SENT VIA USPS AND E-MAIL:

October 30, 2014

jwhitmore@pstramway.com

Mr. James Whitmore, Executive VP Mt. San Jacinto Winter Park Authority 1 Tramway Rd., Palm Springs, CA 92262-1927

Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft MND) – Valley Station Zip Line Project (No. 14-1)

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) staff appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The following comments are meant as guidance for the Lead Agency and should be incorporated into the Final CEQA document.

Based on a review of the Draft IS/MND, the SCAQMD staff is concerned about the potential air quality impacts from the air pollutant emissions associated with the excavation/grading and construction activities required for the proposed project. In Appendix A, the Draft MND incorrectly uses an "aerial lift" to describe the use of a helicopter lift as off-road equipment. Additionally, the use of a helicopter lift may significantly increase the amount of fugitive dust/PM emissions in the immediate area.

The Final IS/MND should discuss how the project will comply with the following SCAQMD Rules:

Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust

Rule 403.1 – Supplemental Dust Control Requirements For Coachella Valley

Rule 401 – Visible Emissions

The SCAQMD staff is available to work with the Lead Agency to address these concerns and any other air quality questions that may arise. Please contact Jack Cheng, Air Quality Specialist at (909) 396-2448, if you have any questions regarding these comments. We look forward to reviewing and providing comments for the Final IS/MND associated with this project.

Sincerely,

Jillian Baker

Jillian Baker, Ph.D.
Program Supervisor
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

JB:JC <u>RVC141016-10</u> Control Number