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**From:** William G. Bertain  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 31, 2016 4:30 PM  
**To:** ctp2040@DOT  
**Subject:** Response to Invitation to Comment on Final Draft of CTP2040

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

## **Re: A Rail Connection Between Humboldt Bay and the Central Valley**

### **Greetings:**

**I believe it's important that Goal 3, Policy 2, Page 103 include and recognize the pressing need that Humboldt Bay on the Northcoast of California be connected to the National Rail Network near Red Bluff California in the Central Valley. Constructing a railroad between Eureka and Red Bluff will confer immense benefit on the Northern California economy and will help alleviate congestion and air pollution in other ports in California. The economic benefit will be tremendous.**

**Further, I believe the CTP2040 needs to devote more attention to the existing threat posed by both natural and anthropogenic disasters to our transportation system. The most prominent and very real threat is one more and more security analysts are beginning to recognize: and that is the risk of Abdul McVeigh and his fellow terrorists employing Ryder trucks or fishing vessels loaded with ammonium nitrate "a la the Oklahoma City bombing" and dropping a portion of either the Golden Gate Bridge or the Bay Bridge into the water.**

**Obviously such a blow to the economic infrastructure (and the American psyche) would be devastating. Hence, the need for the availability of the Port of Humboldt as an alternate**

**portal for import and export of goods becomes more critical. California ignores the vulnerability of the iconic pieces of our economic infrastructure such as the Golden Gate Bridge and the Bay Bridge at its peril.**

**To what extent CTP2040 intends to concern itself with matters of national security and economic security, I am not sure. But I believe it should be addressed. And I believe that the Port of Humboldt should be utilized as one of the answers to those threats. But also it should be utilized for the benefit it would confer on California in dealing with the problems of congestion and pollution at its existing ports.**

**William G. Bertain**

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Benjamin P. O'Hanen  
Assistant  
Law Office of William G. Bertain  
Eureka, CA

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