SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



(ID # 17379)

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

FROM:

AUDITOR CONTROLLER:

SUBJECT: AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Authorization of denial of state assessed unitary property tax refund claims for Tax Year 2017-18 and 2018-19, All Districts. [\$0]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

 Authorize the denial of two State assessed unitary property tax refund claims for the return of 2017-18 and 2018-19 taxes paid on State assessed bills for BNSF Railway Company ("Claimant"), pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code Sections 100 and Section 5096 and authorize the Auditor-Controller to notify the Claimant of the Board's decision.

ACTION:Consent

Tanya Harris Ssistant Auditor Controller 10/6/2021

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Washington, seconded by Supervisor Jeffries and duly carried, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes:

Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, and Perez

Nays:

None

Absent:

Hewitt

Date:

October 26, 2021

XC:

Auditor

Kecia R. Harper

Clerk of the Board

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SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NET COUNTY COST	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
SOURCE OF FUNDS:			Budget Adjustm	nent: No
SOUNCE OF TONDO.			For Fiscal Year:	2021-22

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The Auditor-Controller is required to calculate the tax rate necessary for the timely and accurate billing of property taxes in Riverside County. The California Constitution XIII, XIIIA and various Revenue and Taxation Codes directs the counties on the property tax process, including State assessed unitary property. The Auditor-Controller's Office has received two property tax refund claims from a unitary property owner for taxes paid in 2017-18 and 2018-19. The property owners' claim states the unitary property tax rate is in excess of the rate allowed by the California Constitution, and have requested a combined refund of \$532,154.29 plus interest.

The Auditor-Controller's Office has followed all the requirements of Revenue and Taxation Code Section 100 directing the establishment and calculation of the unitary tax rate for tax year 2017-18 and 2018-19. The unitary tax rates have been audited by the State Controller's Office and deemed calculated in compliance with State law. The Auditor-Controller is requesting the Board's authorization to deny the claim.

The California Constitution and Revenue and Taxation Code legislate property tax. Under Article XIII, Section 1 (a) all property is taxable. Under Section 19 the State Board of Equalization is required to annually assess property owned or used by regulated railway, telegraph, or telephone companies. This property shall be subject to taxation to the same extent and in the same manner as other property. Article XIII A Section 1 (a) states the maximum amount of any ad valorem tax on real property shall not exceed one percent (1%) of the full cash value of such property. The one percent (1%) tax to be collected by the counties and apportioned according to law to the districts within the counties. Section 1 (b) states the limitation provided for subdivision (a) shall not apply to ad valorem taxes or special assessments to pay the interest and redemption charges on any of the listed voter approved debt, such as school bonds. Revenue and Taxation Code Section 723 and 723.1 instructs the State Board of Equalization regarding valuing property and defines certain state assessed properties as "unitary property" and "non-unitary property". Revenue and Taxation Code Section 100 instructs the County how the values and revenues for unitary property shall be allocated.

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Section 100 (a) requires the County to establish one countywide tax rate area. The assessed value of all unitary and operating non-unitary property shall be assigned to this tax rate area. No other property shall be assigned to this tax rate area. Section 100 (b) requires property assigned to the tax rate area created by subdivision (a) to be taxed for the counties ad valorem tax levies at a rate as prescribed by a set formula.

The claimant has challenged the State requirements and stated they are entitled to a refund of a portion of their respectively paid 2017-18 and 2018-19 unitary taxes plus interest, on the grounds the taxes were erroneously or illegally collected, or illegally assessed or levied, and gave the following reasons:

- a. The property tax rate applied to compute claimant's property tax was in excess of the rate applied in the same year to the property in the county assessed by the assessor of Riverside county in violation of Article XIII, section 19 of the California Constitution and ITT World Communications v. City and County of San Francisco, 37 Cal. 3d 859 (1985).
- b. The property tax rate applied to compute the claimant's property taxes exceeded the rate allowed by Article XIII A, Section 1 of the California Constitution.

In consultation with County Counsel, the Auditor-Controller's Office has reviewed the claims and the audited County practices for unitary taxation. Riverside County follows the requirements of Revenue and Taxation Code Section 100 for the calculation of the unitary tax rate. Therefore, the Auditor-Controller has determined that no refund is allowable to the property owner and requests the Board instruct the Auditor-Controller's Office to deny the claim.

If a board of supervisors for a county does not render a decision in regard to a claim for refund within six months after receipt of such claims, a claimant may file a suit in court. Also, a claimant would have 6 months to file a suit in court from the date a denial decision is made by a board of supervisors. The two claims from BNSF Railway Company were filed with the County in August 2021 as further described in Attachment A. The County has six months after receipt to approve or deny the claims before the claimant may file suit in court. If the County does deny the claims, that starts a six-month statute of limitations in which the claimant must bring suit.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

If a refund were allowable by law, the refund would impact primarily school districts and water districts of Riverside County with voter approved debt obligations.

ATTACHMENT A:

Summary of Claims

ATTACHMENT B:

Tax Year 2017-18 State assessed unitary property tax refund claims

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ATTACHMENT C:

Tax Year 2018-19 State assessed unitary property tax refund claims

Attachment A

Auditor-Controller's Office Property Tax Division 29-Sep-21

Claim for Refund of Tax Payments

				Date R	Received
Assessee	Co.	Year	Claim	By County	By Auditor Controller's Office
BNSF Railway Company	33-804	2017-18	\$ 231,747.64	8/31/2021	9/22/2021
BNSF Railway Company	33-804	2018-19	\$ 300,406.65	8/31/2021	9/22/2021
			\$ 532,154.29		



COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE CLAIM FOR REFUND OF TAX PAYMENT(S)

		ticle I, of the Californi	a Revenue and Taxati	on Code Janman
		aim with the Board of or the following amou	Supervisors of the Co	
cal Year(s) Refund is Claimed	Date(s) Taxes Paid	Amount of Tax Claim	Amount of Penalty Claim	Total Amount
20 17-18	12/01/2017	\$ 115,873.82	Ś	\$115,873.82
20 17-18	04/02/2018	\$ 115,873.82		\$115,873.82
20		\$		\$
20		\$	\$	\$
20		\$	\$	\$
	cal Year(s) refund is Claimed 20 17 - 18 20 17 - 18	Date(s) Taxes Paid	Date(s) Taxes	Paid Claim Penalty Claim Claimed Clai

Page 1 of 3

for claimant's benefit; and if acting on behalf of a legal entity, I am duly authorized to act on its behalf and the

cob/claimforrefund

shown below is true and correct.

4/12/2016

Reset Form

PLEASE NOTE: This form is provided as a courtesy and does not constitute legal advice to claimants. Claimants are strongly advised to consult an attorney regarding their rights and obligations, particularly with regard to exhaustion of administrative remedies and the applicability of statutes of limitation on filing claims and lawsuits for refund of property taxes.

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED WITH PROOF OF TAX PAYMENT TO:

Riverside County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 4080 Lemon Street, 1st Floor

Riverside, CA 92502

Phone (951) 955-1060

Fax (951) 955-1071

Internet: www.rivcocob.org

	County Use Only	Print Form
Date Received:	Date Referred to County Counsel:	4 - 12
Signature:	Title:Date:	



Alan M. Annis, Director of Taxes **BNSF Railway Company** P.O. Box 961089 Fort Worth, Texas 76161-0089

Tel: Fax: Email: (817) 352-3418 (817) 593-6758 alan.annis@bnsf.com

August 27, 2021

Via Certified Mail (9214 8901 9403 8347 7608 50) Return Receipt Requested

RE: CLAIM FOR REFUND OF TAXES AND/OR PENALTIES PAID

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors County of Riverside P. O. Box 1147 Riverside, CA 92502-1147

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached is a Claim for Refund of Property Tax Payments in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 5, Article I, of the California Revenue and Taxation Code (commencing with Section 5096). I am (we are) herewith filing this claim with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside and ask that a refund of taxes and/or penalties be made for the amounts in the attached Claim for Refund of Tax Payment(s).

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me directly at (817) 352-3418.

Sincerely,

Alan M. Annis

Director of Taxes

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enclosure

Exhibit A

BNSF Railway Company

Factual Reasons the Tax was Illegally Levied and Collected

The tax rates applied to the assessed value of BNSF Railway Company's ("BNSF") property exceed the tax rates applicable to other commercial and industrial property in the various taxing districts within this county. These excessive tax rates violate Section 306(1)(c) of the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976, codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 11501(b)(3), which prohibits state and local governments from levying or collecting any ad valorem property tax on railroad property at a tax rate higher than the tax rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction. To the extent that the tax rates applied to the assessed values of BNSF's property exceed the tax rates as calculated pursuant to the decision of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in Trailer Train Company v. State Board of Equalization, 697 F.2d 860 (9th Cir.), cert. denied, 464 U.S. 846 (1983), the levy and collection of the excessive taxes violated Section 306(1)(c). The United States District Court Northern District of California recently agreed with BNSF's position when United States District Judge Haywood S. Gilliam, Jr. granted BNSF Railway Company's Motion for Preliminary Injunction when he ordered that the Defendant counties "are hereby ENJOINED through the pendency of this litigation until entry of a final judgment from levying or collecting ad valorem property taxes from Plaintiff on its unitary property based on a tax rate higher than the annual average tax rate of general property taxation calculated and reported for each county by the California State Board of Equalization under Cal. Rev. & Tax Code §11403." A copy of Judge Gilliam, Jr.'s Order is attached.

Therefore, the excessive taxes were illegally levied and erroneously and illegally collected, entitling BNSF to a refund of the excessive taxes with interest, costs, and attorney's fees as allowed by law, pursuant to Cal. Rev. & Tax Code Section 5096 et seq. and any other applicable statute, rule, and regulation.

This refund claim is being filed with the Board of Supervisors and/or the Treasurer/Tax Collector. Please contact Alan Annis at (817) 352-3418 for any further information.

UNITED STA	ATES DISTRICT COURT	
NORTHERN D	ISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY,

Plaintiff,

v.

ALAMEDA COUNTY, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 19-cv-07230-HSG

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

Re: Dkt. No. 35

Pending before the Court is Plaintiff BNSF Railway Company's ("BNSF") motion for a preliminary injunction (Dkt. No. 35 ("Mot.")), for which briefing is complete. Dkt. Nos. 43 ("SD Opp."), 44 ("Counties' Opp."), 53 ("Reply"). BNSF requests a preliminary injunction against fifteen counties ("Defendants," or "Defendant Counties") under 49 U.S.C. § 11501(b)(3), which prohibits applying higher tax rates to railroad property. On March 12, 2020, the Court held a hearing on the motion. Dkt. No. 58. The Court **GRANTS** the motion for preliminary injunction.

I. BACKGROUND

A. The 4-R Act

The 4-R Act (now codified at 49 U.S.C. § 11501 ("Section 11501")) was passed in 1976 to "restore the financial stability of the railway system." Burlington N. R.R. v. Oklahoma Tax Comm'n, 481 U.S. 454, 457 (1987). This was, in part, because railroads "are easy prey for State and local tax assessors," as they are "nonvoting, often nonresident, targets for local taxation" that cannot easily remove themselves from the locality. W. Air Lines, Inc. v. Board of Equalization of State of S.D., 480 U.S. 123, 131 (1987). Congress declared that state and local taxation schemes that discriminate against rail carriers "unreasonably burden and discriminate against interstate commerce." 49 U.S.C. § 11501(b). As relevant here, Section 11501(b)(3) bans discriminatory tax

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Northern District of California United States District Court

rates, and provides that state and local governments may not "levy or collect an ad valorem tax on rail transportation property at a tax rate that exceeds the tax rate applicable to commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction." Id.

B. California Property Taxation

California's system of taxation is, in a word, complicated. California law imposes an ad valorem (i.e., value-based) property tax on all property in the State, unless exempt, in proportion to its assessed value. Cal. Const. Art. XIII, § 1. Taxation is a three-step process. First, the value of taxable property is assessed. Next, the applicable tax rate is computed, typically expressed as a percentage of assessed value. Finally, the tax is levied and collected from the taxpayer.

Most property in California, including general "commercial and industrial property," is "locally assessed," meaning that county assessors determine the assessed value of the property for tax purposes. See Declaration of Alan M. Annis, Dkt. No. 35-1, ("Annis Decl.") ¶ 7. California classifies and taxes the bulk of property in the state as either "secured" or "unsecured." See id. ¶ 8. The "secured roll" consists of most state-assessed property and that portion of locally assessed property for which the taxes are secured by a lien on real property of a value sufficient to pay the taxes. See Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 109. The "unsecured roll" consists of all other property, such as personal property and possessory interests in tax-exempt land. Id.

Every year, each Defendant County's board of supervisors determines the tax rates to be applied in the county for locally assessed property and for unitary property, applying different statutory formulas. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 2151. Defendants' respective auditors apply these applicable tax rates to the assessed value shown on the assessment rolls. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 2152. Then, Defendants' respective tax collectors collect the taxes on unitary property at the unitary rate determined by each county. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code §§ 2605, 2610.5. Locally assessed property, including commercial and industrial property, is assigned to a particular "Tax Rate Area" within each county, based on the property's location. See Annis Decl. ¶ 11.

For property on the secured tax roll, the annual ad valorem tax rate for each Tax Rate Area is established as (a) a 1% general tax levy, typically used to fund general government services, plus (b) an amount necessary to produce sufficient revenues to pay the interest and principal on

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any voter-approved bonded indebtedness issued by the county or by the local agencies, school entities, and special districts serving that Tax Rate Area. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 93 ("Section 93"), enacted per Cal. Const. Art. XIIIA, § 1 ("Proposition 13"). This latter portion of the Section 93 tax rate above the 1% base levy is known as the "debt service component." Under Proposition 13, real property must be valued at its 1975 fair market value (as shown on the 1975-76 assessment roll), or thereafter, the fair market value when purchased, newly constructed, or a change of ownership has occurred after the 1975 assessment (i.e., the occurrence of an "assessable event"). Cal. Const., art. XIII, § 2(a).

The debt service component is the sum of separately calculated rates for each local agency, school entity or special district with outstanding debt. To calculate the elements of the debt service component, the County first determines how much revenue it will need to make debt service payments for the upcoming year for the voter-approved debt of the local agency, school entity, or special district. See Cal. Gov. Code § 29100. Next, the County determines the portion of assessed property values on the secured roll subject to the voter-approved debt issued by the local agency, school entity or special district (i.e., the property located within the boundaries of each local entity). Id. The County then calculates the percentage of those total property values that will produce the necessary revenues to service the debt issued by that local entity, after allowances for delinquencies and annual changes to the roll, among other factors. Id. The debt service component in each Tax Rate Area is the sum of these calculated percentages for every local agency, school entity or special district serving that Tax Rate Area. The debt service component is combined with the 1% base levy to compute the total property tax rate in each Tax Rate Area for property on the secured roll.

The property tax rate for property on the unsecured roll is the secured roll tax rate for that Tax Rate Area for the previous year. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 2905. This rule is consistent with the separate requirement that unsecured taxes are due each year before the County calculates the secured tax rate for that year. See Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 2922.

In contrast, the State Board assesses the value of certain utility and railroad property (including Plaintiff's property). Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 721. The State Board assesses

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Plaintiff's property using the principle of unit valuation, under which all of a taxpayer's assets, wherever located, are valued as a unit, and that unitary value is then allocated among particular taxing jurisdictions. See Annis Decl. ¶ 6. State-assessed property that is valued under the principle of unit valuation is also referred to as "unitary property." See Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code §§ 723, 723.1. Unit taxation provides a way to value and tax property in businesses for which the component parts of the business are valuable when considered as a whole, but worth less when considered in isolation. See ITT World Commc'ns, Inc. v. City & Cnty. of S.F., 37 Cal. 3d 859, 863 (Cal. 1985). For example, "ten miles of [railroad] track . . . 'would have a questionable value, other than as scrap, without the benefit of the rest of the system as a whole." Am. Airlines, Inc. v. Cnty. of San Mateo, 12 Cal. 4th 1110, 1126 (Cal. 1996) (internal citations and brackets omitted).

