Notice of Determination

To: ☑ Office of Planning & Research
    State Clearinghouse
    1400 Tenth Street
    Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Department of Transportation, Division of Rail
       1120 "N" Street, Room 3400, MS 74
       Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Le Grand to Merced Double Track Project Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA)

Project Title

SCH #2008081054 Mr. Royce Gotcher (916) 654-7129
State Clearinghouse Number Lead Agency Contact Person Area Code/Telephone/Extension

Project Location:
Le Grand Double Track Project is located within the County of Merced. The USGS topographic maps that apply to the project area are the Merced, Planada, Plainsburg, and Le Grand Quadrangles, 7.5 Minute Series topographic maps. From the north the project is located in Sections 19, 20, 29, 28, 27, 26 and 25 of Township 7 South, Range 14 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM); Sections 30, 29, 28, 27, 34, and 35 of Township 7 South, Range 15 East, MDBM; Sections 2, 1, and 12 of Township 8 South, Range 15 East, MDBM; and Sections 7, 18, 17, 20, 21, and 28 of Township 8 South, Range 16 East, MDBM.

Project Description:
As part of its program to improve intercity passenger rail service, the California Department of Transportation, Division of Rail (Caltrans) is proposing to upgrade the capacity on a portion of the BNSF Railway Company's existing right-of-way by installing a section of second main track. The corridor under consideration, known as Amtrak's San Joaquin Corridor, operates between the Cities of Bakersfield and Oakland and Bakersfield and Sacramento, California. The project under consideration consists of upgrading approximately 16.43 miles of railway corridor from Milepost 1039.93 to Milepost 1056.36 located within the communities of Le Grand, Planada, Tuttle, and Kadota and the City of Merced. The proposed project extends from about 0.25 mile northwest of M Street, within the City of Merced, southeast to about 0.04 mile northeast of Deadman's Creek within the community of Le Grand.

This is to advise that the Caltrans, Division of Rail has approved the above described project

☐ Lead Agency ☐ Responsible Agency

on November 2, 2009. and has made the following determination regarding the above described project:

1. The project [☐ will ■ will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. ☐ An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
   ■ A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [■ were ☐ were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A Statement of Overriding Considerations [☐ was ■ was not] adopted for this project.

This is to certify that the IS/EA with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at Caltrans website: http://www.dot.ca.gov/railgo/dor/project-environmental-review/index.cfm or a printed copy can be obtained by request at the Lead Agency phone number and address identified above.

Chief
Track Safety

Date received for filing and posting at CPR: 11/2/2009

State Clearing House

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