

Caltrain Centralized Equipment Maintenance and Operations Facility (CEMOF) Monitoring Committee - Quarterly Report

Date of Report	Q2 Meeting, April 23, 2008	Report Issued by	Michael Smith (Chair), Elizabeth Monley, Sally Logothetti
Notes			
The CEMOF Monitoring Committee Quarterly Report supplements the official meeting minutes. It provides the community, the San Jose City Council, the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB) and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Board with a brief overview of unresolved issues. Each issue is assigned a tracking number when first added to the report and is removed from the report one quarter after being resolved.			
Current Issues			
No.	Issue	Planned Action(s)	Comment
001	Screeching train wheels on track relocated by Caltrain for CEMOF project. Primary noise sources are Union Pacific (UP) freight trains. In violation of Shared Objectives, Goal A (Eliminate objectionable noise during nighttime hours).	Union Pacific to install rail lubricator. Equipment to be provided by Caltrain. Ongoing equipment maintenance (refill grease) to be provided by UP.	Opened 10/26/05. Equipment installed by UP in August 2006. Noise reduced, but not eliminated. Reports indicate UP not maintaining lubricator and wants to switch to different type. Caltrain bringing in consultant to perform noise assessment before taking further action.
004	Approval of pending Bylaw changes. New committee "alternate" clause is urgently needed to obtain a quorum when City Council and VTA representatives cannot attend in person.	Bylaw changes to be written and approved by Committee, and then approved by City Council and JPB after review by City Attorney and JPB Counsel.	Opened 1/25/06. 1 st draft approved by Committee 7/26/06; 2 nd draft approved 10/25/06; 3 rd draft in preparation to address feedback received from City Attorney's Office 2/14/08.
006	Shared Objectives commitments being weakened for items A-16 (Limit scheduled maintenance to daytime shifts) and A-18 (Limit engine run-up noise at night) due to expanded service schedules and changes in federal regulations regarding timing of daily inspections.	Caltrain to provide operations schedule and updated status regarding ability to perform all scheduled maintenance and daily inspections during daytime shifts.	Opened 2/22/06. Caltrain limits scheduled maintenance to daytime shifts. Daily inspections and other maintenance performed on all shifts, but no major problems reported due to nighttime idling, engine run-up and maintenance events. Resolved.
007	College Park neighbors concerned that trainwash drying fans will cause excessive noise. Not blocked by sound wall. Potentially in violation of Shared Objectives, Goal A (Eliminate objectionable noise during nighttime hours).	Committee to observe trainwash testing performed by Caltrain in July/August, and make judgment at that time.	Opened 2/28/07. Committee observed trainwash acoustic test 7/30/07, startup test 8/27/07 and nighttime noise test 10/2/07. Low level of fan noise discernible at edge of College Park neighborhood after airport curfew. Committee will continue to monitor status.
009	Excessive nighttime noise due to engine run-up and bell ringing as trains move beyond north end of sound wall and reverse direction while moving from service and inspection tracks to storage tracks. In violation of Shared Objectives, Goal A (Eliminate objectionable noise during nighttime hours).	Caltrain to evaluate alternatives for minimizing noise due to engine run-up and (within constraints of federal safety regulations) bell ringing.	Opened 1/23/08. Sound wall extension may need to be considered if operational approaches are insufficient to address the problem. Caltrain implemented revised operating instructions to minimize noise due to engine run-up and bell ringing. Committee will monitor status.