C. **Taxation Applicable to Railways**

Plaintiff's primary argument is that the tax rate applicable to its property is calculated under a different formula than the Section 93 tax rate for locally-assessed commercial and industrial property, resulting in a tax rate higher than the Section 93 tax rate. According to Plaintiff, first, under Cal. Rev & Tax. Code § 100.11, the value attributable to the state-assessed unitary property of a regulated railway company is generally allocated to a single countywide Tax Rate Area in each county in which the property is located. The "unitary" tax rate to be applied to these countywide tax rate areas is established in accordance with the formula in Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 100(b)(2) ("Section 100"). Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 100.11(a)(2)(B).

Section 100 (like Section 93) includes the base 1% tax levy. However, the additional unitary debt service component under Section 100 is calculated by taking the County's previous year's unitary debt service rate and multiplying it by the percentage change between the two preceding fiscal years in the County's ad valorem debt service levy for the secured roll (excluding unitary and operating nonunitary debt service levies). See Mot. at 8. Plaintiff contends that this formula has caused the Section 100 unitary tax rate to diverge from the Section 93 secured and unsecured tax rates. In particular, when a County's debt service needs increase, the secured and unsecured rates will not rise if property values also rise and keep pace with inflation. But under those same circumstances, the Section 100 unitary debt service rate will increase because it

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depends on the absolute dollar amount of debt service.

The State Board calculates and publishes the annual "average rate of general property taxation" in each California county. Annis Decl. ¶¶ 24-26, 32. The State Board computes this average tax rate by dividing (a) the sum of the total ad valorem property tax levies in each county for each year, by (b) the total assessed value of all property in that county for that same year. See Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 11403. For the 2019-20 tax year, using the methods described above, Plaintiff contends that the Defendant Counties have levied property taxes at the unitary rate applicable in their respective assessment jurisdictions. Below are the alleged differences between the unitary rate applied to Plaintiff's property and the Section 11501 "benchmark rate":

County	2019-20 Plaintiff Unitary Rate	2019-20 Section 11501 Benchmark Rate
Alameda	2.5187%	1.241%
Contra Costa	1.6865%	1.148%
Fresno	1.370408%	1.181%
Kern	1.611299%	1.24%
Kings	1.326084%	1.087%
Madera	1.203169%	1.089%
Merced	1.4109014%	1.088%
Orange	1.28173%	1.064%
Plumas	1.11652%	1.089%
Riverside	1.76133%	1.164%
San Bernardino	1.3645%	1.144%
San Diego	1.62331%	1.142%
San Joaquin	1.6922%	1.145%
Stanislaus	1.38011%	1.103%
Tulare	1.4002%	1.113%

See Annis Decl. ¶33.1

The average rate difference for the Defendant Counties for the 2019-2020 fiscal year is only 0.38%, while the median difference is 0.29%. Differences in prior years are generally even smaller. See Narciso Decl., ¶ 10 & Ex. 7. With these smaller differences, Defendants are correct that it is all the more important for Plaintiff to meet its burden of demonstrating that it has identified the tax rate applicable to the proper comparison class. However, most Defendants admit in their Answer (ECF No. 52 ¶ 34)—and San Diego states that it lacks sufficient information to

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II. LEGAL STANDARD

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The prohibition on tax rate discrimination is enforceable through an action for equitable relief in federal court. In enacting Section 11501, "Congress ... believed that a federal court remedy for carriers subject to discriminatory taxation was necessary because state courts were not providing them with a plain, speedy, and efficient remedy." Trailer Train Co. v. State Bd. Of Equalization, 697 F.2d 860, 866 (9th Cir. 1983). Congress thus included in Section 11501 "a procedural component which authorizes victims of discrimination to seek injunctive relief in federal court." Id. This provision specifically empowers federal courts to "grant such mandatory or prohibitive injunctive relief, interim equitable relief, and declaratory judgments as may be necessary to prevent, restrain, or terminate any acts in violation of [Section 11501]," notwithstanding 28 U.S.C. § 1341. Id. at 869 & n.16; see 49 U.S.C. § 11501(c).

Plaintiff contends that a preliminary injunction under Section 11501 is not governed by the traditional equitable criteria of likelihood of success, irreparable harm, balance of hardships, or public interest. See Mot. at 5 (citing Trailer Train, 697 F.2d at 869). Instead, because Section 11501 specifically contemplates interim equitable relief, a preliminary injunction must issue "[w]here the trial court finds reasonable cause to believe that a violation of Section [11501] has been, or is about to be, committed." Burlington N. R. Co. v. Dep't. of Revenue of State of Wash., 934 F.2d 1064, 1074 (9th Cir. 1991); BNSF Ry. v. Tenn. Dep't of Revenue, 800 F.3d 262, 268 (6th Cir. 2015) ("[A] railroad seeking injunctive relief under the 4-R Act need only demonstrate that there is 'reasonable cause' to believe a violation of the 4-R Act has occurred or is about to occur.").

Defendants disagree, and contend that the Court should instead apply the traditional equitable criteria. Defendants believe that the Ninth Circuit's decisions in Burlington and Trailer Train (as well as other circuit court decisions) misapplied—or failed to apply—the Supreme Court's decision in Weinberger v. Romero-Barcelo, 456 U.S. 305 (1982), and instead incorrectly applied the Tenth Circuit's standard in Atchison, T. & S.F. Railway Co. v. Lennen, 640 F.2d 255,

state (ECF No. 51 ¶ 10)—that the tax rates set forth in the chart are the tax rates levied on Plaintiff by the Defendant Counties, and the 2019-2020 tax rates the State Board calculates pursuant to Section 11403 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

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259-61 (10th Cir. 1981), the first instance in which the "reasonable cause" standard was applied to an alleged 4-R Act violation.

Notwithstanding any arguments Defendants may wish to preserve for potential en banc consideration on appeal, the Ninth Circuit has clearly decided this question. See Burlington N., 934 F.2d at 1074 ("Issuance of preliminary injunctive relief in Section [11501] cases is not governed by the traditional equitable criteria applicable in actions between private litigants "); Trailer Train, 697 F.2d at 869 ("The standard requirements for equitable relief need not be satisfied when an injunction is sought to prevent the violation of a federal statute which specifically provides for injunctive relief. . . . Section [11501] clearly falls within this exception because its subsection (c) specifically authorizes a district court to grant injunctive relief to prevent a violation of the statute."). This Court is bound to apply that clear holding unless the "circuit authority is clearly irreconcilable with the reasoning or theory of intervening higher authority." Miller v. Gammie, 335 F.3d 889, 893 (9th Cir. 2003). The Court finds that no intervening authority permits it to disregard the "reasonable cause" standard set out by the Ninth Circuit in Burlington and Trailer Train.² Accordingly, the Court applies that standard, and will issue a preliminary injunction if there is reasonable cause to believe that a violation of the 4-R Act has occurred, is occurring, or will occur.

III. **ANALYSIS**

Commercial and Industrial Property

The plain language of Section 11501(b)(3) prohibits levying "an ad valorem property tax on rail transportation property at a tax rate that exceeds the tax rate applicable to commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction." Section 11501(a)(2) defines "assessment jurisdiction" as "a geographical area in a State used in determining the assessed value of property for ad valorem taxation." Section 11501(b)(3) recognizes that "tax-rate variation" is improper

² Defendants assert that *Trailer Train* neither cites nor acknowledges the Supreme Court's ruling in Romero-Barcelo, presumably (according to Defendants) because Trailer Train was argued and submitted on March 10, 1982, while Romero-Barcelo was not decided until April 27, 1982. See Counties' Opp. at 10 n. 3. However, Trailer Train was decided by the Ninth Circuit on January 25, 1983, more than seven months after Romero-Barcelo.

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(b) The following acts unreasonably burden and discriminate against interstate commerce, and a State, subdivision of a State, or authority acting for a State or subdivision of a State may not do any of them: * * (3) Levy or collect an ad valorem property tax on rail transportation property at a tax rate that exceeds the tax rate applicable to commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction.

taxation of railroad property. Trailer Train, 697 F.2d at 865-66. The relevant section states:

49 U.S.C. § 11501 (emphasis added). Defendants, as counties of California, are legal subdivisions of the State of California, (Cal. Const. Art. XI, § 1), and thus are subject to Section 11501(b)(3). And Plaintiff's unitary property in California is "rail transportation property" within the meaning of Section 11501(b)(3) and is, therefore, entitled to the protection of the statute. See Declaration of Judy A. Cummings, Dkt. No. 35-2 ¶ 4.

The disputed element of Section 11501(b)(3) is the comparison to "the tax rate applicable to commercial and industrial property." See Mot. at 2. In order to prove a violation of Section 11501(b)(3), Plaintiff must demonstrate that Defendants are levying or collecting an ad valorem property tax at a rate that exceeds the rate applicable to commercial and industrial property located in the same assessment jurisdiction as Plaintiff's property. 49 U.S.C. § 11501(b)(3).

The Ninth Circuit established the framework for that comparison in *Trailer Train*. Plaintiffs there sued to enjoin the collection of a state tax on private railroad cars because the applicable tax rate was higher than the rate for commercial and industrial property under the thenadopted Proposition 13, such that the private railroad car tax "discriminated against owners of railtransportation property" in violation of Section 11501(b)(3). 697 F.2d at 864. After recognizing the purpose of Section 11501 and affirming the district court's authority to enjoin violations of the statute, the Ninth Circuit turned to comparing the challenged tax rate to "the rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial property." Id. at 866-67.

The Ninth Circuit explained that this "task is complicated by the fact that," due to California's unique classification system (dividing property into secured and unsecured, as opposed to residential and commercial/industrial), "California has no specific tax rate for commercial and industrial property." Id. at 867. Because neither Section 11501, "nor its legislative history provides guidance as to what should be done when a specific rate generally

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applicable to commercial and industrial property is not readily apparent," the Ninth Circuit articulated a framework with two alternative approaches for identifying "the tax rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial properties" specifically in California, and specifically under Section 11501. Id.

The first approach in that framework is to determine "the tax rate applicable" to whichever tax roll, either secured or unsecured, contains "the majority of [the] commercial and industrial property." Id. Determining which tax roll contains the majority of commercial and industrial property is (often) straightforward. The secured roll in each county contains the vast majority (consistently over 90%) of the assessed value and the taxes levied against all property in that county, and the secured roll, according to Plaintiff, almost certainly contains the majority of commercial and industrial property. See Annis Decl. ¶¶ 30–31.

However, the weakness of this approach is that "the tax rate applicable" to the property on the secured roll cannot be determined. Plaintiff contends that the property on the secured roll is spread among the hundreds or thousands of Tax Rate Areas in each Defendant County that each have their own tax rates. See id. ¶¶ 15, 31. Thus, Plaintiff contends that there is no identifiable "tax rate applicable" to property on the secured or unsecured roll of any of the Counties.

As a fallback, the Ninth Circuit in Trailer Train authorized a second approach. First, the Court is to determine the average tax rate for all property in the relevant county. See Trailer Train, 697 F.2d at 868 n.13 ("We thus, for reasons different from those articulated by the district court, conclude that the average rate for all property should be used when the rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial property cannot be determined.").

Plaintiff alleges that identifying the "average rate for all property" is possible because the State Board already calculates that rate—the annual "average tax rate of general property taxation" in each county. See Annis Decl. ¶ 24. By statute, the State Board calculates this average tax rate by dividing (a) the sum of all ad valorem property tax levies in a given county for a given year by (b) the sum of the assessed values of all property in that county for that same year. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 11403. According to Plaintiff, the State Board-calculated rate for each county is the maximum rate the Defendants can apply to railroad property, meaning that taxing railroad

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property at rates that are higher than the Section 11501 "Benchmark Rate" is a violation of Section 11501(b)(3).³

Defendants counter that the relevant assessment jurisdiction is the area of the entire State of California that contains the unitary property, and the tax rate applied to the railroad must be compared to the tax rate applied to other commercial and industrial property that is assessed as unitary property. Counties' Opp. at 19. Defendants further contend that, under Article XIII, Section 19 of the California Constitution, the assessment jurisdiction of the State includes the following types of property: "(1) pipelines, flumes, canals, ditches, and aqueducts lying within 2 or more counties and (2) property, except franchises, owned or used by regulated railway, telegraph, or telephone companies, car companies operating on railways in the State, and companies transmitting or selling gas or electricity." *Id.* at 20.

Defendants, in theory, are contending that Section 100 (applicable to Plaintiff) does not differentiate in the way tax rates are applied among these commercial and industrial properties, because these nonrailroad companies do not have a different rate than Plaintiff. Put differently, all of the non-railroad commercial and industrial property that is assessed as "unitary property" for purposes of local property taxation is taxed pursuant to Section 100.

The Court finds Defendants' suggestion that it should compare Plaintiff's tax rate to the rates for a relatively narrow subset of other state-assessed utilities and other entities that pay the same unitary tax rate inconsistent with the 4-R Act. Section 11501(b)(3) calls for a broader comparison to the rate paid by "commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction," where an "assessment jurisdiction" is "a geographical area in a State." 49 U.S.C. 11501(a)(2) (emphasis added). The "commercial and industrial property in" the "geographical area" of California clearly is not limited to state-assessed utilities or similar Section 19 property: it embraces all commercial and industrial taxpayers in the state. For the same reasons that there are not county-specific rates for commercial and industrial taxpayers in California, (Mot. 9-10, 14-15), there are also no statewide rates.

³ Plaintiff contends they will pay, for the 2019-20 tax year, a total of more than \$3.2 million in taxes prohibited by Section 11501. See Annis Decl. ¶ 35.

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Railroads, like other utilities such as pipelines and telecommunications companies, are
"easy prey" in that they are "nonvoting, often nonresident" targets "who cannot easily remove
themselves from the locality." Western Air Lines, Inc. v. Board of Equal., 480 U.S. 123, 131
(1987) (quotation marks omitted). The solution, Congress recognized early on, was to link
railroads' fate with a mass of other taxpayers by insisting that "[rail] carriers are accorded equal
tax treatment with other taxpayers." S. Rep. No. 87-445 at 466 (1961). Significantly, before the
final version of Section 11501 was passed, a provision permitting comparisons solely against
public utilities was introduced and rejected. See Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Ry. Co. v. Ariz.,
559 F. Supp. 1237, 1244 (D. Ariz. 1983) (citing S. Rep. No. 92-1085 (1972)). The upshot is that
the comparison the Defendant Counties propose—between railroads and other state-assessed
taxpayers subject to the same tax laws—does not comport with the statute Congress enacted.

Defendants appear to recognize that *Trailer Train* poses a challenge for their argument. They contend that the taxes at issue here are calculated at the local level and do not require use of a statewide general property tax rate, whereas Trailer Train involved the applicability of the 4-R Act to a statewide tax on plaintiffs' private railroad cars, and the effort to identify a comparison class for that statewide tax. 697 F.2d at 862.

But that is a distinction without a difference. The challenge in Trailer Train, as here, was determining which group of commercial and industrial property to use as a comparison class, given that commercial and industrial property appeared on both the secured and unsecured rolls. The Ninth Circuit held first that "[t]he tax rate applicable to the roll that contained the majority of the commercial and industrial property shall be deemed the rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial property and will serve as the base rate for comparison against the Companies' \$10.68 rate." Id. at 867. The Ninth Circuit further reasoned that "[i]f the determination of which roll contained the majority of the state's commercial and industrial property in the 1978-79 fiscal year is not possible, the average tax rate for all property shall be used as the basis for comparison." Id.

