infrastructure before construction begins and before the start of the growing season. However, in those cases where construction would need to occur before infrastructure can be restored or before the growing season, the farm owner would be compensated for the loss of agricultural production resulting from the disruption.

#### P025-2

HST operations would help improve long-term air quality in the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin by reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT), a major source of air pollution. As automobiles produce a major portion of the air pollutants generated within the basin, reducing VMT would reduce these emissions and result in lower emissions than would occur under the No Project Alternative. Although removal of farmlands could result in the loss of a greenhouse gas sink, the loss would be offset by the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions associated with reduced VMT. The removal of trees would not affect criteria pollutant emissions.

#### P025-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-S&S-01 and FB-Response-AG-02.

As the comment states, SR 43 is currently traversed to access both sides of the commenter's farm. During the growing and harvesting seasons, the movement of large agricultural implements (i.e., tractors, combines, mechanical picking equipment, etc.) is a frequent occurrence on SR 43, and the facility has been designed to accommodate such equipment. Since existing conditions include this function, the additional numbers of agricultural implements potentially added as a result of the HST project would not increase safety concerns.

#### P025-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-S&S-01.



Submission P026 (Charlene Hook, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

P026-3

P026-4

P026-5

P026-6

P026-7

P026-8



#### Comment Card Tarieta de Commentarios

Fresno to Bakersfield High-Speed Train Section La Sección de Fresno a Bakersfield del Tren de Alta Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS)

Declaración de Impacto Ambiental (EIR/EIS) Public Hearings Audiencias Públicas September 2011 Septiembre del 2011

Velocidad Proyecto de Informe de Impacto Ambiental/

Please submit your completed comment card at the Por favor entregue su tarjeta completada al final de la

end of the meeting, or mail to: reunión, o enviela por correo a la siguiente dirección: Fresno to Bakersfield DEIR/EIS Comment, 770 L Street, Suite 800, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period is from August 15 to September El periodo de comentario es del 15 de Agosto al 28 13-28, 2011. Comments must be received electronically, or de Septiembre del 2011. Los comentarios tienen que ser

postmarked, on or before September 28, 2011. recibidos electrónicamente, o matasellados, el o antes del 28 de Septiembre del 2011.

Name/Nombre: ChARJEALE, HOCK Organization/Organización: CCHSRA Address/Domicilio: 316 5Th Ave Phone Number/Número de Teléfono: 559/ 992-5486 City, State, Zip Code/Ciudad, Estado, Código Postal: CORLORAN CA. 93313 E-mail Address/Correo Electrónico: Charajasa @ netscape net (Use additional pages if needed/Usar paginas adicionales si es necesario The Corecran by pass afternative alignment obarting of Novada Thru all the grads & homes, it will go thru over 20 parcels productive farmland, The effect on These rural residental areas would be considered pubstantial under NEPA & DIGNIFICANT UNDER CESA. NEPA: NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT A do not see that any bypass house would benefit anyone. The I-5 or 99 are a double location for everyone concurred Doit Right or not at all. A perition with approximately 500 signatures is attached with

all who agreewath not doing the HSR.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. My husband, Rick Hook, is a 100% disabled veteran and was medically retired from his employment. This is covered under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act: 42 U.S.C. Section 2000(d) et seq. The Americans with Disabilities Act: 42 U.S.C. Sections 12101 to 1221, prohibits discrimination based on disability. Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Polices Act: 42 U.S.C. Chapter 61, ensures that persons displaced as a result of a federal action or by an undertaking federal funds are treated fairly, consistently, and equitably. This helps ensure persons will not suffer disproportionate injuries as a result of projects designed for the benefit of the public as a whole. We demand to be made whole as to whatever the outcome of this project is.

Several county and local jurisdictions are crossed by the proposed project alternatives, many goals, objectives and policies are related to socioeconomics, (related to or involving a combination of social and economic factors). This is pretty much already covered above. Economic development elements are included in general plans of all jurisdictions except Kings County and the City of Corcoran, the focus differs somewhat between the city and county general plans. The county elements focus more on promoting the long-term preservation of productive agricultural lands. As it should be. All I can see for a vibrant downtown area is a really big eye sore and since the train will not stop in Corcoran, it will not benefit or do anything for our community. Temporary or permanent barriers that could be created by the project could isolate portions of a community, separate residents from important community facilities or services or alter access to such resources. This really concerns me because of an emergency, fire or medical response time to get to a home/landowner if able to at

The potential-financial-impact on school district was assessed based on potential changes due to changes in student populations with substantial numbers of residential displacements. The city and county could loose much needed funds and dislocated residents would be forced to move elsewhere, most likely from Corcoran and possibly from the county.

Corcoran is considered the "Farming Capital of California". When the HSR goes through productive farmland and dairies this will be a major impact.

The analysis of impact for communities of concern include Sections 3.2 Transportation, 3.3 Air Quality and Global Climate change, 3.4 Noise and Vibration, 3.13 Station planning land use and development, 3.15 Parks, recreation and open space and 3.16 Aesthetics and visual resources. There will be many roads closed interrupting emergency resources and also the eye sore the HSR will make. Per the CEOA Guidelines the project would have a significant impact if the HSR would physically divide an established community, displace substantial numbers of existing housing necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere, relocate substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere, result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered community and government facilities. The construction of the HSR could cause significant environmental impacts. Once again, this will impact emergency services, divide the community, displace residents being around 40%, moving from Corcoran or even out of Kings County with a great loss of tax revenue. There are no applicable regional plans or policies pertaining to socioeconomics, communities and environmental justice within the Fresno to Bakersfield study area. There should have been more time put into this study and area of impact, listen to what the citizens have to say. Population and demographic characteristics provide information about the regions social context. Age, household, and disability characteristics are discussed to identify potential special relocation needs. And once again, my husband is a 100% disabled veteran and medically retired from his employment. Full relocation of our 2.5 acres will be required and also we want to be made whole as we

The city of Corcoran has nothing to do with the census, since the census includes two prison populations and will increase due to the number of incarcerations. It was said the prison(s) would do a lot for Corcoran and

Charlene Hook 316 5th Ave. Corcoran, CA 93212

P026-2





P026-10

it didn't, just like the HSR will not do anything for Corcoran, just create a disaster, disruption and cause the population to be reduced loosing much tax revenue for the city and county.

Data describing housing stock, ownership and residency tenure data are provided to help illustrate levels of community cohesion within the affected area. Cohesion refers to the sense of belonging and commitment that residents have to their communities. High levels of home ownership, low residential unit turnover and the presence of public facilities, among other community characteristics, are signs of a potentially high level of community cohesion. To put it nicely, if this were your home or community, would you not feel the same way? Especially if the HSR were going through your home of many years. I cannot believe the Authority can be so very heartless, come on now, and be read.

The four counties of Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern make up one of the most agriculturally productive areas in the world. The regional economy has been driven by the farming industry and compromising about 20% of total employment. In 2008, the four counties were ranked first, second, third, and eighth respectively in total agricultural production value in California. These four counties accounted for 16.4 billion of the total 36.2 billion of agriculture revenue generated in the state. Agriculture is still the dominant occupation in rural areas outside the cities and the majority of those who live in and near the study area are employed in that industry. HSR will not help the unemployment rate for Corcoran or Kings County.

Funding for the California K-12 public schools comes primarily from the state budget: 60%, with the local property taxes: 23%, and the federal government: 10%, and other significant contributors. Public schools across California are facing difficult budget issues and in the 2011-2012 school year funding is anticipated to be substantially reduced for a third year in a row. Schools are struggling to hold onto funds they currently receive. As the HSR goes through it will cause even more impact on our public schools due to the citizens leaving the community and county, regardless of where the rail goes through Corcoran. There are three of the six city schools that will be impacted.

There are also a fair amount of cemeteries that are located in rural areas that will be impacted by the HSR. I know you could care less about the living, but please let the dead rest in peace. Religious facilities represent approximately half or more of the study area community facilities in Fresno, Corcoran, Wasco, Shafter and Bakersfield.

The city of Corcoran, located about 15 miles South of Hanford and 15 miles west of SR99 corridor is surrounded by agricultural land. Corcoran has three public buildings in the study area that serve the needs of the community. The Corcoran bypass alternative alignment would diverge from the BNSF line for approximately 21 miles, passing around Corcoran on the eastern side. This is a rural agricultural area with no concentrations of residences, businesses, community facilities or services. The farmers and dairies own vast amounts of acreage as well as residences. Approximately 40-50 homes will be dislocated or affected by this route. This also brings up, again, the emergency response of fire, medical and police to respond. Allensworth is a historical site with no one living there on the site, the town of Allensworth will always stay the way it is today. The regions urban cities of fresno, Corcoran, Wasco, Shafter, and Bakersfield have many communities of concern as definitely high proportions of minority and low-income population. The EJ study area for the Corcoran bypass alternative, east of town, contains a smaller total population and scattered community of concern. Many citizens in the bypass alternative own 2-10 acres or more of property, so that is why you consider this area to be a "smaller total population area".

In summary, the HSR system would result in substantial effects under NEPA and significant impact under CEQA related to the division of existing community as well as residential, commercial, industrial, and agriculture property displacements. There would also be a significant impact on emergency response due to roads being closed.

Construction of the project would provide economic benefits for the entire region. These economic benefits include gains in sales tax revenue and job creation. This statement is false, this would not do anything for

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad

Charlene Hook 316 5Th auc Corcoran, CA 93212 P026-17

would all be gone. I could guarantee you that Corcoran will become a "ghost town" and what a shame this would be. Transportation, air quality and global climate change will significantly be impacted during construction. Those live along the portions of the alignment without station access would not enjoy the same level of mobility and access benefits, but would potentially be exposed to adverse project-related effects. According to CEQA and FTA guidance, the effect of a project on a neighborhood or community is significant if a project would create a new physical barrier that isolates one part of an established community from another and potentially results in physical disruption to community cohesion. Impacts are typically considered less than significant under CEQA if they would not specifically divide an existing community, but could be considered moderate or substantial impacts under NEPA. The HST alternatives would have adverse effects on visual quality in some areas, either by blocking views or adding elevated structures that would be out of character, scale and harmony with the surroundings. These proximity impacts would be most prevalent where project components would be near historic resources (like Allensworth) or residential areas. The lower visual quality would be substantial adverse effect under NEPA. Any route the HSR takes through this area would devastate and ruin all communities especially Corcoran, closing roads and causing a big eye sore. Actually homes that are left would have the train 50-100 feet from their home and front door. The elevated route through Corcoran would be up to 60 feet above ground level.

Corcoran. Most construction workers would stay out of town during this time. After construction, this

In the Ponderosa Road community in Hanford approximately half of the existing ranch homes would be displaced by the project and the other homes would remain close to the new HST guideway, which would be elevated 40 feet above ground level. The project would affect community character, social interactions and community cohesion by displacing half of the households and by exposing rural residential homes to increased noise, visual and traffic impacts. This would be a substantial effect under NEPA and a significant impact under CEQA. I believe this statement speaks for itself and says all.

The Corcoran bypass would divide the small, unincorporated rural residential community that lies immediately NE of the city limits, in the vicinity of Newark Ave, between SR43 and the irrigation canal. The proposed Corcoran bypass would pass through the middle of this community, which consists of about 20 homes on adjacent large lots. The HST tracks and associated roadway work would displace about 0% of the homes and leave some of the remaining homes very close, within 50-150 feet to the HST tracks. Similar impacts would occur to the smaller enclave of rural residential homes approximately 1 mile to the SE in the vicinity of 5<sup>th</sup> Ave and Wakena (actually spelled Waukena) Ave. Even though the Corcoran bypass would involve fewer displacements than the BNSF alternative, the effect on these small rural residential community would be considered substantial under NEPA and significant under CEQA. Small rural community? We can be considered ranch homes also, because everyone owns 1-80 acres or more of property. Along The BNFF alternative in the city of Corcoran, 50 units and 179 residences would be displaced. The Corcoran bypass alternative would displace 32 residences, 3 in Corcoran and 29 in unincorporated Kings County. In Tulare County 61 residences would be displaced and would occur along the BNSF alternative. The displace would be a decrease of 29 units if this alternative were selected instead of the BNSF alternative. The estimated total number of residences relocated would be 106, about 109 fewer than the BNSF alternative. Anyone that would be displaced for the "train to nowhere" is a major concern and you do put in "estimate" so you really are not

The number of businesses relocated in Corcoran is substantial given the small size of the city's overall economy. The lack of suitable vacant replacement property has the potential to further disrupt economic conditions. The effect of these relocations on business operations in Corcoran would be substantial under NEPA. The HSR will not help Corcoran or its economy.

BNSF alternative an estimated 127 agricultural parcels would be split and 7 parcels containing agricultural facilities would be displaced. In Kings County, 42 agricultural parcels would be split. Agricultural parcels

Charlene Hook 316 5th Ave Corcoran, CA 93212

P026-18

P026-19

P026-20

P026-21

P026-11

P026-12

P026-13

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account for the largest percentage of acreage to be acquired for the project. The number of agricultural parcels that would be split into 2 or more separate parcels due to required right-of-way acquisition that would be displaced by the project, structures, product and equipment, storage and irrigation infrastructure. WOW! What a burden you are putting on the farmers and dairies. Think if this belonged to you.

The Corcoran elevated alternative is located entirely in the developed areas of the City of Corcoran, no agricultural parcels would be split and no agricultural facilities would be displaced. The BNSF alternative is entirely in developed areas and splits no parcels and displaces no facilities. The Corcoran elevated alternative would have no effect under NEPA on agricultural parcel splits and facility disruption. But the rail would be 60 feet above ground level and would displace residential homes and close Whitley Ave to be rerouted.

Property tax revenue may be a limited decrease in property values immediately adjacent to the project as a result of visual or noise disturbances. Along the BNSF alternative displacement of residences, businesses and agricultural lands would result in an estimated loss of approximately 2.5 million in property tax revenue to the 4 counties in the region. "Maybe"? There will be a definite impact on the cities for tax revenue and a definite decrease in property values even after the project is said and done. Citizens with their homes located by the tracks homes values will be zero.

The BNSF alternative would impact Kings County the highest, 8.7 million and 53 employees with 7 million in the dairy sector, 16 billion in annual agriculture production, loss of 160 employees. Agriculture is the central economy of the region and permanent road closures resulting from the project were examined to identify potential effects on regional access for agricultural operations. These effects from restriction in regional access include increased costs to operate and increased difficulties in moving workers and equipment to cultivate and harvest fields and deliver products to processing facilities and markets.

The EJ findings for the Corcoran elevated alternative would be similar to those of the portion of the BNSF alternative because this alternative would effect an area directly adjacent to BNSF alternative. Noise and vibration and visual impacts would remain significant and unavoidable along much of the alternative and would result in disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority and low-income population.

The provision of the Uniform Act, a federally mandated program, would apply to all acquisitions of real property or displacements of persons resulting from this federally assisted project. It was created to provide for and ensure fair and equitable treatments of all effected persons. The 5Th amendment of the United States Constitution provides that private property may not be taken for a public without payment of "just compensation". The Uniform Act requires that the agency's intent to acquire an interest in their property. The notification includes a written offer letter of just compensation. The Uniform Act also provides benefits to the displaced individuals to assist them financially and with advisory services related to relocating their business operation or residence. Benefits are available to both owner occupants and tenants. The project must adhere to California Relocation Assistance Act Requirements. Owners of private property here deferal and state constitution guarantees that their property will not be acquired or damaged for public use unless owners first receive just compensation. Just compensation is measured by the "fair market value" where the property value is considered to be the highest price on the date of valuation that would be negotiated. The value must be agreed upon by seller who is willing, not obligated to sell. Both the owner and buyer must deal with the other with full knowledge of all the uses and purposes for which the property is reasonably adaptable and available. Is this where the eminent domain comes in?

The impact operations division of existing community Ponderosa Road/Edna Way NE of Hanford and the Newark Ave vicinity NE of Corcoran associated with the BNSF alternative and the Corcoran bypass would relocate and displace residents of a small tightly knit community. The level of significance would be significant. Implement mitigation measures to reduce impacts associated with the division of existing community in the unincorporated areas NE of Hanford and Corcoran would be significant.

Charlene Hook. 316 5Th Ave. Corcoran CA 93012 One size does not fit all. Just because rapid rail appears to work in other places, does not mean that it will work in California. Our actions are our own; their consequences are not. The consequences of some actions are not reversible. Politicians, government officials and Americans in general need to think in terms of cause-effect consequences of their decisions. They need to think of long term goals. Building a rapid rail system through

the heart of Kings County's dairy and farm land will have a devastating irreversible consequences on Kings

County and her citizens. These consequences will reach far beyond the dairies and farm families the rail system is expected to displace. If there is no money to complete this project how is it going to create more jobs? If the HSR is so efficient and cost effective, why aren't private sector railroads taking the initiative to fill the demand? The private sector knows that the costs of HSR are prohibitive. This project is fiscally and socially short sighted, irresponsible, and immoral. Already the cost of the HSR system has far exceeded the estimates and the estimates do not include they train station. The estimates do not include they required to the provider of the project to the cost of the HSR system has far exceeded the

Then if the HSR is not completed, at least the

estimates, and the estimates do not include the train station. The estimates do not include long term maintenance costs that will become a major factor when the train system is 30 years old. If this system is built, will Kings County have another duplicate of the 35 year old shington Metrorail system that is falling apart today because no one foresaw or budgeted for its long term maintenance? If the government is adamant about spending money it does not have, why doesn't it make the first leg of the HSR connect The LA area with Bakersfield. This would eliminate the need for busses connect openses with the Autrak.

portion that is completed will NOT be a total waste and could maybe loose the phrase, "the train to nowhere".

The attached petition of approximately 500 signatures will show you how citizens—agree with us. We were only con against the "bypass route" until the Corcoran City Townhall Meeting was held. Now after seeing all we did, the disruptions, and devastation this will cause to our community, I am very against all routes.

My home, or anyone's home, farmland and dairies <u>ARE NOT</u> considered "<u>an</u> existing transportation corridor".

Charlene Hook 316 5TR Ave Corcoran, CA 93212



California High-Speed Authority

June 20, 2011

We, the residents and voters of California, and all residents of the County of Kings, oppose the Bypass of the High-Speed rail going through our community.

Per Prop1A in the year 2008, voted in by voters stipulates that the rail is to be built along an "established transportation corridor".

P026-30

The three routes they are considering, the main one being the bypass through Kings County and Corcoran, California, which is not an "established transportation corridor". This route will disrupt the lives of many generations of families, businesses, farmers, and dairymen. Most of the individuals have been where they are for 20 plus years. The farmers and dairymen are the back bone of our State.

Their property is close to being paid for or paid for already. Most are retired or close to retirement age and are not physically or financially able to start over again.

All families, businesses, farmers and dairymen have acreage, animals, and farm equipment that would be almost impossible to move and would cause a great financial hardship for all involved.

This could and will cause all involved to relocate out of the Corcoran and Kings County area due to not being able to find comparable area to which they all have as of today's date. Think of all the taxes and revenues that California will loose, not to mention the State already has big problems, why add to it.

The undersigned below (petition attached) are respectfully requesting not to disrupt the lives of many families in Corcoran, California area and Kings County residents.

Please see the attached list of names:

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2884 Sauvignon St Tulare CA	93274
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2037 Atlantic traditione Ct	ZIP CODE
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424 Marton Ave Parkerully Cet	#3257 ZIP CODE
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BACON WINNINGHAM FRANKI LIMING SON NAME (PRINT)	0-21-11 DATE
2339 W FOREST G: PORTER VILLE CA. ADRESS CITY STATE	93257 ZIP CODE
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Andrew King Offin	6-22-3011 DATE
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279 - 5th Ave Corcorau , CA	73212 ZIP CODE
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Emily Javes Euly )	- 6/20/11
3263 N. Cajun way Hanfin Ct	A 93230
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JAMES HOOK JULL JOTK	6-20-// DATE
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Mark Flyng Wang 91. NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE	6-20-2011 DATE		
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1246 Say Ben to St Hollister	A 95073
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SLORIA ASTODIO VINDIA CANTONIA NAME (PRINT)	STATE ZIP CODE  G-17-1  DATE		
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5590 NEWYORK AVENUES	MATE RCD AND CO. 93212		
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1705 S. Atward Visionia	CA 9321717 TATE ZIP CODE		
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1782 Peterson Tulong C	7,4 93274 TATE ZIP CODE		
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Misty Goodre Mist Southers	6/18/11
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SHIRLEY PARSONS SILVING TOWNS NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE	DATE 02 202
ADRESS DAYSON STATE	ZIP CODE (0/75/11)
NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE 2203 S. I Doto 1. St. VISARA	PA 93292.
ADRESS CITY STATE	ZIP CODE
NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE	DATE 15-25-11
ADRESS  30/1 F. LAUSEL AVE Vische Co.  NAME (PRINT)  SIGNATURE	93/92 · DATE
ADRESS GATY STATE	9322/ ZIP CODE
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NAME (PRINT)	93277 DATE
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NAME (PRINT) Orange Chotes (A. Robert (2001)	93221 DATE
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519 Uaine Cos oan ADRESS	STATE	93217 ZIP CODE		
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1308 Numb Aug. Cortoran	Ca.	93212.		
Mary Gomez Y Mary Comer	STATE	June 24,201		
NAME (PRINT)  805 CAVARET RIV. LIPTOPAN	Ca.	93212		
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NAME (PRINT)  12566 7th Ave Hanford	(0.	June, 28, 2011 93230		
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Jim Mila	· Cyr		6/29/4	
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Sandy Coilba	it demonstration		6-29-11 DATE	
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Alex Holmes	Alex Holius		6-30-11	
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Carol Garcia Call	Sina	6-71-11		
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land Readers 1718 0		6-21-11 DATE		
NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE				
1793 CoHor Ct Julye	CA STATE	93274 ZIP CODE		
Jose Arano Jose lus NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE		6.21-11 DATE		
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3924 E. Elowin Am V.	50/:9 C9 STATE	<b>93292</b> ZIP CODE		
Todd Garcia		6-21-11		
NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE	( .	93230		
3276 Fountain Plaza Rd Hanford	STATE	ZIP CODE		
BAYAN BOYETT SHENATURE	•	6-21-11 DATE		
NAME (PRINT) SHENATURE 2201 Gable Corcara	CA	93217		
ADRESS CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE		
LINDA P-TACEK KILL Phalic NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE		6/24/11		
301 5th Auz, Corwan	CX	418EP		
ADRESS CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE		

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5100 W. WALMS AVE

Submission P026 (Charlene Hook, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011) - Continued

HIGH SPEED RAIL PETITION SIGNATURES				
/.	SUSAN TITMAN SUSAN Jellman	6-17-11 DATE		
,,	NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE  4834 WALKENA AVE CORCORAN CATADRESS CITY STATE			
•	ADRESS CITY STATE  CREC THOMAS CLOSTYMOS  NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE	(2-17-1)		
Z.	ADRESS CO20012AL CA ADRESS CITY STATE	93313 ZIP CODE		
.3.	KAHLELINEA LEED Wolhering NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE	A Reed 6-1711		
J.	1305 Hall Au Corcora CA ADRESS GITY STATE	93212 ZIP CODE		
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7.	1704 Patterson ave Corcoran	CA. 932/2 1		
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924 Pickerll Ave CA 9321	ZIP CODE
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Robert Bonilla Robert Bonilla		6 - 28-11 DATE
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MARIO MENINA Man Muk.  NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE	STATE	06-29-1/ DATE
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NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE  P.D. Rax 783 CORCERO	Ca	DATE 932/2
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Abel Kamivez NAME (PRINT) SIGNATURE 1868 JUDICEST COVORT	(3 n / A	DATE 93211
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#### P026-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-05, FB-Response-GENERAL-10, FB-Response-GENERAL-14, FB-Response-SO-04.

For information about the impact on the community of Corcoran, see the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #7, Impact SO #10, and Mitigation Measure SO-1.

#### P026-2

Refer to Standard Responses FB-Response-GENERAL-02 and FB-Response-GENERAL -10

#### P026-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-01.

For information on how the property acquisition and compensation process will be carried out in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, see the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume II, Appendix 3.12-A.

#### P026-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-05.

#### P026-5

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-S&S-01 and FB-Response-TR-01.

#### P026-6

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-05.

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume II, Appendix 3.12-B, for analysis of the potential effects on school district funding.

#### P026-7

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04 and FB-Response-AG-06.

#### P026-7

Also see Volume I, Section 3.14, Impact AG#4, for information on the impacts that each of the alternatives through Corcoran will have on the permanent conversion of agricultural lands to nonagricultural use. See also Volume II, Technical Appendix 3.14-B for impacts on confined animal agriculture.

#### P026-8

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-S&S-01, FB-Response-TR-01 and FB-Response-AVR-02.

#### P026-9

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-05.

See Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #1, for information on the construction period impacts on emergency response times and division of communities. See Impact SO #3 for property tax revenue effects and SO #10 for residential displacements. Out of Corcoran's 2010 population of 25,692, an estimated 172 residents would be displaced by the BNSF Alternative, which is 0.7% of the population. Please see the Final Relocation Impact Report for more information on residential displacements and for an analysis of available currently vacant residential units.

#### P026-10

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-11, FB-Response-GENERAL-10.

#### P026-11

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-18.

For information on local job training programs and contracting opportunities, please visit the California High-Speed Rail Authority's website.

#### P026-12

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-05.



#### P026-12

For information about impacts on schools and bus transportation, see the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume II, Appendix 3.12-B.

#### P026-13

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-CUL-01.

Within the Fresno to Bakersfield Section of the HST System, Lakeside Cemetery in Kings County has been determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historical Resources.

#### P026-14

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-06.

For information on the potential residential displacements in Corcoran, see the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12.5, Impact SO #10, and refer to Section 3.12.7 for Mitigation Measure SO-1. Also see Volume I, Section 3.12.5, Impact SO #16, and Volume II, Appendix 3.14-B (Agricultural Lands), for impacts on animal operations.

#### P026-15

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-S&S-02.

#### P026-16

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-S&S-01.

#### P026-17

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-14.

See Volume I Section 3.12 Impact SO #5- Temporary Construction Employment, for information on the number of construction jobs created as a result of the project as well as the ability of the existing regional labor force to fill the demand for the direct construction jobs as well as the resulting indirect and induced jobs. Volume Section I Chapter 3.18 presents the amount of construction- and operation-related employment

#### P026-17

created by the project. Over the entire construction period, project expenditures would result in an additional 2.4% of the total projected 2016 construction jobs in the region (see Table 3.18-3). This small percentage increase would not be substantial enough to greatly attract workers to the region because the existing underemployed construction work force would be expected to fill these jobs.

