



Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains

P.O. Box 4831
Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831
ssmpa.com

February 6, 2015

Mark A. McLoughlin
Director of Environmental Services
ATTN: Palmdale to Burbank Section
California High-Speed Rail Authority
Southern California Regional Office
700 N. Alameda, Room 3-532
Los Angeles, CA 90012

email: palmdale_burbank@hsr.ca.gov

Re: Opposition to "East Corridor" for Palmdale to Burbank High-Speed Rail Segment

Dear Mr. McLoughlin:

The Santa Susana Mountain Park Association opposes CHSR's consideration of the come-lately East Corridor "alternative" for the Palmdale to Burbank section, a route that would tunnel the railway through the San Gabriel Mountains. We ask the Authority to discontinue study of this option because it contravenes a long-standing, fundamental principle of U.S. conservation policy; viz., the inviolability of federal National Monument lands and National Forest designated wilderness lands.

The East Corridor alternative would underlie about five miles of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument and about ten miles of National Forest lands. We must not set a precedent of sanctioning incompatible utilization of previously designated, duly conserved U.S. lands.

We join with the rest of the Los Angeles environmental community to resist any proposal to tunnel under the San Gabriel Mountains.

Sincerely,

Teena A. Takata
President, Santa Susana Mountain Park Association
P. O. Box 4831
Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831

About Santa Susana Mountain Park Association:

Santa Susana Mountain Park Association is a 43 year-old non-profit organization based in Chatsworth, Los Angeles, California.

We represent approximately 700 members and concerned citizens, and we partner with many organizations to promote ecological and recreational quality in Southern California.

SSMPA's mission is to preserve and protect the Simi Hills, Santa Susana Mountains, and regional open space.

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