Defendants characterize Trailer Train as hinging on its discussion of a uniform statewide tax versus local taxation of unitary property. But this ignores the Ninth Circuit's recognition that Northern District of California

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there is no specific commercial and industrial rate for locally assessed property in California. Defendants contention that Trailer Train predates the legislation subjecting railroad property to unitary rates is irrelevant to the key question that Trailer Train resolves—how to determine the appropriate comparison rate for locally-assessed property—and California law on that point remains unchanged.

The Court finds that Defendants' proposed comparison is untethered from the statutory language and unsupported by Section 11501 jurisprudence. Indeed, under the Defendants' approach—under which railroads are only compared to taxpayers that are taxed like railroads violations of Section 11501(b)(3) likely would be rare or nonexistent, and Congress would have accomplished very little. The statute's use of the term "assessment jurisdiction" demonstrates that Congress was concerned with the basic principle that like property should be treated alike. Because there is no specific commercial and industrial rate in the State of California, Trailer Train authorized the use of either the rate for the secured roll or the average rate for all property.

Accordingly, under the Trailer Train framework, Plaintiff has established reasonable cause that a violation of Section 11501(b)(3) has occurred or will occur if it is required to pay taxes at the rate Defendants claim applies for the 2019-20 tax year.

Discrimination and Justification B.

Defendants make a secondary argument that Plaintiff (and the railroad industry) lobbied to be taxed at the Section 100(b) rate that Plaintiff now alleges is unlawful. According to Defendants, the railroad industry wanted its taxes to be calculated under Section 100(b) because the railroads wanted to "reduce[] the administrative burden imposed on the Board of Equalization, county auditors and treasurers, and the railroads." See Declaration of Michael Narciso, Dkt. No. 44-4 Ex. 5 at pages 316-17 (ECF pagination).

Defendants cite to the railroad industry's arguments in favor of the current law, specifically the claim that "each year, the railroads, the State Board of Equalization (SBE) and individual taxing jurisdictions must undertake a painstaking and time consuming process in which they are forced to redraw hundreds of 'tax maps' and prepare a similar number of bills for each and every tax rate area where there are railroad tracks. . . . This year, for instance, Union Pacific Railroad

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and BNSF Railway Company received more than 2,400 tax rate area changes and 2,850 operating tax bills from the tax districts." Id. Defendants point out that this legislation, by allowing the railroad to pay only on one tax rate area in each county, reduced the number of operating tax bills from 2,850 to approximately 61. Id.

Defendants thus argue that any discriminatory outcome for Plaintiff was a direct result of the railroad industry's lobbying efforts regarding which tax rates would apply to its members in California. Defendants use the legislative history to argue that Plaintiff should not be allowed to reap the benefits of its lobbying efforts, then pounce only once it perceives an advantage in invoking Section 11501. Defendants contend that Section 11501 is meant to address concerns about the railroads' political vulnerability and establishes a prohibition only as to discriminatory state taxation of railroad property. Thus, Defendants conclude, because the railroads in California wanted to be taxed pursuant to Section 100(b), and wanted to benefit themselves through reduced administrative burdens provides, this provides sufficient justification for any alleged tax disparity.

Whatever equitable force Defendants' argument might have in a vacuum, the Court finds it to be inconsistent with the relevant language in the statute. Section 11501(b)(3) does not use the word "discriminates." Rather, subsection (b)(3) forbids "[l]evy[ing] or collect[ing] an ad valorem property tax on rail transportation property at a tax rate that exceeds the tax rate applicable to commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction." 49 U.S.C. § 11501(b)(3). The statute does not require proof of discrimination, because Congress has already declared in the preface of Section 11501(b) that the imposition of such an ad valorem property tax rate disparity "unreasonably burden[s] and discriminate[s] against interstate commerce." 49 U.S.C. § 11501(b).

In arguing to the contrary, Defendants cite the Supreme Court's 2011 decision in CSX Transportation, Inc. v. Alabama Department of Revenue, 562 U.S. 277 (2011) ("CSX I"), which discussed the meaning of the word "discriminate" in Section 11501 and explained how a state might engage in illegal discrimination under Section 11501(b)(4). The Court stated that if a state charged "one group of taxpayers a 2% rate and another group a 4% rate," the State would be discriminating against the latter group, "assuming the groups are similarly situated and there is no

justification for the difference in treatment." CSX I, 562 U.S. at 287.

Four years later, the Court found such justification for a difference in treatment in *Alabama Department of Revenue v. CSX Transp., Inc.* ("CSX II"), 575 U.S. 21 (2015). At issue there was whether the 4-R Act prohibited Alabama from imposing a 4% tax on the diesel fuel used by railroads that it did not impose on the diesel fuel used by the railroads' competitors, given that Alabama also imposed comparable taxes on the competitors that it did not impose on railroads. *Id.* at 24, 30. The Court concluded that the 4-R Act did not prohibit such differential treatment because "an alternative, roughly equivalent tax is one possible justification that renders a tax disparity nondiscriminatory." *Id.* at 30-31.

The Court finds the CSX cases inapplicable. In both CSX I and CSX II, Section 11501(b)(3) was not at issue: the Court addressed Section (b)(4), which specifically prohibits a state from imposition "another tax that discriminates against a rail carrier" See Section 11501(b)(4) (emphasis added). In CSX I, the "key question" was "whether a tax might be said to 'discriminate' against a railroad under subsection (b)(4)." 562 U.S. at 286. The Court held that subsection (b)(4) permits a justification defense because, as used in that subsection, the undefined term "discriminates" means a failure to treat similarly situated taxpayers the same without "justification for the difference in treatment." Id. at 287. Then, in CSX II, the Court held that the existence of an "alternative, roughly equivalent tax" (paid by the taxpayers to which the railroad is compared) is a possible justification under subsection (b)(4). 575 U.S. at 30-31. These discussions about when the catchall provision regarding "another tax that discriminates" might be triggered do not shed light on the issue presented in this case, because the face of the statute already reflects Congress' determination that the acts set out in subsection (b)(3) amount to per se discrimination against interstate commerce.

IV. CONCLUSION

Because Plaintiff has established reasonable cause that a violation of Section 11501(b)(3) has occurred or will occur, the motion for a preliminary injunction is **GRANTED**.

Defendants Alameda County, Contra Costa County, Fresno County, Kern County, Kings County, Madera County, Merced County, Orange County, Plumas County, Riverside County, San

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Bernardino County, San Diego County, San Joaquin County, Stanislaus County, and Tulare County, California; their boards of supervisors, county auditors, tax collectors, agents, employees, and all those acting in concert or participating with them who receive actual notice of this order (the "Enjoined Parties") are hereby ENJOINED through the pendency of this litigation until entry of a final judgment from levying or collecting ad valorem property taxes from Plaintiff on its unitary property based on a tax rate higher than the annual average tax rate of general property taxation calculated and reported for each county by the California State Board of Equalization under Cal. Rev. & Tax Code §11403.

The Enjoined Parties are further enjoined through the pendency of this litigation until entry of a final judgment from taking any action to impose any interest or penalties, from taking any action to record or enforce a tax lien upon any property used or owned by Plaintiff, or from taking any other action authorized by state law for delinquent or unpaid taxes under California law.

Plaintiff will be required to post a bond under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(c). The parties are directed to meet and confer and agree if possible by 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on April 9, 2020 regarding the appropriate amount of the bond. See Opp. at 25 (seeking bond of "no less than \$1.6 million in lost tax revenue"), Reply at 15 (acknowledging that Plaintiff will post a bond if ordered, without indicating its view as to the appropriate amount of the bond). By that time, the parties should either file an agreed-upon proposed bond order (which should be done if at all possible), or separate proposed forms of order (understanding that the Court is going to require a bond notwithstanding Plaintiff's argument that doing so is unnecessary).

Consistent with the discussion at the hearing, see Dkt. No. 61 at 41, the parties are also directed to meet and confer and submit a joint proposal by April 15, 2020 regarding the proposed timing of initial disclosures, discovery and other proceedings in light of this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: 4/8/2020

HAYWOOD S. GILLIAM. JR. United States District Judge

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SECURED PROPERTY TAX BILL For Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Offices in Riverside, Palm Desert and Temecula

Visit our website: www.countytreasurer.org

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON REVERSE SIDE

SEE ATTACHMENT

JON CHRISTENSEN
TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR
4080 Lemon St (1st Floot) Riverside, California
(PC. Box 12005, Riverside, CA 92502-2205)
Talenbaner, (951) 955, 2000

Telephone: (951) 955-3900 or, from area codes 951 and 760 only toll free: 1 (877) RIVCOTX (748-2689)

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×	X	×	X	×	×	×			^	90000	MORCO COMMUNITY SHY DS	4-4873
							×			00000	HOME CAMPENS SANITARY	T/94-+
	X	×		X	×				••	00000,	NA MOSGUITO & VECTOR CNTL DIST	TZSV-V
×	×	×	×	X	×	×	×	×	×	00000	CSA 152	ZS81-+
×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	00000	FLOOD CONTROL ZN Z	
X		X			X	x	×	×	X.	00000		7-1362
	x		×	X						00000	FLOOD CONTROL ZN I	Taei-A
×	X	x	×	X	×	X	×	×	×	00000.	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	TSET->
×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	91910	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	9686-€
×	X	×	X	X	×	×	×	×	X	9T9T0.	VINEWRIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	3-9101
×	X	X	X	X	×	×	×	×	×	ETERO.	CORONA MORCO UNIFIED SCHOOL	1041-E
						×				00000 . 00000 .	CFD CITY OF CORONA 86-1	TLES-S
					×					00000.	CORONA ROY PROJ A-MID 4 SBZII	2-2309
						×			×	00000.	CORONA LTG MAINT 84-2	2-2307
						-			×	00000.	CORONA LTG MAINT 84-1	2-230S
~		*	¥	¥	×	×	×	x	×	00000.	CITY OF CORONA	TOEZ-Z
• •	• •	Ç	Ŷ	-	~					00000.	PROJECT 1-HOME GARDENS SB211	1-1125
ŵ	• •	•	•		¥ .	×	×	×	X	90000.	CENERAL	toot-t
٥	٥	•	0	0	Ç	Ç	Ş	Ÿ	Ŷ	1.00000	GENERAL PURPOSE	T-0000
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250-10	250-10	950-10	550-10	Z\$0-+0	T50-10	4+0-+0	910-10	210-10	T+0-+0	3TAR	BANK .	NUMBER
230-M	230-10	930-10	5	A 3 A A	A T E		ATT				-REVENUE DISTRICT-	

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68 3	3V4						21463 313	X		00000	I ALVORD DRAINAGE	0E4-8E
						x				00000		74-82
		~								00000.		74-82
		^					×	×		00000.	E RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION	28-473
×											SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	
CCATTIT	LICIT'T	T'15022	T'75022	T'TSO22	CCOZT'T	I'TSO22	1.12055	I'I5022	Z. ZZOSS	23TAS		
1.12055	P2251.1	22062 1	33067 .	330CF .	*****	×	×	×	×	00000		072-4
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^	^	•	~	Ŷ		×	-			00000.	I JURUPA AREA REC & PK	4-462
~		~	¥	¥	×	×	×	×	×	00000		25b-b
٥	•	Ç	2	×	×	×	×	×	×	00000.		\$8T->
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•	\$	Ç	Ŷ	×	×	×	×	×	×	00000.		SET->
•	\$	Ç	Ŷ	Ŷ	×	×	×	×	×	00000.		TTT->
0	•	Ç	Ş	×	×	×	×	×	×	00000.		€86-E
0	Ŷ	Ç	Ÿ	×	×	×	×	×	×	91910		3-370
•	~	Ç	Ŷ	X	×	×	×	×	×	18160.	MINERSIDE ONILIED SCHOOL	082- €
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	^				×					00000.		175-5
			×							00000.		075-5
¥	Y	¥	X	×	×	×	×	×	×	80300.		2-270
Ç	Ş	Ŷ	×	X	×	×	X	X	×	00000.		OOT-T
Ç	Ç	Ç	×	X	×	×	×	×	×	00000.I	O GENERAL PURPOSE	T-000
^	~		,									-
TT0-60	010-60	600-60	200-60	900-60	500-60	100-60	Z00-60	T00-60	000-60	STAR	A T W L C T C T C W T A T Vone	A38MUH
	~			VEEN	3 T A	A X	A T	********			-T 3 T # T 2 T O 3 H W 3 W 3 W	
							beltis	MU				

	REVENUE DISTRICT				ntitled							
NUMBER	NAME	RATE	09-133	09-135	09-137	09-138	09-139	09-140	09-141	09-142	09-143	09-1
1-0000	GENERAL PURPOSE	1.00000	X	x	X	x	×	×	x	×	×	×
1-1001	GENERAL	.00000	×	X	X	×	X	X	X	¥	Ŷ	¥
1-1190	RDV PROJ 5-HIGHGROVE AB1290	.00000	X	×	••	-			.,		_	
1-1193	PROJECT 5-HIGHGROVE SB211	.00000			×							
2-2701	CITY OF RIVERSIDE	.00608	X	x	×	×	x	X	X	¥	*	×
2-2708	CASA BLANCA REDEVEL PROJECT SB21	.00000	-	-	^	_	^	^	^	•	Ç	^
2-2718	ROV ARLINGTON AMNO 3 AB1290	.00000				×	X	¥	*	~	^	
3-0501	ALVORD UNIFIED SCHOOL	.15000				•	^	X	Ç	• •		
3-5801	RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL	.09481	X	x	X	×	X	^	^	^	~	•
3-5811	CFD 8 RIVERSIDE UNIFIED	.00000		•	^	^	^				٥	^
3-9101	RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	.01616	×	~	•	~	v			~	•	
3-9896	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	.00000	0	C	0	٥	C	• •	٥	•	٥	
4-1110	RIV CO REGIONAL PARK & OPEN SP	.00000	0	٥	٥	Ĉ	٥	Č	Š	2	X	X
4-1351	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	.00000	٥	٥			*	X	X	X	X	X
4-1361	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 1	.00000	2	*	×	×	×	×	×	×	X	×
4-1361 4-1852	CSA 152	.00000		×	×	×	×	X	X	X	×	×
4-4571		.00000	X	×	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	×
4-4907	NW MOSQUITO & VECTOR CHTL DIST	.00000	×	×	×	×	×	×	X	X	×	×
4-7307	LA SIERRA COMMUNITY SRY DS	.00000							×			
4-5300	SO. CALIF, 3T (19,30,33,36,37,56)	.00000	×	×	X	×	X	×	×	×	X	×
4-3331	MWD WEST 1302999	.00350	×	×	×	×	X	X	X	X	X	×
4-5701	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	.00000	×	X	X	×	×	X	X	X	X	X
4-5751	WMWD IMP DIST 1	.00000										X
	TAX RATE AREA	RATES	1.12055	1.12055	1.12055	1.12055	1.12055	1.17574	1.17574	1.17574	1.12055	1.120
	PECIAL ASSESSMENTS											
8-4736	RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION	.00000	×	×	X		×	×	×	×	×	
8-4743	SAN JACINTO BASIN RESOURCE CONS	.00000										×
		TAX RATES	BY TAX	RATE AR	EAS (201)	7-18)					PAC	SE 1