The San Joaquin Valley has greater unemployment and a lower per capita income than the state as a whole. The Authority has adopted a Community Benefits Policy, which requires that design-build construction contracts will be required to adhere to the National Targeted Hiring Initiative, which states a minimum of 30% of all project work hours shall be performed by National Targeted Workers and a minimum of 10% of National Targeted Workers hours shall be performed by Disadvantaged Workers. This, along with other hiring policies, will make sure that employment and business opportunities created by the project are accessible to the local community. For more information on hiring policies, see the Authority's website.

#### P026-18

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AVR-02 and FB-Response-AVR-03.

See also Mitigation Measure AVR-MM#2c, Screen At-Grade and Elevated Guideways Adjacent to Residential Areas, in Section 3.16, Aesthetics and Visual Resources, of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS.

#### P026-19

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-01.

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12.7, Mitigation Measure SO-1.

#### P026-20

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-01.

The number of residential units displaced is an estimate based on parcel-by-parcel

#### P026-20

examination of the project alternative alignments, as presented in Volume III of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS. See Appendix A of the Community Impact Assessment Technical Report for a description of the methodology used in the property analysis (Authority and FRA 2012g). All final determinations on property acquisition would occur during the acquisition process; see Volume II, Appendix 3.12-A, for details.

Please see Appendix A of the Community Impact Assessment Technical Report for a complete description of the methodologies used for property displacement analysis (Authority and FRA 2012g). To be conservative in this analysis and to avoid underestimating displacements, it was assumed that residences and businesses located on acquired parcels, including those only temporarily impacted, were counted as permanent displacements. This was done because it is not possible at this stage of the project to predict the outcome of the parcel-by-parcel property acquisition phase. These conservative displacement numbers were then used in all community division, fiscal revenue, and physical deterioration analyses, and therefore do not underestimate the potential impacts.

#### P026-21

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-05.

#### P026-22

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02 and FB-Response-AG-04.

#### P026-23

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-04.

#### P026-24

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-02, FB-Response-SO-05.

For information about potential HST project impacts on property values, see Section 5.4.4.3 in the Community Impact Assessment Technical Report.

For information on the HST operation-related property and sales tax revenue effects,

#### P026-24

see the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO#3, Impact SO#4, and Impact SO #13.

#### P026-25

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17, FB-Response-GENERAL-18, FB-Response-GENERAL-19.

#### P026-26

Private sector railroads have not been interested in supporting passenger service since the mid-20th century. This is because conventional passenger rail did not compete successfully with modern freeways and air travel. However, the reduction in travel times resulting with high-speed trains has stimulated private sector investment in Europe and Asia. Whether or not existing railroads will be interested in investing in high-speed trains is unknown, but private sector investment is expected to occur with the California HST System as it comes to fruition.

#### P026-27

The estimated cost of constructing, operating, and maintaining the Fresno to Bakersfield Section of the HST System is provided in Chapter 5.0 of the EIR/EIS.

#### P026-28

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.

Cost estimates and budgeting for the HST include the cost of maintenance and operations.

#### P026-29

As discussed in the Revised 2012 Business Plan (Authority 2012a), the California High-Speed Rail (HSR) Program will depend on a mix of public and private investment, the latter becoming available after the fundamental economics of the program are demonstrated. A phased approach to system development is the prudent course to build a foundation that allows for greater efficiency in the use of private investment once the initial segments of the system are in place.



#### P026-29

This approach also recognizes current budgetary and funding realities. Among other things, the phased approach will help ensure the system's success by introducing Californians to HSR service and building ridership over time. At the same time, improvements can be made to regional systems that connect with HSR, resulting in the conventional and high-speed systems complementing each other.

The goals of Proposition 1A were used to develop the phasing strategy for the statewide HSR System and were guided by the following key principles:

- Divide the statewide HSR program into a series of smaller, discrete projects that can stand alone, provide viable revenue service, be matched to available funding, and be delivered through appropriate business models.
- Advance sections as soon as feasible to realize early benefits, especially employment, and to minimize inflation impact.
- Leverage existing rail systems and infrastructure, including connecting rail and bus services.
- Forge a long-term partnership with the federal government for program delivery.
- Develop partnerships with other transportation operators to identify efficiencies through leveraging state, regional, local, and capital program investments and maximizing connectivity between systems.
- Seek earliest feasible and best value private-sector participation and financing with appropriate risk transfer and cost containment.
- Mitigate against the risk of funding delays by providing decision points for state policymakers to determine how and when the next steps should proceed while leaving a fully operational system and generating economic benefits at each step.

The Authority applied these principles, taking into account key factors such as cost, funding scenarios, and ridership and revenue projections, to develop an implementation strategy with the following key steps:

Step 1—Early Investments, Statewide Benefits. The first construction of dedicated high-speed infrastructure for the initial operating system (IOS) begins in the Central Valley. As with all of the steps, this initial section is being developed to deliver early benefits by leveraging other systems—enabling them to operate on the new high-speed tracks, which can be done without impacts on design or the integrity of the new infrastructure. Improved passenger rail service would begin upon completion of the first IOS segment by connecting the Amtrak San Joaquin, Altamont Commuter Express, Sacramento

#### P026-29

Regional Transit, and the Capitol Corridor (and potentially Caltrain). Through a new, strategic approach, there is also the opportunity for new or improved travel between Bakersfield and Sacramento, Oakland, San Jose, and San Francisco. This expanded Northern California Unified Service could begin operation as early as 2018, with the potential to provide transportation and economic benefits well before fully operational HSR service is initiated.

As part of this first step, complementary investments and improvements will be made to both accelerate benefits and distribute them more widely across the state. These investments will be made using the \$950 million in Proposition 1A connectivity funding, available Proposition 1A HSR funds, future federal funds, and other sources, and will include the following:

- o Investment in the bookends: In Northern California, the long-awaited electrification of the Caltrain corridor will begin under a collaborative program between Bay Area agencies and the Authority. In addition, consistent with the Southern California Memorandum of Understanding, investments will be made in key rail corridors in the southern part of the state, such as upgrading the Metrolink corridor from Los Angeles to Palmdale.
- o The Northern California Unified Service described above will be initiated.
- o As the next step in the IOS, work to close the rail gap between Bakersfield and Palmdale through the Tehachapi Mountains will begin. Environmental clearance is possible in early 2014, and plans are being developed to move quickly to implement the improvements to close this critical gap and create the first statewide rail link between the Bay Area and the Los Angeles Basin.

Step 2—Initial HSR Operations. Introduction of the state's (and the nation's) first fully operational HSR service will begin. This service can be operated by a private entity without subsidy, will have the potential to attract private investment to expand the system from Bay to Basin, and can be completed within a decade. The service will be blended with regional/local systems. The IOS is achieved through expansion of the first construction segment into an electrified operating HSR line from Merced to Palmdale and the San Fernando Valley, accessing the populous Los Angeles Basin. Following on the work discussed above, the next priority in implementing the IOS will be closing the rail gap between northern and southern California by crossing the Tehachapi Mountains with new, dedicated HSR infrastructure. Before the IOS to the San Fernando Valley is completed, this link will tie the north to the south at Palmdale, where Metrolink commuter rail service can then provide service and connections throughout southern California.

#### P026-29

Currently, the IOS is defined as extending from Merced to the San Fernando Valley, and high-speed revenue service would only start once the full IOS is built and operable. Should ridership and revenue forecasts and financial projections demonstrate that revenue service compliant with Proposition 1A could begin earlier, with a shorter IOS, appropriate reviews would occur to consider and implement earlier service, if appropriate.

- Step 3—The Bay to Basin System. The dedicated HSR infrastructure of the IOS will be expanded north and west to San Jose, providing HSR service between the state's major population centers in the north and south and providing the platform for the transition to statewide blended operations. At this stage, passengers will be able to take a one-seat ride between greater Los Angeles (San Fernando Station) and the San Francisco Transbay Transit Center using blended infrastructure in the north between San Francisco and San Jose (assuming electrification of the Caltrain corridor by 2020 as proposed by Caltrain), using dedicated HSR infrastructure between San Jose and the San Fernando Station, and, in the south, connecting via Metrolink between the San Fernando Valley Station and Los Angeles' Union Station and on to other points throughout Southern California.
- Step 4—The Phase 1 System. For the blended approach, the dedicated high-speed rail infrastructure of the Bay-to-Basin system will be extended from the San Fernando Valley to Los Angeles Union Station, linking to a significantly upgraded passenger rail corridor developed to maximize service between Los Angeles and Anaheim while also addressing community concerns about new infrastructure impacts in a congested urban corridor that includes a number of established communities that abut the existing right-of-way. Under a full-build scenario, dedicated high-speed rail infrastructure would be extended from San Jose to San Francisco's Transbay Transit Center and from Los Angeles to Anaheim.
- Step 5—The Phase 2 System. Phase 2 will extend the HSR system to Sacramento and San Diego, representing completion of the 800-mile statewide system. Travelers will be able to travel among all of the state's major population centers on HSR. Phase 2 areas will see improvements in rail service well in advance of the expansion of the high-speed rail system through the combination of early investments and blended operations, as described in the Revised Plan.

#### P026-30

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04, FB-Response-AG-06, FB-Response-GENERAL-05.

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #16, and Volume II, Appendix 3.14-B, for impacts on confined-animal agriculture.

P027-3

### Submission P027 (Charlene Hook, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
THE FACILITATOR: Paul.
 1
               Thank you.
               Next we have Charlene. Then we have Joe Machado.
     and after that Diana Peck.
               Please state your name.
               SPEAKER HOOK: Charlene Hook, 316 Sixth Avenue in
     Corcoran.
               It looks the break did some good for you, you're
     actually awake.
10
               Wasn't it prop 1A that the voters voted for that
11
     stated "existing transportation corridor"? I would like to
     know what happened.
13
               The routes you chose are devastating and
     disruptive. We cannot get any questions answered, this
15
     whole thing has been very frustrating. All I want to know
16
     is a route and what I have to plan for then. I'm not a last
17
     minute person, I need to plan this stuff. I have been ill
18
     since I found out what my home, the farmers, and the
     dairymen are going to have to face, if any.
19
20
               I have paperwork to submit tonight, I hope you will
     read it and respond. It includes a petition with almost 500
     signatures with people that agree with us in Kings County,
23
     up and down, that this is absurd.
24
               If this was any of your land, home, or whatever,
    wouldn't you be standing up here by me? Or you'd be holding
                                                            Page 56
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 your hand out for more money to get the rail going.
              It's not going to be bringing any jobs. Once this
    rail is gone, it's gone, and that's it. Nobody's going to
     have any more jobs than they have right now, so it's not
     going to solve anything.
               I read your deal under the Uniform Act. You guys
     wrote that, you ought to read it. It's pretty good, it
     doesn't say you can take my property, and it says nothing in
     there about eminent domain, but you're going to have to
     compensate me in whole before you take anything. Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Charlene.
               Diana Peck.
13
               After that we have Brian Stanke and Kathy Hamilton.
14
               I'm sorry, I skipped Joe Machado. Please go ahead.
15
               SPEAKER MACHADO: Good evening, my name is Joe
     Machado, 8800 Lansing Avenue.
16
17
               I have a very large dairy farm that's very much
     impacted by your rail. I didn't get involved in too much
     concerns about where the rail was going because of course
     when it's not impacting you, you really don't really pay
     attention, but, man, when you start paying attention, my
     neighbors and my friends and my fellow county people, it was
23
     devastating to our county.
               We started looking into the directives that the
    high-rail speed was under, prop 1A, and what the voters
                                                           Page 57
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P027-1

P027-2



### Response to Submission P027 (Charlene Hook, September 21, 2011)

#### P027-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02.

#### P027-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02, FB-Response-GENERAL-10, FB-Response-GENERAL-04, FB-Response-SO-01.

#### P027-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-01.

Please refer to the alignment plans and maps in Volume III of the EIR/EIS to determine if your property would be acquired by the project. If yes, refer to the Appendix 3.12-A, Residential, Business, and Mobile Home Relocation Assistance Brochures.

The Authority will negotiate with property owners whose land would be impacted by the HST system. The Authority has the power of eminent domain, allowing it to condemn the property of unwilling sellers, with payment of just compensation (i.e., fair market value) to the property owner. Eminent domain is viewed as a last resort in developing a statewide HST system.



### Submission P028 (John Hutson, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 than a line drawn, I haven't seen environmental studies, so
 2 you put this section in the center and that ties into your
    project, that sinks you into the ground into California,
     that's how you guys get your hold on all of us taxpayers,
     get this anchor in the ground.
               Now, my other question would be is let's say this
     section is completed and we have problems in the north and
     the south, and who's going to maintain this section, how's
     it going to be maintained? Are you guys going to run a
     train on it up and down from Bakersfield to Fresno?
11
               So those are some of the questions that I have.
     That's how I feel about it, folks, and thank you very much
     for this opportunity to express my opinion. Thank you.
14
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
15
               John Hutson.
16
               SPEAKER HUTSON: Hello, my name is John Hutson.
17
     I'm here today representing the building and construction
18
     trades for Fresno, Madera, Tulare, and Kings County.
19
               My grandfather was a farmer in Selma. We grew up
20
     on farms. But just a few statistics about our Valley
     currently before you get started.
22
               The Brookings Institute out of Washington, DC has
     labeled Fresno County Appalachia West. Fresno County has
     the largest pockets and the highest pockets of poverty in
     the nation.
                                                            Page 24
```

P028-1

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
There are less doctors per thousand in Madera
    County than any place in Appalachia and more food stamps in
    Tulare County given out than any place in West Virginia.
     The biggest issue for us in the Valley is jobs. We've done
     it for generations with farming but currently just farming
     alone is not going to provide our citizens work.
               I'm also on the Board of Directors for the Margery
     Mason Center for Domestic Violence for Fresno County, and
     the correlation, the rest of the state, as domestic
     violences went down by ten percent, our area, because the of
     the high unemployment, has went up 30 percent. Dropout
     rates, teen pregnancies, all of these things could be
     attributed to not having jobs.
14
               Certainly the high-speed rail is going to make us,
15
     all of us Valley folks, change somewhat. But I couldn't be
     more supportive because of the amount of jobs and effort the
     high-speed rail will make to create those jobs.
18
               Charles Darwin said, it's not the strong that
     survive nor the most intelligent that survive, it's those
     that are most able to embrace change that survive.
21
               I believe that the high-speed rail will change some
     of the ways we do things, but it is imperative that for our
     overall survival in the Valley that we embrace the change
     that creates jobs, that creates a tax base that increases
     our community, that helps Selma, helps Hanford, helps
                                                            Page 25
```

### Submission P028 (John Hutson, September 21, 2011) - Continued

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
Visalia, and Bakersfield.
 1
 2
               But the unemployment statistics for some of our
     vocationally educated and trained construction workers is
     approaching 60 percent. We've seen men and women lose their
     cars, and their houses, and suffer financial strain because
     of no jobs. The ray of hope that we have in the building
     and construction trades is that the high-speed rail gets
     started, it's shovel ready, and that we can create jobs for
     our members. Thank you very much.
10
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, John.
11
               Right next up we have Terry Langiano. I'm so sorry
     if I said that wrong.
13
               Helen Sullivan. And after that Wayne Amundson.
14
               If you could state your name.
15
               SPEAKER LANGIANO: Yes, my name is Terry Langiano.
16
    I'm a farmer on the east side in Tulare County, on the east
17
     side of Tulare, and thank you for allowing a lot of us to
18
     express some thoughts about this project.
19
               I finally found in the 17,000 pages of the EIR
20
     draft a very conservative focus on population growth,
     extremely conservative, and also nothing on the increase of
     water demand. The only thing that talks about water was
23
     crossing over streams and rivers, but no -- nothing that
24
     talks about the increase of water demand.
25
               The high-speed rail system does nothing but
                                                           Page 26
```



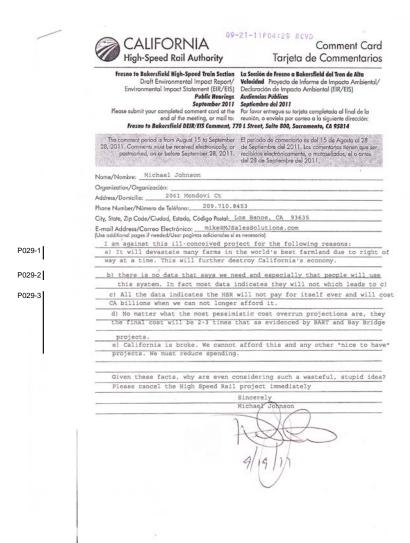
# Response to Submission P028 (John Hutson, September 21, 2011)

### P028-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-09.



### Submission P029 (Michael Johnson, September 21, 2011)



U.S. Department

of Transportation Federal Railroad

# Response to Submission P029 (Michael Johnson, September 21, 2011)

### P029-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

### P029-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-24.

This submission provides no evidence supporting the statement "most data indicates they will not" use the HST System.

### P029-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.



### Submission P030 (Daniel Krause, California for High-Speed Rail, September 21, 2011)

P030-1

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 for
               THE FACILITATOR: Heather --
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: The math is simple, the reading
               THE FACILITATOR: Heather, your time is up.
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: You simply must extend the
     review time. Thank you.
 8
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
 9
               Next we have Daniel Krause, then we have Jerry
10
     Fagundes and Shelli Andranigian.
11
               SPEAKER KRAUSE: Good evening, my name is Daniel
     Krause, I'm executive director of California for High-Speed
13
14
               I just wanted to basically reiterate some of the
15
     points my colleague made earlier about farmland and the
16
     impact that this project will have on it.
17
               I think in a general sense what we're talking about
18
     here tonight is not really about farmland lost in the
19
     general sense, more or less it's about an impact on
     individual farms in an individual area. And I understand
     that, and our organization understands that. And we've
     always urged the Authority to work closely and communicate
     well with the folks here in Kings County and other areas and
     to also fully compensate for any impact that will result
    from this project and we continue to do so.
                                                           Page 99
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
We also urge that a station be seriously considered
    as part of the project here, not in the future, of this --
    of the Kings -- of the Kings County station.
               But I wanted to get back to what the real issue of
     farmland loss is and how this project is related in the
     larger sense. My colleague mentioned that 100,000 acres of
     farmland are lost every year, that's incredible. That's
     mind boggling. Where's the outrage over that? I don't hear
     the controversy in the news about the massive catastrophic
     loss of farmland that we've experienced in California every
     year, and that's our bread -- we are the bread basket of the
     world and we need to protect that.
13
               How does that connect to this project. This
     project is a catalyst of how we use our land in California.
15
     It will change the land use patterns of urban development.
16
               When I drive around the Central Valley, I'm shocked
     to see how many subdivisions are everywhere, spreading cross
     the land, and a lot of farmers are selling their land for
     that, that's what's happening.
20
               This project will change -- will start to change
     the land patterns to revitalize urban -- existing urban
     areas and downtown areas which will alleviate the impact on
     farmland outside. That's why this projects is so critical
     in the larger picture for preserving farmland in the long
    run for California. If we don't change the way we do things
                                                          Page 100
```



### Submission P030 (Daniel Krause, California for High-Speed Rail, September 21, 2011) - Continued

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 on land use now, then we're really going to continue this
    process, and that's unacceptable.
               And so the choice is now we can either decide to
     put our heads in the sand and say we're just going to keep
     building more highway lanes -- you know, two tracks of rail
     equals six to eight lanes of highway -- you know, we're just
     going to keep expanding our roads just to use more farmland.
     That's the real issue of farmland and high-speed rail.
 9
10
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Daniel.
11
              Jerry Fagundes. After Jerry we have Shelli
     Andranigian and after that Gordon Tessman.
13
               SPEAKER FagUNDES: Good evening, my name is Jerry
     Fagundes, and there's a lot of papers to read. I'm not
15
     college educated, I do know how to read. I found a couple
16
     of interesting tidbits that pertain to me.
17
               CEQA guidelines, where, noise and vibrations, state
18
     severe impact at 1400 feet from the track. That is in the
19
     guideline sheet, first section. How many of you have your
20
     house within 1400 feet of this project? Anybody?
21
               My residence is within 75 feet of the rail, that is
     35 feet, maybe 40 feet above the ground. I have been told
     that my property is not being impacted. Does anybody want
     to buy a house that likes the rail? You have a 24/7 view.
   I want you to think about that. My front yard has
                                                          Page 101
```



Response to Submission P030 (Daniel Krause, California for High-Speed Rail, September 21, 2011)

### P030-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-LU-04 and FB-Response-AG-01.

P031-1

### Submission P031 (Michael Lamb, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
 1
               Michael Lamb. And after that we have Brianda
     Louro. And after that Heather Oliveira.
               SPEAKER LAMB: Thank you. My name is Michael Lamb,
     I'm a Hanford resident, retired United States Marine.
               Through my -- or near my house on a daily basis
     pass train after train after train. Most of them are
     freight trains, many of them are passenger trains, but they
     come on a continuum. We don't need another train,
     high-speed or otherwise.
11
               The high-speed rail is in use in Japan. Japan says
     it's one of their finest achievements, their high-speed
     rail. Ladies and gentlemen, after 20 plus years in
     operation to date that high-speed rail is a boondoggle, it
15
     is losing money, it is not making money. What it makes you
     think this will. I contend that it won't, even to the
16
17
     gentleman over here who rolled his eyes, trust me, it won't.
18
               The High-Speed Rail Authority is nothing more than
19
     a giant government subsidized money grab and by God in
     California we damn sure don't need one of those. If the
     system would be put in place, hypothetically, don't tear up
     places here in Kings County.
23
               You get in the train, you go to Sacramento, what do
     you do when you get there? Your car is 500 miles behind
    you. Take a cab, rent a car, hope that where you're going
                                                           Page 94
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

# This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
is within walking distance.
               Come on, people talk about this rail system and how
     great it looks in Europe and how great it looks in Japan.
     and it doesn't work in Japan, and Europe has been in
     practice for years and years, and then it only works
     sometimes
               For them it only works because the Europeans are
     small. I've been to Europe. Have you ever been to Europe?
     You get off the train and you can walk where you're going.
     Maybe even take a horse drawn carriage. Our economy has
     grown beyond that.
12
               There's mention of lost money, of lost land.
     Ladies and gentlemen, I'm here to tell you that the land
     that would be lost would be the land that now grows crops
     and the cattle now grazes on. This is the place where your
     food comes from, this is the place where your milk is taken
     from the cows, this is the place where things happen in
     California, not in some fancy place, I'm here to tell you
19
     that.
20
               Finally, every day and night trains and trains and
     trains come through here, every day through Hanford, I think
     it's more than 70 trains a day. Do we need another train?
     I say not. Thank you.
24
               THE FACILITATOR: Brianda.
25
               SPEAKER LOURO: Hello, my name is Brianda and I'm
                                                            Page 95
```

# Response to Submission P031 (Michael Lamb, September 21, 2011)

### P031-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-14.

P032-1

P032-2

### Submission P032 (Terry Langiano, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
Visalia, and Bakersfield.
 2
               But the unemployment statistics for some of our
     vocationally educated and trained construction workers is
     approaching 60 percent. We've seen men and women lose their
     cars, and their houses, and suffer financial strain because
     of no jobs. The ray of hope that we have in the building
     and construction trades is that the high-speed rail gets
     started, it's shovel ready, and that we can create jobs for
 9
     our members. Thank you very much.
10
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, John.
11
               Right next up we have Terry Langiano. I'm so sorry
     if I said that wrong.
13
               Helen Sullivan. And after that Wayne Amundson.
14
               If you could state your name.
15
               SPEAKER LANGIANO: Yes, my name is Terry Langiano.
     I'm a farmer on the east side in Tulare County, on the east
17
     side of Tulare, and thank you for allowing a lot of us to
18
     express some thoughts about this project.
19
               I finally found in the 17,000 pages of the EIR
20
     draft a very conservative focus on population growth,
     extremely conservative, and also nothing on the increase of
     water demand. The only thing that talks about water was
23
     crossing over streams and rivers, but no -- nothing that
24
     talks about the increase of water demand.
25
               The high-speed rail system does nothing but
                                                            Page 26
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
contribute to increased demand for water in the near term by
     way of increasing in population growth, in addition to the
     significant disregard and destruction of important farmland,
     plus destroying significant destroyable sites.
               The impact on water to cross over streams and
     rivers, wow. Our Tulare walnut ranch, in 1987, had standing
     water levels at 26 feet, and it has steadily decreased to
     116 feet, which resulted a --
               THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry --
10
               THE FACILITATOR: Terry.
               SPEAKER LANGIANO: Yes.
               THE FACILITATOR: Could you slow down just a little
13
    bit.
14
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: And back up about a second.
15
               SPEAKER LANGIANO: I'm sorry, I'm sorry, where
     would you like me to back up to, I'm sorry?
17
               THE COURT REPORTER: Where you started reading.
     "The impact on water."
19
               SPEAKER LANGIANO: Okay. The impact on water that
     I noticed in the EIR is that it talks about crossing over
     streams and rivers. Well, big deal. I'm talking about the
     impact on water demand. It doesn't talk about water demand
23
     at all that I could find.
24
              High-speed rail does nothing but increase the
    demand on water. Fortunately we had a pretty wet winter
                                                           Page 27
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P032-1



