



Memorandum

DATE: October 8, 2026

TO: State Clearinghouse
Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI)
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Stefan Galvez, Director of Environmental Services
California High-Speed Rail Authority
770 L Street, Suite 620
Sacramento, CA 95814

SGA

CC: Scott Rothenberg, Environmental Analysis Manager; Frank Meraz, Environmental Compliance Manager; Brett Rushing, NEPA Assignment Manager

SUBJECT: Withdrawal of Notice of Exemption – South Merced Station Project (SCH No. 2026090282)

The California High-Speed Rail Authority requests the withdrawal of the Notice of Exemption (NOE) filed with the State Clearinghouse (SCH) on September 4, 2026, for the South Merced Station Project, SCH Number 2026090282.

The Authority is conducting additional internal review related to project planning and timing. To ensure that environmental documentation remains aligned with ongoing internal considerations, the Authority requests that the previously filed NOE be removed from posting at this time. This is a procedural action taken prior to finalizing station locations.

The NOE submitted for withdrawal includes the following information:

- **Project Title:** South Merced Station Project
- **Lead Agency:** California High-Speed Rail Authority
- **SCH Number:** 2026090282
- **SCH Filing Date:** September 4, 2026
- **CEQA Provision Cited:** PRC §21080.70 (SB 131) Statutory Exemption

Please confirm removal of the NOE from active posting in the State Clearinghouse database.

If you have any questions, please contact Marc Baza, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory), Environmental Services Branch at Marc.Baza@hsr.ca.gov or (279) 275-5086.

Signature: *Stefan Galvez*

Email: Stefan.Galvez@hsr.ca.gov

South Merced Station NOE Withdraw Memo

Final Audit Report

2026-10-09

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