

Decision No. 84058**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the County of San Luis  
 Obispo for an order authorizing the  
 construction of a grade separation to  
 be known as the Salinas River Bridge  
 and Overhead, over the tracks of the  
 Southern Pacific Transportation  
 Company, in connection with the con-  
 struction of a new Salinas River Bridge  
 and approaches on Templeton Road, F.A.S.  
 1208, near the Town of Templeton, in  
 the County of San Luis Obispo.

Application No. 55167  
 (Filed September 10, 1974)

O P I N I O N

The County of San Luis Obispo requests authority to construct a grade separation at Vineyard Drive over the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company as part of a project to construct a new bridge spanning the Salinas River, and the reconstruction of portions of Templeton Road and Vineyard Drive, near the Town of Templeton in the County of San Luis Obispo. The grade separation and bridge over the Salinas River will be one structure, to be known as the "Salinas River Bridge and Overhead at Templeton Road".

The priority list of grade separation projects for the fiscal year 1974-75, as set forth in Decision No. 83066 (Case 9663), shows this project as Priority No. 19.

The County of San Luis Obispo is the lead agency for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended. The Environmental Impact Report, Negative Declaration, was reviewed and approved by the State of California Department of Transportation on April 26, 1974. Said review was endorsed by the Division Engineer of the Federal Highway Administration on May 7, 1974.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on September 13, 1974. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

### F I N D I N G S

After consideration, the Commission finds:

1. Applicant should be authorized to construct Vineyard Drive at separated grades over the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company and to abandon and physically close the Eighth Street grade separation, Crossing No. E-222.0-A, near the Town of Templeton, San Luis Obispo County.

2. Construction and maintenance expense should be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into between the parties relative thereto.

3. Dimensions, configurations, clearances and walkways should be substantially in accordance with the plans set forth in the application and comply with applicable rules and general orders of the Commission.

4. The Commission has considered the applicant's Environmental Impact Report, Negative Declaration, in rendering its decision on this project. The Commission accepts said report and finds that the environmental impact of this proposed action is not significant.

### C O N C L U S I O N S

On the basis of the foregoing findings, we conclude that the application should be granted as set forth in the following order:

### O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The County of San Luis Obispo is authorized to construct Vineyard Drive at separated grades over tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company near the Town of Templeton, County of San Luis Obispo, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing No. E-222.2-A and part of the "Salinas River Bridge and Overhead".

2. Construction and maintenance expense shall be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into between the parties relative thereto, and a copy of said agreement, together with plans of said crossing approved by the Southern Pacific Transportation Company shall be filed with the Commission prior to commencing construction. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will apportion the costs of construction and maintenance by further order.

3. Minimum side clearance shall be 18' 0" easterly from the center line of track to the completed structure and 30' 0" westerly. Minimum overhead clearance shall be 23' 0" between top of rail and the completed structure. During construction, clearances shall be maintained in accordance with General Order No. 26-D, except that a temporary reduced overhead clearance of not less than 21' 3" above top of rail is authorized, and Southern Pacific Transportation Company is authorized to operate with such reduced overhead clearances, provided that instructions are issued and filed with the Commission forbidding employees to ride on tops of cars.

4. The applicant shall notify the Commission and the Southern Pacific Transportation Company at least fifteen but not more than thirty days in advance of the date when the temporarily impaired clearance will be created.

5. Walkway areas adjacent to the railroad tracks shall be maintained free of obstructions and shall promptly be restored to their original condition in the event of damage during construction.

6. Upon completion of said separation construction and opening to traffic, the existing timber grade separation of Eighth Street, Crossing No. E-222.0-A, located 1,200 feet to the north, shall be abandoned and removed by the county.

7. 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 three years unless the time be extended or if conditions are not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity or safety so require.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 11<sup>th</sup>  
day of FEBRUARY, 1975.

Vernon L. Sturgeon  
President

William Synovius, Jr.

[Signature]

Leonard Ross  
Commissioners