				Ur	titled							
NUMBER	REVENUE DISTRIC	RATE	09-157	09-158	09-159	09-162 R	09-163	09-166	09-167	09-168	09-169	09-171
1-0000	GENERAL PURPOSE	1.00000	×	×	×	×	×	X	X	X	×	×
1-1001	GENERAL	.00000	X	×	X	×	×	X	X	×	X	×
2-2000	RDV MARCH AIR BASE PROJ AB1290	.00000			1			X	×	×	_	
2-2701	CITY OF RIVERSIDE	.00608	×	X	×	X	×	X			^	0
2-2718	RDV ARLINGTON AMND 3 AB1290 RDV ARLINGTON 3 04AX E&F AB1290	.00000	x									^
2-2725 2-2726	RDV HUNTER PARK/NORTHSIDE A81290		*	×	X							
-0501	ALVORD UNIFIED SCHOOL	.15000		^	^							×
3-5801	RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL	.09481	×	×	×	×	×	x	×		×	
-8001	VAL VERDE UNIFIED	.06368				-				X		
3-9101	RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	.01616	X	×	×	×	×	X	X	×	×	X
3-9831	PERRIS AREA ELEM SCHOOL FUND	.00000								×		
-9832	PERRIS OR HIGH AREA FUND	.00000								×		
-9896	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	.00000	X	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	X
-1110	RIV CO REGIONAL PARK & OPEN SP	.00000	×	X	×	×	×	X	X	×	×	×
-1351	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	.00000	×	×	×	×	×	X	X	X	X	Š
-1361 -1362	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 1 FLOOD CONTROL ZN 2	.00000	X	×	×							X
-1852	CSA 152	.00000	×	~	~	Õ	Õ	٥	٥	٥	٥	•
-4571	NW MOSQUITO & VECTOR CNTL DIST	.00000	â	¢	â	0	\$	0	Ç	Ç	Ç	Ç
-5300	SO. CALIF, JT(19, 30, 33, 36, 37, 56)	.00000	- 2	Ç	Ç	ç	ç	- Ç	Ŷ	Ç	Ŷ	Ş.
-5351	MWD WEST 1302999	.00350	x	x	Ŷ	Ŷ	Ŷ	Ŷ	x	x	×	×
-5701	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	.00000	X	X	×	X	X	X	×	0.85	X	X
-5721	WHWD 10TH FR	.00000								×		
-5751	WHWD IMP DIST 1	.00000				×	×	×	×		×	
-5792	WHWD IMP DIST U-2	.00000					X	X	18,000			
	TAX RATE AREA	RATES	1.12055	1.12055	1.12055	1.12055	1.12055	1.12055	1.12055	1.08942	1.12055	1.1757
	PECIAL ASSESSMENTS	00000						- 1				
-4/30	RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION	.00000	EE BY TAV	-	X (301)	X 183	X	X	X	X	X	er X
		IAA KATI	ES BY TAX	KATE AR	EV2 (501	-10)					PA	GE 102

	REVENUE DISTRICT			U	ntitled							
UMBER	NAME	RATE	59-097	59-098	59-099		59-101	59-107	59-108	59-110	59-115	59-11
1-0000		1.00000		×	v			Fa.				
1-1001	GENERAL	.00000	0	0	•	*	X	X	×	×	X	×
1-1121	CO FREE LIBRARY	00000	0	٥		X	X	X	×	×	X	X
1-1121 1-1123	CO STRUCTURE FIRE PROTECTION	.00000	0	Ō	×	×	X	X	×	X	X	X
1-1149	RDV PROJI-ELCERRITO/TEMES AR1290	.00000	^	*	×	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3-1701	CORONA NORCO UNIFIED SCHOOL	.08313	x	¥	V			A	×		X	×
3-9101	KIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	.01616	Ç	0	C	0	2	^		X	X	×
3-9896	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	.00000	Ç	0	Ĉ.	Č		×	×	X	×	×
4-1030	CO WASTE RESOURCE MGMT DIST	.00000	0	0	٥		×	X	X	X	X	×
4-1110	RIV CO REGIONAL PARK & OPEN SP	.00000	C	0		×	×	X	X	X	X	×
4-1351	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	.00000	•		X	×	X	X	X	X	X	×
1-1362	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 2		X	×	X	×	X	X	X	X	×	×
-1852	CSA 152	.00000	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Y	Ÿ	0
-4151		.00000	×	×	×	×	x	×	Ÿ	Ç	• •	€ €
-4571	JURUPA COMMUNITY SERVICES	.00000							THE STATE OF	0	^	^
	NW MOSQUITO & VECTOR CHTL DIST	.00000	×	X	×	X	X		~	0		
-4621	JURUPA AREA REC & PK	.00000				•	~		^	•	*	×
-5300	50. CALIF, JT(19, 30, 33, 36, 37, 56)	.00000	×		¥	X	~		~	•		
-5351	NWD WEST 1302999	.00350	×		x	x	0	Ŷ	2	*	X	×
-5701	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	.00000	Ç		^	0	^	*	×	X	X	X
-5711	WHWD 1ST FR	.00000	~		~	^			X	×	X	X
-5717	WIND 7TH FR	.00000			*		×					
-5752	WHWD IMP DIST 2	.00000						X				
-5791	WNWD IMP DIST U-1	.00000						X		19		
	TAX RATE AREA		1 10270	1 00000		X	- X					
S	PECIAL ASSESSMENTS	WIES	1.10279	1.09929	1.10279	1.10279	1.10279	1.10279	1.10279	1.10279	1.10279	1.102
-4736	RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION	00000										
-4748	INLAND EMPIRE JT(33, 36)RES	.00000	×	X	×	X	X	X	X		X	x
-5263	TEMESCAL VALLEY	.00000								x		
2503	TEMESCAL VALLEY	.00000							x			X
		TAX RATE	S BY TAX	RATE ARE	AS (2017	-18)					PAG	E 37

NUMBER NAME 88-036 88-037 88-038 88-039 88-040 88-041 88-042 88-044 88-046 88-041 88-042 88-046 88-0		-REVENUE DISTRICT				ntitled				_			
1-1001 GENERAL 1-1121 CO FREE LIBRARY				88-036									88-04
1-101 GENERAL			1.00000	x	×	×	¥	×	×	×		~	×
1-1121 CO FREE LIBRARY 1-1123 CO STRUCTURE FIRE PROTECTION .00000	1-1001		.00000		×	×	Ŷ	Ŷ	ç	Ç	0	Ç	Ŷ
1-1123 CO STRUCTURE PIRE PROTECTION .00000	1-1121	CO FREE LIBRARY	.00000	×	×	×	Ç	Ç.	Ç	Ç	0	0	0
2-1939 PROJECT 3-HIGHROVE SE211 .00000 3-5801 RDV HARCH ATR BASE PROJ AB1290 .00000 3-5801 RTVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL .09481	1-1123	CO STRUCTURE FIRE PROTECTION		X	X	Ŷ		Ŷ	Ç	Ŷ	0	0	٥
3-9801 RIVERSIDE UNITIED SCHOOL 3-9101 RIVERSIDE UNITIED SCHOOL 3-9101 RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE 01616	1-1193	PROJECT 5-HIGHGROVE SB211			•••		••	^	_	^	0	^	^
3-9101 RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE 3-9896 RIVERSIDE CO DFC OF EDUCATION .00000		RDV MARCH AIR BASE PROJ AB1290									^	~	~
3-9896 RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION .00000		RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL	.09481	×	x	×	¥	¥	¥		v	0	0
4-1030 CO MASTE RESOURCE MGNT DIST	3-9101	RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE		×	×	×	Ŷ	Ç	Ç	Ç	0	0	0
4-1300 CO WASTE RESOURCE MGMT DIST .00000 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	3-9896	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	.00000	×	×	Ŷ	Ç	Ç	\$	٥	0	Ĉ	
4-1351 FLOOD CONTROL ZN 1 .00000	4-1030	CO WASTE RESOURCE MGMT DIST	.00000	×	×	Ÿ	Ç		Ç	0	٥	•	Č
4-1361 FLOOD CONTROL ADNIN .00000 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	4-1110	RIV CO REGIONAL PARK & OPEN SP		×	Ŷ	Ç	Ç		0	٥	Õ	ð	X
4-1362 FLOOD CONTROL ZN 2 .00000 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	4-1351	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN		Ŷ	Ŷ	Ç	0	0	0	٥	Č	X	X
4-1362 FLOOD CONTROL ZN 2 .00000 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	4-1361	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 1			^	^	^	^	^		X	X	X
4-1364 FLOOD CONTROL ZN 4		FLOOD CONTROL ZN 2		¥	~	v		•			X		
4-1838 CSA 156 * .00000 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	4-1364	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 4		^	^	^	*	X	X	X			X
4-1838 CSA 126	4-1788			¥								×	
4-4038 PERRIS VALLEY CEMETERY .00000	4-1838			^									
4-4038 PERRIS VALLEY CEMETERY .00000	4-1852	CSA 152		~	~						X		
4-5371 NW MOSQUITO & VECTOR CNTL DIST	4-4038	PERRIS VALLEY CEMETERY	00000			×	×	×	X	×	X	×	×
9-3900 SO. CALIF, 3T(19,30,33,36,37,56) .00000 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	4-4571	NW MOSQUITO & VECTOR CATE DIST		*	×	×			X				
4-5701 WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER .00000	4-5300	SO. CALIF. 3T(19.30.33.36.37.56)		v			×				×		
4-5701 WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER .00000	4-5351	MWD WEST 1302999	03500		X		×	×		×	X	×	×
4-5751 MMMD IMP DIST 1 .00000	4-5701	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	.00330	0	×	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	×
4-5751 MMMD IMP DIST 1 .00000	4-5721	WAND TOTH FR		×	×	×	×	×	X	X	X		•
4-5755 WHITD IMP I BOND LEVY ONLY .00000 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	4-5751	WMWD IMP DIST 1										×	×
4-5785 WHWD IMP DIST F	4-5755		.00000		×					×		••	
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS 8-4736 RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION .00000 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	4-5785	WHIND THE DIST E											
8-4736 RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION .00000 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X			.00000				×	×	X				
8-4736 RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION .00000 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	SP	SCTAL ACCECUENTS	KATES	1.11447	1.11447	1.11447	1.11447	1.11447	1.11447	1.11447	1.11447	1.11447	1.1144
TAX RATES BY TAX BATE ABEAS (2017-18)	8-4736	RTV CORONA DESCRIPCE CONCERNATION	00000										
IAX KAIPS BY TAY DATE ADEAC (2017-10)	8-4743	SAN JACTUTO BASTN BESONDER COM		×	×	×	×	×	X	×	×		*
IAX KATES BY TAY DATE ADEAS (2017-10)	- 1113	SAL SUCTION BYSTH KERONKE CONS		×	X	×	X	×	X	×	-	¥	^
			TAX RATE	S BY TAX	RATE ARE	AS (2017	-18)					^ B4C	- 445

View Image: Image On-Demand

ITEM DETAILS

ACCOUNT NUMBER

1077654517

ACCOUNT NAME

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY ACCOUNTS

POST DATE

12/14/2017

CCY

USD

AMOUNT

400,733.67

TRANSACTION TYPE

Checks/Debits

SEQ / REF #

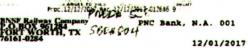
77510037

SERIAL #

16023191

IMAGE FRONT





FOUR HUMDRED THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY THREE USD AND 67 CENTS

0016023191 \$400,733.67

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE RIVERSIDE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR PO BOX 12005 RIVERSIDE CA 92502-2205 USA

DO16023191 40433016274 1077654517*

IMAGE BACK

Proc. 12/12/2017 Nec .12/12/2017 017686 0 07905662

View Image: Image On-Demand

ITEM DETAILS

ACCOUNT NUMBER

1077654517

ACCOUNT NAME

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY ACCOUNTS

POST DATE

04/11/2018

CCY

USD

AMOUNT

400,733.67

TRANSACTION TYPE

Checks/Debits

SEQ / REF #

74710662

SERIAL #

16035234

IMAGE FRONT

Proc.04/09/7018 Rec.04/09/7018 013683 2



PNC Bank, N.A. 001

60 - 162 / 433

04/02/2018

0016035234

PAY

OUR HUNDRED THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY THREE USD AND 67 CENTS

\$400,733.67

PAY TO TH

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE RIVERSIDE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR PO BOX 12005 RIVERSIDE CA 92502-2205 USA

ROBE

IMAGE BACK

Proc.04/09/2018 Rec.04/09/2018 013883 2

07958198

Date: June 28, 2017

Memorandum

To:

Honorable Diane L. Harkey, Chairwoman Honorable George Runner, Vice Chair Honorable Fiona Ma, CPA, Second District Honorable Jerome E. Horton, Third District Honorable Betty T. Yee, State Controller

From:

Mark Durham, Chief

Research and Statistics Section

Subject:

PRIVATE RAILROAD CAR TAX RATE JULY 2017 - BOARD MEETING

The attached table shows the 2016-17 average tax rate applicable to 2017-18 private railroad car tax assessments. The average rate of taxation throughout the state for 2016-17 was 1.141 percent, as computed under the provisions of Section 11403 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

The report on computation of the tax rate indicates a rate for the 2017-18 private railroad car tax of 1.141 percent.

MD:hn

Attachment

cc: (All with attachment)

Ms. Amy Kelly

Mr. Dean Kinnee

Ms. Joann Richmond

Ms. Michele Pielsticker

Mr. Richard Reisinger

Recommendation by:

Approved:

Mark Durham, Chief

Research and Statistics Section

Executive Director

COMPUTATION OF THE TAX RATE APPLICABLE TO 2017-18 PRIVATE RAILROAD CAR TAX ASSESSMENTS (Assessed Values and Levies in Thousands of Dollars)

Pro Total besseach Countiles Value Levies Levies				Non-total Property	Levies on Total		erage Tax
Courries Value Levies Le	AuleV	اماناه					
Chomela				Levies"	Property	16A	etsf
\$ 3,094,984 \$ 3,094,984 \$. •	\$		1.211 %
71S,7 S48,1S7 eniqlA					7,217	1	1.000
ootiot of the same					94,64		710.1
Calaveras 6,355,817 221,584		7		502	221,379		650.1
Colusa 3,836,721 40,405					70,354		011.1
Contra Costa 184,659,080 2,118,229				157	804,04 874,711,2		520.1
776,81 800,697,1 ehoV led					778,81		741.1
El Dorado 29,762,050 318,186	29,762,050			764	317,690		790.1
Fresho 741,247 864,637					769,438		661.1
Glenn 3,036,978 32,125				-	32,125		1.058
T88,861 145,888,21 138,687				•	138,687		360.1
709,261					132,907		1.176
810,84 00,412,400 meX					810,24		890.1
Kem 80,782,378 961,422 Kings 10,401,764 112,243					961,422		061.1
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1. Non-total property levies are special district voter-approved tax levies that can include special taxes on intangibles, aircraft, baled cotton, special assessments, or any other property which is subject to a uniform statewide tax rate.