### Submission P032 (Terry Langiano, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 this last year, because the history of water levels in the
 2 Valley, just on our ranch, going back in the -- several
    years where the water was at 116 feet, standing level.
     That, fortunately, has been increased now back up to around
     81 feet, which is a big difference, but we had to put in a
     new irrigation well, two domestic pumps -- wells, as a
     result of that
               All too much local and political focus is on
     projects which increase demand on our water supply and
     really nothing focuses on increase in storage and
11
     distribution to meet existing demand let alone the rapid
     increase in demand.
13
               My opinion is it certainly is hurting and I don't
     know if all of the high-speed rail dollars is the
15
     appropriate and best thing to do for California.
16
               Too many local residents and politicians in the
17
     Valley communities and those representing Central California
18
     have no idea, or at least have never expressed it, how
19
     thankful we have been for the recent rain records and snow.
     If the water spigot flows to full at last no big deal of
21
     concern --
22
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Terry.
23
               SPEAKER LANGIANO: Yes.
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Are you almost done? We gave you
   a little bit of extra time because we had to interrupt you.
                                                            Page 28
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 If you'd like to submit the rest as a written comment, you
    may do so.
               SPEAKER LANGIANO: I will be submitting it in
     writing because I think that we're not putting enough focus
     on the agriculture, the land, and food that's created for
     the world.
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Thank you.
 8
               SPEAKER LANGIANO: On the water and land. Thank
 9
     vou.
10
              THE FACILITATOR: Helen. And then Wayne Amundson
     after that.
               SPEAKER SULLIVAN: Good afternoon. My name is
     Helen Sullivan and I'm here today to request that you extend
     the comment period on the Draft EIR to six months. In
     dealing with the people and the elected officials in Kings
     County, the Rail Authority and it's entire paid consultants
     have been evasive, dismissive, disrespectful, and in several
     instances downright dishonest.
19
               Now, you give us 60 days to comment on the 30,000
     page document in which you feel you have somewhat vaguely
     justified putting your train right through the heart of our
22
     county.
23
               The collateral damage caused by running this train
     through our county is enormous. It shakes our delicately
     balanced socioeconomic structure to its foundation. It
                                                           Page 29
```

### Response to Submission P032 (Terry Langiano, September 21, 2011)

### P032-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-HWR-04, FB-Response-GENERAL-03, FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

### P032-2

The EIR/EIS evaluated impacts on water demand and concluded that construction of the Fresno to Bakersfield Section of the HST will result in a net decrease of annual water consumption for the area impacted by the construction of the track and facilities, when annualized over a 5-year construction period. Operation and maintenance of the HST at final build-out will also result in a net decrease of water use over existing water use within the project footprint to only 2% of the current water use. Annual operational water use estimates are based on full build-out of the project in 2035. Table 3.6-13 provides a summary of water use during construction. Table 3.6-16 provides operational water demand estimates. Refer to Appendix 3.6-B for additional information.



P033-1

P033-2

P033-3

### Submission P033 (Pamela Leal, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 proceed to targets. Nothing should be mandated. It's not a
   dictatorship in this country. One of the reasons the state
    is right now in the financial problems we're having is
     because of mandated items that don't come under review.
     Nothing should be mandated.
               The other thing, the farmers are the backbone of
     Kings County. The only other major industry we have is the
     air base. I'm a veteran, 28 years at the air base. The
     farmers go under, this county cannot survive under the
     dwindling military budget. So the Kings County farmers have
11
     a valid point and it needs to be heard.
12
               Anybody that requests the extension for response to
     the EIR needs to have 100 percent validity put to their
     request. Thank you very much.
15
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
16
               Pamela
17
               SPEAKER LEAL: Pamela Leal, 12566 7th Avenue.
18
               Once again I stand here asking for a 60-day
19
     extension. California High-Speed Rail Web site states that
20
     these hearings are to disclose information and decision
     makers -- to decision makers and the public. I've spent the
     better part of five months asking the Authority to get in
     coordination with our local governments and farm bureau only
     to hear you still have yet to contact them and mitigate all
    impacts listed to you.
                                                           Page 32
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

# This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

I do not understand how we are still going through with the largest public works project when federal political backings for the rapid rail system is fading fast. Obama's recent budget deal for four million in high-speed rail funding was quashed by Congress this year, and future funding was highly uncertain given the blatant mismanagement of the high-speed rail project. This state is financially strapped. The nine billion that voters pledged in bonds is only about 20 percent of the projected startup cost for the project. Kings County has budget problems and cannot afford the lost income that is going to pay for this. And why are we laying down tracks for a rail that the state can't afford? The train -- don't have a train, or how to electrify it, or how to pay to complete it from San Francisco to LA. 16 You are taking away our Amtrak, if the public doesn't know that, page 3.2, dash, 48, they are taking away our Amtrak in Hanford, Corcoran, and Wasco. 19 And the cost of this ticket to ride this luxury will be between \$100 and \$150. Amtrak right now, from Hanford to Sacramento, \$52. You state that existing riders will shift to the high-speed rail, and yet how will they afford that The project is not 33 billion as promised. It is more than 67 billion, and that is not what Californians Page 33

# Submission P033 (Pamela Leal, September 21, 2011) - Continued

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
P033-3
              1 voted for. If it ever does get built, once completed, it
                 will never be able to pay for itself, it will forever need
                  to be subsidized by a California economy that should be
                  looking at ways to save the economy, not in new ways to
P033-4
                            Simply stating the high-speed rail project will
                  bring jobs and enhance the community economic conditions
                  does not justify the destruction of multigenerational
                  industries nor ensure employment to the displaced, nor
                  explain to the county how its ag economy will be repaired
             11
                  and not further harmed. It does not explain how the two can
                  coexist in harmony.
P033-5
             13
                            Quote from Kings County Farm Bureau to the Federal
                  Railroad Administration, to put this in Kings County's
             15
                  perspective the Authority's proposed singled-alternative
                  high-speed rail alignment through Kings County will traverse
                  34 parcels classified as prime farmland, 62 parcels
                  classified as farmland of statewide importance, 24 parcels
             18
             19
                  classified as unique farmland and 20 parcels classified as
                  confined animals. These parcels of land total more than
                  8,000 acres.
             22
                            The Authority snubs both the Williamson Act and the
             23
                  FPPA.
             24
                            THE FACILITATOR: Pamela, you're time is up.
             25
                            SPEAKER LEAL: I know.
                                                                         Page 34
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
The Authority has not notified the California
    Department of Conservation that the proposed
     alignment may require the acquisition of these important
               Projects are subject to FPPA requirements --
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Pamela --
               SPEAKER LEAL: -- if they may irreversibly convert
     farmland --
 9
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Please submit your response in
10
     writing.
               SPEAKER LEAL: Sir.
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Yes.
13
               SPEAKER LEAL: You only gave me three minutes to
     comment on a 30,000 page report.
15
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: That's why we allow written
16
     comment --
17
               SPEAKER LEAL: You ignore --
18
               SPEAKER ABERCROMBIE: If you would like to put in
     another card, you may do so.
20
               SPEAKER LEAL: Okav. Last comment.
21
              I hope and pray the committee on appropriations
     de-funds you today.
23
               THE FACILITATOR: I just want to remind everyone
     that if you go past your three minutes, you can resubmit
    them, but we do have a big stack of comments here so I want
                                                           Page 35
```

# Submission P033 (Pamela Leal, September 21, 2011) - Continued

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 to be respectful for everybody so they all have their
     opportunity to comment.
               So Alisa Gomez. After that we have Kavli Holt, and
               SPEAKER GOMEZ: Good afternoon, my name is Alisa
     Gomez, I am a high school ag teacher at Corcoran High
     School. One of the alignments does run through my home.
 8
               One of my first questions is, and we look at this
     from an economic standpoint, is our state in a position
     financially to be putting a project like this into play. I
10
11
     stand in front of my students every day and I teach them the
     record book and their projects, that they need to be
     responsible and planning this, they need to come up with an
     itemized budget which will tell them if they will have
15
     enough money to see the project through from start to
16
     finish. We expect these kids to be responsible but they see
17
     projects like this not being responsible.
18
               It will upset me if this project goes through and
19
     takes my home, but it will really upset me if this project
20
     takes my home and does not end up being finished.
21
               With my situation, I've saved up for ten years to
     buy my dream home. I have a husband, and I'm raising four
     children in this household. Homes like this are scarce. I
     live on a one-acre parcel in Corcoran, and when all of us --
     when these homes are taken from all us, they say that they
                                                           Page 36
```



### Response to Submission P033 (Pamela Leal, September 21, 2011)

#### P033-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.

The federal government continues to fund the California HST program.

#### P033-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-24.

The cost for a ticket from Hanford to Sacramento on the HST has not been established.

#### P033-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.

Chapter 7 of the Revised 2012 Business Plan (Authority 2012a) shows that under all revenue and operating and maintenance cost scenarios used by the Authority, the project generates positive net cash flow from operations beginning with the initial year of operations. This submission provides no evidence that the project would not have a net cash flow.

### P033-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-14, FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

See Section 5.1.2 in the Community Impact Assessment Technical Report (Authority and FRA 2012g), and the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impacts SO #5 and SO #14, for information on project job creation during construction and operation. See Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #16, for impacts on agricultural businesses.

#### P033-5

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04 and FB-Response-AG-07.

See Volume I, Section 3.14, Impact AG#4 for information on the permanent conversion of agricultural land, and see Mitigation Measure AG-1 in Volume I, Section 3.14 for measures to preserve the total amount of prime farmland.



P034-3

P034-4

### Submission P034 (Pamela Leal, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

its business plan. 2 We need to put people to work but we need to put people to work fixing existing infrastructure, roads, bridges, and schools, not new infrastructure. Thank you. THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. Pamela. P034-1 SPEAKER LEAL: The Authority snubs both the Williamson Act and the FPPA. The Authority has not notified the California Department of Conservation that the proposed alignment may require the acquisition of this protected 11 land. P034-2 12 Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland, directly or indirectly, to nonagricultural use and are completed by a federal agency or with the assistance from a federal agency. The high-speed rail project will convert farmland to urban use 17 as the project is to be a permanent design intended to serve 18 the transportation needs for the large urban population 19 center. P034-3 20 All of the Authority's advanced alignments that run through Kings County will require the development of a new transportation corridor. With this new corridor will come 23 increased urban sprawl into now extremely productive and invaluable agricultural land. The only alternative that would avoid this is the high-speed rail to stay on Highway Page 66

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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1 99, which just -- Tulare was just begging for, so that a new corridor will not be created. However, as explained earlier, the Authority has eliminated from consideration any reasonable alternative. The only alternative is in compliance with the above stated federal and state laws and the will of the people who approved the safe, reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st century. I have been reading the EIR report pretty much until 1:00 or 2:00 in the morning every single night and still do not have any of the answers I have been begging for since May. Thank you. 12 THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. 13 Richard. 14 SPEAKER WILLIAMS: Once again, Richard Williams. 15 I just listened to the gentleman talk about the benefits and the reason we need to do this and one of his reasons as he cites is clean air. I want to once again point out that the Clean Air Act is a mandate by the federal government that affects the state government, which affects us. Once again. 21 Now, back to my grid thing again. 22 Electricity is the key to this entire project. We've lost two peaker plants in this area recently because of the oil, coal bashing that's been going on in the EPA, so they're done. We've lost peaker plants here. Page 67

### Response to Submission P034 (Pamela Leal, September 21, 2011)

#### P034-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-07.

The Authority has sent a notice of acquisition of Williamson Act contracted parcels, pursuant to Government Code Section 51222, to the Department of Conservation and to Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern counties.

#### P034-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-07.

See Volume II, Technical Appendix 3.14-A for the results and findings of land evaluation and site assessment pursuant to the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA), which includes evaluation score sheets prepared by the Natural Resources Conservation Service State Resources Inventory Coordinator and site assessment scores prepared by project staff.

#### P034-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-03, FB-Response-GENERAL-02.

### P034-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02, FB-Response-GENERAL-10.



### Submission P035 (Pamela Leal, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
You have heard more than enough complaints in this
 1
    community, and I think tomorrow you'll probably get some
    more. Bottom line is we want to be respected, and you're
     not respecting us. And I have nothing against any one of
     you up there but you all are getting too much money for
     doing nothing. Thank you.
              THE FACILITATOR: Pamela Leal.
               SPEAKER LEAL: My first comment was to educate the
     public on what we found out in the EIR. This comment is a
     personal comment.
11
               I was just speaking to the consultant in the room.
     Supposedly there's a heavy maintenance facility that is
     proposed in my backyard, 12566 Seventh Avenue, and I just
     found out this lists as an impact place for me, Jeff, it's
     running 24 hours a day. Explain to me how I'm supposed to
16
     sleep, Jeff. Thanks.
17
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: We have no cards at this time so
     we will take a fifteen minute break -- ten minute break.
19
                              (BREAK)
20
              THE FACILITATOR: We have, in order, Heather
     Oliveira, Joe Machado, and Mark Muradian.
22
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: Okay. Boys and girls, Mrs.
23
     Oliveira is going to speak again so you need to take your
24
25
               Back in June I asked your panel at our -- at the
                                                          Page 133
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad

P035-1



### Response to Submission P035 (Pamela Leal, September 21, 2011)

#### P035-1

Potential noise impact has been assessed at sensitive receivers, and these areas are identified in Section 3.4.5, Environmental Consequences, of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS and shown in Figures 3.4-9 through 3.4-13. The locations of potential barriers are illustrated on Figures 3.4-15 through 3.4-19. Refer to Section 3.4.7 for a complete listing of noise impact mitigation measures that would reduce noise impacts below a "severe" level. The Proposed California High-Speed Train Project Noise and Vibration Mitigation Guidelines developed by the Authority (see Appendix 3.4-A of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS) were used to determine whether mitigation would be proposed for these areas of potential impact. The Guidelines require consideration of feasible and effective mitigation for severe noise impacts (impacts where a significant percentage of people would be highly annoyed by the HST project's noise).

The Authority will refine mitigation for homes with residual severe noise impacts (i.e., severe impacts that remain notwithstanding noise barriers) and address them on a case-by-case basis during final design of the Preferred Alternative. In addition to the potential use of noise barriers, other forms of noise mitigation may include improvements to the home itself that will reduce the levels by at least 5 dBA, such as adding acoustically treated windows, extra insulation, and mechanical ventilation as detailed in Section 3.4.7. Project.

The Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS proposes noise barriers in areas of severe noise impacts resulting from the project, where the barriers meet the cost-effectiveness criteria. To meet the cost-effectiveness criteria, barriers must mitigate noise for more than 10 sensitive receivers, be not less than 800 feet in length, be less than 14 feet in height, and cost below \$45,000 per benefited receiver. A receiver that receives at least 5-dBA noise reduction due to the barrier is considered a benefited receiver. Mitigation Measure N&V-MM#3 provides that sound barriers may be installed to reduce noise to acceptable levels at adjoining properties. These may include walls, berms, or a combination of walls and berms. The specific type of barrier will be selected during final design, and before operations begin. In addition, Mitigation Measure N&V-MM#3 provides that prior to operation, the Authority will work with communities regarding the height and design of sound barriers, using jointly developed performance criteria, when the vertical and horizontal location have been finalized as part of the final design of the

U.S. Department

of Transportation Federal Railroad

#### P035-1

project. Mitigation Measure VQ-MM#6 requires the provision of a range of options to reduce the visual impact of the sound barriers. At this time, there are no planned sound barriers throughout the Fresno area for the Fresno to Bakersfield segment due to the lack of severe impacts.

# Submission P036 (Judy Lehman, September 21, 2011)

	Presne to Bukerstiela nign-speed train section Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) Public Hearings September 2011 Please submit your completed comment card at the end of the meeting, or mail to: Fresne to Bakersfield DEIR/EIS Comment, 77.	La section de Presno a Bakerstiela del Iren de Atta Velodidad Proyecto de Informe de Impacto Ambiental/ Declaración de Impacto Ambiental (EIR/EIS) Audiencias Públicas Septiembre del 2011 Por favor entregue su tarjeta completada al final de la reunión, o enviela por correo a la siguiente dirección: 70 L Street, Suite 800, Sacramento, CA 95814
	The comment period is from August 15 to September 28, 2011. Comments must be received electronically, or postmarked, on or before September 28, 2011.	El periodo de comertario es del 15 de Agosto al 28 de Septiembra del 2011. Los comentarios tienen que ser recibidos electrónicamente, o matasellados, el o antes del 28 de Septiembre del 2011.
	Name/Nombre: Judy behman	
	Organization/Organización:	
	Address/Domicilio: 24482 Ave 7/2	
	Phone Number/Número de Teléfono: 559-661	- 0832
	City, State, Zip Code/Ciudad, Estado, Código Postal:	Madera, CA 93637
P036-1	E-mail Address/Correo Electrónico: (Use additional pages if needed/Usar paginas adicionales si es necesario)  Tamagainst HSR in California.	
	Judy Johnan	

# Response to Submission P036 (Judy Lehman, September 21, 2011)

### P036-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-14.



### Submission P037 (Brianda Louro, Tulare Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011)

P037-1

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
is within walking distance.
 2
               Come on, people talk about this rail system and how
     great it looks in Europe and how great it looks in Japan.
     and it doesn't work in Japan, and Europe has been in
     practice for years and years, and then it only works
     sometimes
               For them it only works because the Europeans are
     small. I've been to Europe. Have you ever been to Europe?
     You get off the train and you can walk where you're going.
     Maybe even take a horse drawn carriage. Our economy has
11
     grown beyond that.
12
               There's mention of lost money, of lost land.
     Ladies and gentlemen, I'm here to tell you that the land
     that would be lost would be the land that now grows crops
15
     and the cattle now grazes on. This is the place where your
     food comes from, this is the place where your milk is taken
17
     from the cows, this is the place where things happen in
18
     California, not in some fancy place, I'm here to tell you
19
     that.
20
               Finally, every day and night trains and trains and
     trains come through here, every day through Hanford, I think
     it's more than 70 trains a day. Do we need another train?
23
     I say not. Thank you.
24
               THE FACILITATOR: Brianda.
25
               SPEAKER LOURO: Hello, my name is Brianda and I'm
                                                            Page 95
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 currently the FFA chapter president. I was born and raised
    in Hanford, California, and my home lays very close to the
     proposal that you all are planning to go through right now.
               My family knows many people whose homes are going
     to be destroyed, whose dairies are going to be cut in
     diagonal. These people's lives and income are going to be
     ruined because of this California High-Speed Rail. Not only
     that, 2,000 acres of prime farmland are going to be
     affected. And not even taking into account the acres of
     farmland, if this community becomes a bedroom community,
     what's going to happen in the case of urban sprawl.
12
               I've heard headlines across the state saying that
     this is such a bright future, that this is what California's
     next generation needs. In my opinion I think it's going to
     be devastating to my future. What happens to the thousands
     of kids like me who want to go into the dairy industry, who
     want to go into the agricultural industry, who simply want
     to carry on the tradition in which their parents and their
     grandparents and their great grandparents have lessoned
     them.
21
               The California High-Speed Rail say they want to
     compensate for the agricultural land. How are they going to
     compensate for land, for what it's worth from -- 30 years
     from now, what -- the memories, what the children have grown
    up on and set their moral values on, how are they going to
                                                           Page 96
```

# Submission P037 (Brianda Louro, Tulare Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011) - Continued

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
compensate for that?
 1
 2
               Now, I think agricultural industry is being caught
     in the shadows of this bright light that the headlines are
     proposing. So in my opinion I think this is going to be
     more devastating to children in the next future generation
     than really if it's going to be any benefit to any of us.
     Thank you.
 8
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
 9
               Heather.
10
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: My name is Heather Oliveira, and
11
     I come to you today to ask you to extend the review time on
13
               I'm a teacher. I've been teaching since 1981, and
     since 1999, I have specifically taught reading to children.
     So today I'd like to share with you some facts about reading
15
16
     that I think are important in extending the EIR review time.
17
               Currently about 20 percent of adults read below the
     fifth grade reading level, and about 50 percent of adults
18
19
     read below the eighth grade reading level. I extrapolated
20
     words randomly from page 100, 200, and 300 of the EIR, and I
     used the Flesch-Kincaid readability model to see what the
     average reading level of the EIR reading level was and that
23
     came out to 8.8, which is nearly a high school freshman's
     reading level. That means about 50 percent of the
    population will struggle to read the EIR.
                                                           Page 97
```

Response to Submission P037 (Brianda Louro, Tulare Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011)

### P037-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-03, FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

### Submission P038 (Joe Machado, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 your hand out for more money to get the rail going.
               It's not going to be bringing any jobs. Once this
     rail is gone, it's gone, and that's it. Nobody's going to
     have any more jobs than they have right now, so it's not
     going to solve anything.
               I read your deal under the Uniform Act. You guys
     wrote that, you ought to read it. It's pretty good, it
     doesn't say you can take my property, and it says nothing in
     there about eminent domain, but you're going to have to
     compensate me in whole before you take anything. Thank you.
11
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Charlene.
12
               Diana Peck
13
               After that we have Brian Stanke and Kathy Hamilton.
14
               I'm sorry, I skipped Joe Machado. Please go ahead.
15
               SPEAKER MACHADO: Good evening, my name is Joe
16
     Machado, 8800 Lansing Avenue.
17
               I have a very large dairy farm that's very much
18
     impacted by your rail. I didn't get involved in too much
19
     concerns about where the rail was going because of course
     when it's not impacting you, you really don't really pay
     attention, but, man, when you start paying attention, my
     neighbors and my friends and my fellow county people, it was
23
     devastating to our county.
24
               We started looking into the directives that the
    high-rail speed was under, prop 1A, and what the voters
                                                            Page 57
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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P038-1

```
1 voted for, you go up and down the list, you guys, I'm not
    accountable to anything. You basically put a rail line
     where it's not supposed to be. There's no transportation
     corridors to my dairy cows, there's no transportation
     corridors to the walnut orchards. You use the guides of a
     high wire power line to follow the -- transportation, for
     what, crows, birds, they follow that corridor, not people.
               And, you know, looking at the funding of this
     project, it just seems like 600 consultants on the project,
     and for how many years have you guys been at it, maybe
     eight, 900 million dollars, a billion dollars, and not a
     single shovel of dirt in the ground yet, and this is the
     route -- the best route that you guys can come up with. It
14
     seems absurd.
15
               There's a kill switch for this somewhere, it's
     going to be found sooner or later because this is just a
     travesty and a waste of money. The ideal, the principle of
     high-speed rail, put in its proper place, moving people from
     dense population center to dense population center, it's
     destroying people's livelihoods through generations of
     infrastructure that was built just simply for the public
     good of urban people, it's way, way beyond what I can take
     for what my family has built. It's a travesty, it's
     actually a crime.
25
               I have a few other comments but no -- and moving
                                                            Page 58
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P038-1

# Submission P038 (Joe Machado, September 21, 2011) - Continued

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1\, forward, I know that you guys are getting a lot of negative
 2 press and I wanted to share a letter with you that was sent
     to me three days ago from the Authority. It was dated
     September 16th and it asks permission to access my property,
     be it with engineers, hydraulics -- who else wanted to be on
     my property, anthropologists, in order to gather information
     to be used to determine the best location for the project
     and steps necessary to mitigate its economical impacts. Uh,
     don't you guys have an EIR out, or was that just a fluff
10
     piece?
11
               I mean, how can anyone send me a letter saying that
     they want to mitigate the best possible route when they have
     a document that they wanted people to do and 45 days to
     review it --
15
               THE FACILITATOR: Joe.
16
               SPEAKER MACHADO: -- 60 days, and now we're asking
17
     120 days, and that justifies for what, this document,
     because it's fluffed. If you have a job and you're asking
18
19
     me to access my property, sobeit.
20
               THE FACILITATOR: Diana Peck.
21
               SPEAKER PECK: Can I just have one second to get
     organized.
23
               Hi, my name is Diana Peck, I'm with the Kings
     County Farm Bureau, and many of you I already recognize from
    past meetings.
                                                            Page 59
```

# Response to Submission P038 (Joe Machado, September 21, 2011)

### P038-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02, FB-Response-GENERAL-10.



### Submission P039 (Angie Machado, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1
               THE FACILITATOR: Before the next speaker comes up.
    Frank, I think I might have passed over Angie Machado.
     Could we give her a chance to speak. I'm sorry, Frank.
               SPEAKER MACHADO: Good evening, I'm Angie Machado.
               Before I say what I wanted to say, the gentleman
     that spoke earlier, I didn't get his name, but when he was
     talking about farmland that was the -- that we gave up for
     housing development. Farmland was given by choice at that
     time, not forced.
10
               So you've heard a lot from farmers in this meeting
11
     and meetings past. Why? Because it's the farmers along
     with others that put food on our tables. I just ask that
     the next time you sit down, in fact every time you sit down
     to eat your meals, I hope that you not only pray to God for
     it but also for a farmer, a grower, or a rancher, because it
     is those people that work heart, soul, and sweat for that
17
     food that nourishes your body, our bodies. So with this
     train coming through our land, your land, we may not have
18
19
     another meal.
20
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. And we have Frank,
21
     Glenda, and Anne Gaspar.
22
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: Hello, I'm Frank Oliveira,
23
     Citizens for California High-Speed Railing Accountability.
24
               Previously talked about a request to extend the EIR
    by six months. I want to talk about the overall project and
                                                           Page 109
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559



P039-1

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration

# Response to Submission P039 (Angie Machado, September 21, 2011)

### P039-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-14.



### Submission P040 (Joe Machado, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 Kings County Fairgrounds to name for me the number of ag
 2 specialists that were hired during the research phase of the
    EIR, and to date I've received no list of names of ag
     engineers or ag scientists. It's clear to the farming and
     agricultural community that no expert in ag participated in
     the EIR study. No ag engineer would transect land leaving
     wells separated from their pipe lanes. No ag specialist
     would devastate trees, lines, and crop land without
     measuring the number of jobs lost forever. No ag specialist
     could sign the death of million dollar dairies, and no
10
11
     agricultural scientist would hasten the loss of American
     farmland and ensure more imported foods on our tables.
13
               Leaving ag interest out is imposing enormous flaws
     in the EIR. Extend the review, go back and address ag
15
     issues, and do it right. Thanks.
16
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
17
               Joe Machado
18
               SPEAKER MACHADO: Joe Machado. I want to just give
19
     you some facts of the dairy industry in California and the
     first few dairies in the Corcoran bypass that are impacted.
     there's probably -- well, all four of us are here in the
     room tonight.
23
               The first four dairies that the train hits on the
     Corcoran bypass, we employ 112 people. We have 19,700 head
    on our facility, between the four facilities. We produce
                                                          Page 134
```

P040-1

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 96,500 gallons of milk a day. That's 16 tanker loads of
   6500 gallons, so you figure that's a lot of milk just on
    four dairies
               In the State of California, this is done by the --
     I don't know if you folks are familiar with the California
     Milk Advisory Board. They're kind of the promotional group
     for the whole dairy industry. They did a survey, and this
     was in 2008, so the numbers might have changed a little bit.
     Your typical dairy cow produces $34,000 of economical
     activity for the community that it resides in, one cow, per
     year, that's in support services and everything.
               For every ten on the farm jobs that we employ ten
     people on the farm, we support 222 people of support
     services off the farm. Every four cows equals one job.
15
               To do a comparison of what the dairy industry means
16
     to California.
17
               In 2008 the film industry produced 208,000 new
     jobs. The wine industry produced 330,000 new jobs. The
     dairy industry, in 2008, produced 443,000 jobs. So when the
     train talks about producing new jobs, at one time I think it
     was like a ridiculous number of 220,000 jobs you were going
     to produce or something, that was one of the first -- the
     State of California has 224,000 employees. I don't know who
     came up with that ridiculous number.
25
               Anyway, the economical output for state in the
                                                          Page 135
```

### Submission P040 (Joe Machado, September 21, 2011) - Continued

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 dairy industry in California was 63 billion dollars. That's
    63 billion dollars that dairy meant in economic input for
     this state. Number one commodity in Kings County, the milk.
     So it's something to digest on the way home, and thank you
     all for being here.
               THE FACILITATOR: Mark Muradian. You're our last
     speaker for the evening.
 8
               SPEAKER MURADIAN: Hi, I spoke before, I wanted to
 9
     bring a couple other things up that I remembered.
10
               A friend of mine says that in China they have had
11
     these -- they have these high speed trains that go 220 miles
     an hour and they have had problems with them at that speed
     and have had to reduce the speed. Okay. Is that going
     happen here? If it happens here -- the reason they gave us
15
     for taking our land in Kings County is they couldn't make
     the turn along the existing tracks through Laton at that
17
     speed, so if they're going to lower the speed, why don't you
18
     go through Laton and leave our farmland alone.
19
               Another thing is the ridership. They are
20
     projecting all kinds of -- I don't know what -- the number
     of trains they're planning on running per day. Where are
     they going to get the people to fill those trains, have they
     done any number on that, do they have any facts, do they
     have any inkling of what the fee -- what the fare is going
    to be and how many of the public are willing to pay that fee
                                                          Page 136
```



# Response to Submission P040 (Joe Machado, September 21, 2011)

### P040-1

See Section 5.1.2 in the Community Impact Assessment Technical Report (Authority and FRA 2012g), and the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impacts SO #5 and SO #14, for information on project job creation during construction and operation.

