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**Subject:** Proposed recommendation for statutory exemption to circumvent CEQA  
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**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**Senator Catherine Blakespear and other members of the California State Legislature,**

I am strongly opposed to the LOSSAN Working Group's recommendation to create a new statutory exemption from CEQA for railroad-related activities and infrastructure projects (Recommendation 4.1 (3)). CEQA environmental review of such projects is critical to protecting the numerous environmentally sensitive areas in California that the railroad tracks traverse, including the 351-mile LOSSAN Corridor from San Luis Obispo to San Diego. Such an exemption will lead to substantial adverse environmental impacts, particularly to the coastal environment of Southern California, which has already been substantially adversely impacted by the LOSSAN Corridor. I think it is also highly inappropriate for people that represent California to be delegating this decision to outsiders who neither reside nor work in California. Please promptly and resolutely reject this recommendation from the Working Group.

Regards,

JOSEPH P. POTOCKI



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