BNSF Railway 2301 Lou Menk Drive Alan Annis Fort Worth Texas 76131

USPS CERTIFIED MAIL



9214 8901 9403 8347 7608 50

RIVERSIDE COUNTY CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PO BOX 1147 **RIVERSIDE CA 92502-1147**

Return Reference Number:Riverside 2017-18

Username: Alan Annis

Custom 1:

Custom 2:

Custom 3:

Custom 4:

Custom 5:

LERK/BOARD OF SUPERVISOR: 2021 AUG 3 | AM 10: 15





COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE CLAIM FOR REFUND OF TAX PAYMENT(S)

								Reset Form
Claimant's Name:	First:		ailway Company	Last:				
Mailing Address:	P. O. Box 96	1089		City:	Fort Worth			
State: Texas	4	Zip:	76161-0089 C	ontact No.	: ((817)) 352-	-3418		
Assessor's Parcel N	umber: 3	3-804 (As	sessment Number)	SBE (Bill N	umber)			
Property Address:	Unitary Pro	perty in SI	BE TRA 000-002	City:	N/A	Zip:	N/A	

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 5, Article I, of the California Revenue and Taxation Code (commencing with Section 5096), I am (we are) herewith filing this claim with the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, and ask that a refund of taxes and/or penalties be made for the following amounts:

Fiscal Year(s) Refund is Claimed	Date(s) Taxes Paid	Amount of Tax Claim	Amount of Penalty Claim	Total Amount
20 18-19	12/03/2018	\$150,203.33	\$	\$150,203.33
20 18 - 19	04/01/2019	\$ 150,203.32	\$	\$150,203.32
20		\$	\$	\$
20		\$	\$	\$
20		\$	\$	\$

reasons (use attachments if necessary): See Attached Exhibit A.	g
OCC Attached Exhibit A.	
	Pos
202	SES
	AN A
I hereby declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and	correct
that the taxes and/or penalties sought to be refunded were paid within four years prior to the filing of this claim	
the amounts herein claimed are correct; and no part thereof has been refunded to the claimant or to any other	person
for claimant's benefit; and if acting on behalf of a legal entity, I am duly authorized to act on its behalf and that t	he title
shown below is true and correct.	VIS.
52	35-
alactaria Mai I di i da	-

Page 1 of 3

cob/claimforrefund

4/12/2016

PLEASE NOTE: This form is provided as a courtesy and does not constitute legal advice to claimants. Claimants are strongly advised to consult an attorney regarding their rights and obligations, particularly with regard to exhaustion of administrative remedies and the applicability of statutes of limitation on filing claims and lawsuits for refund of property taxes.

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED WITH PROOF OF TAX PAYMENT TO:

Riverside County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

4080 Lemon Street, 1st Floor Riverside, CA 92502

Phone (951) 955-1060

Fax (951) 955-1071

Internet: www.rivcocob.org

	County Use	e Only	Print Form
Date Received:	Date Referred to C	ounty Counsel:	
Signature:	Title:	Date:	



Alan M. Annis, Director of Taxes **BNSF Railway Company** P.O. Box 961089 Fort Worth, Texas 76161-0089

Tel: Fax: Email: (817) 352-3418 (817) 593-6758 alan.annis@bnsf.com

August 27, 2021

Via Certified Mail (9214 8901 9403 8347 7633 70) Return Receipt Requested

RE: CLAIM FOR REFUND OF TAXES AND/OR PENALTIES PAID

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors County of Riverside P. O. Box 1147 Riverside, CA 92502-1147

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached is a Claim for Refund of Property Tax Payments in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 5, Article I, of the California Revenue and Taxation Code (commencing with Section 5096). I am (we are) herewith filing this claim with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside and ask that a refund of taxes and/or penalties be made for the amounts in the attached Claim for Refund of Tax Payment(s).

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me directly at (817) 352-3418.

Sincerely,

Alan M. Annis

Director of Taxes

alan M. Auna

enclosure

2021 AUG 3 | AM 10: 18

Exhibit A

BNSF Railway Company

Factual Reasons the Tax was Illegally Levied and Collected

The tax rates applied to the assessed value of BNSF Railway Company's ("BNSF") property exceed the tax rates applicable to other commercial and industrial property in the various taxing districts within this county. These excessive tax rates violate Section 306(1)(c) of the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976, codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 11501(b)(3), which prohibits state and local governments from levying or collecting any ad valorem property tax on railroad property at a tax rate higher than the tax rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction. To the extent that the tax rates applied to the assessed values of BNSF's property exceed the tax rates as calculated pursuant to the decision of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in Trailer Train Company v. State Board of Equalization, 697 F.2d 860 (9th Cir.), cert. denied, 464 U.S. 846 (1983), the levy and collection of the excessive taxes violated Section 306(1)(c). The United States District Court Northern District of California recently agreed with BNSF's position when United States District Judge Haywood S. Gilliam, Jr. granted BNSF Railway Company's Motion for Preliminary Injunction when he ordered that the Defendant counties "are hereby ENJOINED through the pendency of this litigation until entry of a final judgment from levying or collecting ad valorem property taxes from Plaintiff on its unitary property based on a tax rate higher than the annual average tax rate of general property taxation calculated and reported for each county by the California State Board of Equalization under Cal. Rev. & Tax Code §11403." A copy of Judge Gilliam, Jr.'s Order is attached.

Therefore, the excessive taxes were illegally levied and erroneously and illegally collected, entitling BNSF to a refund of the excessive taxes with interest, costs, and attorney's fees as allowed by law, pursuant to Cal. Rev. & Tax Code Section 5096 et seq. and any other applicable statute, rule, and regulation.

This refund claim is being filed with the Board of Supervisors and/or the Treasurer/Tax Collector. Please contact Alan Annis at (817) 352-3418 for any further information.

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORN	IA

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY.

Plaintiff.

ALAMEDA COUNTY, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 19-cv-07230-HSG

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

Re: Dkt. No. 35

Pending before the Court is Plaintiff BNSF Railway Company's ("BNSF") motion for a preliminary injunction (Dkt. No. 35 ("Mot.")), for which briefing is complete. Dkt. Nos, 43 ("SD Opp."), 44 ("Counties' Opp."), 53 ("Reply"). BNSF requests a preliminary injunction against fifteen counties ("Defendants," or "Defendant Counties") under 49 U.S.C. § 11501(b)(3), which prohibits applying higher tax rates to railroad property. On March 12, 2020, the Court held a hearing on the motion. Dkt. No. 58. The Court GRANTS the motion for preliminary injunction.

BACKGROUND

The 4-R Act

The 4-R Act (now codified at 49 U.S.C. § 11501 ("Section 11501")) was passed in 1976 to "restore the financial stability of the railway system." Burlington N. R.R. v. Oklahoma Tax Comm'n, 481 U.S. 454, 457 (1987). This was, in part, because railroads "are easy prey for State and local tax assessors," as they are "nonvoting, often nonresident, targets for local taxation" that cannot easily remove themselves from the locality. W. Air Lines, Inc. v. Board of Equalization of State of S.D., 480 U.S. 123, 131 (1987). Congress declared that state and local taxation schemes that discriminate against rail carriers "unreasonably burden and discriminate against interstate commerce." 49 U.S.C. § 11501(b). As relevant here, Section 11501(b)(3) bans discriminatory tax

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rates, and provides that state and local governments may not "levy or collect an ad valorem tax on rail transportation property at a tax rate that exceeds the tax rate applicable to commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction." Id.

B. California Property Taxation

California's system of taxation is, in a word, complicated. California law imposes an ad valorem (i.e., value-based) property tax on all property in the State, unless exempt, in proportion to its assessed value. Cal. Const. Art. XIII, § 1. Taxation is a three-step process. First, the value of taxable property is assessed. Next, the applicable tax rate is computed, typically expressed as a percentage of assessed value. Finally, the tax is levied and collected from the taxpayer.

Most property in California, including general "commercial and industrial property," is "locally assessed," meaning that county assessors determine the assessed value of the property for tax purposes. See Declaration of Alan M. Annis, Dkt. No. 35-1, ("Annis Decl.") ¶ 7. California classifies and taxes the bulk of property in the state as either "secured" or "unsecured." See id. ¶ 8. The "secured roll" consists of most state-assessed property and that portion of locally assessed property for which the taxes are secured by a lien on real property of a value sufficient to pay the taxes. See Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 109. The "unsecured roll" consists of all other property, such as personal property and possessory interests in tax-exempt land. Id.

Every year, each Defendant County's board of supervisors determines the tax rates to be applied in the county for locally assessed property and for unitary property, applying different statutory formulas. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 2151. Defendants' respective auditors apply these applicable tax rates to the assessed value shown on the assessment rolls. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 2152. Then, Defendants' respective tax collectors collect the taxes on unitary property at the unitary rate determined by each county. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code §§ 2605, 2610.5. Locally assessed property, including commercial and industrial property, is assigned to a particular "Tax Rate Area" within each county, based on the property's location. See Annis Decl. ¶ 11.

For property on the secured tax roll, the annual ad valorem tax rate for each Tax Rate Area is established as (a) a 1% general tax levy, typically used to fund general government services, plus (b) an amount necessary to produce sufficient revenues to pay the interest and principal on

United States District Court Northern District of California any voter-approved bonded indebtedness issued by the county or by the local agencies, school entities, and special districts serving that Tax Rate Area. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 93 ("Section 93"), enacted per Cal. Const. Art. XIIIA, § 1 ("Proposition 13"). This latter portion of the Section 93 tax rate above the 1% base levy is known as the "debt service component." Under Proposition 13, real property must be valued at its 1975 fair market value (as shown on the 1975-76 assessment roll), or thereafter, the fair market value when purchased, newly constructed, or a change of ownership has occurred after the 1975 assessment (i.e., the occurrence of an "assessable event"). Cal. Const., art. XIII, § 2(a).

The debt service component is the sum of separately calculated rates for each local agency, school entity or special district with outstanding debt. To calculate the elements of the debt service component, the County first determines how much revenue it will need to make debt service payments for the upcoming year for the voter-approved debt of the local agency, school entity, or special district. See Cal. Gov. Code § 29100. Next, the County determines the portion of assessed property values on the secured roll subject to the voter-approved debt issued by the local agency, school entity or special district (i.e., the property located within the boundaries of each local entity). Id. The County then calculates the percentage of those total property values that will produce the necessary revenues to service the debt issued by that local entity, after allowances for delinquencies and annual changes to the roll, among other factors. Id. The debt service component in each Tax Rate Area is the sum of these calculated percentages for every local agency, school entity or special district serving that Tax Rate Area. The debt service component is combined with the 1% base levy to compute the total property tax rate in each Tax Rate Area for property on the secured roll.

The property tax rate for property on the unsecured roll is the secured roll tax rate for that Tax Rate Area for the previous year. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 2905. This rule is consistent with the separate requirement that unsecured taxes are due each year before the County calculates the secured tax rate for that year. See Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 2922.

In contrast, the State Board assesses the value of certain utility and railroad property (including Plaintiff's property). Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 721. The State Board assesses

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Plaintiff's property using the principle of unit valuation, under which all of a taxpayer's assets, wherever located, are valued as a unit, and that unitary value is then allocated among particular taxing jurisdictions. See Annis Decl. § 6. State-assessed property that is valued under the principle of unit valuation is also referred to as "unitary property." See Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code §§ 723, 723.1. Unit taxation provides a way to value and tax property in businesses for which the component parts of the business are valuable when considered as a whole, but worth less when considered in isolation. See ITT World Commc'ns, Inc. v. City & Cnty. of S.F., 37 Cal. 3d 859, 863 (Cal. 1985). For example, "ten miles of [railroad] track . . . 'would have a questionable value, other than as scrap, without the benefit of the rest of the system as a whole." Am. Airlines, Inc. v. Cnty. of San Mateo, 12 Cal. 4th 1110, 1126 (Cal. 1996) (internal citations and brackets omitted).

C. **Taxation Applicable to Railways**

Plaintiff's primary argument is that the tax rate applicable to its property is calculated under a different formula than the Section 93 tax rate for locally-assessed commercial and industrial property, resulting in a tax rate higher than the Section 93 tax rate. According to Plaintiff, first, under Cal. Rev & Tax. Code § 100.11, the value attributable to the state-assessed unitary property of a regulated railway company is generally allocated to a single countywide Tax Rate Area in each county in which the property is located. The "unitary" tax rate to be applied to these countywide tax rate areas is established in accordance with the formula in Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 100(b)(2) ("Section 100"). Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 100.11(a)(2)(B).

Section 100 (like Section 93) includes the base 1% tax levy. However, the additional unitary debt service component under Section 100 is calculated by taking the County's previous year's unitary debt service rate and multiplying it by the percentage change between the two preceding fiscal years in the County's ad valorem debt service levy for the secured roll (excluding unitary and operating nonunitary debt service levies). See Mot. at 8. Plaintiff contends that this formula has caused the Section 100 unitary tax rate to diverge from the Section 93 secured and unsecured tax rates. In particular, when a County's debt service needs increase, the secured and unsecured rates will not rise if property values also rise and keep pace with inflation. But under those same circumstances, the Section 100 unitary debt service rate will increase because it

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depends on the absolute dollar amount of debt service.

The State Board calculates and publishes the annual "average rate of general property taxation" in each California county. Annis Decl. ¶ 24-26, 32. The State Board computes this average tax rate by dividing (a) the sum of the total ad valorem property tax levies in each county for each year, by (b) the total assessed value of all property in that county for that same year. See Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 11403. For the 2019-20 tax year, using the methods described above, Plaintiff contends that the Defendant Counties have levied property taxes at the unitary rate applicable in their respective assessment jurisdictions. Below are the alleged differences between the unitary rate applied to Plaintiff's property and the Section 11501 "benchmark rate":

County	2019-20 Plaintiff Unitary Rate	2019-20 Section 11501 Benchmark Rate
Alameda	2.5187%	1.241%
Contra Costa	1.6865%	1.148%
Fresno	1.370408%	1.181%
Kern	1.611299%	1.24%
Kings	1.326084%	1.087%
Madera	1.203169%	1.089%
Merced	1.4109014%	1.088%
Orange	1.28173%	1.064%
Plumas	1.11652%	1.089%
Riverside	1.76133%	1.164%
San Bernardino	1.3645%	1.144%
San Diego	1.62331%	1.142%
San Joaquin	1.6922%	1.145%
Stanislaus	1.38011%	1.103%
Tulare	1.4002%	1.113%

See Annis Decl. ¶33.1

¹ The average rate difference for the Defendant Counties for the 2019-2020 fiscal year is only 0.38%, while the median difference is 0.29%. Differences in prior years are generally even smaller. See Narciso Decl., ¶ 10 & Ex. 7. With these smaller differences, Defendants are correct that it is all the more important for Plaintiff to meet its burden of demonstrating that it has identified the tax rate applicable to the proper comparison class. However, most Defendants admit in their Answer (ECF No. 52 ¶ 34)—and San Diego states that it lacks sufficient information to

II. LEGAL STANDARD

The prohibition on tax rate discrimination is enforceable through an action for equitable relief in federal court. In enacting Section 11501, "Congress ... believed that a federal court remedy for carriers subject to discriminatory taxation was necessary because state courts were not providing them with a plain, speedy, and efficient remedy." *Trailer Train Co. v. State Bd. Of Equalization*, 697 F.2d 860, 866 (9th Cir. 1983). Congress thus included in Section 11501 "a procedural component which authorizes victims of discrimination to seek injunctive relief in federal court." *Id.* This provision specifically empowers federal courts to "grant such mandatory or prohibitive injunctive relief, interim equitable relief, and declaratory judgments as may be necessary to prevent, restrain, or terminate any acts in violation of [Section 11501]," notwithstanding 28 U.S.C. § 1341. *Id.* at 869 & n.16; see 49 U.S.C. § 11501(c).

Plaintiff contends that a preliminary injunction under Section 11501 is not governed by the traditional equitable criteria of likelihood of success, irreparable harm, balance of hardships, or public interest. See Mot. at 5 (citing Trailer Train, 697 F.2d at 869). Instead, because Section 11501 specifically contemplates interim equitable relief, a preliminary injunction must issue "[w]here the trial court finds reasonable cause to believe that a violation of Section [11501] has been, or is about to be, committed." Burlington N. R. Co. v. Dep't. of Revenue of State of Wash., 934 F.2d 1064, 1074 (9th Cir. 1991); BNSF Ry. v. Tenn. Dep't of Revenue, 800 F.3d 262, 268 (6th Cir. 2015) ("[A] railroad seeking injunctive relief under the 4-R Act need only demonstrate that there is 'reasonable cause' to believe a violation of the 4-R Act has occurred or is about to occur.").

