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High Speed Rail hearing planned today

Event topic is report on line from Palmdale to Bakersfield

VALLEY PRESS STAFF REPORT

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A virtual public hearing for the draft environmental report for the Bakersfield to Palmdale segment of the California High Speed Rail route will be held today from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. via web- and tele-conference to collect public comments on the report. The hearing originally was planned for April 9 but was postponed.

Photo courtesy of California High Speed Rail Authority

A virtual public hearing for the draft environmental report for the California High Speed Rail between stations in Bakersfield and Palmdale will be held today via web- and teleconference.

The hearing is to gather comments that will be used in finalizing the environmental document for the 80-mile section of the planned bullet train linking Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The public hearing was originally scheduled to take place in Lancaster on April 9, but with the statewide prohibitions against public gatherings for the COVID-19 emergency, it was changed to a virtual format.

The virtual hearing is scheduled between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

To access the web conference via Zoom, visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86949729481>

To access via teleconference, call 669-900-9128 and use webinar ID 869-4972-9481 when prompted.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Report is available online at www.hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_bakersfield_palmdale.aspx



Today's public hearing is strictly to gather comments on the draft study; there will be no question-and-answer period or presentation, officials said.

In addition to the virtual public hearing, comments may be mailed to ATTN: Bakersfield to Palmdale Draft EIR/EIS, California High-Speed Rail Authority, 770 L St. Suite 620, MS-1, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Comments may also be made through the Authority's website at http://hsr.ca.gov/programs/environmental/eis_eir/draft_bakersfield_palmdale_comment.aspx

Comments may also be sent via email to Bakersfield_Palmdale@hsr.ca.gov, with the subject line "Bakersfield to Palmdale Draft EIR/EIS Comment."

The public review period, which began Feb. 28, was extended by 15 days, from April 13 to April 28.

The draft environmental report for the Bakersfield-to-Palmdale section of the proposed rail line is the first one completed for Los Angeles County.

A separate environmental report is under development for the next segment, between Palmdale and Burbank.

