

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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January 24, 2012

Andrew B. Premier
Deputy Executive Director, Operations
Bay Area Toll Authority
Joseph P. Bort Metrocenter
101 Eight Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700

Dear Mr. Premier:

Thank you for your letter regarding the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance process for The Bay Lights project. I have reviewed your request that the Department of Transportation (Department) delegate the role of CEQA Lead Agency responsibility for this project to the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA).

I have determined that there is sufficient justification to delegate CEQA Lead since the organization sponsoring this project is a non-profit group and the project will be privately funded.

Under CEQA Lead Agency responsibility, BATA will assess the impacts of the project on the environment. The Department will retain a Responsible Agency role. The CEQA Lead Agency will conduct the environmental process according to the Department standards that apply to the CEQA process including, but not limited to, the guidance provided in the Standard Environmental Reference available at www.dot.ca.gov/ser

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact me or Melanie Brent, Office Chief of Environmental Analysis, at (510) 286-5231.

Sincerely,


BIJAN SARTIPI
District Director

c: Jason Weinstein, Senior Program Coordinator, BATA/MTC