P041-1

### Submission P041 (Donna Marshall, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 years of construction are they looking at, ten, fifteen,
 2 more? They will be converted acres until they have been
    released. You may decide that you need these acres for
     something else by that time. These figures do not even
     include any of the collateral damage, maybe somebody else
     can address the collateral damage.
              The central San Joaquin Valley is too productive,
     too important to be chopped up and left in small unsalable
     pieces with irreversible damage. Surely the I-5 corridor is
     a reasonably feasible alternative.
11
              THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
12
               Donna
13
               SPEAKER MARSHALL: I'm Donna Marshall, and right
     now I'm kind of upset because I kind of feel like you guys
15
     are falling asleep again. But as a resident of Tulare
16
     County, I cannot believe that this poorly guided train wreck
17
     is still planning to break ground here in the Central Valley
18
     next year. Can't you see that Kings County doesn't want
19
     you, we don't like you? And point blank, we don't.
20
              There's a lot of problems with the Rail Authority
     and the project in general. For starters, I don't see how
     60 days to review a 30,000 page document is a reasonable
     amount of time. We're busy. We're farmers, we're dairymen,
     we're busy working, we're feeding our county, we're feeding
    our state, we're feeding the world, we're feeding the
                                                           Page 72
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 nation, and you want us to sit down and read this in 2 60 days. Give us six months. If you're coming through our town, our county you're taking away our livelihood, it's the least you can do. Give us six months, be respectful. You know, if you want us to show you respect, you have to give us some On many different occasions we have asked the CHSRA to start working with our local officials and to stop ignoring the citizens and all of our concerns. The land owners, including myself, have submitted comments, and we've received no feedback from you guys. The Authority is not concerned about the involvement with NEPA processes. Based on the past behavior of the Rail Authority, it's obvious, they're not cooperating. This thing clearly is not your guys's strong point. It's obvious to me that members of this board have not proven themselves worthy to be sitting there and most of them lack any expertise that is relevant to a project that's going to stand to devastate California. THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Donna. SPEAKER FUKUDA: My name is Maureen Fukuda, I am an honorary member of the CCHSRA. 23 Well, I'd like to start by saying that we were asked to say something that we liked about the high-speed rail and make comments about things that we don't like, so Page 73

# Response to Submission P041 (Donna Marshall, September 21, 2011)

### P041-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-16.

Also, responses to comments on the Draft EIR/EIS and the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS will be provided in Volumes IV and V of the Final EIR/EIS.

P042-1

P042-2

# Submission P042 (Lou Martinez, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 it. You guys are encouraging it. You're putting your rail
   east of Hanford. Hanford is not scoped out for utilities or
     growth east of Highway 43. That's where you want your
     station. And in your EIR, you emphasize that high-speed
     rail creates concentric dense growth.
               It's kind of like urban, the urban planning policy.
     There is no urban area where you're at, you went clear
     around it to get away from it, so you violated your own
 9
10
               THE FACILITATOR: Lou Martinez.
11
               SPEAKER MARTINEZ: Thank you. My name is Lou
     Martinez and I just want to ask you gentlemen up there, how
     many of you have read this EIR. Anybody? I haven't read
     it, I can't afford to read it, I can't afford to pay anyone
     to read it for me, so you know it's a document that's going
     to take more time for the people of this area to read and
17
     analyze and try to get some feedback to you. You haven't
18
     given us that opportunity.
19
               I myself, I voted for high-speed rail. I voted for
     high-speed rail, but the project that's being proposed is
     not the project that I voted for. It's almost like bait and
     switch, it's a scam. This is what it is, a genuine scam,
     you're guilty of switching what you -- what the people voted
     for. That's wrong, very, very wrong.
25
               The other thing is also do you -- have you ever
                                                          Page 125
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 really -- does this environmental impact report really address every community around here? I mean, you're talking about the alignment, what about all the other communities around here, whether it be Hanford, Corcoran, Lemoore, Avenal, Stratford, Kettleman City, I mean all these places don't matter to you, you don't live here, it's not going to affect any one of you in any way shape or form. It's not going to affect you, that's why it doesn't seem like you really have an interest in what we want. You don't, you 10 really do not. 11 You're here to do the government's will, and that's not what our will is. You need to please listen to the people, listen to what they have to say, listen to their concerns, and take it into consideration. 15 We don't have the money to spend on this project either, we just don't. Where are you going to get it from, I don't know. When people of California voted for this project, it was a different amount than what it's being projected now, so obviously these cost overruns are at a point where we can't afford it. We couldn't afford it before, that was different economic times. Today we can afford it even less. 23 Please consider giving the people in this community the respect by allowing them to have at least another six months on this EIR. But I want to thank you for one thing. Page 126

# Submission P042 (Lou Martinez, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 I want to thank you for uniting this community in a way that
   they have never been united before, and I thank you for that
     because we have only just begun to fight, it's not over.
               THE FACILITATOR: Dr. Glenn Parsons. And then
     Cynthia Sterling.
               SPEAKER PARSONS: I'm Doctor Glenn Parsons, and
     fourth generation Kings County Hanford resident. I have a
 9
     little bit to say.
10
               I have graduate degrees in economics, international
11
     finance, and education from Thunderbird Graduate School in
     Arizona, University of Oregon, and University of Southern
     California, a couple of good football teams.
14
               I come here because I'm concerned. I don't trust
     you. I don't trust my government. That's not being
     antigovernment, that's being a citizen of the United States.
17
     I don't trust my elected officials, and I want to keep an
     eye on them and what they do with my money because, frankly,
18
19
     they're the only people that can legally take it.
20
               I have votes to cast beyond the votes that I give
     to my elected officials. See, in my hand is a dollar bill.
     That's a vote I cast every day when I choose to buy
23
     something. And I buy milk and food from my neighbors here
24
     in Kings County and I support them voluntarily.
25
               I have real concerns about the elections for
                                                          Page 127
```

## Response to Submission P042 (Lou Martinez, September 21, 2011)

#### P042-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-05.

Impacts of the project on Hanford and Corcoran are discussed in Chapter 3 of the EIR/EIS. Lemoore, Avenal, Stratford, and Kettleman City are not discussed in the EIR/EIS because the Authority determined that the project would not affect these communities. None of the comments provided in this submission provides evidence that these communities would be affected by the project.

#### P042-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.



P043-1

P043-2

P043-3

21

23

24

through.

## Submission P043 (Tony Mattos, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 the last year and a half. I personally have had it, I mean
    it is too much.
               So what I'm going ask that my mom was trying to do
     is I'm going to ask the people in the crowd, to undue a
     mistake is always harder than not to create one originally.
               Is this a mistake?
               SPEAKER MATTOS: Tony Mattos. I have a farm here
     in Hanford, dairy farm. I got a couple dairies right around
     me. You guys got this train coming right through my
     property, splitting my property in half, taking my farm
11
     grounds that I need to feed my cattle and survive. And I
     paid a lot of money when I moved over there to move a canal,
     I paid them all myself to move that canal to have all my
     farm ground squared off, and now you guys are coming and
     putting this at an angle, building overpasses on my ground.
     I'm going to lose my ground, and here I am farming back in
17
     angles again.
18
               And what I don't understand is why are you guys
19
     turning -- making that turn through the dairies. There's no
     reason for that. It's not a roller coaster ride. Make this
     thing straight. If you're going to build it, build it
     right, don't do something you're going to regret later.
23
               I'm not against this thing, it could be a good
     thing some day, but not right now. I don't think we're
    ready for this, there's no money for it, so I just don't
                                                           Page 81
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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1 know what you guys are thinking, I don't know what impact you guys are getting on the dairies here. You guys have no idea, no idea at all. There is so much that it's going to affect, that dairy, the business, that I've been working all my life for and to have you guys come through there and split it up like that, it's not right. And we do need more time on this thing, six months at least. That's not asking for too much. If anything, that's short time. You got to rush through it to get through it like this. There's just too many things on there. I think that's it. Thank you. THE FACILITATOR: We'll take a fifteen minute break and then we'll resume. 14 (BREAK) 15 MR. ABERCROMBIE: Good evening. I'd like to resume the public hearing to receive your comments on the 17 environmental analysis alternatives impacts and mitigation measure presented in the Fresno to Bakersfield draft environmental impact statements and reports. 20 Rebecca, we have some speaker cards.

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

THE FACILITATOR: Could I get everyone to kind of

I'm going to give each speaker three minutes to

quiet down, we have a number of cards that we're going to go

speak. This screen is going to count down the time for you.

Page 82

## Response to Submission P043 (Tony Mattos, September 21, 2011)

#### P043-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02, FB-Response-AG-04, FB-Response-AG-06.

Also, see the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #16, and Volume II, Appendix 3.14-B, for impacts on animal operations.

#### P043-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02.

#### P043-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-06.

Also see the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #16, and Volume II, Appendix 3.14-B, for impacts on animal operations.

P044-1

## Submission P044 (Mike Monteiro, Lakeside Dairy, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
have not made their comments.
               If you go past your three minutes and you'd like to
    resubmit a speaker card we'll definitely put you back in the
     rotation but let's try and keep it in three minutes so that
     we can have everyone have their comments heard by our court
     reporter.
               And, again, if you could, when you step up to the
     podium, state your name, and make sure that the microphone
     is pointing to your mouth because we're having a hard time
10
     hearing.
11
               Okav. Next up we have Frank Robins. Then they
     have Mike Monteiro and Paul Rohizbough, I'm so sorry if I
     said that wrong.
14
               So Frank Robins. Frank Robins.
15
               Is Mike Monteiro in the room?
16
               SPEAKER MONTEIRO: Hello, I'm Mike Monteiro, owner
17
     of Lakeside Dairy in Kings County. We are a large modern
     dairy farm operation and my responsibilities there are
18
19
     manager of farming operations, equipment maintenance, and
20
     also financing.
21
               On August 25th of last month, we began harvesting
     our corn silage, and not due to finish until October
     the 5th. At this time we also began our fall tractor work
     for the 2012 crop. For all farmers this is one of the
    busiest times of the year, therefore, High-Speed Rail
                                                           Page 52
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 Authority must understand that a 60-day review period of a
   30,000 page EIR document is nothing near what we need to
    review this document. I'm requesting here today a six-month
     review period in order to allow me a full understanding of
     the impacts to not only my dairy but to those of the Valley
     segment. I have a thirty million dollar dairy that
     high-speed rail is dissecting and I don't think six months
     is too much to ask for.
               Another issue that I have with the HSRA is that
     they are not giving us opportunities -- appropriate
     consideration here in Kings County. I was one of sixteen
     that attended the Authority board meeting in July in
     Bakersfield and had turned in a comment card for agenda item
     one and was not allowed to talk by Chairman Tom Umberg. It
     was clearly a violation of the environment policy act.
16
               And lastly, I make a demand of the High-Speed Rail
17
     Authority and Federal Railroad Administration to work
     directly with our local elected officials and stop ignoring
     our community.
20
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
21
               Paul Rohizbough.
               SPEAKER ROHIZBOUGH: My name is Paul Rohizbough,
    I'm a Hanford resident, I'm a retired firefighter, I'm a
     husband, parent, homeowner, and a taxpayer.
25
               I'm not a native Californian. I remember when I
                                                           Page 53
```

## Response to Submission P044 (Mike Monteiro, Lakeside Dairy, September 21, 2011)

#### P044-1

The Authority and FRA recognize the concerns of Kings County representatives and community members, and we wish to maintain an open dialogue about the project. The Authority welcomes the opportunity to meet with landowners and stakeholders. Project-level information has been shared at public meetings, made available at the Kings County project office, and provided through mailings, e-mail communication, outreach materials, and on the Internet.

## Submission P045 (Mark Muradian, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
I did not come prepared to make a speech. This is
 1
    not how I make my living, milking cows, and all I know is
    you guys are going to devastate us beyond repair.
               You guys please reconsider what you're doing, get
     different jobs. Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: We have Mark Muradian, Ross
     Browning, and because we're running out of time, I'm going
     to allow the people who haven't spoken yet a chance. Okay.
     And then we have Jessica Bowden.
10
               SPEAKER MURADIAN: Hi, my name is Mark Muradian.
11
     My ranch is very near where it's going and my comment is
     about why do you build this thing here where it's not
14
               Have you seen the traffic in Los Angeles? It's a
15
     parking lot. Take this money, build something down there to
     alleviate the traffic problems down there. We don't have a
17
     traffic problem here, we don't have a problem getting from
18
     Los Angeles to San Francisco, there's planes for that. We
19
     don't have a problem getting to work each day. Why don't
     you take this money and build a train to Lancaster or Las
     Vegas, they said they wanted that.
22
               Now, another thing, if this should even happen,
23
     it's very near my house. They're going to make this
     enormous overpass over an elevated railway. Why don't
     they -- they got all these huge overpasses. Why don't they
                                                          Page 117
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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of Transportation Federal Railroad This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 make an underpass under the train and it will not wipe out
2 near as much land if it should ever come to that. Thank
3 you.
4 THE FACILITATOR: Jessica Bowden.
5 State your name, please.
6 SPEAKER BOWDEN: My name is Jessica Bowden, I moved
7 here from LA seven years ago now. My parents and I drove
8 the five hours it took to see me off to Fresno State.

9 During that time we talked about all the favorite memories 10 we had of me growing up with my brothers, and just

11 everything, holidays. We would have lost those memories if

12 we would have rode the train.

Living this far away from my parents has helped me
learn how to become an adult and no longer had my hand held

15 by my mom and dad.

P045-1

16 Once I graduated from Fresno State, I moved to

17 Hanford and I learned the importance of our farmland. I

18 didn't know the importance before, when I lived in LA, all I  $\,$ 

19 knew is that if I wanted food, I went to the grocery store.

20 I knew milk came from cows but I didn't know how important

21 it was or how often you had to milk those cows.

22 When my friends come from LA, the first thing they

 $23\,$   $\,$  say and they smell is the smell from the dairies, and they

 $24\,$  say how disgusting it is. I always respond with, it's not a

5 disgusting smell, that's the smell of hard work, labor, and

Page 118

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P045-1

# Response to Submission P045 (Mark Muradian, September 21, 2011)

#### P045-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AVR-04.



P046-1

P046-2

P046-3

## Submission P046 (Paul Muradian, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1
   monev.
 2
               That smell, those trees, and those plants coming
     out of the ground that you now want to put a train over.
     that's my meal, those are your meals, those are your kids'
     meals, your grandkids' meals, and this nation's meals.
               This train may be important some day but the
     importance right now is keeping meals at an affordable cost
     for everyone. We're in depression regardless of what this
     nation wants to believe. Poverty is on the rise. Let's
     figure out how to get out of this depression that we're
10
11
     currently in before spending more that we don't have for a
     train we currently don't need, nor can ride. Thank you.
13
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
14
               Lou Martinez. Lou Martinez. No. Okay.
15
               Paul Muradian.
16
               SPEAKER MURADIAN: Good evening, my name is Paul
17
     Muradian, and our property -- like my brother already spoke,
18
     our property is real close to the rail line.
19
               And I was curious, when did the Rail Authority
20
     decide to run the rail through Kings County, which is not a
     transportation corridor, unless you consider eight and a
     half a transportation corridor. We really have a hard time
     seeing cars out there, but you're going to come through the
     middle of some of the best ag land in the United States.
25
               Have you gentleman been through these properties?
                                                           Page 119
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 Have you been out in these properties? Have you seen what
 2 you're going through? Have you been out on I-5, have you
    seen where you're going if you took a train to I-5? There's
     a whole lot of difference in the soil type. Here it's
     climactic land. That is class two properties along the I-5
     corridor and the canal out there.
              I was curious why you decided to come through the
     middle of Kings County.
 9
              THE FACILITATOR: Paul, can you --
10
               SPEAKER MURADIAN: They're not going to answer?
               THE FACILITATOR: No.
               SPEAKER MURADIAN: Okay. Well, that's part of it,
     we haven't got any answers yet, so that's probably what
     we'll continue getting.
15
               I have some other issues that go along with
     agriculture, is we abide by the ag commissioner to spray,
     and with the training coming out, and it's a passing train,
     do we have to have different bumpers for the amount of
     spray? Because there's walnuts, there's cotton, there's
     corn, and there's tomatoes, whatever you want is growing out
     here, grapes, pistachios, so do we have to change -- is
     there a different bumper we're going to have?
23
               And also, the little parcels that this cuts up,
     because it's not going north and south, it cuts and slices
    through everybody's parcels, is there a way to mitigate all
                                                          Page 120
```



## Submission P046 (Paul Muradian, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P046-3

P046-4

24

25

```
1 those little parcels, are you doing to drill wells for all
    of those little parcels that are left over on the sides, put
     new pipe lines, new drip systems for those folks, is that
     all going to be all mitigated out of this?
               Also there's the environmental aspects of it.
     You're going to go over the Kings River. You know this used
     to be Yokut Indian area, and have you had -- have you talked
     to anyone about Indian artifacts? There's -- they found
     bones on one of our places at one time. Has that been
     discussed, when you cross a burial ground, or do you have
11
     native Indians on your panel to discuss this? You're going
     right through the middle of our grounds. Thank you.
13
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
14
               Ross Browning.
15
               SPEAKER BROWNING: Thank you. The name is still
16
     Ross Browning, and I have to thank Paul, he took about half
17
     of my points, so I'm going to start all over again.
18
               I know that you people are not -- you're not here
19
     tonight to answer, you're not here to smile, you're here to
20
     look stone cold and sober, okay. You can smile a little bit
     if you like. But I know I'm not going to get an answer from
     you. But what does bother me is all the comments that we
23
     turn in, I just don't see any answers coming, so that's my
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

You refuse to follow the guidelines set out by

Page 121



comment on that.

# Response to Submission P046 (Paul Muradian, September 21, 2011)

#### P046-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02.

#### P046-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-05.

See Volume I, Section 3.14, Impact AG#10 and Impact AG#11, for information on the impacts on aerial pesticide spraying, dust, and pollination.

#### P046-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02, FB-Response-AG-03, FB-Response-AG-04.

#### P046-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-CUL-01 and FB-Response-CUL-02.

There is no specific indication that any particular site in the project area has been used for human burial purposes in the recent or distant past. However, because human remains can be identified in the course of any substantial excavation in California, laws address the potential disturbance of human remains during project actions. For example, if human skeletal remains are uncovered during project construction, the project proponent would immediately halt work, contact the County Coroner to evaluate the remains, and follow the procedures and protocols set forth in Section 15064.5(e)(1) of the CEQA Guidelines. If the County Coroner determines that the remains are Native American, the project proponent would contact the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), in accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 subdivision (c) and Public Resources Code 5097.98 (as amended by AB 2641). Per Public Resources Code 5097.98, the County shall ensure that, according to generally accepted cultural or archaeological standards or practices, the immediate vicinity where the Native American human remains are located is not damaged or disturbed by further activity until the County has discussed and conferred, as prescribed in this section (Public Resources Code 5097.98), with the most likely descendants regarding their recommendations, if applicable, taking into account the possibility of multiple human remains.

P047-3

## Submission P047 (Mark Muradian, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 dairy industry in California was 63 billion dollars. That's
                 63 billion dollars that dairy meant in economic input for
                  this state. Number one commodity in Kings County, the milk.
                  So it's something to digest on the way home, and thank you
                  all for being here.
                            THE FACILITATOR: Mark Muradian. You're our last
                  speaker for the evening.
                            SPEAKER MURADIAN: Hi, I spoke before, I wanted to
              9
                  bring a couple other things up that I remembered.
P047-1
             10
                            A friend of mine says that in China they have had
             11
                  these -- they have these high speed trains that go 220 miles
                  an hour and they have had problems with them at that speed
                  and have had to reduce the speed. Okay. Is that going
                  happen here? If it happens here -- the reason they gave us
                  for taking our land in Kings County is they couldn't make
                  the turn along the existing tracks through Laton at that
                  speed, so if they're going to lower the speed, why don't you
                  go through Laton and leave our farmland alone.
P047-2
             19
                            Another thing is the ridership. They are
             20
                  projecting all kinds of -- I don't know what -- the number
                  of trains they're planning on running per day. Where are
                  they going to get the people to fill those trains, have they
                  done any number on that, do they have any facts, do they
                  have any inkling of what the fee -- what the fare is going
                  to be and how many of the public are willing to pay that fee
                                                                        Page 136
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

U.S. Department

of Transportation Federal Railroad

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 as opposed to taking a plane? Even with a train you still
   have to have a way to get to the station, you have to have a
     way for somebody to pick you up when you get to your
     destination, just like an airplane.
               And the third thing is, when this thing goes belly
     up, bust, broke, didn't work, do we get our land back, and
     how long will that take. Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
 9
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Rebecca, there's no more cards?
10
               THE FACILITATOR: No.
               THE COURT: I have 8:01.
               Bob, you wanted to say something.
13
               MR. BALGENORTH: I'd like to just thank everybody
     that came and gave their input. It will help us in our
     decision making. I see a lot of you have been here for the
     entire five hours, that's commendable. I understand that,
     because you're concerned about your community. We're
     concerned about your community as well, that's why we're
     sitting here trying to listen to what you've got to say and
     trying to make the best decisions for the community and for
     the state.
22
               So I thank you for the time, the input that you
     gave. Note, everyone here was very civil and I appreciate
     that. And I appreciate the fact that it's your property
    that you're concerned about and your way of life. We
                                                          Page 137
```

# Response to Submission P047 (Mark Muradian, September 21, 2011)

#### P047-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02.

The reports from China are factually correct. The Chinese Minister of Railways announced in April 2011 that all high-speed trains throughout China would be required to operate at a maximum speed of 300 kilometers per hour (kph) (186 miles per hour [mph]). A well-publicized train crash in July 2011 on the Ningbo-Taizhou-Wenshou Railway in Zhejiang Province, involving one train running into another, heightened public concern about the apparent lack of safety and management of China's high-speed rail system. The Chinese government promptly announced the suspension of approvals of all new high-speed rail lines pending the outcome of the investigation. The Minister of Railways announced at the end of August 2011 further cuts in the speed of Chinese high-speed trains, with the speed of the second-tier trains reduced from 250 kph (155 mph) to 200 kph(124 mph), and the speed of the 350 kph trains between Shanghai and Hangzhou reduced to 300 kph (186 mph).

The Chinese government renewed investments in high-speed rail during 2012 and is committed to raise operating speeds. During 2012, China operated a total of 1,580 high-speed trains carrying 1.33 million passengers daily. China is now planning to build 16,000 kilometers (10,000 miles) of high-speed rail lines by 2020, with trains reaching speeds of 350 kph (220 mph) and utilizing trainsets designed to operate at the even higher speed of 380 kph (238 mph).

New trains capable of operating in excess of 220 mph are being planned or are under development in a large number of countries, including Japan, South Korea, France, and Spain, in addition to China. Given California's regulatory environment, emphasis on safety, and commitment to adopting the highest international standards, the proposed operating speeds of up to 220 mph are considered achievable in the Central Valley.

#### P047-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-24.

#### P047-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-01.

#### P047-3

Full funding of the Initial Operating Section First Construction was approved in the California state budget for fiscal year 2012-2013, per Senate Bill No. 1029.

# Submission P048 (Tim Niswander, Kings County Department of Agriculture & Measurement Standards, September 21, 2011)

P048-1

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1
               We're -- in the very near future possibly can lose
    two nuclear plants we have in the State of California with
     none on line. With the loss of all the electrical plants in
     the projected future that was covered by the EIR, what do we
     have to replace that, where is that now. Solar energy is
     not going to do it because you're going to take more
     farmland out of production to build solar farms. You can't
     grow crops underneath a solar panel. Okay.
               So once again you got to get the infrastructure of
     the electricity solved first in the state of California
10
11
     before you should even start proceeding on the high-speed
     rail that ultimately requires electricity to run.
13
               The other thing I would like to add, the name is
     California High-Speed Rail. Where's the train being built,
15
     where's the factory that's going to produce this train in
16
     the state of California?
17
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
18
               Next up we have Tim Niswander, Kings County ag
19
     Commissioner and Karen Stout and Donna Marshall.
20
               Is Tim still here?
21
               SPEAKER NISWANDER: Good evening, Tim Niswander,
     Kings County agricultural Commissioner.
23
               Ladies and gentlemen, as regulator authorized to
     protect your health, environment, and food you eat, I can't
    afford to take a side on the issue, to support the
                                                            Page 68
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 opposition or to support those that are supporting the
    project. The administrator in me, I work for a local
     government, a county government, the administrator in me
     says you need to take a time out. This project has got
     great magnitude and impact to this state, to the national
     resources here in the San Joaquin Valley that produce the
     food that we eat.
               In your document it talks about relocating fields
     taken out of production for the track. That piece of
     property, it's twelve acres per linear mile, it can be
     relocated, but there isn't any other place that it can be
     relocated. You heard a lady speak earlier. She grows
     walnuts because the soil is unique to that crop. Almonds
     probably don't grow that well on that soil. There are other
     things less productive that could be planted there. There
16
     isn't any other soil type somewhere else, like Nevada,
17
     Arizona.
18
               Let's not build unintended consequences with this
     project. Let's avoid mistakes of our past. There was
     another greater food producing area that was run over by
     developers and businesses with jobs to provide about five to
     six decades ago, here in California.
23
               Los Angeles County used to be the number one
     agricultural food producing county in the United States, let
     alone California. Now they range near the bottom because
                                                           Page 69
```

