

S/RRT/dt

ORIGINAL

Decision 90 03 021 MAR 14 1990

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the State of California,	)	
Department of Transportation, for an	)	
order authorizing the Department to:	)	Application 90-01-004
Widen the Tehachapi Creek Bridge and	)	(Filed January 4, 1990)
overhead in Kern County State of	)	
California.	)	

O P I N I O N

As part of the project to widen and improve State Route 58 (SR-58) between Post Mile 82.5 and Post Mile 101.9, to current highway traffic engineering standards, the State of California, Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) requests authority to widen the south structure and to remove and replace the north structure of the existing Tehachapi Creek Bridge Overhead over the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's El Paso Main Line near Tehachapi, Kern County.

The portion of the project with which this application is involved includes the improvement of 19.4 miles of four-lane highway, the major feature of the project being the improvement of the Bridge Overhead Structure. SR-58 is a major highway connector between Mojave and Bakersfield in Kern County.

The existing Tehachapi Creek Bridge Overhead consists of two structures, one for each direction of traffic. The south structure, Bridge No. 50-44R, consists of four welded steel girders with a total deck width of 34 feet. It will be widened on the outside to a total deck width of 42 feet, 6 inches. The north structure, Bridge No. 50-44L, consists of two welded steel girders with a total deck width of 31 feet. It will be replaced by a cast-in-place prestressed concrete box girder with a total deck width of 42 feet, 6 inches.

Caltrans is the lead agency for this project under the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, Public Resources (PR) Code Sections 21000, et seq. Caltrans has determined that the project is categorically exempt from CEQA under PR Code Section 21080.13.

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's exemption determination.

The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission Safety Division Traffic Engineering staff. The staff has examined the need to reconstruct and widen the existing south structure; and the removal of the inadequate north structure and replacement thereof with a new improved overhead grade separation and recommends that approval for the project be granted.

Caltrans has met the filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure including Rule 38, which relates to the construction of public highway across a railroad track. Detailed drawings of the grade separation structure are shown in Appendix A.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on January 9, 1990. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. Caltrans requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to widen the south structure and to remove and replace the north structure of the existing Tehachapi Creek Bridge Overhead over the tracks of SPT's El Paso Main Line near Tehachapi, Kern County.

2. Removal, reconstruction and widening of the Tehachapi Creek Bridge Overhead, as described in the application and shown in Appendix A, is required as part of the improvement of SR-58 between Post Mile 82.5 and Post Mile 101.9.

3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require the widening of the south structure and the removal and replacement of the north structure of the Tehachapi Creek Bridge Overhead.

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

5. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's exemption determination.

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.

Conclusions of Law

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

2. 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.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The State of California, Department of Transportation, (Caltrans), is authorized to widen the south structure and remove and replace the north structure of the existing Tehachapi Creek Bridge Overhead over the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) El Paso Main Line, near Tehachapi, Kern County, identified as Crossing B-348.3A. The proposed grade separation alteration projects are at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application and Appendix A of this order.

2. Clearances shall be in accordance with General Order (GO) 26-D.

3. Walkways shall conform to GO 118. Walkways adjacent to any trackage subject to rail operations shall be maintained free of obstructions and shall be promptly restored to their original condition in the event of damage during construction.

4. 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, together with plans of the crossings approved by SPT, shall be filed with the Commission's Safety Division, prior to commencing construction. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will apportion the costs of construction and maintenance by further order.

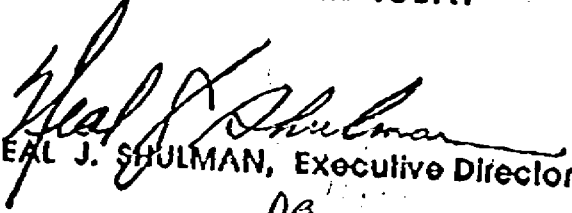
5. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, Caltrans shall notify the Commission's Safety Division in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

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.

