

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

125 South Sixth Street
Coalinga, CA 93210
(559) 935-2093
(800) 735-2929 (TT/TDD)
(800) 735-2922 (Voice)



September 26, 2019

File No.: 495.14612.15753.Jackson Ranch.SCH

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

SEP 30 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) recently received the “Notice of Completion” environmental document for the Jackson Ranch Specific Plan, SCH #2019080497. The CHP is the primary agency which provides traffic law enforcement, safety and management services within this portion of unincorporated of Kings County. As a result of this project, we anticipate local CHP operations will be impacted.

The Jackson Ranch site is located in a rural area of southwestern Kings County which is primarily agricultural land. Though Interstate-5 (I-5) has a dedicated exit (Utica Avenue) at this location, the on and off ramps are not used for ingress/egress of any businesses or destination locations. As such, the freeway exit does not currently have traffic lights or cloverleaf style on ramps to mitigate traffic congestion.

The Jackson Ranch site will likely draw numerous travelers to include tour buses and heavy trucks. The increased traffic to the area will be accompanied by changes in traffic congestion patterns as well as an increase in traffic collisions. With its current configuration, traffic exiting northbound I-5 at Utica Avenue will be required to yield to traffic accessing northbound I-5 from the site. During peak hours, traffic using the exit could back up into the northbound traffic lanes of I-5 causing rear end type collisions. Similarly, the traffic exiting southbound I-5 at Utica Avenue will be required to yield to traffic entering the site. During peak business hours, traffic using the exit could back up into the southbound traffic lanes of I-5 causing rear end type collisions.

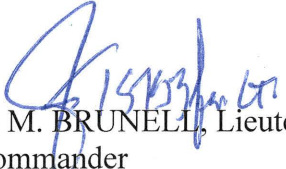
The Coalinga Area is comprised of 24 patrol officers and a shared communications center located in the city of Fresno which services four geographically separate Area offices within the San Joaquin Valley. This project could have a negative impact on Coalinga Area operations due to the increased traffic congestion, and additional enforcement demands.



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If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Sergeant Jay Adams at (559) 935-2093.

Sincerely,


R. M. BRUNELLI, Lieutenant
Commander
Coalinga Area