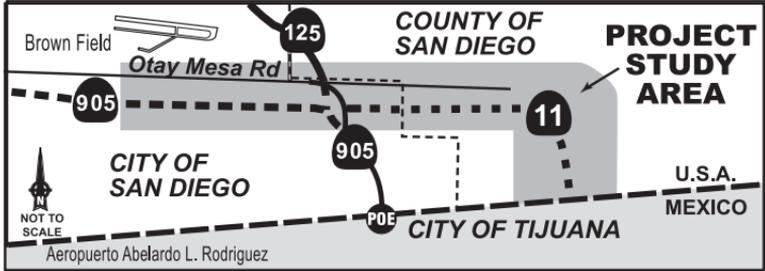




# Notice of Availability of the Tier II Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement prepared for the State Route 11/Otay Mesa East Port of Entry Project

The California Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have prepared a Tier II Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental



Impact Statement (Tier II Final EIR/EIS), which examines the potential environmental impacts of the alternatives and variations being considered for the proposed SR-11, CVEF and POE located in East Otay Mesa in San Diego County, California. Proposed SR-11 would extend generally east and south for approximately 2.1 miles from the east side of the approved SR-905/SR-125 Interchange (near Harvest Road), terminating at the proposed Otay Mesa East POE/CVEF site at the United States (U.S.) - Mexico international border. Extending west from approximately Harvest Road, the project would include approximately 2.1 miles of connectors linking SR-11 to SR-905, and associated modifications to SR-905. The Tier II Final EIR/EIS has been prepared to inform the public and decision-makers about the potential environmental effects of the proposed project, to identify the Preferred Alternative for the proposed project, and to describe the potential environmental effects resulting from the identification of the Preferred Alternative. It is based on the associated technical studies and input received during the public comment period.

The proposed facilities are being studied under a two-tier process, pursuant to Section 1508.28 of the federal Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Guidance and Sections 15152 and 15168 of CEQA. Under the first tier (referred to as Phase I) a Program Environmental Impact Report/Phase I Environmental Impact Statement (PEIR/PEIS) was prepared and approved/certified in 2008; this document addressed SR-11 and the POE at a programmatic level and identified the preferred general location of the facilities. As a result of the Phase I environmental process, a conditional Presidential Permit for the project (included as Appendix A of the Tier II Final EIR/EIS) was granted by the U.S. State Department in November 2008. The proposed project would constitute the second tier of planning and environmental clearance for the development of a new POE in the San Diego/Tijuana region, along with development of associated SR-11 that would connect the new POE to the existing and planned roadway system in the area, and a new CVEF for CHP inspection of trucks entering California from Mexico.

Three build alternatives (referred to as the Two Interchange, One Interchange, and No Interchange alternatives), with several design/operational variations, as well as the No Build Alternative, were evaluated in the Tier II Draft EIR/EIS. In addition, the Tier II Final EIR/EIS analyzes a Preferred Alternative that considers agency and public input received during the Tier II Draft EIR/EIS public review process. The Preferred Alternative represents a modified version of the Two Interchange Alternative, that also incorporates the SR-125 Connector Variation and a connection associated with the Siempre Viva Road Full Interchange Variation.

Potential benefits from the Tier II build alternatives would include provision of additional border crossing capacity to meet current and projected demand for the movement of people and goods between the United States and Mexico, as well as the reduction of wait times and other inefficiencies associated with border crossings.

Questions or comments concerning the Tier II Final EIR/EIS should be directed to: **Sandra Lavender, Environmental Division, California Department of Transportation, District 11, 4050 Taylor Street, MS-242, San Diego, CA 92110, (619) 688-3135.**

The Tier II Final EIR/EIS and technical studies are available at the following locations:

- Caltrans District 11 Offices, Building 1, Main Lobby, 4050 Taylor Street, San Diego, CA 92110;
- San Diego County Library, Bonita Sunnyside Branch, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA 91902;
- San Diego County Library, Imperial Beach Branch, 810 Imperial Beach Blvd., Imperial Beach, CA 91932;
- San Diego County Library, Otay Mesa-Nestor Branch, 3003 Coronado Avenue, San Diego, CA 92154;
- Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce, 9163 Siempre Viva Road, Suite I-2, San Diego, CA 92154.

The Tier II Final EIR/EIS is also available on the Internet at the following link: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist11/envir>. Compact discs containing the project documents are available by request.

Individuals who may require documentation in alternate formats are requested to contact the Public Information Office at 619-688-6670. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2929 or Voice Line at 1-800 735-2922.