

APPENDIX F: LEAST ENVIRONMENTALLY DAMAGING PRACTICABLE ALTERNATIVE CONCURRENCE LETTER



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SACRAMENTO DISTRICT
1325 J STREET
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814-2922

Operations and Readiness Branch

SEP 12 2018

Mr. Mark McLoughlin
Director of Environmental Services
California High Speed Rail Authority
770 L Street, Suite 620
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. McLoughlin:

I am writing in response to your May 1, 2018 letter requesting concurrence/agreement on your Proposed Preliminary Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA) and recommendation for Section 408 approval for the Merced to Fresno Project Section, Central Valley Wye. In accordance with our *National Environmental Policy/Clean Water Act Section 404/Rivers and Harbors Act Section 14 Integration Process for the California High Speed Train Program Memorandum of Understanding* dated November 2010 (NEPA/404/408 MOU), this letter is our written response for the Section 408 component of Central Valley Wye.

Based on the information provided, the Sacramento District preliminarily recommends Section 408 approval for your preferred alternative, the SR 152 (North) to Road 11 Wye Alternative, as determined by your analysis. The information provided shows that the impacts from the proposed project are minor, low impact modifications to the flood risk reduction project and the modifications will not adversely affect the functioning of the flood risk reduction facilities. The work appears to require a California Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) encroachment permit. Please work with the CVFPB as the design is further developed. The Sacramento District will review the CVFPB encroachment permit application when one is submitted. If the design changes such that the proposed project is no longer a minor, low impact modification to the flood risk reduction project, this recommendation is no longer valid and may require approval from Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Please contact Kimberlee Leonard at Kimberlee.leonard@usace.army.mil or 916-557-7183 if you have any questions. A copy of this letter is being furnished to Ms. Leslie M. Gallagher, Executive Officer, Central Valley Flood Protection Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick L. Poepelman".

Rick L. Poepelman, P.E.
Chief, Engineering Division
Levee Safety Officer