

Decision 88 05 017 MAY 11 1988

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the PARR TERMINAL RAILROAD)
for Authority to Relocate an Existing)
Crossing Across South Fourth Street, City)
of Richmond, County of Contra Costa, State)
of California.

Application 87-03-045 (Filed March 27, 1987)

OPINION

Parr Terminal Railroad (PTR) requests authority to construct a track at grade across South Fourth Street in Richmond, Contra Costa County.

The proposed crossing is to be located approximately 100 feet south of the intersection of South Fourth Street with Cutting Boulevard, a major east-west arterial through Richmond. Fourth Street south of Cutting Boulevard is a lightly travelled local street one block long. Levin Metals, parent company of the applicant, occupies both sides of this block of South Fourth Street. Appendix A is a sketch of the proposed crossing location.

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 application complies with Rule 40 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure pertaining to construction of a railroad track across a public highway. The existing grade conditions and low vehicular and train volumes do not warrant grade separation at this location.

The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission's Traffic Engineering staff. The staff examined the need for and safety of the proposed new rail crossing, and recommends approval subject to installation of two Standard No. 1-R crossing signs and flagging of all rail movements over the crossing by the railroad.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on March 31, 1987. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

- 1. PTR requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct a track at grade across South Fourth Street in Richmond, Contra Costa County.
- 2. Construction of the proposed grade crossing is required to provide efficient rail service to Levin Richmond Terminal.
- 3. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the proposed grade crossing.
- 4. In consideration of the minimal train speed and volume, the requirements of public safety at the crossing may be met by installation of two Standard No. 1-R crossing signs (General Order (GO) 75-C) and flagging of the crossing.
- 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.

Conclusion of Law

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

QRDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. Parr Terminal Railroad (PTR) is authorized to construct a track at grade across South Fourth Street in Richmond, Contra Costa County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing 79-0.6-C.
- 2. Construction of the crossing shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 of GO 72-B.
- 3. Clearances shall be in accordance with GO 26-D. Walkways shall conform to GO 118.
- 4. Warning devices 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 instructions shall be issued by the railroad 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 signs shall be installed on both sides of South Fourth Street 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 PTR.
- 7. Maintenance of the crossing shall conform to GO 72-B. Maintenance cost of the crossing protection shall be borne by PTR.
- 8. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, PTR shall advise the Commission in writing that the authorized work has been completed.
- 9. 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.
 - 10. The application is granted as set forth above.

 This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

 Dated ______MAY 11 1988 ______, at San Francisco, California.

STANLEY W. HULETT
President

DONALD VIAL
FREDERICK R. DUDA
G. MITCHELL WILK
JOHN B. OHANIAN
Commissioners

1 CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE

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