

Decision 84 04 018

APR 4 1984

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of THE ATCHISON,
TOPEKA AND SANTA FE RAILWAY
COMPANY for Authority to Maintain
and Operate a Spur Track Across
Matthews Road, County of Riverside,
State of California

Application 83-08-52
(Filed August 19, 1983)

O P I N I O N

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company (ATSF) requests authority to construct a spur track at grade across Matthews Road, near Ethanac, Riverside County.

The Commission 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. The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission staff.

Matthews Road is a lightly travelled dirt road which lies roughly east-west and parallel to ATSF's San Jacinto Branch Line. The proposed spur track will spring from the branch line and will be used to deliver transformers to a substation of Southern California Edison Company.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on August 24, 1983. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. ATSF requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct a spur track at grade across Matthews Road near Ethanac, Riverside County.

2. The proposed spur track crossing of Matthews Road is required to provide rail service to a substation of Southern California Edison Company.

3. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the proposed spur track crossing.

4. The requirements of public safety at the crossing may be met by the installation of two Standard No. 1-R crossing signs and flagging of the crossing (General Order (GO) 75-C).

5. The Commission is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.

6. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

7. The activity is not covered by the requirements set forth in CEQA and, therefore, the Guidelines (14 Cal. Admin. Code - Div. 6) concerning the evaluation of projects and the preparation and review of environmental documents do not apply. ✓

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 Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company (ATSF) is authorized to construct a spur track at grade across Matthews Road near Ethanac, Riverside County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing 2X-24.55-C.

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

3. Clearances shall conform to GO 26-D. Walkways shall conform to GO 118.

4. Protection at the crossing shall be two Standard No. 1-R crossing signs (GO 75-C). No on-rail vehicle shall operate over the crossing unless it is first brought to a stop and traffic on the street protected by a member of the crew, or other competent employee of the railroad, acting as flagman. The flagman shall place a minimum of two fusees on each side of the track prior to entry of the on-rail vehicle into the crossing.

5. Written instruction shall be issued by ATSF to trainmen operating over the crossing, to comply with the flagging instructions. A copy of the instructions shall be filed with the Commission within 30 days after installation of the crossing. Suitable sign shall be installed on both sides of Matthews Road, calling the attention of trainmen to the flagging instructions.

6. Construction expense of the crossing and installation cost of the crossing signs shall be borne by ATSF.

7. Maintenance of the crossing shall conform to GO 72-B. Maintenance cost of the crossing signs shall be borne by ATSF.

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

This authorization shall expire if not exercised within two 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.

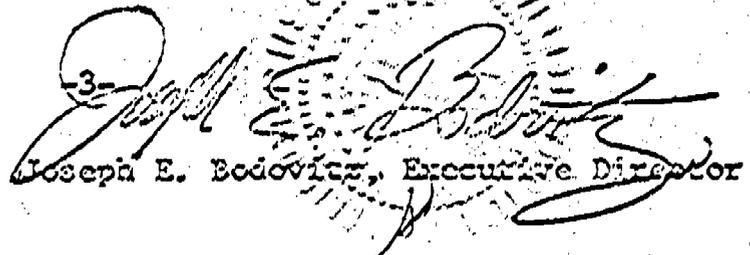
Dated APR 4 1984, at San Francisco, California.

LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.
President

VICTOR CALVO
PRISCILLA C. GREW
DONALD VIAL
Commissioners

Commissioner William T. Bagley
being necessarily absent, did
not participate.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION
WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE
COMMISSIONERS TO DATE

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Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director