



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Sean Walsh
Director

June 26, 2006

RECEIVED
JUN 29 2006

Ken Strelo
City of Pittsburg
65 Civic Avenue
Pittsburg, CA 94565-3814

PLANNING DIVISION
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPT
CITY OF PITTSBURG

Subject: Trans Bay Cable Project
SCH#: 2004082096

Dear Ken Strelo:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Draft EIR to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on June 23, 2006, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Terry Roberts
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
cc: Resources Agency

**Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

SCH# 2004082096
Project Title Trans Bay Cable Project
Lead Agency Pittsburg, City of

Type EIR Draft EIR
Description Installation of an approximately 57 - mile long high Voltage Direct Current cable below San Francisco Bay from a terminus in Pittsburg to a terminus in San Francisco, construction of an associated station in Pittsburg to convert High Voltage Alternating Current to High Voltage Direct Current for transmission through the cable and another station in San Francisco to cover High Voltage Direct Current received from the cable to High Voltage Alternating Current for use in the existing land-based transmission network via substation interconnections, and long-term operation of the cable and converter stations.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Ken Strolo
Agency City of Pittsburg
Phone 925.252.4920 **Fax**
email
Address 65 Civic Avenue
City Pittsburg **State** CA **Zip** 94565-3814

Project Location

County Contra Costa, San Francisco
City Pittsburg, San Francisco
Region
Cross Streets Pittsburg: Loveridge Road/Pittsburg-Antioch Highway; SF:23rd St./Illinois St.
Parcel No.
Township **Range** **Section** **Base**

Proximity to:

Highways SR4, I-280, 101, I-80
Airports
Railways Pittsburg: BNSF, UPRR
Waterways San Francisco Bay to New York Slough
Schools MDUSD, AUSD, PUSD, SFUSD
Land Use Pittsburg: "IG" General Industrial, San Francisco: "M-2" Heavy Industrial

Project Issues Aesthetic/Visual; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Coastal Zone; Drainage/Absorption; Flood Plain/Flooding; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Noise; Public Services; Schools/Universities; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Solid Waste; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian; Wildlife; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Cumulative Effects; Other Issues

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Boating and Waterways; Department of Fish and Game, Region 3; Delta Protection Commission; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission; Department of Water Resources; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 4; Air Resources Board, Major Industrial Projects; Integrated Waste Management Board; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 2; Department of Toxic Substances Control; California Energy Commission; Native American Heritage Commission; Public Utilities Commission; State Lands Commission

Date Received 05/10/2006 **Start of Review** 05/10/2006 **End of Review** 06/23/2006

STATE OF CALIFORNIA — BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

111 GRAND AVENUE
P. O. BOX 23660
OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
PHONE (510) 286-5505
FAX (510) 286-5559
TTY (800) 735-2929



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June 21, 2006

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Mr. Ken Strelo
City of Pittsburg
65 Civic Avenue
Pittsburg, CA 94565

Dear Mr. Strelo:

Trans Bay Cable Project – Draft Environmental Impact Report

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Department) in the environmental review process for the Trans Bay Cable Project. We have reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) and have the following comments to offer:

Toll Bridges

- 1) The project sponsor needs to coordinate closely with the Department to ensure that their construction timeline does not interfere with demolition of the old Carquinez Bridge and the construction of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge. 6-1
- 2) Please provide information as to how close the new cable and trench will come to the four affected toll bridges footings and piers. We are concerned that the cable not infringe on the State's bridge scour protection system. Currently, there are submerged pier scour protection systems, such as riprap or large boulders, around most of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge piers. To further protect the pier foundations, depending on the bay water current condition, the Department on occasion increases the amount of riprap. 6-2
- 3) As for the other toll bridges that the Trans Bay Cable would be crossing, such as the Benicia-Martinez, Carquinez, and Bay Bridge, there is a potential need to install this kind of protection system as well. We recommend that the Trans Bay Cable Project's sponsor coordinate closely with the Department so that our future bridge scour protection system and the Trans Bay Cable installations are not damaged. 6-3

Mr. Ken Strelco
June 21, 2006
Page 2

6-4

- 4) In addition, any alternatives that may impact the State's facilities, including, but not limited to bridges, highways, appurtenant facilities, mitigation and restoration sites, public access facilities should be carefully coordinated with the Department. Any impacts to these facilities and uses should be avoided and minimized.

Encroachment Permit

6-5

An encroachment permit must be obtained for each crossing under the toll bridges. Since the project crosses the Bay Bridge, Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, Carquinez Bridge, and Benicia-Martinez Bridge, the project will require four separate encroachment permits for the final approval. See the following website link for more information:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/>

To apply for an encroachment permit, submit a completed encroachment permit application, environmental documentation, and five (5) sets of plans (in metric units) which clearly indicate State Right of Way to:

Department of Transportation
Office of Permits
111 Grand Avenue, 6th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Environmental Planning - Biology

6-5

Please be aware that sediment disruption creates turbidity conditions that can affect species of concern during construction, such as eelgrass, Delta smelt and winter to spring spawning, herring and spawning season, and salmon winter, spring and fall spawning times. The Martinez Shoreline mitigation site appears to be in the 500-meter buffer zone.

We look forward in reviewing future environmental documents for this project. Please call Christian Bushong of my staff at (510) 286-5606 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



TIMOTHY C. SABLE
District Branch Chief
IGR/CEQA

c: State Clearinghouse