# Submission P048 (Tim Niswander, Kings County Department of Agriculture & Measurement Standards, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 there isn't hardly any land to grow anything. Dairies are
   relocating from southern California, south of Tehachapi,
     into the San Joaquin Valley because they're being forced out
     by urban encroachment. They have freeways, they don't have
     a high-speed train there yet, but they have freeways, and
     they have other public transits, and still it's squeezing
     out the ability to produce food.
 8
               Further east in LA, as you travel south of Indio, I
     think it's State Route 111, goes along the west side of
 9
     Salton Sea, you'll come across a city that's not there. It
11
     has graded streets, it has foundations poured, but there's
     absolutely nothing there. It's neither desert nor farmland
     but somebody had a great idea at one point in time.
14
               People need food and people need water. Maybe
15
     high-speed rail can bring in enough voters to turn the Delta
16
     pumps back on, or maybe enough voters to realize that we
17
     would be more wise to spend our money in creating more
18
     infrastructure to capture the water that nature provides us.
19
               THE FACILITATOR: Mr. Niswander, your time is up.
20
               SPEAKER NISWANDER: Thank you.
21
               The rest of my comments will be in writing.
22
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you very much.
23
               Karen Stout. Then I have Donna Marshall and
24
     Maureen Fukuda.
25
               SPEAKER STOUT: My name is Karen J. Stout. I did
                                                           Page 70
```



Response to Submission P048 (Tim Niswander, Kings County Department of Agriculture & Measurement Standards, September 21, 2011)

#### P048-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02 and FB-Response-SO-01.

For information on the property acquisition and compensation process, see Volume II, Technical Appendix 3.12-A.

# Submission P049 (Paul No Name, September 21, 2011)

#### My name is Paul

#### I am a Hanford Resident

I am a retired firefighter; I am also a husband, parent, homeowner and a voting tax-payer. I am not a native Californian, I remember when I came to California 44 years ago I was so excited. I was born in Weston, West Virginia. Growing up in West Virginia I went to school and from my studies I remember reading about California, I believed that California was this futuristic place with tall buildings, freeways & cars. Back then we believed that by the year 2000 we would all be riding around with jet packs and driving in flying—cars. I remember seeing publications with the monorail train, like the one at Disneyland, transporting people from place to place. As a child I was so excited to be moving to live in such a place. I also remember it was a time when we thought Banks and Large Companies and NATIONS were considered "TOO BIG TO FAIL!"

Well, its 2011 and I do not have a jet pack or drive a flying car, I do see a train, it's the Amtrak an engine. It uses the same tracks that the freight trains use. It stops and picks up riders from town after town. Chavacaille in the Amtrak and maintain the Amtrak but Linder difficult to see how it could make a

COORTION EVEN PROPERTY STATES AND STEELS AND STEELS WITH TAX FAVER MONEY.

P049-1

As a home-owner, I know how to stay within a house hold budget. All you have to do is read the news paper or watch the evening news to see that this is something both Washington and Sacramento find impossible to do. As a husband and parent I know the pressures and difficult chooses which must be made to stay fiscally sound. I know what I can afford and what I cannot!



That is why I am here today; ALL OF US in this room are the TAX-PAYERS. I am here to say that I feel we cannot afford a project like this. Washington is broke, The State of California is broke, I am speaking for myself and maybe some of the people in this room, AS A TAX-PAYING PUBLIC, WE ARE BROKE! Reading the news paper and watching the news on television about how Cities and States are having to tighten their belts, HOPING FOR FINANSHEL HELP FROM THE GOVERNMENT (which is broke) Cities and Towns are laying off Police, Fire, Teachers and releasing Prisoners. We are in for tough times ahead. Financial Common Sense MUST BE THE RULE. I do not know how much money (if any) the High Speed Rail Authority has thrown into the pot to build this project,

COST OVERTUNS





# Submission P049 (Paul No Name, September 21, 2011) - Continued

P049-1

but I am sure it is not MILLIONS, or BILLIONS this project needs.

Thave no problem paying my taxes; I would like to have some say on where my TAX DOLLAR GOES! Washington cut a lot of the funding for NASA, for one would rather see my tax dollars go to where it stimulates a nations dream and creates new technology to make this the Nation it use to be.

P049-2

California, the NATION for that matter was built on the AUTOMOBILE, I believe my tax dollars would be better invested on repairing our infrastructure, repairs and maintenance on highways and roads, constructing new BRIDGES to replace dangerously old ones, and for the San Joaquin Valley, Dams and WATER STORAGE CAPACATY for agriculture. If we had all these things taken care of I may be more pro-High Speed Rail, BUT WE DON'T! And I would have it run along Highway 99, where the TOWNS ARE!

On the subject of the flight speed Rail, I did write Governor Brown to share now opinion, talso wrote Barbara Boxer and Ms. Feinstein, only one took the time to grace me with a responds of find it sad state of affair that we are able to more easily yoth for an AMERICAN IDEAL than communicate with our ELECTED OFFICIALS on issues of concern.



We need FINANCAL COMMON SENSE to prevail, to start running this State and Country like a HOUSEHOLD. We can ill afford to continue down the path we are on. Watch the news,



the Tax Paying Pubic is demanding this of Washington and of Sacramento. The American Tax Payer is sick and tired of the wasteful spending of money we do not have to spend. Governments who fail to listen to its people are being ousted. This Nation has a process of ousting those who fail to represent, it's in the ballet box on Election Day! None of us here have a MONEY TREE planted in our back yards.

I want to thank you for this opportunity to express myself.

A BRAHAM LINCOLN - GETTYS BURY ADDRESS GOVERNMOTOR THE AEOPER BY THE AFORE FOR THE AFORE SHALL NOT PETRISH FRANTHE EARTH





# Response to Submission P049 (Paul No Name, September 21, 2011)

#### P049-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.

#### P049-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-11.

Repairing existing infrastructure and expanding water capacity for agriculture are worthwhile uses of public funds. However, these are not alternatives that address the purpose and need for the proposed project. Therefore, they are not considered in this EIR/EIS.

P050-1

P050-2

P050-3

P050-4

P050-5

# Submission P050 (No Name, September 21, 2011)

Welcome to Kings County and the City of Hanford

Thank you for opportunity to provide a local perspective on this project, albeit it is somewhat impossible to share the complete picture and story we have to share in just three minutes.

So let me start with a very telling quote.

"To Undo a Mistake is Always Harder Than Not to Create One Originally" Author: Eleanor Roosevelt

I realize that the last few days have probably been very hectic and stressful for you, as you are away from home and away from your families. I hope that when you get home you have a chance to sit and reflect on these past few days and more importantly reflect on what you see and hear here in Hanford. Because when we go home and sit we have this to reflect on:

- Many of us have a hard time understanding how we had to discover the alignment went through our properties whether it was through personal investigation, neighbors, talking in an FFA classroom, email and several other ways all except from personal and/or professional contact from the High Speed Rail Authority.
- Many people found out earlier this year, more yet found out weeks or days ago. Many of us worry that we live in an age when the only responsible actions people do are defined as the minimum practice dictated by law. Which Authority staff calls "drive-by assessments". I have mental pictures of 4 seedy looking guys in our neighborhood driving really slowly and stopping in front of my house. They stop reach down and slowly pull up a Camera, notepad and survey rod. I encourage the Authority and

the FRA to look into the French system of notification and landowner care, for some reason the French knew that the most important stakeholder in the project was the one who was going to give up their land and homes, so they worked with them and protected them.

- If the property is ag related you not only have to contend with the loss of land (both for the alignment and for the irresponsible meandering through the County) but also the impacts of having a multibillion dollar infrastructure project that moves people at 220 mph and having to farm next to it, because the EIR/EIS does not address these issues.
- If you are a home owner you have to worry about simply looking for new housing. Small acreage homes are simply unique; rare and highly sought after in the Kings County real estate market. The County also has ordinances that do not allow any new small rural homes. This is also compounded by the "fair market value" not being able to compensate you in a depressed economic climate. Many, if not all of us can years of investment and hard work put into our properties. We purchased them with specific plans and simple "fair market value" does not compensate for intangible items lie DREAMS.
- We engage with the Authority to only be met with lies, misleading information and a feeling that our issues and concerns have gone ignored. All the comment cards we submitted, why were they never answered? Why is the Authority contacting farmers now to try and meet with them, the EIR is out?
- We rush home to read thousands of pages of EIR/EIS documents in hopes to find answers, because we were told all of the answers

P050-1

CALIFORNIA
High-Speed Rail Authority

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration

# Submission P050 (No Name, September 21, 2011) - Continued

P050-5

would be in this document, only to find promotional information and a cursory identification of impacts. No detail, no answers, no engineered or scientifically based studies and/or mitigation measures. This is coupled with the fact that the EIR/EIS relies heavily on outside documents not included within the distribution on the EIR/EIS.

So when you drive up to home, walk in the door and say hello to your family, know that you have hundreds of worried individual in Kings County alone, who are not angry, they are scared and confused, and it is masked by anger. This one issue surrounds us and dampers our spirit and our dreams. Ask yourself, you are the professional, you are the educated one, you are the decision maker, and most importantly you are the one who holds the fate of millions of people in your hand, both those who could potentially benefit from this project and those who will be significantly hurt by this project. If is there any ounce of doubt in your mind I ask that you please put the pens down for 6 months and get this right.

I return to my quote:

To Undo a Mistake is Always Harder Than Not to Create One Originally

Your EIR/EIS and this project in this form is A MISTAKE.

Thank You

## Response to Submission P050 (No Name, September 21, 2011)

#### P050-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-16.

#### P050-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

Agricultural operations can take place up to the edge of the HST right-of-way. High-speed trains operate in agricultural areas of Europe and Asia, and agricultural operations take place adjacent to these trains. Section 3.14 of the EIR/EIS addresses dust impacts and spray drift, as well as the conversion of agricultural land to nonagricultural uses.

#### P050-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-01.

#### P050-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-16.

All comments on the Draft EIR/EIS and the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, including comment cards and verbal testimony at public hearings, will be responded to in writing in the Final EIR/EIS.

#### P050-5

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-01.

The description of the existing environment and environmental impacts provided in the EIR/EIS is based on published information, information provided by public agencies, and technical studies using established methods for the assessment of project impacts. The EIR/EIS provides sufficient detail for the public and decision-makers to evaluate the environmental effects of implementing the Fresno to Bakersfield Section. All documents referenced in the EIR/EIS are available in the administrative record.



## Submission P051 (Frank Oliveira, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 in.
               THE FACILITATOR: Maureen, we have a number of
    other comments.
               SPEAKER FUKUDA: Okay. Real quick, I just want to
     say, Eleanor Roosevelt, in regard she said, to undue a
     mistake is always harder than not to create one originally,
     that's from Eleanor Roosevelt.
 8
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Maureen.
 9
               Next up we have Frank Oliveira. And we have Aaron
     Fukuda and Tony Mattos.
11
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: Welcome to Kings County.
12
               Kings County is a uniquely agricultural county.
     It's unique because that's how most of the money is made,
     the economy operates.
15
               There are problems with this environmental impact
16
     report process. We need six months to review this process.
     The last report done, I believe, was in 2004 or 2005,
     six months were given, six months were given to review that
19
     less-detailed report. You folks have expected us to review
     this 30,000 page document in 60 days, 500 pages a day to
21
22
               I've heard good solutions, good suggestions from
     rail people. They said, hey, why don't you give a section
     to people and somebody else will read a section. Well, you
    know what, we're trying do that, but that environmental
                                                           Page 76
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 impact report should be clear, sound, and something that I
   or anybody in this audience can read by themselves and
    figure out what you folks are doing, and that is not the
     case, 500 pages a day, 500 pages a day.
               Yesterday I asked a Rail Authority official who is
     here today, is there anybody on your staff that can
     summarize 30,000 pages in three minutes because three
     minutes is what we're being given. We need six months, it's
     reasonable. If you want people to actually participate in
     the CEQA/NEPA process, if public comments and evaluation is
     really what you want, give us six months.
               If you don't want us to have any input or comment
     in the process, if you are not concerned with complying with
     NEPA or CEQA, give us the 60 days. It's that simple.
15
               We see you, who you are, we've been dealing with
     most of the Rail Authority for over a year. You do not work
     with our elected officials, you cannot say that you do. It
     hasn't happened, I've been watching that -- that thing since
     February. You do not work with ag, even though you say you
     do. You work with people you want to work with, they love
     you in Fresno. That's okay. They get action, we don't.
     You don't handle rejection well. Give us six months. We
     need that to participate. Thank you.
24
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Frank.
25
               SPEAKER FUKUDA: Man, I didn't think I had to
                                                           Page 77
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559



P051-1



# Response to Submission P051 (Frank Oliveira, September 21, 2011)

#### P051-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-07, FB-Response-GENERAL-16.

## Submission P052 (Heather Oliveira, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
compensate for that?
 1
 2
               Now, I think agricultural industry is being caught
     in the shadows of this bright light that the headlines are
     proposing. So in my opinion I think this is going to be
     more devastating to children in the next future generation
     than really if it's going to be any benefit to any of us.
     Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
 8
               Heather
10
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: My name is Heather Oliveira, and
11
     I come to you today to ask you to extend the review time on
13
               I'm a teacher. I've been teaching since 1981, and
     since 1999, I have specifically taught reading to children.
15
     So today I'd like to share with you some facts about reading
16
     that I think are important in extending the EIR review time.
17
               Currently about 20 percent of adults read below the
18
     fifth grade reading level, and about 50 percent of adults
19
     read below the eighth grade reading level. I extrapolated
20
     words randomly from page 100, 200, and 300 of the EIR, and I
     used the Flesch-Kincaid readability model to see what the
     average reading level of the EIR reading level was and that
     came out to 8.8, which is nearly a high school freshman's
     reading level. That means about 50 percent of the
    population will struggle to read the EIR.
                                                            Page 97
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
I will grant to you that the scientific and
    engineering reports need to use terms that cannot well be
    translated into simple language, I'll give you that. That's
               Let's assume that those of us that are reading the
    EIR are not struggling readers. The average word count on
     the three pages that I used was 487 words. An adult can
     generally read 100 words a minute, so it would take
     approximately five minutes to read and comprehend each page,
     so -- are you with me? I don't want to lose my class.
11
              So let's take that five minutes and multiple it
     times 30,000, come on, 150,000 minutes of reading ahead of
     you. Let's divide it by 60 minutes in an hour and you'll be
     reading for 2,500 hours. So now -- are you with me, you
     know where I'm going, right, say yes, you know where I'm
     going, 24 hours and 60 -- if you divide that by 24 hours in
    a day. You will need to read for 104.16 days, 24 hours each
     day. I'm certain that none of us can read 24/7 for
     104 days, I'm pretty sure that you guys haven't.
              Clearly we have not been given enough time just to
    read this document, let alone analyze or research the
     findings of the EIR. I don't understand the rush to push
     this project through before the citizens of Kings County, as
     well as those of the entire state, has had adequate time to
    see what they and their descendants are going to be paying
                                                           Page 98
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P052-



Page 29-293

# Submission P052 (Heather Oliveira, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 for.
               THE FACILITATOR: Heather --
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: The math is simple, the reading
     is not.
              THE FACILITATOR: Heather, your time is up.
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: You simply must extend the
     review time. Thank you.
 8
              THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
 9
              Next we have Daniel Krause, then we have Jerry
     Fagundes and Shelli Andranigian.
10
11
               SPEAKER KRAUSE: Good evening, my name is Daniel
     Krause, I'm executive director of California for High-Speed
13
14
               I just wanted to basically reiterate some of the
15
     points my colleague made earlier about farmland and the
16
     impact that this project will have on it.
17
               I think in a general sense what we're talking about
18
     here tonight is not really about farmland lost in the
19
     general sense, more or less it's about an impact on
20
     individual farms in an individual area. And I understand
     that, and our organization understands that. And we've
     always urged the Authority to work closely and communicate
     well with the folks here in Kings County and other areas and
     to also fully compensate for any impact that will result
   from this project and we continue to do so.
                                                           Page 99
```



# Response to Submission P052 (Heather Oliveira, September 21, 2011)

#### P052-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-07.



# Submission P053 (Frank Oliveira, Citizens for California High-Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

P053-1

P053-2

P053-3

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1
               THE FACILITATOR: Before the next speaker comes up.
    Frank, I think I might have passed over Angie Machado.
     Could we give her a chance to speak. I'm sorry, Frank.
               SPEAKER MACHADO: Good evening, I'm Angie Machado.
               Before I say what I wanted to say, the gentleman
     that spoke earlier, I didn't get his name, but when he was
     talking about farmland that was the -- that we gave up for
     housing development. Farmland was given by choice at that
 9
     time, not forced.
10
               So you've heard a lot from farmers in this meeting
11
     and meetings past. Why? Because it's the farmers along
     with others that put food on our tables. I just ask that
     the next time you sit down, in fact every time you sit down
     to eat your meals, I hope that you not only pray to God for
     it but also for a farmer, a grower, or a rancher, because it
     is those people that work heart, soul, and sweat for that
17
     food that nourishes your body, our bodies. So with this
     train coming through our land, your land, we may not have
18
19
     another meal.
20
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. And we have Frank,
     Glenda, and Anne Gaspar.
22
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: Hello, I'm Frank Oliveira,
23
     Citizens for California High-Speed Railing Accountability.
24
               Previously talked about a request to extend the EIR
    by six months. I want to talk about the overall project and
                                                          Page 109
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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```
the money.
 2
               The general consensus in this room is that this
     project will damage this community. Without a doubt, it
     will. But others have argued that that's not the case, that
     all these benefits will come from this project.
               All benefits, as I understand, from this project
     are predicated on a system of rail being built that travels
     800 miles. That's not what we're talking about here today.
     We are talking about 114 miles of a track with no train and
     other electrical utilities that need to be installed later.
11
               We've talked about the Hanford Regional -- Kings
     Tulare Regional Station, the proposed station. There is no
     money, as I understand it, with the Rail Authority to build
     that station. That means this county will take one for the
15
     team to construct this project.
16
               We will not benefit from all these things that this
     project brings. We will face the burden, bear the burden of
     it but we receive no benefits from it
19
               If this station, if the system is never completed,
     the benefits that people talk about will not occur other
     than a track will be constructed through our property and
     give some people some temporary jobs, which is great. They
     should build a dam, we need dams, we need water.
               But with all of that said, as I understand this, a
    third of the money was going to be borrowed by the state,
                                                          Page 110
```



# Submission P053 (Frank Oliveira, Citizens for California High-Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P053-3

P053-4

```
the expectation was a third of the money would come from the
     federal government, and that private enterprise would pony
     up the other third, for a total of 33 billion dollars.
               This project is now estimated at 67 billion
     dollars. The federal government has not ponied up a third
     of the 33 billion much less a third of the 67 billion. The
     state hasn't borrowed its third and there is no private
     investment. So this project cannot be completed as I
     understand it. The benefits will not come but the damage
     will if we rush to spend the money just to spend the money.
11
               We request, the same request, that you work with
     our local officials, that you communicate with our people
     here in this county, and that you extend the review period
     for this EIR which continues the no build benefits to six
15
     months, since really even if you build it, it's a no build
16
     because you don't have the money to complete the project.
17
     Thank you.
18
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Frank.
19
               Glenda and then Anne Gaspar and Steve Gaspar.
20
               SPEAKER DWYER: Hi, my name is Glenda Dwyer. I'm
21
     up here again. And since I have a full three minutes and
     only a small portion, I just want to make a comment on the
23
     little study lesson that was up here a little bit ago.
24
               I didn't really understand what he was saying but I
     thought he was telling us that they could better make use of
                                                           Page 111
```



# Response to Submission P053 (Frank Oliveira, Citizens for California High-Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

#### P053-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-05.

As indicated in Chapter 2.0 of the EIR/EIS, the Kings/Tulare Regional Station is being considered for the project. A decision has not been made as to whether this station will be added to the system.

#### P053-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-11.

#### P053-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.

#### P053-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-07.



P054-1

## Submission P054 (Heather Oliveira, September 21, 2011)

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```
1
               You have heard more than enough complaints in this
    community, and I think tomorrow you'll probably get some
     more. Bottom line is we want to be respected, and you're
     not respecting us. And I have nothing against any one of
     you up there but you all are getting too much money for
     doing nothing. Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Pamela Leal.
               SPEAKER LEAL: My first comment was to educate the
     public on what we found out in the EIR. This comment is a
10
     personal comment
11
               I was just speaking to the consultant in the room.
     Supposedly there's a heavy maintenance facility that is
     proposed in my backyard, 12566 Seventh Avenue, and I just
     found out this lists as an impact place for me, Jeff, it's
     running 24 hours a day. Explain to me how I'm supposed to
15
16
     sleep, Jeff. Thanks.
17
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: We have no cards at this time so
     we will take a fifteen minute break -- ten minute break.
19
                               (BREAK)
20
               THE FACILITATOR: We have, in order, Heather
     Oliveira, Joe Machado, and Mark Muradian.
22
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: Okay. Boys and girls, Mrs.
23
     Oliveira is going to speak again so you need to take your
24
25
               Back in June I asked your panel at our -- at the
                                                           Page 133
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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1 Kings County Fairgrounds to name for me the number of ag

specialists that were hired during the research phase of the EIR, and to date I've received no list of names of ag engineers or ag scientists. It's clear to the farming and agricultural community that no expert in ag participated in the EIR study. No ag engineer would transect land leaving wells separated from their pipe lanes. No ag specialist would devastate trees, lines, and crop land without measuring the number of jobs lost forever. No ag specialist could sign the death of million dollar dairies, and no agricultural scientist would hasten the loss of American farmland and ensure more imported foods on our tables. 13 Leaving ag interest out is imposing enormous flaws in the EIR. Extend the review, go back and address ag 15 issues, and do it right. Thanks. 16 THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. 17 Joe Machado 18 SPEAKER MACHADO: Joe Machado. I want to just give you some facts of the dairy industry in California and the first few dairies in the Corcoran bypass that are impacted. there's probably -- well, all four of us are here in the

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

Corcoran bypass, we employ 112 people. We have 19,700 head

on our facility, between the four facilities. We produce

The first four dairies that the train hits on the

room tonight.

23

P054-1

Page 134

# Response to Submission P054 (Heather Oliveira, September 21, 2011)

#### P054-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

See Volume I, Section 3.14.3 for the methodology used to determine the acres of affected farmland.

## Submission P055 (Mike Olmos, City of Visalia, September 21, 2011)

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1 But when you took that rail and you curved it to the west and back to the east and curved it back to the west again, you took out 8700 acres of farm ground. Not total. It's 600 acres of actual ground. But when you affect a piece of ground -- it's a square. You take the middle out of it, you just turned it into a garden. That's not a farm anymore. When you go through a corral and an alfalfa field, you've eliminated that dairy. 9 And Kings County is an ag community and this is 10 where we get our income from, so we're going to lose revenue 11 from that, plus you're going to hurt our people that farm. And I just hope that from now you really listen to us and take it to heart what we have to say. Thank you. 14 MR. ABERCROMBIE: Thank you, Doug. We also have 15 assistant city manager Mike Olmos from the city of Visalia 16 MR. OLMOS: Thank you. I'm Mike Olmos, I'm the 17 assistant city manager for the city of Visalia. I'm here 18 representing our city and our mayor, Bob Link. 19 We have followed the high-speed rail process for 20 years, since the inception of the high-speed rail. We have tried to stay engaged in the process, tried to participate with the staff, and appreciate the cooperation that we've 23 received in our efforts to engage with you. We've had discussions with the FRA director and the 24 High-Speed Rail Authority during the determination of the Page 10 This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

alignment, and we were hopeful that the UP alignment would

be fixed that would be closer to our area in Tulare County.

P055-1

P055-2

We now understand that the EIR has not picked that alignment, and we're going to recommend that again to set the alignment as a preferred route. While we had hoped for the UP alignment, Visalia and other entities in Tulare County are very concerned wherever the high-speed rail is built that a regionally accessible station be provided. The station is greatly needed and fully justified for Tulare County and the Kings County region. For that end we're pleased that you're still looking at a station for our region. Provision of that station is a high priority for the cities on the east side of the Valley. 15 The two-county region that you're in now, which I'm sure you've driven around it and I'm sure you've seen it's 17 rural. However, you need to look past that and understand that there are eleven cities in the two-county area. There are currently 650,000 people that live in the two counties. The population for the two-county area by the year 3030 is going to be about a million people. By the year 3050, Tulare County will have a million people by itself. There is a significant buyer potential there. We understand that the Amtrak station in this area is highly used and we

P055-1

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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believe that the ridership alone and the population

Page 11

## Submission P055 (Mike Olmos, City of Visalia, September 21, 2011) - Continued

P055-3

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```
1 projections that exist justify the need for a future
     station.
               Many of our residents are very poor. Approximately
     23 percent of the households in Tulare County are classified
     as below poverty level in 2009. That compares to the
     California average in that year of 14.2 percent.
               Our region also experienced double negative
     statistics that are much more difficult and challenging as
     compared to the state and the major urban areas.
10
               We have high quantity of unemployment. Not just
11
     with this recession. We have high quantity of unemployment
     even in the good times. We have low education levels. We
     have high student dropout rates. The list goes on and on.
     There are many demographic problems that we deal with as a
15
     rural area.
16
               While this part of the state is dead center in the
17
     middle of the state, the South Valley is almost in the
18
     center of our state, we remain remote from the major urban
19
     areas, and that is due to the distance from here to northern
20
     California, to southern California, to Sacramento, and the
     lack of transportation access. The highways no longer
     provide reasonable access for us. It's very difficult to
     get to the urban centers that provide to us. This makes it
     very difficult for our residents to access adequate medical
     care, higher education, employment opportunities, and other
                                                            Page 12
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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```
1 benefits enjoyed by the residents of southern and northern
     California.
               We have many local businesses in all types of
     industries including the various strong agricultural basis.
     They too would benefit from the opportunities provided by an
     efficient act.
               We recognize the benefits the high-speed train
     system will provide. We're also hopeful that the issues in
     Kings County on the alignment can be resolved in a manner
     acceptable to the people and the farmers in Kings County.
     However, in addressing those issues, if the high-speed rail
     system is built, Visalia believes very strongly that the
     residents of the Tulare and Kings region deserve the same
     access opportunities as the other major regions of the
     state. To deprive our area of this opportunity by not
     providing a regionally accessible station would be a great
17
     injustice to the struggling families and businesses of our
18
     region.
19
               Thank you very much for your time.
20
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Thank you. We also have Hanford
     mayor Dan Chin.
               Are there any other elected officials or
     dignitaries that are here tonight that we've missed? Okay.
               All right. We will turn to the major content of
    our hearing and that is the oral comments. These will be
                                                            Page 13
```

# Response to Submission P055 (Mike Olmos, City of Visalia, September 21, 2011)

#### P055-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-10.

#### P055-2

This comment expresses support for the Kings/Tulare Regional Station and does not raise any environmental issues.

