

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 2039

In the matter of the application of the  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, Monterey County,  
for permission to open a public highway  
in Alisal Road District, at grade, across  
the tracks of Southern Pacific Company,  
near Salinas, Monterey County, California.  
.....)

Application No. 1249.

George D. Squires for Southern Pacific Company.

E. W. Sargeant )  
                  ) for applicant.  
H. E. Abbott     )

GORDON, Commissioner.

OPINION

This application was made, and the hearing was subsequently held, under Section 2694 of the Political Code, as amended January 2, 1912, which requires that after viewers have been appointed to view a crossing which a county proposes to open, a certified copy of the petition requesting the opening of such crossing, and of the order appointing viewers, be submitted to the Commission, and a hearing thereafter held, at which hearing the Commission shall hear the evidence and "determine and prescribe the manner, including the particular point of crossing, and the terms of installation, operation and maintenance, use and protection of said crossing."

The road which Monterey County proposes to open is a road running in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction, and will cross the main track of the Coast Line of the Southern Pacific Company about two and one-half miles south of Salinas. It will be the nearest direct route for the ranchers and stock raisers in the Alisal District to and from the Spreckels' factory, and will do away with the present necessity of forcing a detour in all travel between these points, via Salinas, about two and one-half miles to the north, or Spence, about five miles to the south, these points being the locations of the nearest crossings now open. It will also serve as a connection between two county roads which run practically parallel to the railroad, and

which have no connection except by the roads above mentioned.

There is no question but that this road is much needed in the road system of the county, and since no opposition was made on behalf of the Southern Pacific Company to the granting of this application, the principal matter in this connection is the determination of the proper division of the expense of the crossing between the parties at interest, and its necessary protection. When the road is opened drivers of vehicles approaching this crossing will have a fairly good view of approaching trains except when approaching from the west when the view of southbound trains will be obstructed by an intervening hill high enough to shut off most of the view. This situation will be somewhat helped by the construction of a grade approaching the crossing which will be about two feet high, but it will not relieve the situation of a large element of danger. I am of the opinion that this crossing should be protected by an automatic flagman, and that the county should stand the expense of installing the same. This expense will be about the only expense incurred by the construction of the crossing since there is at the present a farm crossing at this point, and grades of approach, cattle guards and wing fences are already installed.

I submit the following form of order:

ORDER

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, Monterey County, California, having applied to the Commission for permission to construct a certain road, more particularly described in the application and shown by the map accompanying same, over the tracks of Southern Pacific Company, and a hearing having been held, and being fully apprized in the premises,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, That permission be and the same hereby is granted the Board of Supervisors of Monterey County, California, to construct a public highway crossing at grade over the tracks of Southern Pacific Company, at the point and in the manner applied for, subject to the following conditions, viz.:-

