

ORIGINAL

Decision 89 11 009 NOV 3 1989

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION)
COMMISSION)
for an order authorizing the)
construction of two light rail)
transit tracks at separated grade)
above Southern Pacific Transporta-)
tion Company Wilmington Branch track)
SPTC mile post 487.56 and at LACTC's)
mile post 5.34 in the County of Los)
Angeles, California)

Application 89-02-013
(Filed February 7, 1989)

INTERIM OPINION

As part of the project to construct a light rail transit (LRT) system, Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) requests authority to construct two light rail vehicle (LRV) tracks at separated grades over The Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Wilmington Branch Line between 60th Street and Slauson Avenue in Los Angeles County.

The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project is part of an on-going transit development process in which the Long Beach-Los Angeles corridor and thirteen other corridors have been identified as candidates for transit improvements. The project is being planned as a conventional LRT system from downtown Los Angeles to downtown Long Beach to serve between 54,000 and 76,000 passengers per day. A variety of impacts were identified, both beneficial and adverse. Mitigation measures will either eliminate or reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels.

LACTC 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), LACTC

approved the project. On March 29, 1985, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Secretary for Resources and with the Los Angeles County Clerk which found that "The project will have a significant impact on the environment". A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for the project.

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 project has been inspected by the Safety Division's Traffic Engineering staff, who after review of the proposed crossing improvement plans, portions of which have been incorporated in Appendix "A" attached to this order, recommend that LACTC's request be granted.

During the course of planning and review the Commission's Rail/Transit Planning and Policy Branch was initially of the opinion that consideration should be given to the installation of railings and walkways on LRV aerial structures, at such locations where installation might appear desirable on the Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project. After several meetings by all the concerned parties during a two year time frame, LACTC advised the Commission that it believed it could successfully satisfy the individual concerns of the affected agencies along the corridor. It was their intention to address and resolve each issue with each agency on a case by case, agency by agency basis.

LACTC further believes that because of the unique and diverse circumstances associated with each segment of the project, that their proposed course of action would satisfactorily resolve any concerns of the transit corridor agencies as well as reservations that the Commission staff may have had initially concerning the issue of handrail/walkways for the Long Beach - Los Angeles Rail Transit Project aerial structures.

Because of the urgency of this project and the need for LACTC to move ahead with the construction of this important segment of LRT system, we will issue an order granting interim authority for the construction of LRV tracks as requested by applicant in the instant application. A later final order will be issued addressing the question of aerial structures in this proceeding and in those other proceedings where this question has been raised (Applications 86-08-035, 87-12-034, 88-08-005, 88-06-037, 88-06-024, et al). This will allow for a more comprehensive and consistent treatment of these several related matters, without unduly delaying LACTC's necessary construction work at the Slauson Avenue site now. The Safety Division's Traffic Engineering Section has studied the need for the proposed grade separation and recommends that one be granted at this location.

LACTC has met the filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure including Rule 41, which relates to the construction of a street railroad across a railroad. Detailed drawings of the grade separations and roadway geometrics are in Appendix "A" attached to this order.

LACTC wishes to commence construction of this portion of its LRT system at the earliest possible date. It is therefore requested that the usual 30-day effective date on an order be waived. We will make our order effective immediately.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on February 10, 1989. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. LACTC requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct two LRV tracks at separated grades over SPT's Wilmington Branch Line near Slauson Avenue in Los Angeles County.

2. Construction of the LRV tracks at separated grades over SPT's Wilmington Branch Line is an essential element in the construction of the LRT system.

3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require construction of the two LRV tracks at separated grades over SPT's Wilmington Branch Line as indicated in Appendix "A" attached to this order.

4. The need for railings and walkways on LRV aerial structures will be dealt with by further order of the Commission.

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

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

7. The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project will have a significant impact on the environment; however, mitigation measures will either eliminate or reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels.

8. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for the project.

Conclusions of Law

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

2. The usual 30-day effective date on an order should be waived as LACTC wishes to commence construction of the project at the earliest possible date.

INTERIM ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) is authorized to construct two light rail vehicle (LRV) tracks at separated grades over the Southern Pacific Transportation (SPT) Company's Wilmington Branch Line at the

intersection of Mile Post 5.34 (LACTC) and Mile Post 487.56 (SPT), between 60th Street and Slauson Avenue in Los Angeles County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application and Appendix "A" of this order.