Defendants disagree, and contend that the Court should instead apply the traditional equitable criteria. Defendants believe that the Ninth Circuit's decisions in *Burlington* and *Trailer Train* (as well as other circuit court decisions) misapplied—or failed to apply—the Supreme Court's decision in *Weinberger v. Romero-Barcelo*, 456 U.S. 305 (1982), and instead incorrectly applied the Tenth Circuit's standard in *Atchison, T. & S.F. Railway Co. v. Lennen*, 640 F.2d 255,

state (ECF No. 51 ¶ 10)—that the tax rates set forth in the chart are the tax rates levied on Plaintiff by the Defendant Counties, and the 2019-2020 tax rates the State Board calculates pursuant to Section 11403 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

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259-61 (10th Cir. 1981), the first instance in which the "reasonable cause" standard was applied to an alleged 4-R Act violation.

Notwithstanding any arguments Defendants may wish to preserve for potential en banc consideration on appeal, the Ninth Circuit has clearly decided this question. See Burlington N., 934 F.2d at 1074 ("Issuance of preliminary injunctive relief in Section [11501] cases is not governed by the traditional equitable criteria applicable in actions between private litigants"); Trailer Train, 697 F.2d at 869 ("The standard requirements for equitable relief need not be satisfied when an injunction is sought to prevent the violation of a federal statute which specifically provides for injunctive relief. . . . Section [11501] clearly falls within this exception because its subsection (c) specifically authorizes a district court to grant injunctive relief to prevent a violation of the statute."). This Court is bound to apply that clear holding unless the "circuit authority is clearly irreconcilable with the reasoning or theory of intervening higher authority." Miller v. Gammie, 335 F.3d 889, 893 (9th Cir. 2003). The Court finds that no intervening authority permits it to disregard the "reasonable cause" standard set out by the Ninth Circuit in Burlington and Trailer Train.2 Accordingly, the Court applies that standard, and will issue a preliminary injunction if there is reasonable cause to believe that a violation of the 4-R Act has occurred, is occurring, or will occur.

III. **ANALYSIS**

A. Commercial and Industrial Property

The plain language of Section 11501(b)(3) prohibits levying "an ad valorem property tax on rail transportation property at a tax rate that exceeds the tax rate applicable to commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction." Section 11501(a)(2) defines "assessment jurisdiction" as "a geographical area in a State used in determining the assessed value of property for ad valorem taxation." Section 11501(b)(3) recognizes that "tax-rate variation" is improper

² Defendants assert that Trailer Train neither cites nor acknowledges the Supreme Court's ruling in Romero-Barcelo, presumably (according to Defendants) because Trailer Train was argued and submitted on March 10, 1982, while Romero-Barcelo was not decided until April 27, 1982. See Counties' Opp. at 10 n. 3. However, Trailer Train was decided by the Ninth Circuit on January 25, 1983, more than seven months after Romero-Barcelo.

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(b) The following acts unreasonably burden and discriminate against interstate commerce, and a State, subdivision of a State, or authority acting for a State or subdivision of a State may not do any of them: * * * (3) Levy or collect an ad valorem property tax on rail transportation property at a tax rate that exceeds the tax rate applicable to commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction.

taxation of railroad property. Trailer Train, 697 F.2d at 865-66. The relevant section states:

49 U.S.C. § 11501 (emphasis added). Defendants, as counties of California, are legal subdivisions of the State of California, (Cal. Const. Art. XI, § 1), and thus are subject to Section 11501(b)(3). And Plaintiff's unitary property in California is "rail transportation property" within the meaning of Section 11501(b)(3) and is, therefore, entitled to the protection of the statute. See Declaration of Judy A. Cummings, Dkt. No. 35-2 ¶ 4.

The disputed element of Section 11501(b)(3) is the comparison to "the tax rate applicable to commercial and industrial property." See Mot. at 2. In order to prove a violation of Section 11501(b)(3), Plaintiff must demonstrate that Defendants are levying or collecting an ad valorem property tax at a rate that exceeds the rate applicable to commercial and industrial property located in the same assessment jurisdiction as Plaintiff's property. 49 U.S.C. § 11501(b)(3).

The Ninth Circuit established the framework for that comparison in Trailer Train. Plaintiffs there sued to enjoin the collection of a state tax on private railroad cars because the applicable tax rate was higher than the rate for commercial and industrial property under the thenadopted Proposition 13, such that the private railroad car tax "discriminated against owners of railtransportation property" in violation of Section 11501(b)(3). 697 F.2d at 864. After recognizing the purpose of Section 11501 and affirming the district court's authority to enjoin violations of the statute, the Ninth Circuit turned to comparing the challenged tax rate to "the rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial property." Id. at 866-67.

The Ninth Circuit explained that this "task is complicated by the fact that," due to California's unique classification system (dividing property into secured and unsecured, as opposed to residential and commercial/industrial), "California has no specific tax rate for commercial and industrial property." Id. at 867. Because neither Section 11501, "nor its legislative history provides guidance as to what should be done when a specific rate generally

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applicable to commercial and industrial property is not readily apparent," the Ninth Circuit articulated a framework with two alternative approaches for identifying "the tax rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial properties" specifically in California, and specifically under Section 11501. Id.

The first approach in that framework is to determine "the tax rate applicable" to whichever tax roll, either secured or unsecured, contains "the majority of [the] commercial and industrial property." Id. Determining which tax roll contains the majority of commercial and industrial property is (often) straightforward. The secured roll in each county contains the vast majority (consistently over 90%) of the assessed value and the taxes levied against all property in that county, and the secured roll, according to Plaintiff, almost certainly contains the majority of commercial and industrial property. See Annis Decl. ¶¶ 30-31.

However, the weakness of this approach is that "the tax rate applicable" to the property on the secured roll cannot be determined. Plaintiff contends that the property on the secured roll is spread among the hundreds or thousands of Tax Rate Areas in each Defendant County that each have their own tax rates. See id. ¶¶ 15, 31. Thus, Plaintiff contends that there is no identifiable "tax rate applicable" to property on the secured or unsecured roll of any of the Counties.

As a fallback, the Ninth Circuit in Trailer Train authorized a second approach. First, the Court is to determine the average tax rate for all property in the relevant county. See Trailer Train, 697 F.2d at 868 n.13 ("We thus, for reasons different from those articulated by the district court, conclude that the average rate for all property should be used when the rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial property cannot be determined.").

Plaintiff alleges that identifying the "average rate for all property" is possible because the State Board already calculates that rate—the annual "average tax rate of general property taxation" in each county. See Annis Decl. ¶ 24. By statute, the State Board calculates this average tax rate by dividing (a) the sum of all ad valorem property tax levies in a given county for a given year by (b) the sum of the assessed values of all property in that county for that same year. Cal. Rev. & Tax. Code § 11403. According to Plaintiff, the State Board-calculated rate for each county is the maximum rate the Defendants can apply to railroad property, meaning that taxing railroad

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property at rates that are higher than the Section 11501 "Benchmark Rate" is a violation of Section 11501(b)(3).

Defendants counter that the relevant assessment jurisdiction is the area of the entire State of California that contains the unitary property, and the tax rate applied to the railroad must be compared to the tax rate applied to other commercial and industrial property that is assessed as unitary property. Counties' Opp. at 19. Defendants further contend that, under Article XIII, Section 19 of the California Constitution, the assessment jurisdiction of the State includes the following types of property: "(1) pipelines, flumes, canals, ditches, and aqueducts lying within 2 or more counties and (2) property, except franchises, owned or used by regulated railway, telegraph, or telephone companies, car companies operating on railways in the State, and companies transmitting or selling gas or electricity." Id. at 20.

Defendants, in theory, are contending that Section 100 (applicable to Plaintiff) does not differentiate in the way tax rates are applied among these commercial and industrial properties, because these nonrailroad companies do not have a different rate than Plaintiff. Put differently, all of the non-railroad commercial and industrial property that is assessed as "unitary property" for purposes of local property taxation is taxed pursuant to Section 100.

The Court finds Defendants' suggestion that it should compare Plaintiff's tax rate to the rates for a relatively narrow subset of other state-assessed utilities and other entities that pay the same unitary tax rate inconsistent with the 4-R Act. Section 11501(b)(3) calls for a broader comparison to the rate paid by "commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction," where an "assessment jurisdiction" is "a geographical area in a State." 49 U.S.C. 11501(a)(2) (emphasis added). The "commercial and industrial property in" the "geographical area" of California clearly is not limited to state-assessed utilities or similar Section 19 property: it embraces all commercial and industrial taxpayers in the state. For the same reasons that there are not county-specific rates for commercial and industrial taxpayers in California, (Mot. 9-10, 14-15), there are also no statewide rates.

³ Plaintiff contends they will pay, for the 2019-20 tax year, a total of more than \$3.2 million in taxes prohibited by Section 11501. See Annis Decl. ¶ 35.

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Railroads, like other utilities such as pipelines and telecommunications companies, are "easy prey" in that they are "nonvoting, often nonresident" targets "who cannot easily remove themselves from the locality." Western Air Lines, Inc. v. Board of Equal., 480 U.S. 123, 131 (1987) (quotation marks omitted). The solution, Congress recognized early on, was to link railroads' fate with a mass of other taxpayers by insisting that "[rail] carriers are accorded equal tax treatment with other taxpayers." S. Rep. No. 87-445 at 466 (1961). Significantly, before the final version of Section 11501 was passed, a provision permitting comparisons solely against public utilities was introduced and rejected. See Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Ry. Co. v. Ariz., 559 F. Supp. 1237, 1244 (D. Ariz. 1983) (citing S. Rep. No. 92-1085 (1972)). The upshot is that the comparison the Defendant Counties propose—between railroads and other state-assessed taxpayers subject to the same tax laws—does not comport with the statute Congress enacted.

Defendants appear to recognize that Trailer Train poses a challenge for their argument. They contend that the taxes at issue here are calculated at the local level and do not require use of a statewide general property tax rate, whereas Trailer Train involved the applicability of the 4-R Act to a statewide tax on plaintiffs' private railroad cars, and the effort to identify a comparison class for that statewide tax. 697 F.2d at 862.

But that is a distinction without a difference. The challenge in Trailer Train, as here, was determining which group of commercial and industrial property to use as a comparison class, given that commercial and industrial property appeared on both the secured and unsecured rolls. The Ninth Circuit held first that "[t]he tax rate applicable to the roll that contained the majority of the commercial and industrial property shall be deemed the rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial property and will serve as the base rate for comparison against the Companies' \$10.68 rate." Id. at 867. The Ninth Circuit further reasoned that "[i]f the determination of which roll contained the majority of the state's commercial and industrial property in the 1978-79 fiscal year is not possible, the average tax rate for all property shall be used as the basis for comparison." Id.

Defendants characterize Trailer Train as hinging on its discussion of a uniform statewide tax versus local taxation of unitary property. But this ignores the Ninth Circuit's recognition that

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there is no specific commercial and industrial rate for locally assessed property in California. Defendants contention that Trailer Train predates the legislation subjecting railroad property to unitary rates is irrelevant to the key question that Trailer Train resolves—how to determine the appropriate comparison rate for locally-assessed property-and California law on that point remains unchanged.

The Court finds that Defendants' proposed comparison is untethered from the statutory language and unsupported by Section 11501 jurisprudence. Indeed, under the Defendants' approach—under which railroads are only compared to taxpayers that are taxed like railroads violations of Section 11501(b)(3) likely would be rare or nonexistent, and Congress would have accomplished very little. The statute's use of the term "assessment jurisdiction" demonstrates that Congress was concerned with the basic principle that like property should be treated alike. Because there is no specific commercial and industrial rate in the State of California, Trailer Train authorized the use of either the rate for the secured roll or the average rate for all property.

Accordingly, under the Trailer Train framework, Plaintiff has established reasonable cause that a violation of Section 11501(b)(3) has occurred or will occur if it is required to pay taxes at the rate Defendants claim applies for the 2019-20 tax year.

B. Discrimination and Justification

Defendants make a secondary argument that Plaintiff (and the railroad industry) lobbied to be taxed at the Section 100(b) rate that Plaintiff now alleges is unlawful. According to Defendants, the railroad industry wanted its taxes to be calculated under Section 100(b) because the railroads wanted to "reduce[] the administrative burden imposed on the Board of Equalization, county auditors and treasurers, and the railroads." See Declaration of Michael Narciso, Dkt. No. 44-4 Ex. 5 at pages 316-17 (ECF pagination).

Defendants cite to the railroad industry's arguments in favor of the current law, specifically the claim that "each year, the railroads, the State Board of Equalization (SBE) and individual taxing jurisdictions must undertake a painstaking and time consuming process in which they are forced to redraw hundreds of 'tax maps' and prepare a similar number of bills for each and every tax rate area where there are railroad tracks. ... This year, for instance, Union Pacific Railroad

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and BNSF Railway Company received more than 2,400 tax rate area changes and 2,850 operating tax bills from the tax districts." Id. Defendants point out that this legislation, by allowing the railroad to pay only on one tax rate area in each county, reduced the number of operating tax bills from 2,850 to approximately 61. Id.

Defendants thus argue that any discriminatory outcome for Plaintiff was a direct result of the railroad industry's lobbying efforts regarding which tax rates would apply to its members in California. Defendants use the legislative history to argue that Plaintiff should not be allowed to reap the benefits of its lobbying efforts, then pounce only once it perceives an advantage in invoking Section 11501. Defendants contend that Section 11501 is meant to address concerns about the railroads' political vulnerability and establishes a prohibition only as to discriminatory state taxation of railroad property. Thus, Defendants conclude, because the railroads in California wanted to be taxed pursuant to Section 100(b), and wanted to benefit themselves through reduced administrative burdens provides, this provides sufficient justification for any alleged tax disparity.

Whatever equitable force Defendants' argument might have in a vacuum, the Court finds it to be inconsistent with the relevant language in the statute. Section 11501(b)(3) does not use the word "discriminates." Rather, subsection (b)(3) forbids "[l]evy[ing] or collect[ing] an ad valorem property tax on rail transportation property at a tax rate that exceeds the tax rate applicable to commercial and industrial property in the same assessment jurisdiction." 49 U.S.C. § 11501(b)(3). The statute does not require proof of discrimination, because Congress has already declared in the preface of Section 11501(b) that the imposition of such an ad valorem property tax rate disparity "unreasonably burden[s] and discriminate[s] against interstate commerce." 49 U.S.C. § 11501(b).

In arguing to the contrary, Defendants cite the Supreme Court's 2011 decision in CSX Transportation, Inc. v. Alabama Department of Revenue, 562 U.S. 277 (2011) ("CSX I"), which discussed the meaning of the word "discriminate" in Section 11501 and explained how a state might engage in illegal discrimination under Section 11501(b)(4). The Court stated that if a state charged "one group of taxpayers a 2% rate and another group a 4% rate," the State would be discriminating against the latter group, "assuming the groups are similarly situated and there is no

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justification for the difference in treatment." CSX I, 562 U.S. at 287.

Four years later, the Court found such justification for a difference in treatment in Alabama Department of Revenue v. CSX Transp., Inc. ("CSX II"), 575 U.S. 21 (2015). At issue there was whether the 4-R Act prohibited Alabama from imposing a 4% tax on the diesel fuel used by railroads that it did not impose on the diesel fuel used by the railroads' competitors, given that Alabama also imposed comparable taxes on the competitors that it did not impose on railroads. Id. at 24, 30. The Court concluded that the 4-R Act did not prohibit such differential treatment because "an alternative, roughly equivalent tax is one possible justification that renders a tax disparity nondiscriminatory." Id. at 30-31.

