

Crowe LLP
Independent Member Crowe Global

Board of Directors Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency Orange, California

Professional standards require that we communicate certain matters to keep you adequately informed about matters related to the financial statement audit that are, in our professional judgment, significant and relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. We communicate such matters in this report.

## AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY UNDER AUDITING STANDARDS GENERALLY ACCEPTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Our responsibility is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The audit of the financial statements does not relieve you of your responsibilities and does not relieve management of their responsibilities. Refer to our engagement letter with the Agency for further information on the responsibilities of management and of Crowe LLP.

### **AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY UNDER GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Agency's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of the Agency's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or disclosures. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING OUR INDEPENDENCE FROM THE AGENCY

Auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require independence for all audits, and we confirm that we are independent auditors with respect to the Agency under the independence requirements established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Additionally, we wish to communicate that we have no relationships with the Agency that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and that we gave significant consideration to in reaching the conclusion that our independence has not been impaired.

#### PLANNED SCOPE AND TIMING OF THE AUDIT

We are to communicate an overview of the planned scope and timing of the audit. Accordingly, the following matters regarding the planned scope and timing of the audit were discussed with you during our planning phase of the audit.

- How we addressed the significant risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- Our approach to internal control relevant to the audit.
- The concept of materiality in planning and executing the audit, focusing on the factors considered rather than on specific thresholds or amounts.
- The nature and extent of specialized skills or knowledge used to plan and evaluate the results of the audit, including the use of an auditor's expert.
- Your views and knowledge about matters you consider warrant our attention during the audit, as well as your views on:
  - o The allocation of responsibilities between you and management.
  - The Agency's objectives and strategies, and the related business risks that may result in material misstatements.
  - o Significant communications between the Agency and regulators.
  - Other matters you believe are relevant to the audit of the financial statements.

## SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND MANAGEMENT JUDGMENTS AND ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

Significant Accounting Policies: Those Charged with Governance should be informed of the initial selection of and changes in significant accounting policies or their application. Also, Those Charged with Governance should be aware of methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas where there is a lack of authoritative consensus. We believe management has the primary responsibility to inform Those Charged with Governance about such matters. There were no such accounting changes or significant policies requiring communication.

Management Judgments and Accounting Estimates: Further, accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based upon management's current judgments. These judgments are based upon knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments and may be subject to significant change in the near term. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates in determining that they appeared reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

# AUDITOR'S JUDGMENTS ABOUT QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING PRACTICES

We are to discuss with you our comments about the following matters related to the Agency's accounting policies and financial statement disclosures. Accordingly, these matters will be discussed during our meeting with you.

- The appropriateness of the accounting policies to the particular circumstances of the Agency, considering the need to balance the cost of providing information with the likely benefit to users of the Agency's financial statements.
- The overall neutrality, consistency, and clarity of the disclosures in the financial statements.
- The effect of the timing of transactions in relation to the period in which they are recorded.
- The potential effect on the financial statements of significant risks and exposures, and uncertainties that are disclosed in the financial statements.

- The extent to which the financial statements are affected by unusual transactions including nonrecurring amounts recognized during the period, and the extent to which such transactions are separately disclosed in the financial statements.
- The issues involved, and related judgments made, in formulating particularly sensitive financial statement disclosures.
- The factors affecting asset and liability carrying values, including the Agency's basis for determining useful lives assigned to tangible and intangible assets.
- The selective correction of misstatements, for example, correcting misstatements with the
  effect of increasing reported earnings, but not those that have the effect of decreasing reported
  earnings.

#### CORRECTED AND UNCORRECTED MISSTATEMENTS

<u>Corrected Misstatements</u>: We are to inform you of material corrected misstatements that were brought to the attention of management as a result of our audit procedures.

There were no such misstatements.

<u>Uncorrected Misstatements</u>: We are to inform you of uncorrected misstatements that were aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest and prior period(s) presented that were determined by management to be immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole. Uncorrected misstatements or matters underlying the uncorrected misstatements could potentially cause future-period financial statements to be materially misstated, even if it was concluded that the uncorrected misstatements are immaterial to the financial statements under audit. For your consideration, we have distinguished misstatements between known misstatements and likely misstatements.

There were no such misstatements.

### **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS**

Communication Item	Results
Other Information Included in an Annual Report Information may be prepared by management that accompanies or includes the financial statements. To assist your consideration of this information, you should know that we are required by audit standards to read such information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the financial statements. We are also to remain alert for indications that:	We understand that management has not prepared other information to accompany the audited financial statements.
<ul> <li>Material inconsistency exists between the other information and the auditor's knowledge obtained in the audit; or</li> <li>A material misstatement of fact exists, or the other information is otherwise misleading.</li> <li>If we identify a material inconsistency between the other information and the financial statements, we are to seek a resolution of the matter.</li> </ul>	

Communication Item	Results
Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit We are to inform you of any significant difficulties encountered in dealing with management related to the performance of the audit.	There were no significant difficulties encountered in dealing with management related to the performance of the audit.
Disagreements with Management We are to discuss with you any disagreements with management, whether or not satisfactorily resolved, about matters that individually or in the aggregate could be significant to the Agency's financial statements or the auditor's report.	During our audit, there were no such disagreements with management.
Difficulties or Contentious Matters We are required to discuss with the Those Charged with Governance any difficulties or contentious matters for which we consulted outside of the engagement team.	During the audit, there were no such issues for which we consulted outside the engagement team.
Circumstances that Affect the Form and Content of the Auditor's Report We are to discuss with you any circumstances that affect the form and content of the auditor's report, if any.	There are no such circumstances that affect the form and content of the auditor's report.
Consultations with Other Accountants If management consulted with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, we are to inform you of such consultation, if we are aware of it, and provide our views on the significant matters that were the subject of such consultation.	We are not aware of any instances where management consulted with other accountants about auditing or accounting matters since no other accountants contacted us, which they are required to do by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 50, before they provide written or oral advice.
Representations the Auditor is Requesting from Management We are to provide you with a copy of management's requested written representations to us.	We direct your attention to a copy of the letter of management's representation to us provided separately.
Significant Issues Discussed, or Subject to Correspondence, with Management We are to communicate to you any significant issues that were discussed or were the subject of correspondence with management.	There were no such significant issues discussed, or subject to correspondence, with management.
Significant Related Party Findings or Issues We are to communicate to you significant findings or issues arising during the audit in connection with the Agency's related parties.	There were no such findings or issues that are, in our judgment, significant and relevant to you regarding your oversight of the financial reporting process.
Other Findings or Issues We Find Relevant or Significant We are to communicate to you other findings or issues, if any, arising during the audit that are, in our professional judgment, significant and relevant to you regarding your oversight of the financial reporting process.	There were no such other findings or issues that are, in our judgment, significant and relevant to you regarding your oversight of the financial reporting process.

We are pleased to serve your Agency as its independent auditors and look forward to our continued relationship. We provide the above information to assist you in performing your oversight responsibilities and would be pleased to discuss this letter or any matters further, should you desire. This letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors and, if appropriate, management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Crowe LLP

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Costa Mesa, California January 15, 2025