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May 28, 2026

Mr. Samuel Assefa, Director
Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 10th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Assefa:

In a letter dated April 30, 2026, you informed the Joint Legislative Budget Committee that Governor Newsom had determined that the Barstow International Gateway Project in San Bernardino County is eligible for the alternative California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process authorized by Senate Bill 149 (Caballero), Chapter 60, Statutes of 2023.

SB 149 provides a streamlined CEQA review process for energy infrastructure, semiconductor and microelectronics, transportation-related, and water-related projects that meet certain requirements. For example, transportation-related projects must advance various state climate and transportation goals, meet labor and greenhouse gas emission-related requirements, and avoid or minimize impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Based on the information you have provided, and a subsequent review by the Legislative Analyst's Office, I have concluded that the Governor's determination meets the SB 149 criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21189.80 et seq. and concur with the certification.

Sincerely,



John Laird
Chair

cc: Members of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Mr. Joe Stephenshaw, Director of the Department of Finance