#### P055-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02.

P056-1

## Submission P056 (Glen Parsons, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 I want to thank you for uniting this community in a way that
   they have never been united before, and I thank you for that
    because we have only just begun to fight, it's not over.
               THE FACILITATOR: Dr. Glenn Parsons. And then
     Cynthia Sterling.
               SPEAKER PARSONS: I'm Doctor Glenn Parsons, and
     fourth generation Kings County Hanford resident. I have a
 9
     little bit to sav.
10
               I have graduate degrees in economics, international
11
     finance, and education from Thunderbird Graduate School in
     Arizona, University of Oregon, and University of Southern
     California, a couple of good football teams.
14
               I come here because I'm concerned. I don't trust
     you. I don't trust my government. That's not being
     antigovernment, that's being a citizen of the United States.
17
     I don't trust my elected officials, and I want to keep an
18
     eye on them and what they do with my money because, frankly,
19
     they're the only people that can legally take it.
20
               I have votes to cast beyond the votes that I give
     to my elected officials. See, in my hand is a dollar bill.
     That's a vote I cast every day when I choose to buy
     something. And I buy milk and food from my neighbors here
24
     in Kings County and I support them voluntarily.
25
               I have real concerns about the elections for
                                                          Page 127
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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```
1 high-speed rail because those often involved people choosing
    to spend my money and other people's money, and that's often
    a pretty easy decision to make, but that money is not taken
     from me voluntarily when I choose something that I want to
     get. People can come and take this from me.
               The high-speed rail project -- you know, I invest
     in things to make money and wealth for my retirement and for
     my family, and I know there's bonds issued for these things.
     But it's not about high-speed rail making money, frankly.
     If the government can make money and lessen my tax burden
     and maybe these people behind me so that they saw that their
     land went to something that would better their lives, they
     might be more willing to support it.
14
               I want things that I can invest in. If the
     government is going to make money off of this and lower my
     tax rate, that might be something to consider, but I'm not
     convinced. I've seen too many good projects and bad
     projects come from the government. And I think about
     driving down to USC and then looking at that canal system in
     LA that I'm sure cost a whole lot of money and ain't doing,
     "ain't," for emphasis, by the way, much good.
22
               So I come here with great concern. I don't like my
     neighbors' property being taken from them. I like voluntary
24
     transactions.
25
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
                                                          Page 128
```

## Response to Submission P056 (Glen Parsons, September 21, 2011)

#### P056-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.



## Submission P057 (Alane Pearce, September 21, 2011)

Fresno to Bakersfield High Speed Train Section

Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS)

Alane Pearce 278 5<sup>th</sup> Ave Corcoran, CA 93212 559-381-6299 Alane pearce@hotmail.com

The DEIR/S fails to describe the project's impact on the environment. The DEIR/S finds that project environmental impacts will be less than significant when taking into consideration the total percent of the land impacted. To the contrary, environmental impacts will be significant. The DEIR/S underestimates the environmental impacts because:

In the EIR report it shows the acceptable levels of pollutants during construction. What I am concerned is that it has not been clearly addressed on how you would combat the spread of Valley Fever or coccidioides immitis during this construction period or while in operation to protect the thousands of workers or surrounding populations.

Coccidioides immitis (Valley Fever) is a fungus that produces spores that can be inhaled when disturbed in the soil. The spores are naturally found in the soil in the Central Valley. This will be the greatest soil movement that the Central Valley has ever seen. You will have an increase in spore release because of that movement.

The average annual incidence rates for the surveillance period were highest in Kern County (155 per 100,000), Kings County (70.6 per 100,000).

Epidemiologic summary of Coccidioidimycosis in California, 2001-2008 Center for infectious diseases – division of communicable disease control infectious diseases branch – surveillance and statistics section <a href="http://www/cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics.Documents/cocci-episummary.pdf">http://www/cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics.Documents/cocci-episummary.pdf</a>)

For this reason, it is not possible for the DEIR/S to accurately and adequately describe the project's impacts on environmental land use and therefore to identify feasible mitigation measures. A revised DEIR/S must be prepared to address these omissions and re-circulated for a 90 – day public comment period

P057-1



## Response to Submission P057 (Alane Pearce, September 21, 2011)

#### P057-1

Although Valley Fever fungi are commonly found in the soil of the Central Valley and can be stirred into the air by anything that disrupts the soil, the potential for an operational HST to generate dust through induced air flow is low. A moving HST would induce airflow in its immediate proximity. The speed of the induced airflow can be high near a passing train but drops off sharply a short distance away. Based on the U.S. Department of Transportation—Federal Railroad Administration computer model, induced airflow would be approximately 22 mph at 10 feet from a train, for a period of approximately 1 second (see Section 3.14.6). Wind speed would drop substantially with increased distance from a train. Because the track would be at least 21 feet from the edge of the right-of-way, train-induced wind outside the right-of-way would be minimal.

Fugitive-dust emissions from HST-induced airflow were evaluated in the EIR/EIS. As discussed in Section 3.3.6.3 of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, in Appendix 3.3-A of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, and in Appendix D of the Air Quality Technical Report (Authority and FRA 2012e), as the airflow diminishes, fugitive-dust emissions beyond 10 feet from a train traveling at high speed and the subsequent health risks would be negligible. The estimated fugitive-dust emissions caused by one train trip, based on the most conservative assumption of surface parameters and the maximum HST speed of 220 mph, would be 27 lb/mile of PM10 and 4 lb/mile of PM2.5. Emissions at lower vehicle speeds, such as through populated urban areas or when approaching stations, would be much lower. In addition, the HST would typically travel along areas with less residential land use. When the HST travels in populated or urban areas, the sound walls installed in these areas and near stations for noise control would retain a portion of the dust emissions within the project right-of-way. Generally, PM2.5 emissions are a greater health concern than PM10 emissions. As indicated by the emission data, only a small portion of the fugitive dust would be fine particles (PM2.5). (See Table 3.3-11 and Table 3.3-12 of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS.)

The dust minimization measures listed in Section 3.3.8 of the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS for construction activities will further reduce fugitive-dust emissions to a less-than-significant impact. Valley Fever spores would be released only when the soil is disturbed; however, because of the minimization measures, fugitive-dust disturbance during construction will be minimal. Therefore, impacts from Valley Fever spores during construction would be less than significant.

Submission P058 (Darcy Pearce, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

CALIFORNIA  Op-2  High-Speed Rail Authority	Comment Card Tarjeta de Commentarios
Fresno to Bakersfield High-Speed Train Section Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) Public Hearings September 2011 Please submit your completed comment card at the end of the meeting, or mail to: Fresno to Bakersfield DEIR/EIS Comment, 7.	La Sección de Fresno a Bakersfield del Tren de Alta Velocidad Proyecto de Informe de Impacto Ambiental/ Declaración de Impacto Ambiental (EIR/EIS) Audiencias Públicas Septiembre del 2011 Por favor entregue su tarjeta completada al final de la reunión, o envíela por correo a la siguiente dirección: 70 L Street, Suite 800, Sacramento, CA 95814
The comment period is from August 15 to September 28, 2011. Comments must be received electronically, or postmarked, on or before September 28, 2011.	El periodo de comentario es del 15 de Agosto al 28 de Septiembre del 2011. Los comentarios tienen que ser recibidos electrónicamente, o matasellados, el o antes del 28 de Septiembre del 2011.
Name/Nombre: Darry Pearle	
Organization/Organización: CCHSRA	
Address/Domicilio: 278 5th Ave	
Phone Number/Número de Teléfono: (559) (63) -	046
City, State, Zip Code/Ciudad, Estado, Código Postal:	Corwian, CIA, 93212
-mail Address/Correo Electrónico: dar y va	e4@gmail.com
Use additional pages if needed/Usar paginas adicionales si	the the orderts impact on
land use. The DEIRIS An	do that project impacts with
be less than significant	when taking into considera
the total percent of land	d impacted. To the contrar
land use impacts will	be significant. The DEIR/S
underestimates land use	impacts because:
The DEIRIS bases im	pact on an unrealistically si
Project footpring - the foo	tonnt will be considerably
larger due to noise, vil	oration, and disturbing
existing land suitable	for animal habitation.
currently existing amma	is would be forced to
relocate of their homes	were changed are to
Construction crews and	proposed vail fath
to can not be and add and	not possible for the DELKIS
no alego land way war	Hereofore to Jet Conil
influence range Use and	DETRIE WASTER TO TOURTHY TERSIE
MUSING THE OWITCH	and recivillated as a land
construction crews and Fire this reason it is to accurately and adjuste impacts on land use and mitigation measures. A review to address these omissions	more changed are TD  proposed vail path  not possible for the DEI  y describe the pajects.  Therefore to identify to  sed DEIRIS myst be p  and recirculated for a Co

# Response to Submission P058 (Darcy Pearce, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

#### P058-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-07 and FB-Response-LU-03.

The Authority and FRA have revised the project footprint in the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS as a result of continuing project design, comments received on the Draft EIR/EIS, and additional consultation with public agencies. The impacts are described in Section 3.13, Station Planning, Land Use and Development.

## Submission P059 (Diana Peck, Kings County Farm Bureau, September 21, 2011)

P059-1

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 forward, I know that you guys are getting a lot of negative
 2 press and I wanted to share a letter with you that was sent
     to me three days ago from the Authority. It was dated
     September 16th and it asks permission to access my property,
     be it with engineers, hydraulics -- who else wanted to be on
     my property, anthropologists, in order to gather information
     to be used to determine the best location for the project
     and steps necessary to mitigate its economical impacts. Uh,
     don't you guys have an EIR out, or was that just a fluff
10
     piece?
11
               I mean, how can anyone send me a letter saying that
     they want to mitigate the best possible route when they have
     a document that they wanted people to do and 45 days to
     review it --
15
               THE FACILITATOR: Joe.
16
               SPEAKER MACHADO: -- 60 days, and now we're asking
17
     120 days, and that justifies for what, this document,
     because it's fluffed. If you have a job and you're asking
18
19
     me to access my property, sobeit.
20
               THE FACILITATOR: Diana Peck.
21
               SPEAKER PECK: Can I just have one second to get
     organized.
23
               Hi, my name is Diana Peck, I'm with the Kings
     County Farm Bureau, and many of you I already recognize from
    past meetings.
                                                           Page 59
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
I just want to say that I've been representing
    farmers and ranchers of Kings County for about three years
    now and about a year ago we began attending meetings to
     share with you the impacts that we were concerned with the
               You ignored our comments. And I don't care what
     the talking points are from your supporters or from your
     agency, we have to quit digressing from the facts and trying
     to cover them up with talking points. The fact is our
10
     comments were ignored. And so we approached our local
     government to represent us as a local official because
     underneath the law you -- your agency is required to consult
     with them and coordinate with them on this project and the
     impacts it causes to our community. You refused to do that
15
     as Supervisor Verboon has stated.
16
               I know when he mentioned his comment that you
     refused to meet with the board there was some looks of
     confusion up here at the top. I mean, I would like to know,
     would any of you like a copy of the e-mail from the legal
     counsel at FRA who refused the meeting, or do you not need
     this. Okay. So I'm assuming that you already know that
     that exists.
23
               So they did refuse to meet with them and I think
     your agreement is that you don't want to do that because
     those meetings are on the record, they're recorded, and you
                                                            Page 60
```

## Submission P059 (Diana Peck, Kings County Farm Bureau, September 21, 2011) - Continued

P059-3

P059-4

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 cannot speak candidly at those meetings, and I would just
    like to know what are you trying to hide because you should
     be able to speak candidly about a project that is being
     conducted properly and that it's complying with every law
     that is out there. There should be nothing to hide that you
     can speak in public, in a recorded meeting with the local
     officials like they have asked you to do because we know
     what happens when you don't.
 9
               You have had support in the cities of Fresno,
     Bakersfield, and just this week the City of Bakersfield has
10
11
     written a report, a scaping a report on your document, and I
     quote, they called your document irresponsible failure.
     They say it was poorly constructed, technically
     undecipherable to most people, and here's the part that
     disturbs us, dismissive of comments made by city staff in
     meetings with representatives of the Rail Authority. This
17
     is the reason we're asking for official recorded meetings
18
     with our local government so that this doesn't happen here.
19
     Okav.
20
               I know I'm out of time because I have so much I
     would like to ask you and share with you about what we've
     uncovered. I know most of it is fact to you. But just as
23
     Mr. Olmos, city manager from Visalia, said, the Valley was
     supportive of UP-99 alignment. Some of your talking points
     that I read is that you dismissed that alignment because
                                                            Page 61
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

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of Transportation Federal Railroad

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

there were too many curves in that alignment. I would like to know where in the 05 document it states that because I haven't had a chance to peruse the entire document, so I'd like to know where I can find that. Additionally, you said that that alignment that was dismissed in this one was preferred in the 05 document. If you go to the 05 document, there has been no consultation with Kings County listed. The general plan -- the Kings County general plan wasn't listed as a consulted with 10 document, in the 05 pragmatic EIR --THE FACILITATOR: Kathv. SPEAKER HAMILTON: We can go on and on, but hopefully you and I will have more chance to speak in the future. Thank you. 15 THE FACILITATOR: Brian. 16 SPEAKER STANKE: Good evening, my name is Brian 17 Stanke, I'm chairman and cofounder of Californians for 18 High-Speed Rail. 19 The independent grass roots group of Californians across the state perceive the great benefit that this project would bring and want to see it accomplished soon. 22 There's been several comments here about cost I just want to address first. This is a very expensive project, and before, it was 40 and now it's looking like, in the news, 60 billion Page 62

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P059-2

P059-3

## Response to Submission P059 (Diana Peck, Kings County Farm Bureau, September 21, 2011)

#### P059-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-16.

#### P059-2

The Authority has held over 20 meetings with City of Bakersfield officials since 2009 on project alternatives in that community. The Authority has made an effort to incorporate the City's ideas into the project design to the maximum extent feasible.

#### P059-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02.

The Statewide Program EIR/EIS for the California High-Speed Rail Project (Authority and FRA 2005) does not dismiss the SR 99/UPRR corridor because there would be too many curves in an alignment along that corridor. Chapter 6a of the Statewide Program EIR/EIS compares the alternatives carried through that document, which included four general corridors along the SR 99/UPRR and two corridors along the BNSF Railway between Fresno and Bakersfield. These alternatives are compared in Section 6.3 of Chapter 6a based on length, cost, travel time, constructability, travel conditions, noise and vibration impacts, land use compatibility, impacts to communities, neighborhoods, property, and low-income and minority communities, farmland impacts, cultural resources impact, biological resource impacts, including impacts to wetlands, and impacts to 4(f) and 6(f) properties. Based on that comparison, the BNSF corridor between downtown Fresno and a Truxtun Avenue station in Bakersfield was selected as the preferred corridor for the Fresno to Bakersfield section of the HST system.

#### P059-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-01, FB-Response-GENERAL-02, FB-Response-GENERAL-08.

The Authority and FRA recognize the concerns of Kings County representatives and community members, and we wish to maintain an open dialogue about the project. The Authority welcomes the opportunity to meet with landowners and stakeholders. In addition, project-level information has been shared at public meetings, made available at the Kings County project office, and provided through mailings, e-mail communication,

#### P059-4

outreach materials, and on the Internet.



P060-1

P060-2

## Submission P060 (Ruben Perez, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 my husband and others have, or, three, keep us healthy
     enough, mentally and physically, to fight this ridiculous,
     insane pipe dream of yours.
               We want to make educated, logical, and informed
     comments, unlike the information you have in this
     environmental impact report. We want 180 days.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
               Next up we have Ruben Perez and Frank Oliveira,
     Glenda Dwver.
 9
10
               SPEAKER PEREZ: Hi, my name is Ruben Perez and I'm
11
     currently serving as the San Joaquin Regional FFA president
     but I only represent the honest opinions and concerns of
14
               I've always considered myself to be a very forward
15
     thinking individual, who at the same time being ecologically
     conscious. So when I initially heard about this project I
17
     actually thought it sounded like a great idea. It was a way
     to reduce some of the pollution while at the same time
18
19
     decongesting our roads.
20
               Well, as I more and more actually started to
     research this project the more and more I started to
     actually find out that this project wasn't all that it
23
24
               This project claims to be forward thinking but you
    have to take into consideration that California is often
                                                           Page 107
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 regarded to as a bread basket of the world, and with the route of this project taking thousands and thousands of acres of prime farmland out of production, I don't see us keeping that title for long. And you also have to take into account California produces over half of the country's fruits and vegetables, but after this train is in use, won't it just encourage more people to want to live in the Valley where living is cheaper but still work in some of the larger cities, so won't this just intensify the urban sprawl, which in turn loses even more agricultural land? So with this forward-thinking project, I don't think we'll be able to keep those titles as 13 14 This project also claims to be environmentally 15 friendly, but you have to take into consideration that this train will use a lot of electricity. It says that it will use alternate forms of electricity but this train will have to tap into our local grids which means more brownouts for us and possibly even blackouts. 20 I think this train is a good idea, but can I honestly say that this project will be more of a benefit than a harm? Can I honestly say that this project will be the solution to all of our problems? I can honestly say that it won't. Thank you. 25 Page 108

## Response to Submission P060 (Ruben Perez, September 21, 2011)

#### P060-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-03.

#### P060-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-PU&E-02.

## Submission P061 (Beverly Rodriguez, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 drive because the high-speed rail is supposedly going right
 2 behind my house. I will have to drive four to five miles
    out of my way to get back on track to go to high school.
     That's more gas, more money out of my pocket with high taxes
     already, and that means more pollution in the air. Isn't
     that what you're trying to get away from, is more pollution?
               So thank you for the time, and, again, I'm the
     president of the Hanford FFA and I am strongly discouraging
 9
     the high-speed rail.
10
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Megan.
11
               Beverly.
12
               SPEAKER RODRIGUEZ: Hello, what I have to say --
13
               THE FACILITATOR: State your name, please.
14
               SPEAKER RODRIGUEZ: Beverly Rodriguez.
15
               Okay. I'm hoping what I say is applicable to what
16
     this venue is. I just know that the State of California has
17
     their initiative process and in proposition 1A initiative
     was a one size fits all, and so what I did was looked to see
18
19
     what the voting block was and I saw that the whole western
     side of California agreed with the high-speed rail, but when
     I looked at the eastern side of California it was really
     against it. I will say that Kern County, they passed it, it
     was 50.8, so it barely passed. Fresno passed it by 54.9,
     and it is somewhat more. But what I notice is that Tulare
     County, 55.4 said no. Kings County, 52.5 said no, Madera
                                                           Page 91
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 County 57.3 said no, and I really think that there will be a
   fight to put this along in this particular area. So I would
    hope that you take that into consideration. That's it.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Beverly.
               Ross Browning.
               SPEAKER BROWNING: Good afternoon. My name is Ross
     Browning and I'm a resident of Laton, California.
               I've been sitting there changing what I was going
     to say to you four, or five, six times because you keep
     hearing it, I know that you've heard it before, you're going
     to hear it again and again, but there's no point for me to
     say it. So I figure, well, I'm going to take my time and
     try to get across exactly what a billion dollars is.
14
               Now, this project is more than a billion dollars,
     but let's just talk about what a billion dollars is. We've
     never had it in our hands, we've never seen one, we'll never
     ever have that much money in our life, we don't know what it
     can buy, what it can do, we don't know what the benefits it
     can do, we don't know what the damage it can do -- well, we
     have a pretty good idea about the damage.
21
               But a billion dollars. If I say that one dollar
     equals a minute, so if I have a billion dollars I have now a
     billion minutes. What does what mean. That's
     166,666 hours, or I'm going to round these up, there's no
     point in playing with the decimals, or 6,944 days, or
                                                           Page 92
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P061-1

## Response to Submission P061 (Beverly Rodriguez, September 21, 2011)

#### P061-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-11.

## Submission P062 (Paul Rohrbough, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 Authority must understand that a 60-day review period of a
 2 30,000 page EIR document is nothing near what we need to
    review this document. I'm requesting here today a six-month
     review period in order to allow me a full understanding of
     the impacts to not only my dairy but to those of the Valley
     segment. I have a thirty million dollar dairy that
     high-speed rail is dissecting and I don't think six months
     is too much to ask for
               Another issue that I have with the HSRA is that
10
     they are not giving us opportunities -- appropriate
11
     consideration here in Kings County. I was one of sixteen
     that attended the Authority board meeting in July in
     Bakersfield and had turned in a comment card for agenda item
     one and was not allowed to talk by Chairman Tom Umberg. It
15
     was clearly a violation of the environment policy act.
16
               And lastly, I make a demand of the High-Speed Rail
17
     Authority and Federal Railroad Administration to work
18
     directly with our local elected officials and stop ignoring
19
     our community.
20
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
21
               Paul Rohizbough.
22
               SPEAKER ROHIZBOUGH: My name is Paul Rohizbough,
23
     I'm a Hanford resident, I'm a retired firefighter, I'm a
24
     husband, parent, homeowner, and a taxpayer.
25
               I'm not a native Californian. I remember when I
                                                            Page 53
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 came to California 44 years ago I was so excited. I was
   born in West Virginia. Growing up in West Virginia, I went
    to school, and from my studies, I remember reading about
    California. I believed that California was a futuristic
     place for tall buildings, freeways, and cars. Back then I
    believed that by the year 2000 we would all be riding around
    in jet packs and flying cars. I remember seeing
    publications with the Monorail train, like the one at
    Disneyland, transporting people from place to place. As a
     child I was excited to live in such a place. I remember I
     was also -- it was also a time when banks, large companies.
     and nations were considered too big to fail.
13
               It is 2011 and I still do not ride on a jet pack
    and a flying car. As a homeowner, I know how to stay within
    a household budget. You all -- all you have to do is read
    the newspaper or watch the evening news to see that
     Washington and Sacramento find this impossible to do. As a
    husband and a parent I know the pressure and difficult
    choices which must be made to stay financially sound. I
    know what I can afford and I know what I cannot. This is
     why I am here today. All of us in this room are taxpayers.
    I am here to say that I feel we cannot afford a project like
     this. Washington is broke, the State of California is
    broke, and in speaking tonight, maybe some of the people in
    this room -- the taxpayer public is broke.
                                                           Page 54
```

## Submission P062 (Paul Rohrbough, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1
                            Reading the newspaper and watching the news on
                 television about how cities and states are having to tighten
                  their belts, hoping for financial help from the government
                  which is broke. Cities and towns are laying off police,
                  firefighters, and teachers, and releasing prisoners.
P062-1
                            We have to -- we are in for some tough times ahead.
                  Financial common sense must be the rule. I do not know how
                  much money the High-Speed Rail Authority has thrown in the
                  pot but I'm sure it is not the millions or billions this
                  project is going to need.
             10
             11
                            Californians, the nation's -- California, and the
                  nation, for that matter, was built -- I believe my taxpayer
                  dollars would be better invested repairing the
                  infrastructure, repairing and maintaining the highways and
             15
                  roads, constructing new bridges, and replacing dangerous old
                  ones, and for the San Joaquin Valley water storage
             17
                  capacities for the agriculture. If we do all these things,
                  it might be a little bit easier for me to understand how a
             18
             19
                  high-speed rail will work, but we don't.
P062-2
             20
                            And if I was going to build it, I'd build it along
             21
                  the 99, I sure won't build it along the Valley.
             22
                            As a taxpaying resident we demand action from
             23
                  Washington -- Sacramento. The taxpayers are sick and tired
                  of wasteful spending of money that we do not have to
                  spend --
                                                                         Page 55
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

U.S. Department

of Transportation Federal Railroad

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
THE FACILITATOR: Paul.
1
 2
               Thank you.
 3
               Next we have Charlene. Then we have Joe Machado.
     and after that Diana Peck.
               Please state your name.
               SPEAKER HOOK: Charlene Hook, 316 Sixth Avenue in
     Corcoran.
 8
               It looks the break did some good for you, you're
     actually awake.
10
               Wasn't it prop 1A that the voters voted for that
11
     stated "existing transportation corridor"? I would like to
     know what happened.
13
               The routes you chose are devastating and
     disruptive. We cannot get any questions answered, this
     whole thing has been very frustrating. All I want to know
     is a route and what I have to plan for then. I'm not a last
     minute person, I need to plan this stuff. I have been ill
     since I found out what my home, the farmers, and the
     dairymen are going to have to face, if any.
20
               I have paperwork to submit tonight, I hope you will
     read it and respond. It includes a petition with almost 500
     signatures with people that agree with us in Kings County,
     up and down, that this is absurd.
               If this was any of your land, home, or whatever,
    wouldn't you be standing up here by me? Or you'd be holding
                                                            Page 56
```