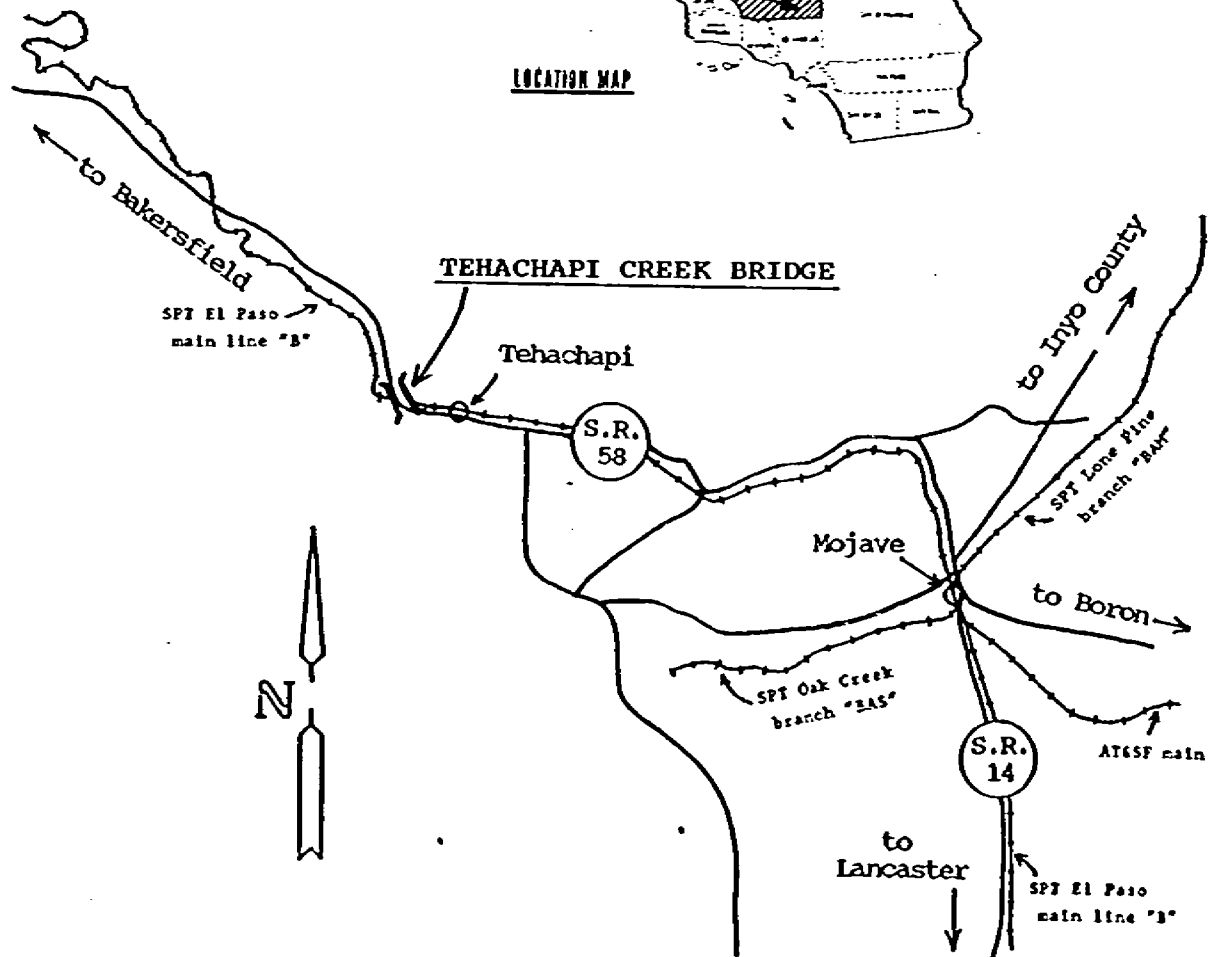
7. The application is granted as set forth above.  
This order becomes effective 30 days from today.  
Dated MAR 14 1990, at San Francisco, California

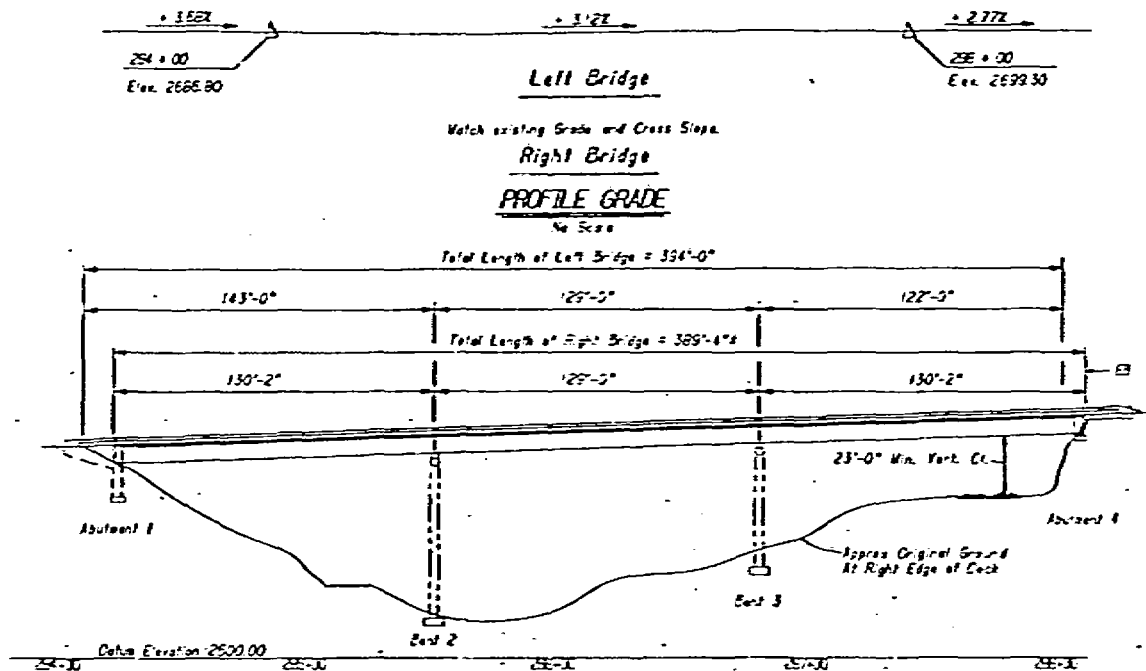
G. MITCHELL WILK  
President  
FREDERICK R. DUDA  
STANLEY W. HULETT  
JOHN B. OHANIAN  
PATRICIA M. ECKERT  
Commissioners

