State Water Resources Control Board

MAR 12 2014

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

Dear Mr. McLoughlin:

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures and cc: see next page.
Enclosures (8): CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification
Attachment A. Signatory Requirements
Attachment B. Project Information Sheet
Attachment C. Project Area Maps
Attachment D. Certification Deviation Procedures
Attachment E. Mitigation Ratios
Attachment F. Financial Assurances
Attachment G. CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations

cc w/o enc: (next page)
cc: Mr. Michael Jewell  
Chief, Regulatory Branch  
Sacramento District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-4708

Mr. Zachary Simmons*  
Regulatory Project Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Sacramento District, Regulatory Division  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-4708

Mr. Jason A. Brush*  
Chief, Wetlands Regulatory Office (WTR-8)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dr. Richard Sumner  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
200 SW 35th Street  
Corvallis, OR 97333

Ms. Sarvy Mahdavi  
Wetlands Office  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 9  
Southern California Field Office  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1460  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Mr. Cay C. Goude  
Acting Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2805  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

Ms. Linda Connolly*  
Environmental Scientist  
Habitat Conservation Planning  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Central Region  
1234 E. Shaw Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93710

Ms. Pamela Creedon*  
Executive Officer  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Sacramento Office  
11020 Sun Center Drive #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Mr. Matt Scroggins*  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Fresno Office  
1685 E Street  
Fresno, CA 93706

Ms. Stephanie Parsons*  
Vice President  
Permit and Mitigation Manager  
Parsons Brinckerhoff  
770 L Street, Suite 800  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Jesse Halsted*  
Cordoba Corporation  
770 L Street, Suite 700  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Mark Oliver*  
Program Manager  
CH2M Hill  
2525 Airpark Drive  
Redding CA 96001

Mr. Scott B. Birkey  
Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP  
555 California Street, 10th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Mr. Raymond L. Carlson  
Griswold, LaSalle, Cobb, Dowd & Gin, L.L.P.  
111 E. Seventh Street  
Hanford, CA 93230

* e-mail distribution only