



Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

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November 7, 2022

California High-Speed Rail Authority
Southern California Regional Office
355 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 2050
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Re: Opposition in Response to the draft EIR/EIS, High Speed Rail 6 Build Alternative Routes, Palmdale to Burbank

At our regularly held public meeting on November 9, 2022, the Board of Directors of the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council ("STNC") voted to provide the following comments below:

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC) stands in opposition to all 6 Build alternative routes that will tunnel through the Angeles National Forest as outlined in the CAHSR Draft Environmental Impact Report. The comment period ends on December 1, 2022 at 5pm.

Our STNC Land Use Committee has the following concerns:

Deep bore tunneling through the Angeles National Forest will have a devastating impact on our wildlife, groundwater aquifers and surface springs. Water, the most precious of our resources, will be dewatered during the deep tunnel boring along all 6 alternate routes. The CAHSR draft EIR outlines the water sources along the proposed tunneling routes that run along the direct path of tunneling. These routes are the Refined SR14 and SR14A; both having 13 Streams and Tributaries. E1, E1A, E2 and E2A each have 37 DRAFT Streams and Tributaries.

Also outlined in the DEIR is the Rapidan Service Authority's Surface water features in surface hydrology and water quality: Refined SR14 Build Alternative—47 surface water features, SR14A Build, Alternative—60 surface water features, E1 Build Alternative—38 surface water features, E1A Build, Alternative—23 surface water features, E2 Build Alternative—29 surface water features, E2A Build Alternative—25 surface water features.

Our STNC Land Use Committee have the following questions:

#1 - California is currently experiencing a "megadrought" due to climate change. How does HSR Authority propose to eliminate any risk that would impact our most vital resource, water?

#2 - Our Angeles National Forest and the Tujunga Wash Area are extremely ecologically sensitive areas. We not only fear the water issue, but, also impact on all wildlife, fauna and flora that may be negatively affected by drilling tunnels through it.

How does the CAHSR Authority propose to mitigate the above issues? We are looking forward to your earliest response.

Sincerely,

Lydia Grant
President
Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

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