

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**  
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**DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY**

*Serious Drought.  
Serious drought.  
Help save water!*

September 19, 2016

Karen Larsen, Deputy Director  
Division of Water Quality  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Larsen:

The safety of our workers and the users of California's transportation system is Caltrans number one priority. Taking this into consideration, the Department has a responsibility to ensure the safety of all people visiting a Caltrans construction site. Under Cal OSHA Title 8 requirements, the prime contractor is considered the controlling employer on the project site (CCR, Title 8 Chapter 3.2 Article 4.5 Multi-Employer Worksites). Caltrans is considered an exposing employer (as is the Water Board when your staff are in the field), but more importantly Cal OSHA considers Caltrans to be the facility owner. As such, I am providing this information so that we establish protocols for safe site visits.

Visitors from other State or Federal agencies are always welcome to visit Caltrans ongoing construction projects. To make sure everyone, as well as the contractor is safe during the visit, please review and be prepared to follow these safety guidelines.

Please contact the Caltrans Resident Engineer (RE) to arrange the visit. Plan on meeting at the RE's office where the RE / Assistant RE will be able to explain what construction operations the contractor may be performing during the visit and escort you while on site. The RE may require visitors to have prior training or undergo on-site training before allowing access if site conditions or activities warrant such training.

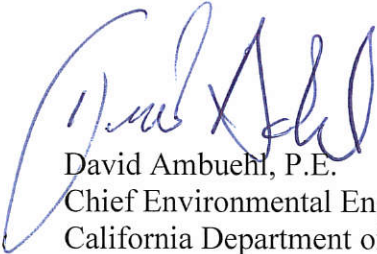
The Caltrans Code of Safe Practices (COSP) will need to be read and signed when visitors come to a construction site. Plan to follow Caltrans Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements and Caltrans COSP. This is to ensure everyone's safety and the contractor's ability to continue their job progress unabated.

Please bring your own PPE to the jobsite if possible. Per the Caltrans Safety Manual, visitors will be required to wear, at the minimum, hardhat, ANSI 107-2004 compliant garments (Class 2 for day, Class 3 for night), appropriate footwear, and safety glasses. Other safety gear may be required. Check with the RE to see if additional safety equipment is needed and is available from the construction field office. Visitors will not be allowed to enter or stay in the construction zone without this safety equipment and you may be asked to leave until PPE can be obtained.

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In order to comply with the Multi-Employer requirements and meet our legal responsibilities as the facility owner we require all visitors to comply with our safety guidance. Further information on Caltrans safety guidance and our Code of Safe Practices can be found using this link.  
[http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construc/constmanual/chapter2/Chp2\\_1.pdf](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construc/constmanual/chapter2/Chp2_1.pdf)

If I can provide you any other assistance in this matter, please feel free to contact me.



David Ambuehl, P.E.  
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California Department of Transportation  
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