The Court finds the CSX cases inapplicable. In both CSX I and CSX II, Section 11501(b)(3) was not at issue: the Court addressed Section (b)(4), which specifically prohibits a state from imposition "another tax that discriminates against a rail carrier" See Section 11501(b)(4) (emphasis added). In CSX I, the "key question" was "whether a tax might be said to 'discriminate' against a railroad under subsection (b)(4)." 562 U.S. at 286. The Court held that subsection (b)(4) permits a justification defense because, as used in that subsection, the undefined term "discriminates" means a failure to treat similarly situated taxpayers the same without "justification for the difference in treatment." Id. at 287. Then, in CSX II, the Court held that the existence of an "alternative, roughly equivalent tax" (paid by the taxpayers to which the railroad is compared) is a possible justification under subsection (b)(4). 575 U.S. at 30-31. These discussions about when the catchall provision regarding "another tax that discriminates" might be triggered do not shed light on the issue presented in this case, because the face of the statute already reflects Congress' determination that the acts set out in subsection (b)(3) amount to per se discrimination against interstate commerce.

IV. CONCLUSION

Because Plaintiff has established reasonable cause that a violation of Section 11501(b)(3) has occurred or will occur, the motion for a preliminary injunction is GRANTED.

Defendants Alameda County, Contra Costa County, Fresno County, Kern County, Kings County, Madera County, Merced County, Orange County, Plumas County, Riverside County, San

Case 4:19-cv-07230-HSG Document 65 Filed 04/08/20 Page 15 of 15

United States District Court Northern District of California Bernardino County, San Diego County, San Joaquin County, Stanislaus County, and Tulare County, California; their boards of supervisors, county auditors, tax collectors, agents, employees, and all those acting in concert or participating with them who receive actual notice of this order (the "Enjoined Parties") are hereby **ENJOINED** through the pendency of this litigation until entry of a final judgment from levying or collecting ad valorem property taxes from Plaintiff on its unitary property based on a tax rate higher than the annual average tax rate of general property taxation calculated and reported for each county by the California State Board of Equalization under Cal. Rev. & Tax Code §11403.

The Enjoined Parties are further enjoined through the pendency of this litigation until entry of a final judgment from taking any action to impose any interest or penalties, from taking any action to record or enforce a tax lien upon any property used or owned by Plaintiff, or from taking any other action authorized by state law for delinquent or unpaid taxes under California law.

Plaintiff will be required to post a bond under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(c). The parties are directed to meet and confer and agree if possible by 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on April 9, 2020 regarding the appropriate amount of the bond. See Opp. at 25 (seeking bond of "no less than \$1.6 million in lost tax revenue"), Reply at 15 (acknowledging that Plaintiff will post a bond if ordered, without indicating its view as to the appropriate amount of the bond). By that time, the parties should either file an agreed-upon proposed bond order (which should be done if at all possible), or separate proposed forms of order (understanding that the Court is going to require a bond notwithstanding Plaintiff's argument that doing so is unnecessary).

Consistent with the discussion at the hearing, see Dkt. No. 61 at 41, the parties are also directed to meet and confer and submit a joint proposal by April 15, 2020 regarding the proposed timing of initial disclosures, discovery and other proceedings in light of this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: 4/8/2020

HAYWOOD S. GILLIAM, JR. United States District Judge

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SECURED PROPERTY TAX BILL For Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON REVERSE SIDE

Offices in Riverside, Palm Desert and Temecula Visit our website: www.countytreasurer.org

JON CHRISTENSEN 600 TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR 4060 Lemen St (Ist Floor) Riverside, California (P.O. Bux 12005, Riverside, CA 92502-2205)

Telephone: (951) 955-3900
or, from area codes 951 and 760 only
toll free: 1 (877) RIVCOTX (748-2689)

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004-018	1860.06	1430.03	4471.01	4430.03	4811.66
004-050	114,577.24	17,200.62	15,017.46	47.260.62	*8,856.11
002-006	11,909.78	1954.19	41.050.87	0954.89	41,009.00
002-002	1507.10	1293.59	4322.94	4293.59	1341.57
007-135	1497.04	1268.52	4273,37	6240.52	#31Z.00
007-139	1534.04	1260.02	6294.82	0240.02	1333.45
009-LE7	1180.42	190.21	199.23	490.21	1187.66
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	TAX R	RATES	.00000	1.72917	1.72917	1.72917	RATE	1		TAX R
	ATES BY TAX	1.72917				×	00-001	******		ATES BY TAX
	RATE AR	1.72917			×		00-002			RATE AR
	RATE AR EAS (201 8-19)	1.72917		×			00.095	1		RATE AR EAS (201 8-19)
4	8-19)	.00000	×				00-511	AX R		8-19)
•								ATE		
		1						ARE		
								A S		
	PA								9.0	PA
	GE 2			1						GE 1

hogoT'T	7990T'T	PORGET	Z98GT'T	1.10862	T'JORES	1'10862	1,10862	1,10862	1.10862	RATES	A38A 3TAR XAT	
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	×	00000	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	TOLS-
x	÷	Ç	×	×	×	X	X	X	×	OSEOO.	WWD WEST 1302999	TSES-P
×	x	Ç	Ŷ	¥	×	x	×	X	×	00000	SO. CALIF,IT(19,30,33,36,37,56)	00E2-\$
	^	•	Ç	^						. 00000	NOYCO COMMONILL SILA DO	E169-4
			•							00000	HOME GARDENS SANITARY ANX	£194-4
×							×			00000	HOME GARDENS SANITARY	1190-4
	x	x	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	00000	NW MOSQUITO & VECTOR CNTL DIST	1450-b
X		x		x	x	X	Ÿ	×	x	00000.	CSI AZZ	4-1852
X			• 0	x	•	x	Ŷ	×	x	00000.	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 2	4-1362
	×		^	^		•		4		00000.	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 1	1961-4
X		X		x	\$	×	x	X	x	00000.	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	ISEL-P
X	X	X	X		0	x	ŷ	x	×	00000.	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	9686-€
×	X	X	X	×		x		x	x	87110.	RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	IOE6-E
×	X	×	×	٥	â	â	• 0	x	×	₽£060.	CORONY NONCO DNIFIED SCHOOL	TOCT-E
	X		×		^	^	^	^	•	35051.	ALVOND UNIFIED SCHOOL	1050-E
×		×	9.8			×		×	×	00000	CORONA LTG MAINT 84-1	2-2305
×	×	x	×	×	×		0	^	• •	00000	CORONA REDEV PROJECT A SEZIL	2-2304
							^			00000	CORONA DWTH RENEWAL PROJECT SB21	2-2302
	X					×	×	×		00000.	CULY OF COROUR	2-2301 2-2301
×	×	×	×	X	×		*	Č	×	The state of the s	RDV CORONA DOWNTOWN AB1290	
										00000.	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	2-2300
X	×	×	×	×	×			×	×	00000.	GENERAL	1-1001
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	×	×	×	1.00000	GENERAL PURPOSE	C000-T
110-00	010-10	800-10	200-10	500-00	100-10	£00-10	200-90	100-00	000-90	STAR	NAME	A38MUN
*******	•••••	*******	ZA	3 A A	3TA	A XA	1	******	******	1	-AEVENDE DISTRIC	•

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91	39	Aq					(61-8	EVZ (SOJ	RA STAR	XAT YE 23TA	# XAT			τ
	X	×	X	X	×	X	×	X	×	×	00000.	MY CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION	3671-82	
												PECIAL ASSESSMENTS	\$	
Z9801	T	T10825	1.16884	176884	T'10862	1.10862	1,10862	1,10862	1,10862	1,10862	SETAR	A3AA 3TAA XAT		
	×	×	×	X	×	X	X	×	x	×	00000	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	TOUS-P	
	X	×	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	OZEDO.	WAND MEST 1302999	TSES->	
	×	×	x	X	×	X	X	X	X	X	00000	50. CALIF, JT(19,30,33,36,37,56)	00ES-#	
							X				00000.	HOME GARDENS CO WATER	5480-1	
						X		×	X	×	00000.	HOME GARDENS SANITARY	1490-7	
	×	×	X	X	×	x	×	X	X	x	00000	NA MOSGUILO & VECTOR CUTL DIST	TLSP-P	
	x	×	x	X		x	x	x	x	×	00000	CZV T25	4-1825	
		×	-								00000	CZV 732 .	4-1843	
	×	×			×	x	x		X		00000.	ETOOD CONLYOF IN 3	Z9ET-+	
	•		x	×				x		×	00000	FLOOD CONTROL ZW 1	19ET->	
	x	x	X	×	×	x	x	X	x	×	00000.	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	TSET-P	
	×	×	X	×	×	X	×	X	×	x	00000	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	9685-€	
	×	X	x	×	×	x	x	X	×	x	87910.	RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	3-9101	
	×	×			x	X	X	X	X	×	≯£060 .	COMONY MORCO DMILIED SCHOOL	TOLI-E	
		-	×	×	-			12.00			950ST.	VIAORD UNIFIED SCHOOL	TOSO-E	
	×	×	×	×	×	×	x	X	x	×	00000	CONOUN LTG MAINT 84-1	SOEZ-Z	
		-	-		¥						00000	COMONA NEDEV PROJECT A 58211	POEZ-Z	
	x	¥	×	x	- X	x	×	×	x	x	00000.	CITY OF CORONA	Z-2301	
	X	Ÿ	×	Ŷ	×	×	X	X	X	×	00000.	CENERAL	TOOT-T	
	¥	Ŷ	Ÿ	Ş	×	×	x	X	X	×	1.00000	CENEUVI PUNPOSE	T-0000	
	•	^	•	^	•	-	-					2775410 1755-25		
EZO-	10	220-10	020-10	610-10	210-10	410-00	910-10	STO-00	PT0-90	610-00	STAR	NVNE	NUMBER	
				SY	ARE	31A	A XA	1		******	1	-REVENUE DISTRIC	*******	
								-						

	GE 18	Aq					(6T-8	EV2 (SOT	RA STAR	XAT Y8 23TA	R XAT		τ
	×	×	x	x	×	x	×	X	X	×	00000.	RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION	3ET1-85
		-			J. S. 10.4							PECIAL ASSESSMENTS	S
	7980T'T	1,10862	1.10862	T'10862	1.10862	1,10862	T'10862	1,10862	1.10862	1,10862	S3TAA	A3AA 3TAR XAT	
300	X	X	X	X	X	×	X	X	X	X	00000.	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	1072-4
	×	×	v	×		×		X	X	x	OSEOO.	MVVD WEST 1302999	TSES->
	×	×	x	X	X	×		×	X	X	00000	SO, CALIF, 17[19,30,33,36,37,56]	4-5300
	•	Notice of	4.3					X			00000.	NORCO COMMUNITY SRV DS	4-4913
		×	×		x	×					00000.	HOME GARDENS SANITARY	1490-7
	×		×	×		×		×	x	×	00000.	NW MOSQUITO & VECTOR CNTL DIST	1450-0
	×	×	×	X		×		X	X	X	00000.	CZY 125	4-1852
	Y	-	×			×		X	X	X	00000.	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 2	4-1362
	•	×	-	×	×						00000	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 1	T9ET->
	×	×	×	×		×	×	x	×	×	00000	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	TSET-P
	×		×	x		×		X	×	×	00000	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	9686-€
	×	×	×			×		X	×	×	8410.	RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	3-9101
	×	×	×		×	×		X	X	×	AE060.	CORONA NORCO UNIFIED SCHOOL	TOLT-E
							×				00000.	CFD CITY OF CORONA 86-1	TTEZ-Z
						×					00000.	CORONA RDV PROI A-AMD 4 SB211	2-2309
							x			×	00000.	CORONA LTG MAINT 84-2	Z-2307
										×	00000	CORONA LTG MAINT 84-1	50EZ-Z
	x	×	×	×	×	×	x	X	x	×	00000.	CITY OF CORONA	T062-Z
	X	x	X	×			and the same of th				00000.	PROJECT 1-HOME GARDENS SB211	ZSTI-T
	X	×	×		×	×	×	x	×	×	00000.	CENERAL	1-1001
	×	×	×	×	×	×		×	×	×	1.00000	GENERAL PURPOSE	T-0000
		^	•	•	•	•	and the second	_		•			
	850-10	450-10	950-10	550-10	250-90	150-90	40-10	910-10	200-00	190-90	3TAR	3MAN	NOMBER
	*******	******	******	SV	BAA	ATE	A XA	1			1	-REVENUE DISTRIC	

68 3	9 4	4				(6T-8	EV2 (SOT	RA STAR	ATES BY TAX	AXAT			τ
								×		00000.	ALVORD DRAINAGE	1061-88	
						X				00000.	NLAND EMPIRE IT(33,36)RES	8047-82	
		X								00000.	SNOO SORUOSER NIZAR OTNIDAL NAZ	28-4743	
	x :	(X	X		00000.	RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION	3E47-85	
											PECIAL ASSESSMENTS	S	
ITSII.	1 940417	ITABLE.E	TASITT	IVSLL.I	17811.1	1.11871	1,11871	1.11871	TASTLE	ESTAR	TAX RATE AREA		
	x)	(X	X	X	X	X	X	X	×	00000.	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	1025-9	
	x)	(X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	OSEOO.	MWD WEST 1302999	TSES-P	
	x)	(X	. x	X	×	×	×	×	×	00000.	SO. CALIF, IT(19,30,33,36,37,56)	00ES-#	ı
				X		X				00000.	JURUPA AREA REC & PK	4-4621	
	x >	(X	X	X	×	X	X	X	×	00000	NW MOSQUITO & VECTOR CUTL DIST	TLST-V	
	x >	X	X	×	X	X	X	X	×	00000	CSY 125	4-1852	
1	x)	X X	×	×	×	X	X	X	×	00000	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 1	19ET-#	Į.
	x)	X	×	×	X	X	X	X	×	00000	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	TSET-P	
	x >	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	×	00000	BIA CO BEGIONAL PARK & OPEN SP	OFIL-P	
1	x >	×	X	×	X	X	X	X	×	00000	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	9686-€	
1	X X	×	X	X	X	X	X	X	×	87410.	RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	TOTE-E	
1	K	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	×	12460.	VINERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL	1085-€	
	X									950ST	VINORD UNIFIED SCHOOL	1050-€	
					×					00000.	CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL RDV PRI SB211	2-2712	
			X							00000	RIV MALL & WHT PK RNWL PRI SBZZZ	Z-ZJOJ	
	K X	×	X	X	X	X	X	×	×	26500	CITY OF RIVERSIDE	2-2701	
1	K X	×	X	X	X	X	X	×	×	00000.	CEMERAL	T-100T	
;	()	×	X	X	X	X	x	×	×	1.00000	GENERAL PURPOSE	1-0000	
110-60	010-60	600-60	800-60	900-60	500-60	>00-60	200-60	T00-60	000-60	3TAR	INAME	NOMBER	
******	•		S A	BRA	3TA	A XA	1	•••••	******	I	-REVENUE DISTRIC		

