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## CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

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### **Statement from California High-Speed Rail Authority on today's court action on Environmental Analysis for Central Valley to Bay Area Section**

**Sacramento-** A Superior Court judge today set October 9 for a hearing on Petitioners' efforts seeking to block continuing environmental study of California's high-speed train between the Central Valley and San Francisco.

Sacramento Superior Court Judge Michael Kenny's decision to set the hearing follows on his preliminary ruling late last month, broadly affirming the Authority's programmatic environmental review of the Bay Area to Central Valley section of the high-speed train system, which he said "studied a reasonable range of alternatives and presented a fair and unbiased analysis."

However, Judge Kenny ruled that the programmatic analysis of the track alignment from Gilroy to San Jose and the effect of Union Pacific's views on its right-of-way required further discussion.

Petitioners are seeking a stay of project-level environmental studies on the Central Valley to San Francisco section. The Authority disagrees that a stay of the environmental studies is appropriate. Today, the court ordered the parties to submit briefs and to present oral arguments on October 9 as to whether the project-level environmental studies should be stopped until the Authority has corrected its programmatic analysis.

Pending the outcome of these further proceedings, the Authority's project-level environmental studies for the high-speed train between San Francisco and the Central Valley are moving forward. Also, the state's application for stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will proceed.