2. For the SPT Crossing Mile Post 487.56, Clearances shall be in accordance with General Order (GO) 26-D. Walkways shall conform to General Order 118. For the LACTC Crossing Mile Post 5.34, Clearances and Walkways shall conform to General Order 143.

3. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne in accordance with an agreement which has been entered into between the parties. A copy of the agreement has been filed with the Commission.

4. The Commission will issue a final order concerning railings and walkways on aerial structures at a later date.

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

6. 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.

7. The application is granted as set forth above.

This order is effective today.

Dated NOV 3 1989 at San Francisco, California.

G. MITCHELL WILK
President
FREDERICK R. DUDA
STANLEY W. HULETT
JOHN B. OHANIAN
PATRICIA M. ECKERT
Commissioners

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

Wesley Franklin

WESLEY FRANKLIN, Acting Executive Director

THE NEXT

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DOCUMENTS ARE

POOR ORIGINALS

MICROFILMING SERVICES

*will not assume responsibility
for the image quality*

Appendix A
Page 1 of 4

LOS ANGELES C
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SOUTHERN
Southern California Rail

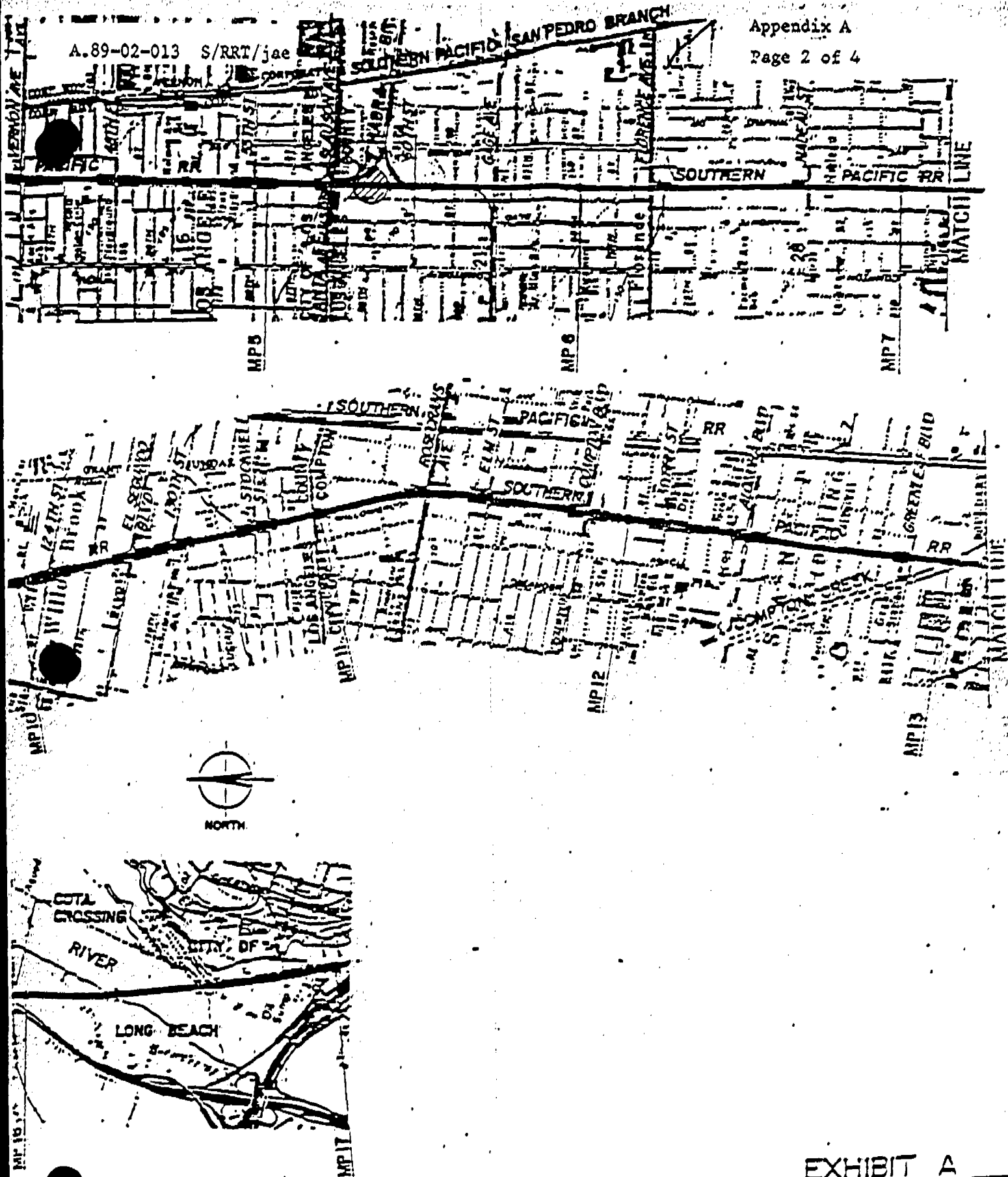


EXHIBIT A

ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project

LACTC LRT TRACK GRADE SEPARATION
OVER RELOCATED SPTC WILMINGTON BRANCH
SOUTH OF SLAUSON AVE.
LRT MP 5.34
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CONTRACT NO.	
DRAWING NO.	
REV.	SHEET NO.
SCALE	