QE 100	١	d					(6T-8	EV2 (501	RA 3TAR	XAT Y8 23TA	A XAT	_		
X											00000.	SAN JACINTO BASIN RESOURCE CONS	28-4743	
		X	X	×	X	X		X	X	X	00000.	RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION	3574-85	
												PECIAL ASSESSMENTS	S	
L'SIL.I	IZSII	T	1.17476	37476	J.17476	I/SILL	1.11871	178ff.f	1.11871	17811.1	SHAR	A38A 3TAR XAT		
×		13	5. 7	-							00000.	I TRIO 9MI OWMW	ISLS-D	
×		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	×	00000.	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	1062-4	
×		X	X	X	x	X	×	×	X	×	OZEDO.	WWD WEST 1302999	TSES-P	
×		×	X	X	X	X	x	×	×	×	00000	SO. CALIF, IT(19, 30, 33, 36, 37, 56)	4-5300	
-		_		×	.,						00000	LA SIERRA COMMUNITY SRV DS	4-4907	
×		×	×	×	x	x	×	×	X	×	00000.	NW MOSQUITO & VECTOR CUTL DIST	TLSP-P	
×		¥	×	×	x	×	×	×	×	×	00000.	CSV 125	4-1852	
×		¥	×	×	x	x	×	X	×	X	00000.	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 1	1961-4	
×		Ÿ	×	×	×	X	×	x	×	×	00000.	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	TSET-V	
×		x	×	x	x	×	×	×	×	×	00000.	BIA CO BEGIONAL PARK & OPEN SP	OLLE-P	
×		Ŷ	×	x	×	×	×	X	X	X	00000.	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	9686-€	
×		ç	×	×	x	×	x	x	X	×	87710.	RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	TOT6-E	
_		x					A. 9			-	00000	CED 8 BINERSIDE ONIFIED	ITBS-E	
×		2				x	×	x	x	x	T\$160	RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL	1085-E	
•		^	x	x	×						95051.	ALYORD UNIFIED SCHOOL	TOSO-E	
	- 20		×	×	x	x	×				00000.	OESTRA E CINMA NOTANIJRA VOR	2-2718	
	4.0	¥									00000.	CVZV BLANCA REDEVEL PROJECT 5821	2-2708	
x		Ŷ	×	×	×	×	×	X	x	×	26500	CITY OF RIVERSIDE	1042-Z	
^		^	^					X	-		00000.	PROJECT 5-HIGHGROVE SBZII	1-1183	
									×	×	00000.	KDV PROJ S-HIGHGROVE AB1290	06TT-T	
×			x	X	x	x	×	x	×	×	00000.	CENERAL	T-1001	
, x		Ç	, ç	Ç	Ŷ	Ŷ	×	x	×	×	00000.t	CENERAL PURPOSE	J-0000	
^		^	•	^	•	^	•	•	•		55556	2300411 17031125		
PPT-60	EPT-	50	Z#T-60	191-60	09T-60	6ET-60	8ET-60	ZET-60	SET-60	EET-60	3TAR	NAME	NOMBER	
		_		SA	ARE	BIA	A XA	1			1	-BEVENUE DISTRIC	*******	
					·	200	-	1			-			

CE 105	Aq					(61-8	EAS (201	AA STAR	XAT Y8 23TA	A XAT		
X	X	X	×	×	×	X	X		x	00000	RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION	38-4736
											PECIAL ASSESSMENTS	
27476	ITSII.I	38E60.£	TT8TI.I	TARIT.I	TYSIL.I	1.11871	17811.1	1.11871	17811.1	23TAR	A38A STAR KAT	
				×	×					00000	WWWD IMP DIST U-2	
	×		X	X	X	X				00000.	I TRIO AMI DWWW	
		X								00000.	WWWD TOTH FR	
×	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	x	00000	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	1045-9
×	X	×	X	X	×	X	X	X	x	OZEOO.	WMD MEST 1302999	ISES-P
×	X	×	X	×	X	X	X	X	X	00000.	50. CAUF, IT(19,30,33,36,35,56)	COES-P
X	X	×	X	×	X	x	X	X	x	00000	NAV MOSQUITO & VECTOR CNTL DIST	1459-9
X	X	×	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	00000	CZV 125	4-1852
	X	X	X	x	X	X				00000	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 2	4-1362
X							X	X	x	00000	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 1	1961-4
×	×	×	×	X	x	X	X	x	×	00000	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	ISEL-P
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	00000	RIV CO REGIONAL PARK & OPEN SP	OFFE-P
×	X	×	X	X	×	X	X	x	x	00000	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	9686-€
		X								00000	PERRIS JR HIGH AREA FUND	3-983Z
		X								00000.	PERRIS AREA ELEM SCHOOL FUND	1686-E
X	X	×	×	×	X	X	X	×	×	STATO.	RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	1016-E
		×								99690	VAL VERDE UNIFIED	₹008-€
	X		x	×	X	X	X	X	X	TS\$60.	RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL	1085-E
X										950SI.	ALVORD UNIFIED SCHOOL	TOSO-E
							X	X		00000	RDV HUNTER PARK/NORTHSIDE AB1290	3-21Ze
									x	00000	RDV ARINGTON 3 DAAX E&F AB1290	5-5152
X										00000.	RDV ARLINGTON AMND 3 AB1290	8172-S
X	×	×	×	X	X	X	X	X	x	26500.	CITY OF RIVERSIDE	Z-2701
		X	X	X						00000	RDV MARCH AIR BASE PROJ AB1290	3-2000
×	X	×	X	×	X	X	X	X	×	00000	GENERAL	1-1001
x	X	x	×	×	X	X	×	X	×	1.00000	GENERAL PURPOSE	0000-T
171-60	691-60	891-60	491-60	991-60	E9T-60	291-60	651-60	851-60	451-60	3TAR	NAME	NUMBER
	•••••	******	SY	ARE	3TA	A XA	1		******	1	-REVENUE DISTRIC	*******

									WH 10 5314				T
GE 373	Aq					(21-8	EAS (201	RA 3TAR	XAT Y8 23TA	8 XAT	TEMESCAL VALLEY	28-5263	•
×			X							00000.	INLAND EMPIRE JT(33,36)RE5		
		×								00000.			
X	×		X	X	X	X	X	X	×	00000.	RIV CORONA RESOURCE CONSERVATION	38-4736	
								and the same			PECIAL ASSESSMENTS	S	1
1,10862	1,10862	1,10862	1.10862	1.10862	1.10862	1.10862	1.10862	Strof.1	T.10862	Satar	A38A 3TA8 XAT		
					X	×				00000.	t-U TZIO 9MI QWMW	1665-4	
				X						00000.	S TZIO 9MI OWMW	2572-4	
				X						00000.	AT HTT DWWW	4145-A	
					X		×			00000.	AT TEL OWMW	TTLS-P	
×	X	×	X			×			×	00000.	WESTERN MUNICIPAL WATER	1072-4	
X	X	×	X	X	X	X	X		×	OSEOO.	MWD WEST 1302999	eses-P	
X	×	×	X	X	X	X	X		X	00000.	SO. CALIF, IT (19, 30, 33, 36, 37, 56)	00ES-M	,
		×								00000.	JURUPA AREA REC & PK	4-4621	,
×	X	×	X		X	X	X	X	×	00000	NW MOSQUITO & VECTOR CUTL DIST	TLSD-0	,
		×								00000.	JURUPA COMMUNITY SERVICES	ISID-D	•
×	x	×	X	X	X	X	X	X	×	00000.	C2V T2S	4-1825	•
×	×	×	x	X	X	X	X	X	×	00000	FLOOD CONTROL ZN 2	4-1362	,
×	×	×	X	×	x	×	X	X	×	00000	FLOOD CONTROL ADMIN	TSET-P	,
×	X	×	X	X	x	×	X	X	×	00000	KIN CO REGIONAL PARK & OPEN SP	OTTT-P	•
×	×	×	×	x	x	×	X	X	x	00000	CO WASTE RESOURCE MGMT DIST	4-1030	,
×	×	×	X	x	X	X	X	X	×	00000	RIVERSIDE CO OFC OF EDUCATION	9686-€	
X	X	×	X	×	X	X	X	X	×	87510.	RIVERSIDE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	₹016-E	
X	X	×	X	X	×	X	X	X	×	₽£060°	CORONA NORCO UNIFIED SCHOOL	TOLT-E	
×	X		X							00000.	RDV PROJECCERRITO/TEMES AB1290	GPTI-I	
×	X	×	X	x	×	x	x	X	×	00000	CO STRUCTURE FIRE PROTECTION	I-IISS	
×	×	×	X	X	×	X	X	X	×	00000	CO FREE LIBRARY	TZTT-T	
×	x	×	×	×	x	×	x	×	x	00000.	GENERAL	TOOT-T	
×	×	x	x	x	x	×	x	X	×	00000.f	GENERAL PURPOSE	1-0000	
						J. 77.	-				, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
911-65	STT-65	011-65	801-65	401-65	tot-65	00E-65	660-69	860-65	460-65	3TAA		NUMBER	
*******	*******	*******	2 A	38A	ATE	A XA	Ţ	*******	******	1	SINTRIG BUNDYBR-	*******	

View Image: Image On-Demand

ITEM DETAILS

ACCOUNT NUMBER

1077654517

ACCOUNT NAME

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY ACCOUNTS

POST DATE

12/14/2018

IMAGE FRONT



FOUR HUNDRED BEVENTY FOUR THOUSA

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE FIVERSIDE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR FO BOX 12005 FIVERSIDE CA 92602-2205 USA

CCY

USD

AMOUNT

474,343.24

TRANSACTION TYPE

Checks/Debits

SEQ / REF #

70886923

SERIAL #

16059032

IMAGE BACK

Proc. 12/12/2018 Rec. 12/17/2018 016010 21

Proc.12/11/2018 Rec.12/12/2018 016010 21

08016570

View Image: Image On-Demand

ITEM DETAILS

ACCOUNT NUMBER

1077654517

ACCOUNT NAME

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY ACCOUNTS

POST DATE

04/23/2019

CCY

USD

AMOUNT

474,343.24

TRANSACTION TYPE

Checks/Debits

SEQ / REF #

77237595

SERIAL #

16069679

IMAGE FRONT

Proc. 04/18/2019 sec.04/18/2019 007090-01





PMC Bank, N.A. 001

0016069679

FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY FOUR THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FORTY THREE USD AND 24 CENTS

\$474,343.24

DROVER OF

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE RIVERSIDE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR PO BOX 12005 RIVERSIDE CA 92502-2205 USA

IMAGE BACK

Proc. 04/18/2019 Sec. 04/18/2019 01/099 11

08049254



Legislative and Research Division-MIC: 121 TELEPHONE: (916) 319-9220

Date: July 13, 2018

Memorandum

To:

Honorable George Runner, Chair Honorable Fiona Ma, Vice Chair

Honorable Jerome E. Horton, Third District Honorable Diane Harkey, Fourth District Honorable Betty T. Yee, State Controller

From:

Mark Durham, Chief

Legislative and Research Division

Subject:

PRIVATE RAILROAD CAR TAX RATE

JULY 2018 - BOARD MEETING

The attached table shows the 2017-18 average tax rate applicable to 2018-19 private railroad car tax assessments. The average rate of taxation throughout the state for **2017-18** was 1.149 percent, as computed under the provisions of Section 11403 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

The report on computation of the tax rate indicates a rate for the 2018-19 private railroad car tax of 1.149 percent.

MD:yb

Attachment

cc: Mr. David Yeung Ms. Joann Richmond Mr. Richard Reisinger

Recommendation by:

Approved:

Mark Durham, Chief

Legislative and Research Division

FOR

Dean R. Kinnee Executive Director

COMPUTATION OF THE TAX RATE APPLICABLE TO 2018-19 PRIVATE RAILROAD CAR TAX ASSESSMENTS (Assessed Values and Levies in Thousands of Dollars)

% 641.1	\$ 66,402,320	181,88 \$	103,094,88 \$	\$ 5,777,250,125	JATOT
*****	65,399		62,399	118,626,811	Yuba
901,1	283,043	_	283,043	049'886'97	OloY
540.1 570:1	717,0S4;1	2,326	Z#0'8Z#'L	129,988,430	Ventura
670.1 690.1	924,87		76,426	7,122,616	Tuolumne
311.1	879,S8£	7L	383,052	562,386,46	Tulare
810.1	16,265	-	16,265	386,7g2, r	thinh T
. 090,1	26,352	. :	26,352	8£7,3f£,3	Sm she T
1,108	105,428	-	105,428	9,516,132	Sutter
1,105	090,818	•	518,060	238,888,31	susisingt
931.1	1,002,943	69	1,003,002	845,848,248	Sonoma
171.1	699'809	-	69'809	3£0,TST,13	Solano
1.058	Z20'L9	-	51,052	9T1,4S8,4	Siskiyou
000.r	9/5,6	-	973,3	557,600	Siens.
011.1	160,781	1,920	198,850	313,847,71	Shasta
EII.I	049,184	-	049,184	43,284,454	Santa Cruz
1.207	2,454,974	28,142	5,483,116	451,768,226	Santa Clara
1.076	854,265	•	854,265	368,884,8T	Santa Barbara
811.1	2,325,587		2,325,587	816'626'202	San Mateo
1.085	178,288	•	F78,S82	63,254,133	San Luis Obispo
1.133	891,818	3	861,818	72,199,514	San Joaquin .
871.r	2,746,711	-	2,746,711	234,074,597	San Francisco
141.1	2,621,557		762,156,8	201,888,294	San Diego
1.155	2,448,228	-	2,448,228	010,888,112	San Bernardino
1.214	96,159	•	691'96	918,229,7	San Benito
1.150	1,735,159	•	1,735,159	150,856,151	Sacramento
1,166	3,111,798	189,71	3,129,479	266,992,247	Riverside
880.r	9£7,44		8E7,44	4,112,117	Plumas
1.090	784,824		784,824	824,876,17	Placer
1.063	, TE1,089,3	32,965	5,993,102	088,513,083	· egnsiO
690.1	618,991	-	19,813	296,969,362	Nevada
1.120	884,154	864	421,986	E80,0E8,TE	Napa
1.093	692,426	-	927,426	656,346,63	Monterey
£60.1	9/Z' 1 9	•	64,275	5,878,453	Mono
000.t	1186		176'B	004,486	Modoc
1.094	773,632	-	778,882	23,168,528	Merced
1.124	134,258	-	134,258	11,943,540	Mendocino
AEO. F	24,080	•	24,080	2,328,479	Mariposa
741.1	882,788		882,788	74,752,038	Marin
1.095	014,881	-	122,410	14,192,563	Madera
371.1	160,118,81	3,538	16,814,569	£03,771,1E4,1	Los Angeles
1.032	715,65	•	73,517	2,279,215	resseu
201.1	16,414		414,87	6,932,405	TSKE
060.1	191,711		978,030,1 191,711	609'8\$2'01 .	Klngs
1,236	1,060,379	-		85,761,123	Kem
490.f	170,84	-	170,84	4,329,189	oyni
1,092	805, 11 1 272,921		808,441 272,981	685,877,11	Imperial
1,102	987,48 805,441	-	805,45 805,441	754,812,81 754,812,81	Humboldt
1.183				-,,, -	Glenn
290.f	919,346		948,918	857,707,77	Fresho
280.1	708,3EE	225	971,81 836,029	31,534,124	El Dorado
841.1 530.1	829,962,2	754	282,752,2	1,620,890	Del Norte
970.1	43,036	NAT.	960,64	195,103,960	Contra Costa
080.1	960 EV		359,47	3,998,054	Colusa
Z01.1	243,346		243,346	22,080,235 6,848,694	Calaveras
1.016	169,13		189'19	5,086,623	Butte
000.1	7,300		006,7	729,980 3	TobsmA
1.230 %	£80,25E,8	- \$	580,235,6 \$	\$ 272,626,240	eniqlA
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Tax	IstoT	Property	IstoT	DessessA Puls//	seitnin)
Average	TO Se(Ve.)	Istot-noM	IntoT	eldexsT leV.	
	,	latet gold		aldeveT lald	

BNSF Railway 2301 Lou Menk Drive Alan Annis Fort Worth Texas 76131

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