## Response to Submission P062 (Paul Rohrbough, September 21, 2011)

#### P062-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.

#### P062-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02, FB-Response-GENERAL-10.

## Submission P063 (Allen Scott, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 When the three minutes is up, it will flash. If you needed
    more than three minutes, you can resubmit a comment card and
     I'll put it into the rotation here.
               If you could remember to speak slowly and clearly
     for our court reporter, she's over here taking a record of
     tonight's meeting. State your name when you come up to the
     podium, that would be great.
 8
               Next up we have Alan Scott. And after that we have
 9
     Glenda Doyer and after that Greg Gatzka.
10
               Is Allen still here?
11
               SPEAKER SCOTT: Good evening, Allen Scott, city of
     Hanford resident since 1974.
13
               I'm not in the alignment, that doesn't mean I'm not
     mad. And I was a little upset a little while ago when I was
15
     told that somebody was sleeping up there, anyways, so I
16
     guess it doesn't make a difference to him. I'll try to do
17
     it and hope you stay awake.
18
               Let me just say this, in private industry, which I
19
     did 27 years of in single management, if someone brought a
     document to me that was 30,000 pages long, you'd be gone.
     No one in private industry would accept a 30,000-page
22
     document.
23
               For my tax money to go into 30,000 pages and then I
     start hearing things about, no, it's not there, didn't
     answer it, didn't talk about it, never saw anything about
                                                           Page 83
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 it, not sure what they're talking about, and it goes on and
   on and on, that really infuriates me because one of the
    things in private industry that we pride ourselves on is
     called "due diligence," we communicated to both parties. We
     asked both parties what was going on, what was needed, what
     are some of your issues, what are some of -- your words
     "mitigation," what are some of the your alternatives, to use
     your words, how do we get rid of some of the
     misunderstanding, which you'll see was in the paper today
     about the financial report that was issued by the three
     people from Stanford and 67 pages that said the whole thing,
     and you took another two hundred -- 29,000 more pages to
     say, what, I don't know.
14
               I believe the Sierra Club in Fresno yesterday said
     it right, it needs six months. Flat out six months. People
     have said that you got 30,000 pages. I started reading it
     and then I get to the second page I say, well, I give up,
     I've got better things to do than read this thing.
19
               The Boswell Company says they want 180 days, we
     support that 180 days.
21
               Further, I believe that lines one of two of the
     EIR/EIS may have some very serious issues with CEQA and
     NEPA, and, again, with the due diligence that wasn't done.
     And I think in this meeting today you have heard more than
     one comment where there may be some issues with that, and I
                                                           Page 84
```

## Submission P063 (Allen Scott, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 think that what's going to happen is more than likely we're going to start paying lawyers someplace along the line and we're going get some oversight. Bottom line is, let me say this, California cities and counties are in financial despair. The State of California and our federal government is broke. There is no money so why are we here tonight talking about a system that's only going to build 114 miles of rail. 9 I'll probably talk later. Thank you. 10 THE FACILITATOR: Glenda. 11 SPEAKER DOYER: Hi, my name is Glenda Doyer, I live here in Hanford. I represent not only this wonderful county but the Kings County Tea Party. We are a chapter of Central Tea Party and we met you people yesterday in Fresno, and I 15 think I see some of the same ties that were there yesterday, 16 but I have the same shirt on, so -- no, not you. 17 On your Web site you asked for all of us to input -- give you our input. Then in the second paragraph 18 19 you stated, and, I quote, your input will help us plan, design, build the high-speed rail system that will make 20 California economy more competitive in the long term. 22 Well, I agree with that statement but this is --23 there's no place on here that this is what you say. So according to your statement you don't plan on anybody opposing you. You reject any other viewpoint other than the Page 85

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559



P063-1

## Response to Submission P063 (Allen Scott, September 21, 2011)

#### P063-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-17.



P064-1

## Submission P064 (Allen Scott, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
increasing rail line.
 2
               The train has been a means of transportation for
     the farm labor to move up and down the state, caring for the
     fields that have made our state, California, recognized as
     the richest in the nation for agriculture. This all at the
     expense and production of our farmers that have toiled so
     hard on these lands.
 8
               Please work with the people in a way that let them
 9
     know that we are still included in this wonderful
10
     opportunities and prosperity.
11
               Thank you for your time.
12
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Cynthia.
               Allen Scott.
13
14
               SPEAKER SCOTT: I'm going to be a little bit more
15
     quieter.
16
               The city council representative that was just up
17
     here just a minute ago and someone previously said something
     that resonated, but more importantly to that is that I saw
18
19
     something today. And I may get a little emotional, but my
20
     county is in good shape because of about five or six young
     men and ladies that came here and put you people in your
     place with dignity and honesty and with facts.
23
               And I am very happy to be a resident of this county
     because when I was in Fresno last night, you guys got a cake
     walk of garbage put down your throat by all the people that
                                                           Page 131
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 love this system. Tonight you have heard more than once the reasons you don't belong here, you've heard more than once that this city -- this state is broke, that in this county you screwed up. There's about 1.5 percent of this county here when the crowd was a little bit bigger, Fresno, maybe ten. From what I understand, when you guys left at eight o'clock at night, great representation, absolutely great. This is where I live, and this is where I will die. 10 I'm going to tell you something, you're not going to put any rail that hurts my community. You're not doing this by the book, you're not following the rules. The bottom line, very simply, and people have told you this, you are in violation of everything under the sun. 15 And, again, I say, if it took 30,000 pages to write your document, there is something missing. When the financial report from the three people from Stanford said that in 67 pages they have got it right, and then the paper says today that Rachel Wall says there's a misunderstanding, well, that's the same thing that Vanarck says when they talk about the alternative. Great words, great -- you know, scams, it's a big scam. 23 Honesty is what we expect of our elected representatives, honesty is what we expect of the committees and the authorities they appoint down the way. Page 132



## Submission P064 (Allen Scott, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
You have heard more than enough complaints in this
 1
    community, and I think tomorrow you'll probably get some
    more. Bottom line is we want to be respected, and you're
     not respecting us. And I have nothing against any one of
     you up there but you all are getting too much money for
     doing nothing. Thank you.
              THE FACILITATOR: Pamela Leal.
              SPEAKER LEAL: My first comment was to educate the
     public on what we found out in the EIR. This comment is a
10
     personal comment
11
               I was just speaking to the consultant in the room.
     Supposedly there's a heavy maintenance facility that is
     proposed in my backyard, 12566 Seventh Avenue, and I just
     found out this lists as an impact place for me, Jeff, it's
15
     running 24 hours a day. Explain to me how I'm supposed to
16
     sleep, Jeff. Thanks.
17
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: We have no cards at this time so
     we will take a fifteen minute break -- ten minute break.
19
                              (BREAK)
20
              THE FACILITATOR: We have, in order, Heather
     Oliveira, Joe Machado, and Mark Muradian.
22
               SPEAKER OLIVEIRA: Okay. Boys and girls, Mrs.
23
     Oliveira is going to speak again so you need to take your
24
25
               Back in June I asked your panel at our -- at the
                                                          Page 133
```



## Response to Submission P064 (Allen Scott, September 21, 2011)

#### P064-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-11.



## Submission P065 (Brian Stanke, Californians for High-Speed Rail, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 there were too many curves in that alignment. I would like
    to know where in the 05 document it states that because I
     haven't had a chance to peruse the entire document, so I'd
     like to know where I can find that.
               Additionally, you said that that alignment that was
     dismissed in this one was preferred in the 05 document. If
     you go to the 05 document, there has been no consultation
     with Kings County listed. The general plan -- the Kings
     County general plan wasn't listed as a consulted with
     document, in the 05 pragmatic EIR --
11
               THE FACILITATOR: Kathv.
12
               SPEAKER HAMILTON: We can go on and on, but
     hopefully you and I will have more chance to speak in the
     future. Thank you.
15
               THE FACILITATOR: Brian.
16
               SPEAKER STANKE: Good evening, my name is Brian
17
     Stanke, I'm chairman and cofounder of Californians for
18
     High-Speed Rail.
19
               The independent grass roots group of Californians
20
     across the state perceive the great benefit that this
     project would bring and want to see it accomplished soon.
22
               There's been several comments here about cost I
23
     just want to address first.
24
               This is a very expensive project, and before, it
     was 40 and now it's looking like, in the news, 60 billion
                                                            Page 62
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 dollars. But the cost of not doing this is far greater,
    over a hundred billion dollars if we're going to expand on
     the highways and all the airports, and building new
     airports.
               In addition to that, to the cost factor, there is
     far greater impacts. Adding six more lanes to 99, to 5, to
     the other freeways up and down California will take far more
     homes, take far more farmland, disrupt far more lives, and
     cause far more pollution than this train, which will be
10
     electrically powered, and not creating pollution.
11
               Speaking of farmland. We as Californian residents
     across this state are concerned about preserving farmland.
     Over -- as I believe the farm bureau document recently put
     out stated over a hundred thousand acres a year of farmland
15
     that are lost to development forever.
16
               That brings the big question, how do we as a state,
17
     as local and regional governments, how do we address this
     problem, this permanent loss of farmland. The EIR actually
     states that if California implemented the vision for
     California that was undertaken by the state and High-Speed
     Rail Authority, we can save over 2.3 million acres of land
     across the state, much of that farmland. It discloses this
     and the impacts of the high-speed rail project directly but
     it does not commit the federal, state and local governments
    to actually implement the vision in California. We need to
                                                            Page 63
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

CALIFORNI

P065-1



## Submission P065 (Brian Stanke, Californians for High-Speed Rail, September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 do better. We need to be proactive in implementing that
    plan to make sure that we reduce significantly, if we don't
     eliminate, that 100,000 acres per year loss across the
               If we do that, we can achieve those savings but
     that vision California, as its basis and anchor, requires
     that we move forward with high-speed rail because it is
    high-speed rail that provides that impetus and the anchor to
     the Central Valley to allow starter growth. And that is
     another reason that we support high-speed rail and moving
11
     forward and building it quickly in the next year. Thank
12
13
               THE FACILITATOR: Kathy Hamilton. And then Pamela
     Leal and Richard Williams
15
               SPEAKER HAMILTON: Hi, my name is Kathy Hamilton,
16
     I'm from the Bay Area with the Community Coalition on
17
     High-Speed Rail.
18
               I just would like to make an impromptu comment
19
     after listening to Mr. Stanke that the cost of doing nothing
     is the same as cost of doing something because high-speed
     rail will not be ridden by many people across the state
     because it will be unaffordable, yet all of the people in
     the state will have to pay for it, so there will be no
23
24
     savings.
25
               The Senate Transportation Appropriations Committee
                                                           Page 64
```



Response to Submission P065 (Brian Stanke, Californians for High-Speed Rail, September 21, 2011)

#### P065-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-09.

P066-1

### Submission P066 (Cynthia Sterling, San Joaquin Valley Construction Group Limited Liability Corporation, et al., September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

1 Cvnthia. SPEAKER STERLING: Good evening, I'm Cynthia Sterling, representing the San Joaquin Valley Construction Group Limited Liability Corporation, the San Joaquin Valley Black Minority Contractors Association, Morgan Business Innovations, Limited Liability Corporation, Associated Professional and Contractors, a PAC. I am here to restate the importance of transparency and inclusion of stake holders. That includes all citizens of California, especially those with the direct interest in 11 the 800 mile route that will be -- that will directly affect those living and working in the direct path of the build out. It is important that this social economics and environmental justice community, residents, businesses, all 15 stake holders within the San Joaquin Valley, that they may 16 be heard and considered appropriately. 17 Your responses should have an appearance letter 18 that is language sensitive and look like the fabric of the 19 ethnic diversities of California. Some of the issues that 20 are still questionable and of concern in the Valley are the environmental health possibilities. Impact on citizens of the concern, especially the low income and minority communities, farming community, the Williamson Act compliance, farm acquisitions, and farming operations, historic buildings, parks, and public areas. What will be Page 129

> High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 the impact to the Native American on tribal land.
    transportation impacts on an already aged system and
     infrastructure, the list goes on.
               The agencies I've listened to tonight and others
     want to be of service to you in helping to mitigate these
     concerns that should have been addressed earlier.
     California has some of the highest unemployment in the
     nation. The opportunity is beyond words for stabilizing the
     great debts people are feeling by coming together on this
     problem that can be addressed by a little inclusiveness.
11
               Please reach out to those of us that want to help
     be a part of the solution and not a continued part of the
13
     problems.
14
               Just a note, the rail line has always been the
     connector to so much history here in California. Especially
     during World War II, it was the many different diverse
     ethnic groups that built the rail, but it also had some
     negative consequences that did become positive. During
     World War II it was the system that carried the Japanese
     Americans to the camps, but it was also the rails that
     brought them out.
22
               It was the form of transportation for the freed
     slaves after the Civil War allowing them to travel to a new
     land and an opportunity to be a part of the American dream,
    building and being productive as employees on the newly
                                                           Page 130
```



## Submission P066 (Cynthia Sterling, San Joaquin Valley Construction Group Limited Liability Corporation, et al., September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
increasing rail line.
 1
 2
               The train has been a means of transportation for
     the farm labor to move up and down the state, caring for the
     fields that have made our state, California, recognized as
     the richest in the nation for agriculture. This all at the
     expense and production of our farmers that have toiled so
     hard on these lands.
 8
               Please work with the people in a way that let them
     know that we are still included in this wonderful
 9
10
     opportunities and prosperity.
11
               Thank you for your time.
12
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Cynthia.
13
               Allen Scott.
14
               SPEAKER SCOTT: I'm going to be a little bit more
15
     quieter.
16
               The city council representative that was just up
17
     here just a minute ago and someone previously said something
     that resonated, but more importantly to that is that I saw
18
19
     something today. And I may get a little emotional, but my
20
     county is in good shape because of about five or six young
     men and ladies that came here and put you people in your
     place with dignity and honesty and with facts.
23
               And I am very happy to be a resident of this county
     because when I was in Fresno last night, you guys got a cake
     walk of garbage put down your throat by all the people that
                                                           Page 131
```



Response to Submission P066 (Cynthia Sterling, San Joaquin Valley Construction Group Limited Liability Corporation, et al., September 21, 2011)

#### P066-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-16, FB-Response-SO-07.

## Submission P067 (Karen J. Stout, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

P067-1

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
THE FACILITATOR: Leonard.
 1
               SPEAKER DIAS: I'm almost done. I deserve a little
     bit more time since I haven't been talked to as a district.
               The California schools to build -- take the 1.9
     from the kids of California to build a train that has far
     exceeded the cost estimates that we were sold to -- that was
     sold to California voters, will go through prime farmland,
     and ruin Kings County major industry, agriculture. And when
     there's no clear idea where the rest of the money will come
     from to complete this project, this doesn't sound like the
11
     Authority or the state are being very good stewards of the
     public funds. Again, we ask for six months to review.
14
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
15
               SPEAKER STOUT: Good afternoon, my name is Karen J.
16
     Stout and I'm a resident and farmer in Kings County.
17
               I'd like to address the ag land section 3.14 in
18
     volume one. On the very first page it says that -- under
19
     the federal, it says that the Farm Land Protection Policy
20
     Act of 1981 purpose is to, quote, minimize the extent to
     which federal programs contribute to unnecessary conversion
     of farmland to nonagricultural uses, end quote.
23
               And since federal dollars will be needed and used
     on your project, your project falls under NEPA, the National
     Environmental Policy Act.
                                                            Page 43
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
Going back to the Federal Farm Land Protection
    Policy Act, the document delineates four types of important
    farmland classifications. In looking at the figures on 314.
     1 through 5, you have very pretty maps there that anyone can
     see that along your high-speed train routes there is mostly
     prime farmlands and farmlands of statewide importance.
     These two kinds are the most productive. It is most
     important for our state and federal legislatures to realize
     this. Also, anyone involved in a poll with CEQA, the
     California Environmental Policy Act or NEPA, the National
11
     Environmental Policy Act, needs to know the significance of
     these quality farmlands.
13
               The Central San Joaquin Valley is known as the
     bread basket of the world. Land here is unreplaceable. You
     cannot give me land along I-5 that can produce the amount
     and quality of product that my same amount of acreage here
17
18
               I have almost 80 acres of prime farmland that grows
19
     walnuts. It is because of the soil quality, the growing
     season, and the dependable water supply here that occurs
     nowhere else in the state or the country that we can supply
     the world with citrus, nuts, fruits, vegetables, feed,
     fiber, and oil, seed, crops, so why did you choose this
     unique land to interrupt and damage efficient farming and
     dairy operations? Twelve dairies are impacted just in Kings
                                                            Page 44
```

## Submission P067 (Karen J. Stout, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P067-2

```
1 County. For miles along I-5 one can see grazing land.
    Grazing land is not even one of the four important farmland
     classifications. Why haven't you done an EIR/EIS on an I-5
     route with just as much detail so you and others can make a
     legitimate comparison?
 6
               I'd like to quote one of NEPAs goals. Quote, to
     promote efforts that will prevent and eliminate damage to
     the environment and biosphere and stimulate human health and
 9
     welfare, end quote.
10
               Kings County ag producing land and dairies are
11
     vital for our state's gross product and for the nation's
     GNP. Our county certainly fulfills the goal of stimulating
     human health and welfare. NEPA needs to protect us, from
     preventing and eliminating damage to our worldwide
15
     enterprises.
16
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Karen.
17
               SPEAKER STOUT: We feed the world.
18
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: I'd like to interrupt for just a
19
     moment. Assemblyman David Valadao has joined us and I
20
     understand he has something he would like to say as well.
21
               ASSEMBLYMAN VALADAO: I honestly haven't come with
     a prepared statement for you guys. We're working on the
23
     letter, we'll be getting it to you shortly. But I just want
     to support all of my constituents here that are coming here
    complaining about this.
                                                           Page 45
```

# Response to Submission P067 (Karen J. Stout, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

#### P067-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02, FB-Response-GENERAL-04, FB-Response-GENERAL-10.

#### P067-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02, FB-Response-GENERAL-10.

## Submission P068 (Karen J. Stout, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

P068-1

P068-2

P068-3

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 there isn't hardly any land to grow anything. Dairies are
 2 relocating from southern California, south of Tehachapi,
     into the San Joaquin Valley because they're being forced out
     by urban encroachment. They have freeways, they don't have
     a high-speed train there yet, but they have freeways, and
     they have other public transits, and still it's squeezing
     out the ability to produce food.
 8
               Further east in LA, as you travel south of Indio, I
 9
     think it's State Route 111, goes along the west side of
     Salton Sea, you'll come across a city that's not there. It
11
     has graded streets, it has foundations poured, but there's
     absolutely nothing there. It's neither desert nor farmland
     but somebody had a great idea at one point in time.
14
               People need food and people need water. Maybe
15
     high-speed rail can bring in enough voters to turn the Delta
16
     pumps back on, or maybe enough voters to realize that we
17
     would be more wise to spend our money in creating more
18
     infrastructure to capture the water that nature provides us.
19
               THE FACILITATOR: Mr. Niswander, your time is up.
20
               SPEAKER NISWANDER: Thank you.
21
               The rest of my comments will be in writing.
22
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you very much.
23
               Karen Stout. Then I have Donna Marshall and
     Maureen Fukuda.
24
25
               SPEAKER STOUT: My name is Karen J. Stout. I did
                                                            Page 70
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

U.S. Department

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#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
put "second" on my card there so this is my turn again, I
 2
     quess.
               It has been stated that the Authority feels that
     going through agricultural land is cheaper and easier, is
     this true? I've added up the important farmland permanently
     converted to nonagricultural land on your route of least
     impact which you call the BNSF, the Burlington North Santa
     Fe, which usually is in fact four or more miles from that
     track through Kings County.
10
               The converted acres are 2,211 acres in the four
11
     counties according to page 31433. Once you add the heavy
     maintenance facility where the three out of four chance of
     that facility being chosen, that's another 150 acres of
     prime farmland that can be added. Then you add the
     temporarily used or converted acres during construction,
     that's another 1581, so you're nearly at 4,000 acres of
17
     mostly prime and farmland of statewide importance. Again,
18
     these are the two best types of farmland.
19
               I don't know if this includes the over and the
     underpasses. Is the accesses of roads and the several
     different types of stations you have there on your pad? Do
     these figures include these additional non ag uses? I don't
     believe they do. So 4,000 acres is still not everything.
               And these temporarily used acres, will they be
     partially returned or totally returned to ag? How many
                                                            Page 71
```

## Submission P068 (Karen J. Stout, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011) - Continued

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

years of construction are they looking at, ten, fifteen,

P068-3

more? They will be converted acres until they have been released. You may decide that you need these acres for something else by that time. These figures do not even include any of the collateral damage, maybe somebody else can address the collateral damage.

P068-4

pieces with irreversible damage. Surely the I-5 corridor is a reasonably feasible alternative. 11 THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.

too important to be chopped up and left in small unsalable

The central San Joaquin Valley is too productive,

12 Donna.

13 SPEAKER MARSHALL: I'm Donna Marshall, and right now I'm kind of upset because I kind of feel like you guys

15 are falling asleep again. But as a resident of Tulare

16 County, I cannot believe that this poorly guided train wreck

17 is still planning to break ground here in the Central Valley

18 next year. Can't you see that Kings County doesn't want

19 you, we don't like you? And point blank, we don't.

20 There's a lot of problems with the Rail Authority

21 and the project in general. For starters, I don't see how

60 days to review a 30,000 page document is a reasonable

23 amount of time. We're busy. We're farmers, we're dairymen,

we're busy working, we're feeding our county, we're feeding

our state, we're feeding the world, we're feeding the

Page 72



# Response to Submission P068 (Karen J. Stout, Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability (CCHSRA), September 21, 2011)

#### P068-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

#### P068-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

See Volume I, Section 3.14, Impact AG#4 for information on the permanent conversion of agricultural land, and see Mitigation Measure AG-1 in Volume I, Section 3.14, for measures to preserve the total amount of prime farmland.

#### P068-3

See Volume I, Section 3.14.5.3 for information on the construction period impacts on agricultural lands.

#### P068-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02, FB-Response-GENERAL-04.



P069-2

P069-3

## Submission P069 (Paul Stuber, September 21, 2011)

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 about the displacement of students, but doesn't state
 2 specifically how that would impact districts. How many
     students will, for instance, Kit Carson lose because of the
     high-speed rail. How many students will go to Hanford El
     because they will move into that district. Those are really
     important issues, they're not simple revenue limits, it
     impacts the financial and also budget and facility issues.
 8
               So we thank you for your consideration and we'll
 9
     work and answer any questions the Authority may have to
10
     answer those issues. Thanks.
11
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Steven.
12
               State your name.
13
               SPEAKER STUBER: My name is Paul Stuber, I've been
     before the Board a couple of times already. I want to make
15
     sure that my voice is heard.
16
               I have a farm and right now there's a little
17
     uncertainty, depending on which route north of Corcoran that
18
     is chosen, and it's going to cut off either 80 or 100 acres
19
     off from access, and it's a half mile trip back there.
20
               I estimated, between irrigation and inspection and
     other husbandry operations, we make about 1200 trips a year
     back there, and if we don't have some kind of access, it's a
     seventeen mile round trip and I don't know if that's going
     to be -- I don't think that was considered on this economic
     impact report, but it's a definite cost.
                                                            Page 20
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

U.S. Department

of Transportation Federal Railroad

#### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

And not only that, the environmental on mileage that's -- I don't know how much, you know, this train is going to save as far as clean air, but that's going to make a big impact on our mileage. And so we just need to know what's going to happen and what we -- if we can have some kind of access back there. We're surrounded by Cross Creek, the BNSF route, and we also have to get a mile right-of-way from our neighbor from the north. And so it's just going to be impossible to get back there if we don't have some kind of access. So I hope that we will hear something soon. It's hard to make decisions, it's hard to keep going on and on, and we got, you know, we got crops to consider, when's this going to happen, what's going to happen. 15 And I want to go on record right here as one of the guys that will give you a hundred full strip free of charge right along the BNSF route, no charge. You just take it. You will save me thousands of dollars, not only me, but my grandchildren and my great grandchildren. Thank you. Thank 21 THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. Next up we have Barbara Stuber. And after that, Steve Carpentieri and John 23 Hutson 24 SPEAKER STUBER: My name is Barbara Stuber. That was my husband just talking. Thank you for letting me voice Page 21

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P069-1

## Response to Submission P069 (Paul Stuber, September 21, 2011)

#### P069-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02.

#### P069-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AQ-03.

#### P069-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02.



P070-1

P070-2

### Submission P070 (Barbara Stuber, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
And not only that, the environmental on mileage
 1
    that's -- I don't know how much, you know, this train is
     going to save as far as clean air, but that's going to make
     a big impact on our mileage.
               And so we just need to know what's going to happen
     and what we -- if we can have some kind of access back
     there. We're surrounded by Cross Creek, the BNSF route, and
     we also have to get a mile right-of-way from our neighbor
     from the north. And so it's just going to be impossible to
     get back there if we don't have some kind of access.
11
               So I hope that we will hear something soon. It's
     hard to make decisions, it's hard to keep going on and on,
     and we got, you know, we got crops to consider, when's this
     going to happen, what's going to happen.
15
               And I want to go on record right here as one of the
16
     guys that will give you a hundred full strip free of charge
17
     right along the BNSF route, no charge. You just take it.
     You will save me thousands of dollars, not only me, but my
18
19
     grandchildren and my great grandchildren. Thank you. Thank
20
21
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. Next up we have
     Barbara Stuber. And after that, Steve Carpentieri and John
23
     Hutson
24
               SPEAKER STUBER: My name is Barbara Stuber. That
    was my husband just talking. Thank you for letting me voice
                                                           Page 21
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

my concerns. 2 For 62 years my family has been farming the land that the High-Speed Rail Authority plans to cut into two pieces. After 62 years of improving the land and providing food and fiber for U.S. citizens and the world, we should have some authority also. There will be no access to the back part of the property, as P.G. said, if the rail goes as it's planned at this time. Has the High-Speed Rail Authority taken into consideration in their cost analysis all of the accesses they are going to have to make to isolate parcels -- to isolated parcels of land? These accesses should be convenient to the farmer and their equipment. They should not have to go miles and miles out of their way on public highways to reach the access roads. I'm sure the public highways are not going appreciate more tractors on their 17 roads either. 18 Take the high-speed rail out of California fertile farm and dairy lands. Keep our life-sustaining jobs of providing milk and other foods and fiber for our families and for the generations to come. Thank you. 22 THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Barbara. Steve. 23 SPEAKER CARPENTIERI: Hello, my name is Steve Carpentieri, and I don't represent any farming interest or politicians. I have a house here in Hanford. Page 22

## Response to Submission P070 (Barbara Stuber, September 21, 2011)

### P070-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02, FB-Response-AG-03.

### P070-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-S&S-01 and FB-Response-AG-02.

P071-3

### Submission P071 (Helen Sullivan, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 If you'd like to submit the rest as a written comment, you
   mav do so.
               SPEAKER LANGIANO: I will be submitting it in
     writing because I think that we're not putting enough focus
     on the agriculture, the land, and food that's created for
     the world.
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Thank you.
               SPEAKER LANGIANO: On the water and land Thank
 9
     vou.
10
              THE FACILITATOR: Helen. And then Wayne Amundson
11
     after that.
               SPEAKER SULLIVAN: Good afternoon. My name is
     Helen Sullivan and I'm here today to request that you extend
     the comment period on the Draft EIR to six months. In
     dealing with the people and the elected officials in Kings
     County, the Rail Authority and it's entire paid consultants
     have been evasive, dismissive, disrespectful, and in several
18
     instances downright dishonest.
19
               Now, you give us 60 days to comment on the 30,000
     page document in which you feel you have somewhat vaguely
     justified putting your train right through the heart of our
22
     county.
23
               The collateral damage caused by running this train
     through our county is enormous. It shakes our delicately
     balanced socioeconomic structure to its foundation. It
                                                           Page 29
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 touches and very likely will damage every aspect of our
               Then you once again dismiss the importance of the
     potential damage by saying here, spend every waking moment
     for the next 60 days, ignore your businesses, ignore your
     families, and all else, and pour over at least 500 pages a
     day and give us an intelligent comment on this. I don't
     think that's possible. I don't think we can get through it
     in that amount of time.
10
               I'm sorry to say, this is not the way to treat the
     people who will be most damaged by your train. You owe us a
     proper amount of time to dissimulate and digest the EIR, and
     the proper amount of time for that is six months, at least.
     Thank you.
15
               THE FACILITATOR: Thanks, Helen.
16
               Wayne. After that we have Richard Williams. And
17
     Pamela Leal.
18
               SPEAKER AMUNDSON: Good afternoon. I'm Wayne
     Amundson with the Operating Engineers Local 3.
               My organization represents the workers and plans
     that will be driving machines, operating the equipment that
     will build this big project.
23
               We all know too well how high our unemployment
     rates are in the Valley. The timing of this project
     couldn't be better. We need these jobs. High-speed rail is
                                                           Page 30
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P071-1

P071-2



## Response to Submission P071 (Helen Sullivan, September 21, 2011)

### P071-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-07, FB-Response-GENERAL-16.

### P071-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04, FB-Response-GENERAL-14, FB-Response-SO-04.

### P071-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-27, FB-Response-GENERAL-27.

P072-1

### Submission P072 (Gordon Tessman, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
I have two requests. The first is to please fully
 1
    consider extending our comment and review period to 180
 3
    davs.
               The second is to propose -- the second is to
     properly address correspondence sent to us. My name is not
     just "owner/occupant," it is legally Shelli Andranigian.
               Thank you.
 8
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
               Gordon Tessman. Then Maddy Wisecarver and after
     that Mary Jane Fagundes.
11
               Please state your name.
12
               SPEAKER TESSMAN: Hi there, my name is Gordon
     Tessman and I'm a resident of Kings County.
14
               I don't know why you're here and I wish we didn't
     have to deal with this. High-speed rail is a travesty.
     It's not something that we want, not something that we need,
17
     it's not something that we can afford, we've got no place to
18
     put it.
19
               If we were to plan a 3,000 cow dairy in downtown
20
     San Francisco, how long do you think you'll have the EIR
     reports reviewed before it was shot down in flames.
22
               This is a travesty upon this area. You are taking
23
     all of these people's way of life and trying to change it
     through your social engineering and it's just flat out
    wrong. You can all sit up here and scowl or do whatever it
                                                           Page 104
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
is that you do but this is a very, very, very bad idea.
               As a thinking individual, if I see a child out in
     the road getting ready to get hit by a car and killed, I'm
     going to grab him and pull him back. That's what all these
     people here are trying to do, is saying pull it back, it's
     not something we want, not something we need.
               You're changing people's lives. It's not your job
     to do social engineering. You've changed the plan from what
     was originally proposed to go down a corridor that was
     either I-5 or the 99, that's not in the plan now. I don't
     understand why it's so important to have something that we
     absolutely cannot afford to bankrupt this already bankrupt
     state and continue on.
14
               Again, it's something we don't want, don't need,
     got no place to put it. Thank you.
16
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
17
               Maddy Wisecarver.
18
               SPEAKER WISECARVER: Hello, my name is Maddy
     Wisecarver, and I'm a Hanford High student.
20
               I have a few questions. Why are we spending all of
     our money on the high-speed rail rather than we can improve
     other ways of transportation, such as highways that need
     repair. Or even better, as a taxpayer, why should we give
     our money to the high-speed rail, but instead have it go
     toward the use of public education and college education.
                                                          Page 105
```