Southern California Rail Consultants
APPROVED: _____
DATE: _____

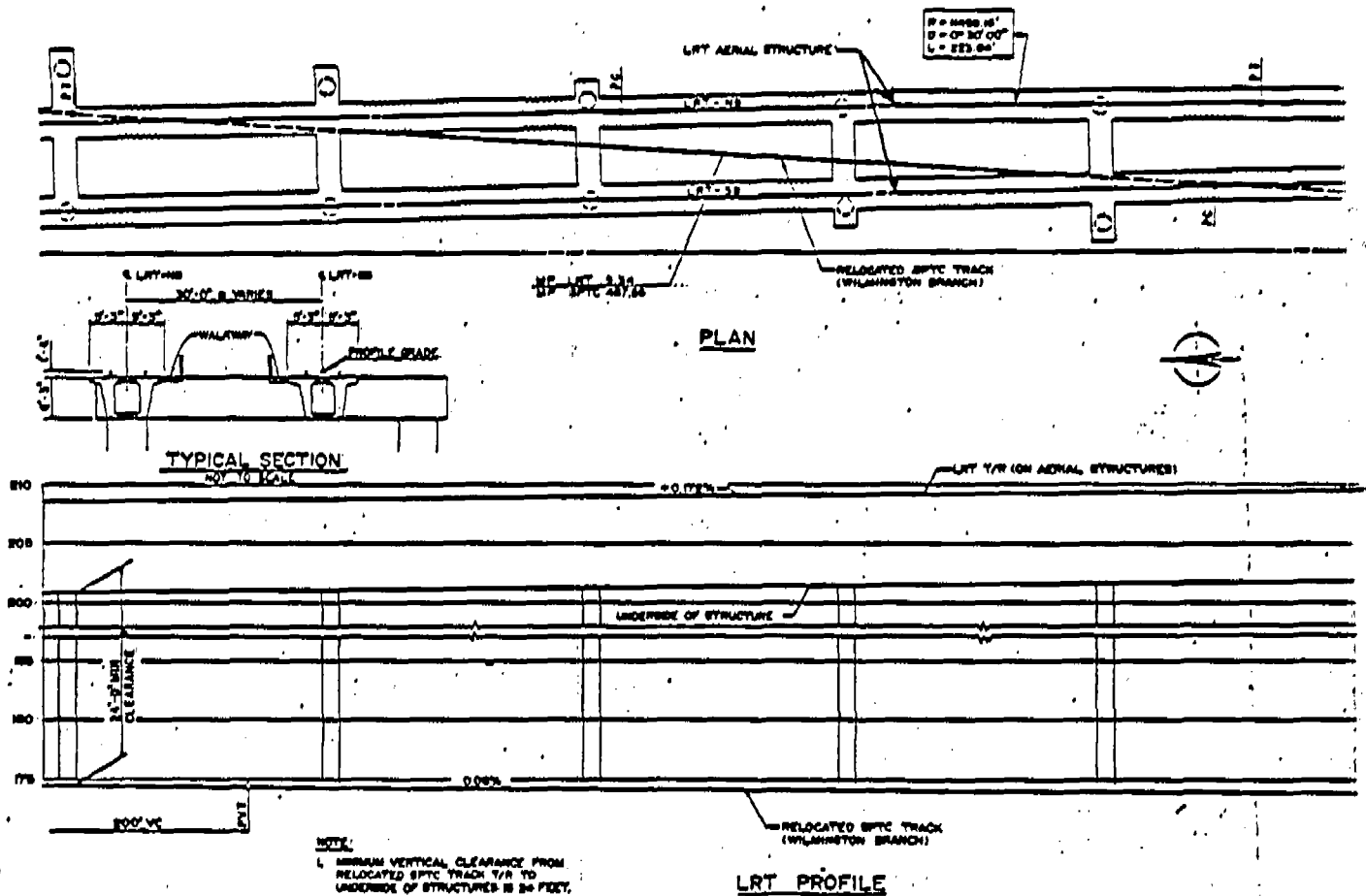
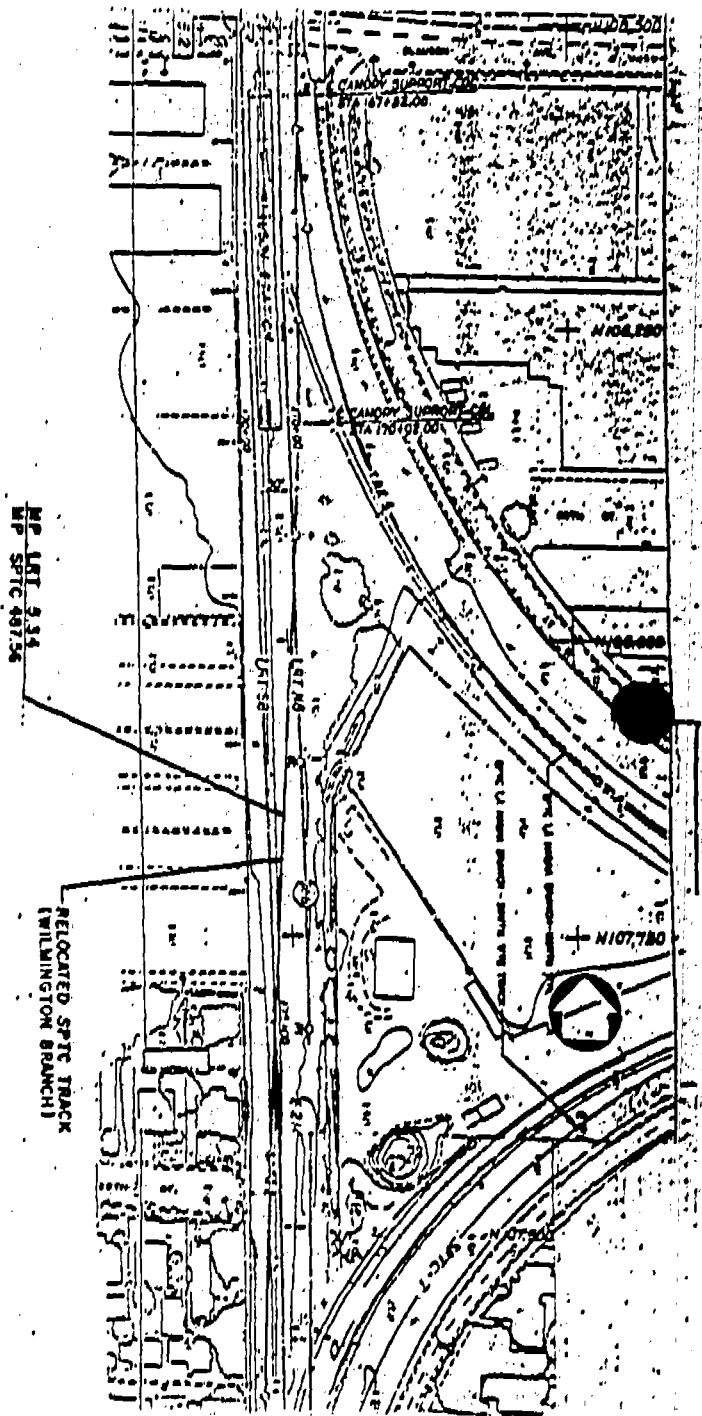


EXHIBIT E

LACTC LRT TRACK GR
OVER RELOCATED SPTC W
SOUTH OF BLAU
LRT MP 0.0
COUNTY OF LOS

DATE	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	APPROVED BY	DATE	PROJECT	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAIL CORPORATION
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAIL CORPORATION
A joint venture of
Southern California Edison Company
Southern California Gas Company
Southern California Edison Company
Southern California Gas Company



LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project STUDIED Southern California Rail Corporation	
LACTC LRT TRACK GRADE 5 OVER RELOCATED SPTC WILM SOUTH OF SLAUSON LRT MP 9.34 COUNTY OF LOS ANG.	

EXHIBIT B.51