

# **Appendix L** Project-Level Conformity Determination Letter

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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*Serious drought.  
Help save water!*

January 27, 2017

Mr. Jack Lord  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration  
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Joseph Vaughn

RE: Project-Level Conformity Determination for the Northwest 138 Corridor Improvement Project (FTIP ID No. LA0G949, EA 07-26510, EFIS 0700001816)

Dear Mr. Vaughn:

The California Department of Transportation (the Department) requests that the Federal Highway Administration issue a project-level conformity determination for the Northwest 138 Corridor Improvement Project (FTIP ID No. LA0G949, EA 07-26510, EFIS 0700001816, Post Mile 0.0/36.8). The project would widen SR-138 and provide operational and safety improvements by constructing a six-lane freeway from the Interstate 5 (I-5) interchange connectors ramps to Gorman Post Road, a six-lane expressway from the Gorman Post Road interchange to County Road 300<sup>th</sup> Street West, a four-lane expressway from 300<sup>th</sup> Street West to County Road 240<sup>th</sup> Street West, and a limited access Conventional Highway from County Road 240<sup>th</sup> Street West to the SR-14 interchange, generally following the existing alignment of SR-138. The project is located in the High Desert portion of Los Angeles County. The project spans over two air basins: South Coast Air Basins that is designated Nonattainment or Maintenance for Ozone, CO, PM10, PM2.5, and NO2; and Mojave Desert Air Basin that is designated Nonattainment for Ozone. Details of the analysis are contained in the enclosed Air Quality Conformity Analysis report and related materials.

The project area is subject to regional conformity analysis requirements. The attached conformity analysis demonstrates that the project is listed in the conforming Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program, and therefore that it meets regional conformity requirements for a project-level conformity determination.

The project area is subject to project-level hot-spot analysis requirements for CO, PM10, and PM2.5. The attached conformity analysis shows that hot-spot analysis requirements listed in 40 CFR 93.116 and 123 are met. A written commitment is made by this letter to implement hot-

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spot pollutant control measure identified in the applicable SIP and NEPA document, as required by 40 CFR 93.117 and 125.

Interagency Consultation and public involvement requirements related to PM10 and PM2.5 have been completed in accordance with the *Transportation Conformity Guidance for Quantitative Hot-spot Analysis in PM2.5 and PM10 Nonattainment and Maintenance Areas* (U.S. EPA, November 2015). Interagency Consultation concluded on July 28, 2015. The Interagency Consultation partners concurred, as shown in the attached materials, that the project is not exempt from conformity analysis requirements, but that it is not a Project of Concern for PM10 and PM2.5 as defined at 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1). As such, an explicit, detailed PM10 and PM2.5 hot spot analysis is not required.

Public involvement included advertising the availability of the conformity analysis for 45 days beginning on August 5, 2016. Response to public comments is included in the attached conformity analysis.

This project has been assigned to the Department under 23 USC 327 (NEPA Assignment) and the proposed approval date of the final NEPA document is expected in or about March 2017. We would appreciate your assistance with providing a conformity determination prior to that date.

If you have any questions regarding this conformity analysis, please contact Andrew Yoon at 213.897.6117 or [andrew.yoon@dot.ca.gov](mailto:andrew.yoon@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Andrew Yoon, P.E.  
Senior Transportation Engineer  
Air Quality Branch  
Office of Environmental Engineering  
Division of Environmental Planning

c: Cesar Moreno, Division of Environmental Planning, District 7

Enclosure

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