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

  
NEAL J. SHULMAN, Executive Director

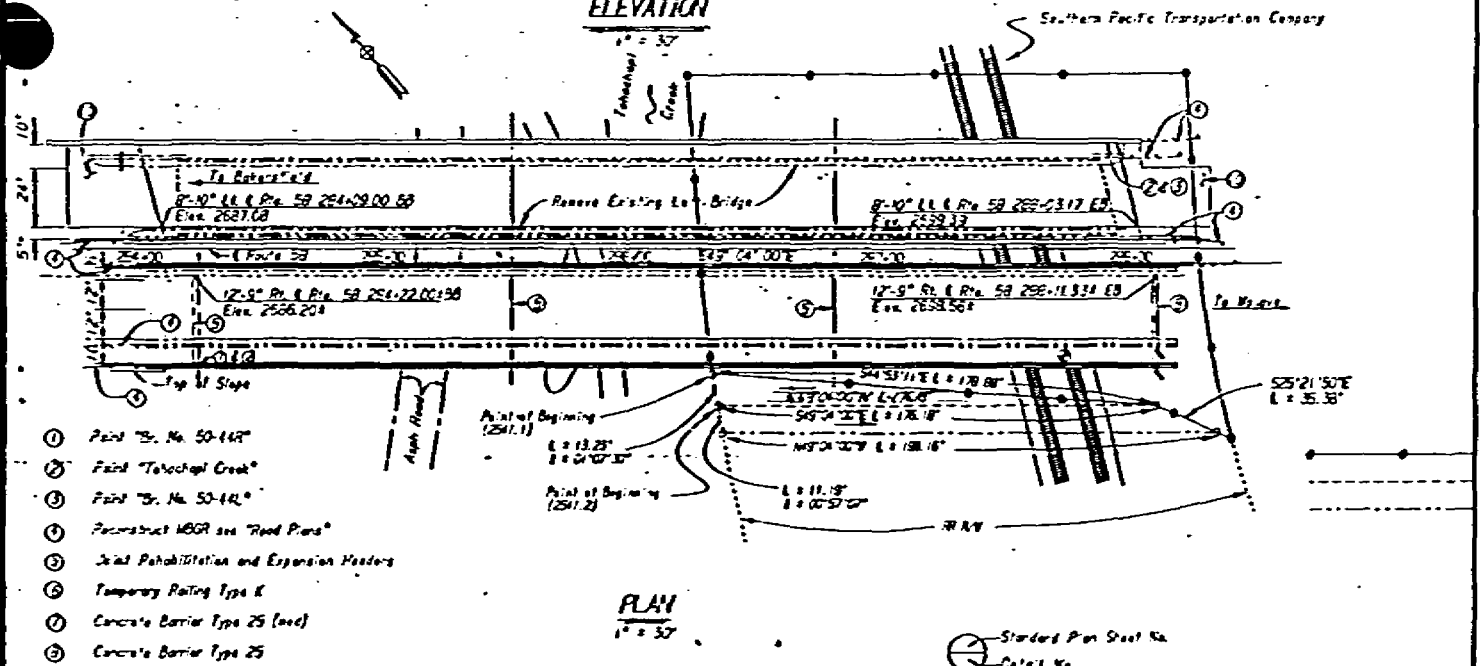
*JB*





**ELEVATION**  
1" = 5'

Southern Pacific Transportation Company



- ① Point "B", No. 50-147"
- ② Point "Telegraph Creek"
- ③ Point "B", No. 50-148"
- ④ Reinforced MGR see "Road Plans"
- ⑤ Joint Rehabilitation and Expansion Headers
- ⑥ Temporary Rating Type K
- ⑦ Concrete Barrier Type 25 (new)
- ⑧ Concrete Barrier Type 25