



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION  
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June 24, 2022

Lou Thompson  
Chairman, Independent Peer Review Group  
CA High Speed Rail Authority  
Independent Peer Review Group  
14684 Stoneridge Drive  
Saratoga, CA 95070-5745  
[lou.thompson@gmail.com](mailto:lou.thompson@gmail.com)

**Re: Request for Extension of Conflict-of-Interest Code Exemption – Independent Peer Review Group**

Dear Lou Thompson:

This letter grants your request for an extension of the Independent Peer Review Group (“Group”) exemption from inclusion in a conflict-of-interest code under California Code of Regulations Section 18751.

Based on the information provided in your declaration, there have been no changes to the Group since the granting of the last extension (i.e., the Group does not possess decision making authority and is formed for the sole purpose of reporting and making recommendations to another government body).

Under Regulation 18751(g), an exemption expires after two years and agencies must adopt a conflict-of-interest code, request an extension of the exemption, or submit a new request for exemption. If the nature of the Group’s authority changes and employees and/or members make or participate in the making of governmental decisions, the Group may need to adopt a conflict-of-interest code or be added to another agency's conflict of interest code at that time. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 916-322-5660.

Sincerely,

*Ivy Branaman*

Ivy Branaman  
Manager, Email Advice and Conflict of Interest Code Program  
Legal Division