

ORIGINAL

Decision 84 03 102

MAR 21 1984

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the State of
 California, Department of Transport-
 ation for an order authorizing the
 following project: Construction of
 two at-grade crossings on Southern
 Pacific Transportation's Santa Paula
 Branch Line. One crossing will be
 at Railroad Mile Post at 415.88 and
 another at Railroad Mile Post at
 416.05. The closing of existing
 crossing known as East Santa Paula
 Grade Crossing No. BE-415.9 of
 Southern Pacific Transportation
 Company's Santa Paula Branch Line
 which intersects with existing State
 Route 126 in Ventura County.

Application 83-04-40
 (Filed April 15, 1983)

O P I N I O N

As part of the project to realign and widen State Route 126 east of Santa Paula, the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) requests authority to construct two at-grade crossings over the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Santa Paula Branch Line in Ventura County.

One proposed crossing will be at the realigned State Route 126. Caltrans proposes to close, remove and abandon the existing State Route 126 crossing upon completion and opening to traffic of the realigned State Route 126. The other crossing, to be constructed at Padre Lane, will provide access to Telegraph Road which becomes Main Street in nearby Santa Paula.

Caltrans is the lead agency for this project under the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq. After preparation and review of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Caltrans issued a Negative Declaration and approved the project. On November 20, 1981, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Secretary for Resources which found that "The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's EIR and Negative Declaration. The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission staff.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on April 18, 1983. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. Caltrans requests authority under Public Utilities (PU) Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct two at-grade crossings, Padre Lane and State Route 126, over the tracks of SPT Santa Paula Branch Line in Ventura County.
2. Construction of the proposed Padre Lane and the realigned State Route 126 crossings is required to permit the improvement and widening of State Route 126 east of Santa Paula.

3. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the two proposed at-grade crossings.

4. Public safety requires that protection at the proposed crossings be four Standard No. 9 automatic flashing light signals with gates at the State Route 126 crossing and two Standard No. 9 automatic flashing light signals with gates at Padre Lane crossing, (General Order (GO) 75-C).

5. Upon completion of the realigned State Route 126 crossing and its opening to vehicular traffic, the existing crossing of State Route 126 should be closed and physically removed.

6. Caltrans is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.

7. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's EIR and Negative Declaration.

8. The project will not have a significant effect upon the environment.

Conclusion of Law:

The application should be granted as set forth in the following order.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans), is authorized to construct two at-grade crossings, Padre Lane and State Route 126, over the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Santa Paula Branch Line in Ventura County, at the locations and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application to be identified as crossings BE-415.88 (Padre Lane) and BE-416.05 (State Route 126).

2. Upon completion of the realigned State Route 126 crossing and its opening to vehicular traffic, the existing crossing of State Route 126 shall be closed and removed.

3. Construction of the crossings shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 of GO 72-B.

4. Clearances shall be in accordance with GO 26-D. Walkways shall conform to GO-118.

5. Protection at the Padre Lane crossing shall be two Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals and protection at realigned State Route 126 crossing shall be four Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals (GO 75-C).

6. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into between the parties. A copy of the agreement and construction plans approved

by SPT, 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.

7. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, Caltrans shall notify the Commission in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

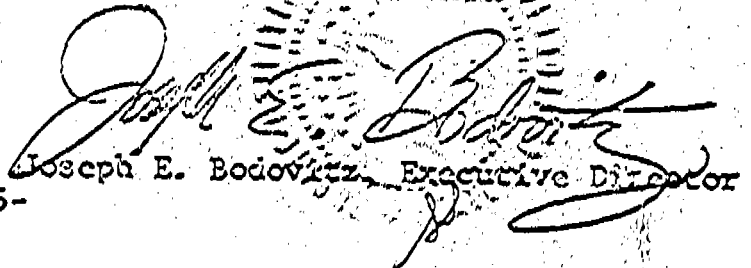
This authorization shall expire if not exercised within three years unless time is extended or if the above conditions are not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so require.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated MAR 21 1984, at San Francisco, California.

LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.
President
VICTOR CALVO
PRISCILLA C. CREW
DONALD VIAL
WILLIAM T. BAGLEY
Commissioners

I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION
WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE
COMMISSIONERS TODAY.


Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director