

Notice of Determination

Appendix D

To:

Office of Planning and Research
U.S. Mail: Street Address:
P.O. Box 3044 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk
County of:
Address:

From:

Public Agency: Calif High Speed Rail Authority
Address: 770 L Street, Suite 620 MS-1
Sacramento, CA 95814
Contact: Calif High Speed Rail Authority
Phone: 800-455-8166

Lead Agency (if different from above):
same as above
Address:
Contact:
Phone:

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2009022083

Project Title: California High Speed Rail: San Jose to Merced Project Section

Project Applicant: California High Speed Rail Authority

Project Location (include county): Santa Clara, San Benito, and Merced Counties

Project Description:

See attachment

This is to advise that the California High Speed Rail Authority has approved the above (Lead Agency or Responsible Agency)

described project on (date) and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project.

- 1. The project will have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for this project.
6. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:

The Authority website: www.hsr.ca.gov and the Authority's office: 770 L Street, Suite 620 MS-1, Sacramento

Signature (Public Agency): [Signature] Title: Director Environmental Services

Date: April 28, 2012 Date Received for filing at OPR:

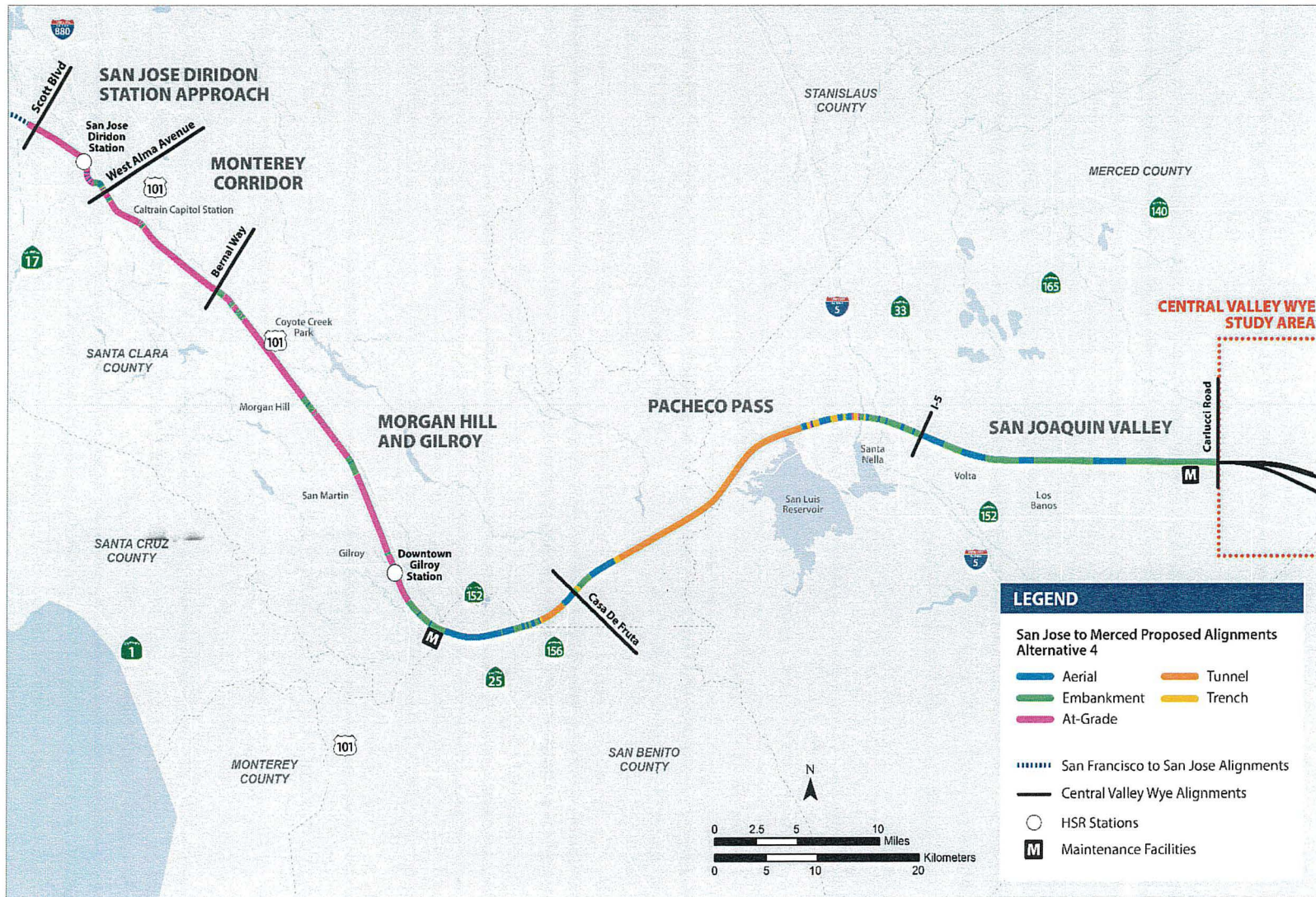
NOTICE OF DETERMINATION (ATTACHMENT 1)

Project Description and Location

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) has previously certified two Program Environmental Impact Reports/Environmental Impact Statements (EIR/EIS) (Tier 1) as the first phase of a tiered environmental review process for the proposed California High-Speed Rail (HSR) System planned to provide a reliable, high-speed, electric-powered rail system that links the major metropolitan areas of the state and delivers predictable and consistent travel times. A further objective is to provide an interface with commercial airports, mass transit, and the highway network and to relieve capacity constraints of the existing transportation system as increases in intercity travel demand in California occur, in a manner sensitive to and protective of California's unique natural resources. Based on the Program EIR/EIS documents, the Authority selected preferred corridors and station locations to advance for additional study.

The Authority has prepared an EIR/EIS that further examines the San Jose to Merced Project Section at the project level (Tier 2) within Santa Clara, San Benito, and Merced Counties. This project section includes two stations (in San Jose and in Gilroy) and spans approximately 90 miles, beginning at Scott Boulevard in Santa Clara and ending at Carlucci Road, the western limit of the Central Valley Wye, in Merced County. The San Jose to Merced Project Section Preferred Alternative extends blended electric-powered passenger railroad infrastructure from the southern limit of Caltrain's Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project through Gilroy. South and east of Gilroy, HSR would operate on a dedicated guideway, continuing east through the Pacheco Pass to the Central Valley. The Preferred Alternative will comprise 15.2 miles on viaduct, 30.3 miles at grade, 25.9 miles on embankment, 2.3 miles in trench, and two tunnels totaling 15.0 miles.

Through Resolution # HSRA 22-11, the Authority has approved the San Jose to Merced Project Section Preferred Alternative (Alternative 4 with the Diridon and tunnel design variants, the San Jose Diridon and Downtown Gilroy Stations, the maintenance of way facility south of Gilroy, and a maintenance of way siding west of Turner Island Road in the Central Valley), as shown on the attached map.



HSR = high-speed rail; I- = Interstate.

Note: The SR 152 (North) to Road 11 Wye Alternative is the Selected Alternative for the Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye. This figure shows the Wye alignments as they were in analyzed in the Merced to Fresno Section: Central Valley Wye Supplemental EIR/EIS.

Map of Approved Preferred Alternative for the San Jose to Merced Project Section