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Decision No. 69700

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of Application of) the County of Fresno, State of) California for an order authorizing) the relocation and widening of three) existing crossings, the reconstruc-) tion and widening of three crossings) and the alteration of one additional) crossing, all at grade, over the) Southern Pacific Company railroad) tracks in connection with the) construction of Clovis Avenue between) California and Shaw Avenues in the) County of Fresno, California.

Application No. 47279

Floyd R. B. Viau, for the County of Fresno, applicant. Harold S. Lentz, for the Southern Pacific Company, protestant. <u>M. E. Getchel</u>, for the Commission staff.

SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER

By Decision No. 69241 dated June 15, 1965, the Commission authorized the County of Fresno to relocate, widen and reconstruct certain grade crossings in the county in connection with the improvement of Clovis Avenue. The changes proposed for Harvey Avenue were not approved, but were to be the subject of further order of the Commission.

Public hearing was held before Examiner Porter in Fresno August 10, 1965, at which time the matter was submitted.

The county presented evidence that Harvey Avenue will be altered to provide a width of 24 feet minimum. Further evidence was presented by the county that the visibility at this crossing was excellent, that it was not anticipated that present traffic on Harvey Avenue of approximately 100 vehicles a day would increase because of the widening of Clovis Avenue at this crossing. A review of the

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accident records since 1960 shows no accidents at this crossing. The county's position is that crossbuck signs are adequate protection for this crossing. However, upon cross-examination it was admitted that the view in the northeast quadrant was restricted by several tanks and a cyclone fence, and some small trees within the fenced area would further restrict visibility in a few years.

The Southern Pacific Company's position was that as other crossings along the Clovis Avenue project were to be equipped with a higher type protection (No. 8 flashing light signals) Harvey Avenue should also be so protected. It would be more economical to do it in conjunction with the present project than at a later time.

A railroad witness testified that train movements at the crossing were one round trip a day, with two round trips a day during the grape harvest season.

Based upon the evidence presented the Commission finds that the less expensive protection is adequate for this crossing and concludes that it should be constructed as set forth below.

Construction of said crossing, Harvey Avenue (B.S.-212.5) shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 2 of General Order No. 72 with a minimum width of 24 feet. Protection shall be 2 Standard No. 1 Crossing Signs (General Order No. 75-B) reflectorized with reflex-reflective sheet material.

Construction expense of the work herein authorized shall be borne in accordance with agreements to be entered into between

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the parties involved. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will apportion such cost by subsequent order.

Within thirty days after completion pursuant to this order applicant shall so advise the Commission in writing. This authorization shall expire if not exercised within two years, unless time be extended or if conditions are not complied with.

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

Dated at <u>San Francisco</u>, California, this <u>2155</u> day of <u>SEPTEMBER</u>, 1965.

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