ORIGINAL

Decision No. <u>46428</u>

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of ) the COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA, State of ) California, for a crossing at grade ) of the tracks of the SOUTHERN PACIFIC) COMPANY near Hookston, Contra Costa ) County, California.

Application No. 32502

Charles W. Hemmings, Deputy District Attorney,
Contra Costa County, for applicant.

R. S. Myers, for Southern Pacific Company,
interested party.

Norman A. Wood, Senior Transportation Engineer,
for Transportation Department, Public
Utilities Commission.

## <u>OPINION</u>

The County of Contra Costa seeks an order authorizing it to construct a grade crossing over the tracks of the Southern Pacific Company, near Hookston, in said county, in such manner as is particularly delineated on a map attached to the application.

A public hearing was held at Concord before Examiner Silverhart.

The district superintendent of Mt. Diablo Unified School District testified that the Board of Education had negotiated the purchase of a parcel of land containing approximately ten acres easterly of the railroad right of way, upon which, if the application is granted, it will commence construction of an elementary school within three or four months thereafter. According to his testimony, such site was selected after careful study of the area by the Board of Education, the County Planning Commission and the State Board of Education.

The proposed crossing principally will be used to afford students, teachers, parents and school buses a means of access to the school.

The record shows that the county will assume the cost of constructing the proposed crossing and furnishing protection therefor, and that the Board of Education will post a Junior Traffic Patrol under the supervision of a teacher at such crossing at such times as may be required.

The record further shows that the Southern Pacific Company has no objection to the construction of the proposed crossing, if, and when a school is built, and the County of Contra Costa pays the costs of installing the crossing and the Board of Education supplies a school safety patrol.

A senior transportation engineer on the Commission's staff recommended the crossing be protected by Standard No. 1-A signs.

The record herein demonstrates, and we so find, that construction of a public crossing, as proposed, is in the public interest.

## ORDER

A public hearing having been had and based upon the evidence therein adduced,

## IT IS ORDERED:

(1) That the County of Contra Costa is authorized to construct a public crossing of county road with the tracks of the Southern Pacific Company, near Hookston Station, at the location more particularly described in and delineated upon Exhibits A and

B, respectively, attached to the application subject to the following conditions:

- a. The above crossing shall be identified as Crossing No. BO-14.8.
- b. The crossing shall be constructed of a width of not less than 24 feet with grades of approach not greater than four per cent. Construction shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 2 of General Order No. 72. The crossing shall be protected by two Standard No. 1-A crossing signs as shown in General Order No. 75-B.
- c. The entire expense of constructing the crossing, inclusive of the protection herein ordered, shall be borne by applicant. The cost of maintenance of that portion of the crossing up to lines two feet outside of the outside rails shall be borne by applicant. The cost of maintenance between said lines shall be borne by Southern Pacific Company.
- d. The cost of maintaining the above described crossing signs shall be borne by the Southern Pacific Company.
- e. Construction of the crossing shall not be undertaken until such time as building of the school, hereinabove referred to, is commenced.
- f. Within 30 days after completion pursuant to this order, applicant shall so advise the Commission in writing. This authorization shall lapse if not exercised within one year, unless time be extended.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty (20)

days after the date hercof,

Dated at Cant Houselese, California, this

Movember, 1951.

President

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Commissioners.