

Decision No. 44967**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of the)
 State of California, Department of Public)
 Works, for an order authorizing the re-)
 alignment of Southern Pacific Company)
 tracks, and the relocation and alteration)
 of three grade crossings from Santa Clara)
 River Bridge through Montalvo, a distance)
 of 1.3 miles in Ventura County, California.)

Application No. 31587

O P I N I O N

The Department of Public Works of the State of California, applicant in this proceeding, seeks authority to realign certain tracks of Southern Pacific Company in the vicinity of Montalvo, Ventura County, to exchange certain properties in connection therewith, and to relocate, alter, or construct certain crossings at grade. Applicant proposes to straighten the alignment of State Highway Route 2-C and to construct a four-lane divided highway in the new location. The Department proposes to construct a portion of the project within the present right of way and trackage area occupied by the main Coast line track of Southern Pacific Company which will eliminate an objectionable reversed curve in the highway and provide for the increased highway width.

Applicant has secured a new right of way for the railroad outside of the limits of the proposed highway and has requested authority to convey that property to the railroad in exchange for the existing right of way.

State Highway Route 2-C presently crosses one track of the Santa Paula branch of Southern Pacific Company at grade (Crossing No. BE-403.3) and approximately one-quarter mile to the south of that point crosses a single track connection between the Santa Paula

branch and the Coast line (Crossing No. E-403.7-C), these two tracks forming the so-called Montalvo "Y". Applicant proposes to retain the existing highway between Montalvo and the Santa Clara River bridge, approximately one mile in length, for handling of local traffic and has designated it herein as "Outer Highway". The plan proposes the continuation of the two above-described crossings at grade with slight relocation. The new four-lane divided highway for handling through, higher-speed traffic is proposed to be constructed between the same limits and along the westerly side of the Outer Highway. The two tracks of the Montalvo "Y" will be crossed at grade by the divided roadways adjacent to, but separated from, the Outer Highway grade crossings.

In order to continue access to an existing local road on the westerly side of the railroad, applicant proposes to construct a connection to each of the two roadways of the divided highway and the Outer Highway service road at grade across the Coast line main track in the vicinity of Mile Point 403.9.

Careful review of the matter leads to the conclusion that the interests of the public will be best served by granting the authority sought herein, and it will be so ordered.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that the Department of Public Works of the State of California is authorized to:

I. Exchange with Southern Pacific Company that parcel of property outlined in red tinting for those parcels outlined in yellow, as shown on Sheet 4 of Exhibit "A" attached to the application, subject to the following conditions:

(1) Applicant shall within thirty (30) days thereafter notify this Commission in writing of the completion of the property exchange herein authorized.

(2) The authorization herein granted shall not be construed as a determination of the valuation of the property for any purpose other than the exchange herein authorized.

II. Shift the railroad tracks to the proposed locations, as shown upon Exhibit "A" (4 sheets) attached to the application.

III. Construct; or relocate and alter grade crossings of State Highway Route 2-C and the connecting highway at the locations described in the application and shown on Sheets 1, 2, and 3 of Exhibit "A" attached thereto, and as shown in the following table.

:Assigned :Crossing : Number	: : Highway	: : Tracks : Crossed	: : Width (min.)	: : Pavement : Approach : Grade (Max.)	: : Protection : (G.O. 75-E)
BE-403.3	Divided Highway SP Santa Paula	1 branch,	2 roadways each 24 ft.	2%	2 Std. No. 8 flashing light signals
BE-403.32	Outer Highway SP Santa Paula	1 branch,	30 feet	2%	2 Std. No. 3 wigwags
BE-403.77-C	Divided Highway	1 "Y" Connection	2 roadways each 24 ft.	2%	2 Std. No. 8 flashing light signals
BE-403.81-C	Outer Highway	1 "Y" Connection	30 feet	3%	2 Std. No. 1 crossing signs
E-403.9	Local Highway connection	1 main, SP Coast line	24 feet	2% *	2 Std. No. 8 flashing light signals

* Grades of approach with 6% maximum may be employed prior to completion.

Highway crossing construction shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 2 of General Order 72 without superelevation of tracks. Maintenance cost of crossings outside of lines two feet outside of

rails shall be borne by applicant. Southern Pacific Company shall bear maintenance cost between such lines.

Expense of property exchange, construction, alteration, and realignment shall be borne in accordance with the terms of an agreement between the applicant and the railroad. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will allocate such costs by subsequent order.

Upon completion Crossing No. E-403.7-C and grade crossing of connecting local road designated on application as Crossing No. E-403.95 shall be abandoned and closed. Within thirty (30) days after completion pursuant to this order, applicant shall so advise the Commission in writing. This authorization shall become void if not exercised within two years, unless time be extended or if above conditions are not complied with.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty (20) days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 30th day of October, 1950.

[Signature]
JUSTUS J. GILLESPIE
[Signature]
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COMMISSIONERS