



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 24 2009

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians  
Bernadette Brierty, Cultural Resources Coordinator  
PO Box 266  
Patton, California 92369

Dear Ms. Brierty:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is serving as the lead federal agency for the environmental review of the DesertXpress project and has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the project, which accompanies this letter. Cultural resources studies have also been conducted for the project, and the FRA is providing a summary of the findings to date and is asking for your participation on a government-to-government basis. Your assistance is requested to review the findings and identify traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, resource collecting areas, or any other areas that may be of concern to your tribe. FRA will ensure that any information that you provide to us will remain subject to the confidentiality provisions of NHPA (Section 304).

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FRA will hold three hearings on the DEIS:

Las Vegas Area:

Tuesday, April 28, 2009  
5:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
Hampton Inn Tropicana  
4975 Dean Martin Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89118

Barstow Area:

Wednesday, April 29,  
2009, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
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The deadline for comments on this DEIS is May 22, 2009. Comments submitted via US mail must be postmarked by this date and addressed to:

Federal Railroad Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E. MS-20  
Washington, DC 20590  
Attn: DesertXpress EIS

Comments sent via email should be sent no later than 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time on May 22, 2009 addressed to: [Wendy.Messenger@dot.gov](mailto:Wendy.Messenger@dot.gov) with the subject line, "DesertXpress DEIS." In addition, you may contact Wendy Messenger at (202) 493-6396 directly should you have any concerns or questions regarding the overall environmental process.

Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

CC: C. Glidden – STB  
W. Quillman - BLM  
J. Shearer – BLM  
C. Shaver – J&S  
J. Cook – CirclePoint  
A. Baldrice – NV SHPO  
M. Donaldson – CA SHPO

Enclosures



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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
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**MAR 24 2009**

Ti'At Society  
Cindi Alvitre  
6602 Zelzah Avenue  
Reseda, California 91335

Dear Ms. Alvitre:

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Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

CC: C. Glidden – STB  
W. Quillman - BLM  
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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
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MAR 24 2009

Serrano Band of Indians  
Goldie Walker  
6588 Valeria Drive  
Highland, California 92346

Dear Goldie Walker:

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Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

CC: C. Glidden – STB  
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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
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**MAR 24 2009**

Colorado River Reservation  
Betty Cornelius, Cultural Contact  
Route 1, Box 23-B  
Parker, Arizona 85344

Dear Ms. Cornelius:

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David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
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**MAR 24 2009**

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians  
Deron Marquez, Chairperson  
PO Box 266  
Patton, California 92369

Dear Mr. Marquez:

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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
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MAR 24 2009

Fort Mojave Indian Tribe  
AhaMakav Cultural Society  
Linda Otero, Director  
P.O. Box 5990  
Mohave Valley, AZ 86440

Dear Ms. Otero:

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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
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MAR 24 2009

Soboba Band of Mission Indians  
Robert J. Salgado, Sr., Chairperson  
PO Box 487  
San Jacinto, California 92581

Dear Mr. Salgado:

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**MAR 24 2009**

Morongo Band of Mission Indians  
Britt W. Wilson, Cultural Resource Coordinator  
245 N. Murray Street, Suite C  
Banning, California 92220

Dear Britt Wilson:

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Federal Railroad Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E. MS-20  
Washington, DC 20590  
Attn: DesertXpress EIS

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Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

CC: C. Glidden – STB  
W. Quillman - BLM  
J. Shearer – BLM  
C. Shaver – J&S  
J. Cook – CirclePoint  
A. Baldrice – NV SHPO  
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Enclosures



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 24 2009

Chemehuevi Reservation  
Charles Wood, Chairperson  
PO Box 1976  
Chemehuevi Valley, California 92363

Dear Mr. Wood:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is serving as the lead federal agency for the environmental review of the DesertXpress project and has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the project, which accompanies this letter. Cultural resources studies have also been conducted for the project, and the FRA is providing a summary of the findings to date and is asking for your participation on a government-to-government basis. Your assistance is requested to review the findings and identify traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, resource collecting areas, or any other areas that may be of concern to your tribe. FRA will ensure that any information that you provide to us will remain subject to the confidentiality provisions of NHPA (Section 304).

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Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

CC: C. Glidden – STB  
W. Quillman - BLM  
J. Shearer – BLM  
C. Shaver – J&S  
J. Cook – CirclePoint  
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Enclosures



U.S. Department  
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**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 24 2009

Kern Valley Indian Council  
Robert Robinson, Historic Preservation Officer  
PO Box 401  
Weldon, California 93283

Dear Mr. Robinson:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is serving as the lead federal agency for the environmental review of the DesertXpress project and has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the project, which accompanies this letter. Cultural resources studies have also been conducted for the project, and the FRA is providing a summary of the findings to date and is asking for your participation on a government-to-government basis. Your assistance is requested to review the findings and identify traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, resource collecting areas, or any other areas that may be of concern to your tribe. FRA will ensure that any information that you provide to us will remain subject to the confidentiality provisions of NHPA (Section 304).

