

ORIGINAL

Decision S4 OS 097

AUG 1 1984

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the City of Folsom )  
to construct three grade crossings )  
of the Southern Pacific )  
Transportation Company Placerville )  
Branch Tracks, at Prairie City )  
Road, Blue Ravine Road, and East )  
Bidwell Street, in said City of )  
Folsom, State of California. )

Application 83-09-81  
(Filed September 29, 1983)

O P I N I O N

As part of the project for development of the Folsom South Study Area, the City of Folsom (City) requests authority to construct Blue Ravine Road at grade and to reconstruct the existing grade crossings of Prairie City Road and Placerville Roads, all across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Placerville Branch Line in Folsom, Sacramento County.

The area to be served by these crossings contains approximately 3,600 acres of generally unimproved land which is planned for development in the future. Prairie City and Placerville Roads will provide major north-south corridors. The proposed Blue Ravine Road will provide a major east-west corridor.

City is the lead agency for this project under the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, Public Resource Code Sections 21000, et seq. After preparation and review of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), City approved the project. On January 16, 1984, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Sacramento County Clerk 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. The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission staff.

To improve the riding quality and durability of each crossing, City requests an exemption from General Order (GO) 72-B to permit the installation of a rubber grade crossing surface, which crossing surface is not included within the standards of the Commission's GO 72-B. Since there appears to be ample justification for the installation of rubber grade crossing surfaces in this instance, an exemption from GO 72-B to permit the installations will be granted.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on October 3, 1983. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact.

1. City requests authority under Public Utilities (PU) Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct Blue Ravine Road at grade and to reconstruct the existing grade crossings of Prairie City Road and Placerville Road, all across the tracks of SPT's Placerville Branch Line in Folsom, Sacramento County.

2. The proposed Blue Ravine Road crossing is required to provide access to the Folsom South Study Area and the reconstructed Prairie City Road and Placerville Road crossings are required to improve traffic circulation in the same area.

3. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the proposed railroad-highway crossing and reconstruction of the two existing crossings.

4. Public safety requires that protection at each crossing be four Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals (GO 75-C).

5. The public and the railroad will benefit from installation of a rubber grade crossing surface at each crossing.

6. City 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.

8. The project will have no significant impact on the environment.

Conclusions of Law

1. The application should be granted as set forth in the following order.
2. An exemption from GO 72-B should be granted to permit installation of a rubber grade crossing surface at each crossing.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The City of Folsom (City) is authorized to construct Blue Ravine Road at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Placerville Branch Line in Folsom, Sacramento County, at the location and substantially as shown by the plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing AH-112.9.
2. City is further authorized to reconstruct the existing grade crossings of Prairie City and Placerville Roads, across the tracks of SPT's Placerville Branch Line at the locations and substantially as shown by the plans attached to the application, identified as Crossings AH-112.2 and AH-113,7, respectively.
3. City is granted an exemption from GO 72-B to permit installation of a rubber grade crossing surface at each crossing.

4. Construction of the crossings shall be in accordance with the provisions of GO 72-B except that a rubber grade crossing surface shall be installed at each crossing.

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

6. Construction expense of the Blue Ravine Road grade crossing and installation cost of the automatic protection at this crossing shall be borne by City.

7. Construction expense of the Prairie City and Placerville Road grade crossings shall be borne by City.

8. Installation cost of the automatic protection at the Prairie City and Placerville Road grade crossings shall be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into between the parties. Should the parties fail to agree, installation cost of the automatic protection will be apportioned by further order of the Commission.

9. Copies of the agreements, together with construction plans of the three crossings approved by SPT, shall be filed with the Commission prior to commencing construction.

10. Maintenance of the three crossings shall conform to GO 72-B.

11. Maintenance cost of the automatic protection at the Blue Ravine Road grade crossing shall be borne by City under Section 1202.2 of the Public Utilities (PU) Code.

12. Maintenance cost of the automatic protection at the Prairie City Road and Placerville Road grade crossings shall be shared equally by City and SPT under Section 1202.2 of the PU Code.

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

14. The application is granted as set forth above.

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.

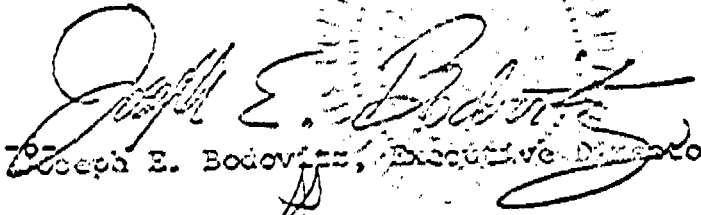
Dated AUG 1 1984, at San Francisco, California.

Commissioner Priscilla C. Crow,  
being necessarily absent, did  
not participate

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

LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.  
President  
VICTOR CALVO  
DONALD VIAL  
Commissioners

I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION  
WAS MADE BY THE  
COMMISSIONERS

  
Joseph E. Bodovick, Executive Director