# Response to Submission P072 (Gordon Tessman, September 21, 2011)

### P072-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02, FB-Response-GENERAL-10.



### Submission P073 (John Tos, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
satisfied with the present rail system we have.
              2
                            My wife and I have used it so much we go on a first
                  name basis with station personnel and the conductors. The
                  only improvement I'd like to see on that is to dig a tunnel
                  through the Sierra Madre Mountains so that we don't have to
                  get off the train, we can take the train all the way to the
                  Amtrak. And if you think it's a hard thing to do,
                  Switzerland just made a tunnel like that and they didn't
                  have any problems, and I think we can do this too. And also
                  I can ride a train from here to Hanford for under $3 --
             10
             11
                  here to Fresno for only $3, could you beat that?
             12
                            THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, John.
             13
                            SPEAKER TOS: Thank you. My name is John Tos, our
                  family has been farming in Kings County for well over 100
             15
                  years. The train is going to impact us in six different
             16
                  parcels, three of the parcels we own, three of the parcels
P073-1
             17
                  we have long term 25-year rents. No one has addressed
             18
                  long-term rents on parcels, you need to do that.
             19
                            In our particular area this is our headquarters.
P073-2
             20
                  I've figured out that we will be driving an additional
                  150,000 miles a year because Ninth Avenue, Volkner Avenue,
                  Excelsior Avenue, all that is going to be impacted, that's
P073-3
             23
                  going to cost us $75,000 more a year. Can you think of the
             24
                  carbon footprint that's going to cost?
             25
                            Whenever a foreign force comes in here as an
                                                                         Page 48
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 unwanted guest forcing themselves on an unwilling partner,
    you know what that's called, that's called "rape," and every
     one of us in the Valley here that being is impacted, that's
     exactly how we feel.
               I've been going to these meetings for a year and a
     half now. I know some of you by first name. Every time I
     go it's about jobs, 90 percent of the time it's people that
     are for this because of jobs, and I too think we need jobs,
     but we need to spend it in an area that's important, that's
     worthwhile, such as the infrastructure of California, roads,
     highways, bridges. Bridges in California, 20 percent are
     going to be red tagged in ten years as unsafe to travel. We
     need to be doing something about that.
14
               This fall, this next election, we're going to have
     a 12 billion dollar project on the ballot for water. We
     need lakes and dams and reservoirs, up above ground storage,
     underground storage, we need all that. We have plenty of
     jobs in California, we need to redirect the money to
     worthwhile projects.
20
              I have a couple of suggestions. If you're going to
     force it here on us go underground, please. In Europe they
     go underground, they pop up every hundred miles. You can do
     that here. You can pop up in Fresno and you can pop up in
     Bakersfield, and that way you will leave us alone.
25
               Interstate 5 was put in to transfer people from LA
                                                           Page 49
```

P073-4

P073-5



### Submission P073 (John Tos, September 21, 2011) - Continued

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P073-5

```
to San Francisco and back and forth, that ground has already
    been bought. Why don't you put the railroad over there on
     I-5. You don't even have to buy more property. Elevate it
     thirty, forty feet and you have your railway there.
               In conclusion, I support what Jeff -- Congressman
     Jeff Denham had said, that he said this project could be a
     go under three circumstances. Number one, it's got to be
     completely financed before a shovel is put in the ground.
     It has to be self-sustaining once it's done, no government
     subsidies, and it cannot take any prime farmland out of
11
     production. If you can do that, we'll be behind you. Thank
12
13
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
14
               I think we're going to take a short break.
15
     Fifteen minutes.
16
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: At this time we're going to take
17
     a short break, fifteen minutes, and then we'll resume.
18
                                (BREAK)
19
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: All right. Good evening, I'm
20
     Jeff Abercrombie, the Central Valley area program manager
21
     for the High-Speed Rail Authority, and we are conducting a
     public hearing to receive your comments on the environmental
23
     analysis alternative impact and mitigation measures
     presented in the Merced to Fresno, Fresno to Bakersfield
     Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Reports. And I'm
                                                           Page 50
```

### Response to Submission P073 (John Tos, September 21, 2011)

### P073-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-SO-01.

Fair market value will be paid for all land acquired. Fair market value is defined as the price at which the property would change hands between a willing buyer and a willing seller, neither being under any compulsion to buy or to sell and both having reasonable knowledge of relevant facts. This takes into account the value of the land, the improvements on the land, as well as the future income the land and improvements can generate. The Authority will fairly compensate land owners for loss or disruptions to their operations during the right-of-way acquisition process. This will be done on a case-by-case basis, with the actual amount of compensation dependent upon the characteristics of the operation involved and the necessary permits.

The appraiser will note tenant-owned improvements based on input from the property owner and tenant. The acquisition agent will then provide a list of improvements owned by the tenant in an "offset statement" to aid in determining the lessee's portion of just compensation.

#### P073-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02, FB-Response-AQ-03, FB-Response-TR-02.

#### P073-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AQ-03.

#### P073-4

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02.

#### P073-5

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-02.



# Submission P074 (David Valadao, California State Assembly, 30th Assembly District, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 County. For miles along I-5 one can see grazing land.
   Grazing land is not even one of the four important farmland
     classifications. Why haven't you done an EIR/EIS on an I-5
     route with just as much detail so you and others can make a
     legitimate comparison?
               I'd like to quote one of NEPAs goals. Quote, to
     promote efforts that will prevent and eliminate damage to
     the environment and biosphere and stimulate human health and
 9
     welfare, end quote.
10
               Kings County ag producing land and dairies are
11
     vital for our state's gross product and for the nation's
     GNP. Our county certainly fulfills the goal of stimulating
     human health and welfare. NEPA needs to protect us, from
     preventing and eliminating damage to our worldwide
15
     enterprises.
16
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you, Karen.
17
               SPEAKER STOUT: We feed the world.
18
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: I'd like to interrupt for just a
19
     moment. Assemblyman David Valadao has joined us and I
20
     understand he has something he would like to say as well.
21
               ASSEMBLYMAN VALADAO: I honestly haven't come with
     a prepared statement for you guys. We're working on the
     letter, we'll be getting it to you shortly. But I just want
     to support all of my constituents here that are coming here
    complaining about this.
                                                           Page 45
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

U.S. Department

of Transportation Federal Railroad

# This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P074-1

```
When I decided to run for office last year, a
    couple years back, I really wasn't paying much attention to
     this high-speed rail. I knew it was something we couldn't
     afford. I didn't think we were actually dumb enough to move
     forward with it, and so I was wrong. Now we're stuck in
     this mess and this report comes out and it kind of reminds
     me of a lot of stuff I see in Sacramento, a lot of talk, a
     lot of wasted pages being jammed down our throat, and not
     enough time to actually look and see what's there, not much
10
     substance to it.
11
               We really need to slow this project down, take time
     to listen to these people and understand what they're doing,
     what they're going through, and look at the project overall.
     I mean as far as high-speed rail in general, I don't really
     hate the idea, I know that someday, somewhere, it's probably
     a good idea, but this rushing it, the way we're doing it,
     we're just asking for disaster, something even that my kids
     or grandkids are going to have to worry about and pay for
     someday in the future.
20
               And, again, take your time with this, give us the
     time we need to look through this, come up with a good
     decision, and we'll see how we go from there. Thank you.
23
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
2.4
               Phyllis Browning.
25
               SPEAKER IN CROWD: Are you calling for Phyllis
                                                            Page 46
```

# Response to Submission P074 (David Valadao, California State Assembly, 30th Assembly District, September 21, 2011)

### P074-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-07.

California has been planning a high-speed train (HST) System since the formation of the High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) in 1996. When completed, the nearly 800-mile train system would provide new passenger rail service to more than 90% of the state's population. More than 200 weekday trains would serve the statewide intercity travel market. The HST System would be similar to electrically powered systems now in operation in Europe and Japan, capable of up to 220-mile-per-hour (mph) operating speeds, with state-of-the-art safety, signaling, and automatic train control systems. Phase 1 of the HST System would connect and serve the major metropolitan areas of California, extending from San Francisco to the Los Angeles Basin. Phase 2 would add connections from Sacramento in the north to San Diego in the south.

The approximately 114-mile-long Fresno to Bakersfield Section is an essential part of this system. The Fresno to Bakersfield Section would provide Bakersfield and Fresno access to a new transportation mode and would contribute to increased mobility throughout California.



### Submission P075 (Doug Verboon, Kings County Board of Supervisors, September 21, 2011)

P075-1

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 Valley is listened to, respected, and takes seriously their
     thoughts and concerns.
               "California's high-speed rail system will succeed
     only if we do it right. With unemployment in the San
     Joaquin Valley well into the double digits, we need
    high-speed rail now more than ever. This transformative
     project will connect the economic powerhouses of California,
     modernize our transportation system, and create hundreds of
     thousands of jobs, both in the construction phase and
10
     afterward.
11
               "High-speed rail will be a true game changer for
     this Valley and California, and your participation today
     will help make that a reality."
14
               The Congressman also wanted me to get it on the
15
     record that over two weeks ago he submitted a letter to the
     Authority requesting an extension of 30 days to the 60-day
17
     public comment period to a full 90. He still stands
18
     steadfast on that. As well as there's a continual open
19
     invitation to all Authority board members, specifically
     Chairman Umberg, to come visit Kings County and meet those
     who are being impacted. Thank you for having us today.
22
               MR. ABERCROMBIE: Thank you.
23
               We also have Kings County Supervisor Doug Verboon.
24
               Did you want to say something?
25
               MR. VERBOON: Thank you. Thanks for coming. My
                                                             Page 6
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 name is Doug Verboon, Kings County Board of Supervisors.
               We have been working with high-speed rail, or
    trying to work with high-speed rail, since January, trying
     to come together with a solution on how we can work together
     with the coordination process. And over the time we've met,
    high-speed rail refused to accept us as a public entity. I
     got a letter from the SS -- the Federal Rail Administration
     saying that they do not want to meet the board.
               And, you know, I'm a farmer, I was on the school
     board for sixteen years, and I've done well with my
     businesses, and I wanted to give something back to my
     community. And it makes it real difficult when you run for
     public office and you win and your only goal is to accept
     the words of wisdom of the people and listen to them and try
     to help them out in the government process, and the people
     that you're talking to don't recognize you as a person, they
     don't recognize you as a board.
18
               All we want to do is work with the High-Speed Rail
     Authority together to fix the alignment through Kings
     County. We've never opposed the alignment, we only wanted
     to work together with you people, and we were told we didn't
22
     exist.
23
               You guys identified dairies as corrals, you
     identify a farm as a piece of dirt. A dairy is more than a
     corral. It's like saying Orchard Supply Hardware is a store
                                                             Page 7
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration

# Submission P075 (Doug Verboon, Kings County Board of Supervisors, September 21, 2011) - Continued

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
without a parking lot. You need to identify everything.
               We were there to help you through the process. I
     heard earlier that you wanted to listen to the people and
     make this come together and work toward the future, and how
     can you work toward the future if you refuse to listen to
     the people.
               We got a letter yesterday from the FRA saying that
     they wanted to meet with our individual department heads but
     not the board. You know, we're the leaders of our county.
     We're the five representatives of the people. The people
11
     voted us into office so that we can listen to them. We're
     the link to the government, and you refused to talk to us.
14
               You know, I met with Mr. Abercrombie, we've talked,
15
     and I think he understands my vision, I think his hands are
16
     tied
17
               We haven't opposed the high-speed rail, we just
     oppose the alignment. We want a chance to work with you to
18
19
     get it lined up to where it best fits the needs of our
20
     county.
21
               We have 28 miles across our county that the rail
     can go across. I think you've taken 30 of them because you
     don't know how to go in a straight line. We've had farmers
     offer, if you go on the edge of my property, I'll give you
    the ground, but please don't go through the middle of my
                                                             Page 8
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 field. We've had dairymen offer the same thing, and you
    refused to work with us. This is going to come to an end.
               I'm a farmer. I've been a farmer my entire life.
     This is our harvest time, this is our pay day, this time of
     year, September, October, we all work for this day. I took
    time out of my day today to come here and talk to you just
     like these people here. You need to listen to them, you
     need to take note of what they have to say.
              I'm not losing my house, I'm not losing my farm,
     but I would like you to listen to me. I stand up for these
     people, and I want you to listen to them and listen to them
13
               We don't oppose the rail but right now there's a
     petition going around from the community for our county to
     oppose the rail. And I'm going to listen to my people. If
     they bring that petition to me saying that we want the Kings
     County to oppose the rail system, we will do so, but right
     now we wanted to work with you and you refused to listen to
     us and it's just enough is enough. You've gotten us all
     frustrated
21
               Like I said, I'm not losing ground. Two years ago
     or fifteen months ago the rail was going through my ranch,
     and I could not come up with an argument to go against it
     because it was on the property line. I lost a hundred feet.
    It wasn't a problem.
                                                            Page 9
```

### Submission P075 (Doug Verboon, Kings County Board of Supervisors, September 21, 2011) -Continued

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

P075-2

1 But when you took that rail and you curved it to the west and back to the east and curved it back to the west again, you took out 8700 acres of farm ground. Not total. you've eliminated that dairy.

P075-3

It's 600 acres of actual ground. But when you affect a piece of ground -- it's a square. You take the middle out of it, you just turned it into a garden. That's not a farm anymore. When you go through a corral and an alfalfa field, And Kings County is an ag community and this is where we get our income from, so we're going to lose revenue 10 11 from that, plus you're going to hurt our people that farm. And I just hope that from now you really listen to us and take it to heart what we have to say. Thank you. 14 MR. ABERCROMBIE: Thank you, Doug. We also have 15 assistant city manager Mike Olmos from the city of Visalia. 16 MR. OLMOS: Thank you. I'm Mike Olmos, I'm the 17 assistant city manager for the city of Visalia. I'm here 18 representing our city and our mayor, Bob Link. 19 We have followed the high-speed rail process for 20 years, since the inception of the high-speed rail. We have 21 tried to stay engaged in the process, tried to participate with the staff, and appreciate the cooperation that we've 23 received in our efforts to engage with you. 24 We've had discussions with the FRA director and the High-Speed Rail Authority during the determination of the Page 10



# Response to Submission P075 (Doug Verboon, Kings County Board of Supervisors, September 21, 2011)

### P075-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-16.

The Authority and FRA recognize the concerns of Kings County representatives and community members, and we wish to maintain an open dialogue about the project. The Authority welcomes the opportunity to meet with landowners and stakeholders. In addition, project-level information has been shared at public meetings, made available at the Kings County project office, and provided through mailings, e-mail communication, outreach materials, and on the internet.

#### P075-2

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-AG-02, FB-Response-AG-03, FB-Response-AG-06.

Also see the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #16, and Volume II, Appendix 3.14-B, for impacts on animal operations.

#### P075-3

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-04.

See the Revised DEIR/Supplemental DEIS, Volume I, Section 3.12, Impact SO #16, for impacts on agricultural businesses.

### Submission P076 (Richard Williams, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 the only big guns as far as job generating coming up right
 2
    now.
 3
               Based on these benefits, we strongly support the
     high-speed rail and look forward to working with you any way
     we can to help its proceeding further. Thank you.
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
               Richard Williams.
               SPEAKER WILLIAMS: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm
     Richard Williams. I'm a native Californian, born in Taft.
     Spent nine and a half years in the Navy in one of the most
11
     desolate parts of California, China Lake, so I know what
13
               The high-speed rail, I've read briefly some of the
     proposals, it's a term from a movie, "If you build it, they
15
     will come." I don't see anything in here about upgrade of
     electrical infrastructure right now. This is driven by
16
17
     electricity. Are we expecting to have a rolling brownout
     every time a train passes by a municipality? That's jobs
19
     right there. That's jobs that money can pay for right now
     to upgrade the infrastructure that is going to be required
     to make this happen no matter what move it takes.
22
               I am not here either for or against the rail right
23
     now but I have some questions. Who mandated a
     two-and-a-half hour trip, federal, state, voters, who?
    Nothing should be mandated. You can have targets, you can
                                                           Page 31
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 proceed to targets. Nothing should be mandated. It's not a
    dictatorship in this country. One of the reasons the state
    is right now in the financial problems we're having is
     because of mandated items that don't come under review.
     Nothing should be mandated.
               The other thing, the farmers are the backbone of
     Kings County. The only other major industry we have is the
     air base. I'm a veteran, 28 years at the air base. The
     farmers go under, this county cannot survive under the
     dwindling military budget. So the Kings County farmers have
     a valid point and it needs to be heard.
               Anybody that requests the extension for response to
     the EIR needs to have 100 percent validity put to their
     request. Thank you very much.
15
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
16
               Pamela
17
               SPEAKER LEAL: Pamela Leal, 12566 7th Avenue.
18
               Once again I stand here asking for a 60-day
     extension. California High-Speed Rail Web site states that
     these hearings are to disclose information and decision
     makers -- to decision makers and the public. I've spent the
     better part of five months asking the Authority to get in
     coordination with our local governments and farm bureau only
     to hear you still have yet to contact them and mitigate all
    impacts listed to you.
                                                           Page 32
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

P076-1

P076-2

## Response to Submission P076 (Richard Williams, September 21, 2011)

### P076-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-PU&E-01, FB-Response-PU&E-02.

### P076-2

Section 2704.09(b)(1) of Assembly Bill 3034 (Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century) specifies a travel time of 2 hours and 40 minutes for the HST between San Francisco and Los Angeles Union Station.

P077-1

P077-2

### Submission P077 (Richard Williams, September 21, 2011)

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 99, which just -- Tulare was just begging for, so that a new
   corridor will not be created. However, as explained
     earlier, the Authority has eliminated from consideration any
     reasonable alternative. The only alternative is in
     compliance with the above stated federal and state laws and
     the will of the people who approved the safe, reliable
     High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st century.
               I have been reading the EIR report pretty much
     until 1:00 or 2:00 in the morning every single night and
     still do not have any of the answers I have been begging for
11
     since May. Thank you.
12
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
13
               Richard.
14
               SPEAKER WILLIAMS: Once again, Richard Williams.
15
               I just listened to the gentleman talk about the
16
     benefits and the reason we need to do this and one of his
17
     reasons as he cites is clean air. I want to once again
     point out that the Clean Air Act is a mandate by the federal
18
19
     government that affects the state government, which affects
20
     us. Once again.
21
               Now, back to my grid thing again.
22
               Electricity is the key to this entire project.
     We've lost two peaker plants in this area recently because
     of the oil, coal bashing that's been going on in the EPA, so
     they're done. We've lost peaker plants here.
                                                           Page 67
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

# This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

We're -- in the very near future possibly can lose two nuclear plants we have in the State of California with none on line. With the loss of all the electrical plants in the projected future that was covered by the EIR, what do we have to replace that, where is that now. Solar energy is not going to do it because you're going to take more farmland out of production to build solar farms. You can't grow crops underneath a solar panel. Okay. So once again you got to get the infrastructure of the electricity solved first in the state of California before you should even start proceeding on the high-speed rail that ultimately requires electricity to run. 13 The other thing I would like to add, the name is California High-Speed Rail. Where's the train being built, 15 where's the factory that's going to produce this train in the state of California? 17 THE FACILITATOR: Thank you. 18 Next up we have Tim Niswander, Kings County ag Commissioner and Karen Stout and Donna Marshall. SPEAKER NISWANDER: Good evening, Tim Niswander, Kings County agricultural Commissioner. 23 Ladies and gentlemen, as regulator authorized to protect your health, environment, and food you eat, I can't afford to take a side on the issue, to support the Page 68

### Response to Submission P077 (Richard Williams, September 21, 2011)

### P077-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-PU&E-02.

The proposed project is constructing and operating a HST system, and the EIR/EIS evaluates the impacts of implementing such a system. The Authority is not proposing to shut down power plants as part of the HST project, and therefore no such actions were evaluated in the EIR/EIS. See Chapter 2, Alternatives, for adescription of the proposed project and various alternatives. Section 3.6, Public Utilities and Energy, comprehensively evaluates the proposed project's electricity demands and impacts on energy sources.

#### P077-2

No trains are being built at this time. Before the system is operational, the Authority will hire a company to provide high-speed trains for the State of California. It has not been decided where these trains will be manufactured.

### Submission P078 (Maddy Wisecarver, Hanford Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011)

P078-1

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 is that you do but this is a very, very, very bad idea.
 2
               As a thinking individual, if I see a child out in
     the road getting ready to get hit by a car and killed. I'm
     going to grab him and pull him back. That's what all these
     people here are trying to do, is saying pull it back, it's
     not something we want, not something we need.
               You're changing people's lives. It's not your job
     to do social engineering. You've changed the plan from what
     was originally proposed to go down a corridor that was
     either I-5 or the 99, that's not in the plan now. I don't
11
     understand why it's so important to have something that we
     absolutely cannot afford to bankrupt this already bankrupt
     state and continue on.
14
               Again, it's something we don't want, don't need,
15
     got no place to put it. Thank you.
16
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
17
               Maddy Wisecarver.
18
               SPEAKER WISECARVER: Hello, my name is Maddy
19
     Wisecarver, and I'm a Hanford High student.
20
               I have a few questions. Why are we spending all of
     our money on the high-speed rail rather than we can improve
     other ways of transportation, such as highways that need
     repair. Or even better, as a taxpayer, why should we give
     our money to the high-speed rail, but instead have it go
     toward the use of public education and college education.
                                                           Page 105
```

High Speed Rail Public Meeting 559-222-1200 888-346-5559

### This transcript was prepared for you by: Nisbett Lucas Reporting & Videography

```
1 Studies have shown that students achieve better
    scholastically with the art and music being offered in the
     programs which are currently being budget cut.
               As a senior in high school, the problem is that I
     have -- like, I'm going to a college, and tuition is so high
    in the California UCs that now I am better off going to out
     of state schools rather than staying in the hometown of
     California.
              And another comment. There is a water system built
     for 20 million people, yet 36 million currently are using
     it. What's going to happen when more people come?
               First let's improve the education and the water
     system, then maybe we should talk about the high-speed rail.
14
     Thank you.
15
               THE FACILITATOR: Thank you.
16
               SPEAKER FagUNDES: My name is Mary Jane Fagundes,
     my address is 9785 Ponderosa, Hanford, California.
18
               I won't talk about snakes slithering on the ground
     because you are. I won't talk about pigs in a slop
     devouring all of us because you are.
               What I will say is this. We want 180 days to
     review the EIR. How do you expect us to read 30,000 pages
     and still be able to, one, take care of our homes that you
     may steal from us, or, two, work the jobs that we may not
    have after you destroyed the ag land that maintains the jobs
                                                          Page 106
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Response to Submission P078 (Maddy Wisecarver, Hanford Future Farmers of America, September 21, 2011)

### P078-1

Refer to Standard Response FB-Response-GENERAL-14.