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Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

CC: C. Glidden – STB  
W. Quillman - BLM  
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Enclosures



U.S. Department  
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**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 24 2009

Fort Mojave Indian Tribe  
Nora McDowell, Chairperson  
500 Merriman Avenue  
Needles, California 92363

Dear Ms. McDowell:

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Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

CC: C. Glidden – STB  
W. Quillman - BLM  
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Enclosures



U.S. Department  
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**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 24 2009

Timbisha Shoshone  
Barbara Durham, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
PO Box 206  
900 Indian Village Rd.  
Death Valley, California 92328

Dear Ms. Durham:

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Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

CC: C. Glidden – STB  
W. Quillman - BLM  
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Enclosures



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 24 2009

Fort Mojave Indian Tribe  
Africa Dorame, Environmental Coordinator  
500 Merriman Avenue  
Needles, California 92363

Dear Africa Dorame:

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Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

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U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 24 2009

Timbisha Shoshone  
Joseph Kennedy, Chairperson  
785 N. Main Street, Suite Q  
Bishop, California 93514

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

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Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

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W. Quillman - BLM  
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Enclosures



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 24 2009

Las Vegas Paiute Tribe  
Alfreda L. Mitre, Chairperson  
One Paiute Drive  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

Dear Ms. Mitre:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is serving as the lead federal agency for the environmental review of the DesertXpress project and has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the project, which accompanies this letter. Cultural resources studies have also been conducted for the project, and the FRA is providing a summary of the findings to date and is asking for your participation on a government-to-government basis. Your assistance is requested to review the findings and identify traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, resource collecting areas, or any other areas that may be of concern to your tribe. FRA will ensure that any information that you provide to us will remain subject to the confidentiality provisions of NHPA (Section 304).

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FRA, STB, and BLM management and staff are available to meet with you separately to discuss any concerns or potential resource conflicts you may have with the proposed DesertXpress project. Agency representatives are available for such meetings in the afternoon on Monday, April 27, 2009 in the Las Vegas area and/or on Friday, May 1, 2009 in the Cabazon, California area. If you are interested in meeting separately with FRA, STB, and BLM staff, please contact Wendy Messenger at FRA at (202) 493-6396 or email [Wendy.Messenger@dot.gov](mailto:Wendy.Messenger@dot.gov) to schedule a meeting.

The deadline for comments on this DEIS is May 22, 2009. Comments submitted via US mail must be postmarked by this date and addressed to:

Federal Railroad Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E. MS-20  
Washington, DC 20590  
Attn: DesertXpress EIS

Comments sent via email should be sent no later than 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time on May 22, 2009 addressed to: [Wendy.Messenger@dot.gov](mailto:Wendy.Messenger@dot.gov) with the subject line, "DesertXpress DEIS." In addition, you may contact Wendy Messenger at (202) 493-6396 directly should you have any concerns or questions regarding the overall environmental process.

Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

CC: C. Glidden – STB  
W. Quillman - BLM  
J. Shearer – BLM  
C. Shaver – J&S  
J. Cook – CirclePoint  
A. Baldrice – NV SHPO  
M. Donaldson – CA SHPO

Enclosures



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 24 2009

Moapa Band of Paiutes  
Darren Daboda, Chairman  
P.O. Box 340  
Moapa, Nevada 8902

Dear Mr. Daboda:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is serving as the lead federal agency for the environmental review of the DesertXpress project and has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the project, which accompanies this letter. Cultural resources studies have also been conducted for the project, and the FRA is providing a summary of the findings to date and is asking for your participation on a government-to-government basis. Your assistance is requested to review the findings and identify traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, resource collecting areas, or any other areas that may be of concern to your tribe. FRA will ensure that any information that you provide to us will remain subject to the confidentiality provisions of NHPA (Section 304).

The DesertXpress project is proposed by DesertXpress Enterprises, LLC to provide reliable and safe passenger rail transportation along an approximate 200-mile corridor between Southern California (Victorville) and Las Vegas, as an alternative to automobile or air travel. The DEIS has been prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Surface Transportation Board (STB), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the National Park Service (NPS), with the added participation of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT).

The project would use proven high-speed rail technology and be constructed as a grade-separated, dedicated double track, passenger-only railroad predominantly in the median of or immediately alongside Interstate 15, adding transportation capacity to the freeway corridor. The DEIS identifies and analyzes the potential environmental impacts (both beneficial and adverse) that could occur to a range of environmental resources as a result of the construction and operation of the project alternatives. At this time, the federal agencies have not identified a preferred alternative, and are considering the impacts of the project and seeking public and agency comments to inform the decision on a preferred alternative.

The DEIS is being made available to the public in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act for comment through May 22, 2009.

FRA will hold three hearings on the DEIS:

Las Vegas Area:

Tuesday, April 28, 2009  
5:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
Hampton Inn Tropicana  
4975 Dean Martin Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89118

Barstow Area:

Wednesday, April 29,  
2009, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
Ramada Inn  
1511 East Main Street  
Barstow, CA 92311

Victorville Area:

Thursday, April 30 2009  
5:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
Green Tree Golf Course  
14144 Green Tree  
Boulevard  
Victorville, CA 92395

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Sincerely,



David Valenstein  
Environmental Program Manager

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