

T/ET/AFM/WPSC

Decision 83 05 070 MAY 18 1983**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the City of Folsom)
 to construct two grade crossings)
 of the Southern Pacific Trans-)
 portation Company Placerville)
 Branch Tracks, at Blue Ravine)
 Road and "A" Street, in said)
 City of Folsom, State of)
 California.)

Application 83-02-01
 (Filed February 1, 1983)

O P I N I O N

As part of the project for development of the Lake Natoma residential area, the City of Folsom (City) requests authority to construct Blue Ravine Road and "A" street at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Placerville Branch Line in Folsom, Sacramento County.

City 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), City approved the project. On June 20, 1980, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Sacramento County Clerk which found that "The project will have a significant effect on the environment." However, no significant impacts were found to be specifically associated with the proposed grade crossings.

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.

The project is located in the southerly portion of Folsom and includes development of 576 acres for residences. Both "A" street and Blue Ravine Road will provide access to the project from Folsom Boulevard which is located west of SPT's tracks.

Major impacts involve increases in noise, air pollution, traffic and utility service needs. Mitigation measures include design of street patterns to minimize effects due to congestion, traffic generation, truck traffic, and improving necessary water and sewer treatment facilities.

City requests an exemption from General Order 72-B to permit the installation of a rubber grade crossing surface at each of the proposed crossings.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on February 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 and "A" Street at grade across the tracks of SPT's Placerville Branch Line in Folsom, Sacramento County.

2. The crossings are required to provide access to the Lake Natoma residential development.

3. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the proposed railroad-highway crossings.

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

5. The public and the railroad will benefit from installation of a rubber 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 Lake Natoma development project will have a significant impact on the environment; however, mitigation measures will either eliminate or reduce the severity of the adverse impacts.

9. The EIR identifies no significant environmental impact that will be caused by construction of these grade crossings.

Conclusions 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 City of Folsom (City) is authorized to construct Blue Ravine Road and "A" Street at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Placerville Branch Line in Folsom, Sacramento County, at the locations and substantially as shown by the plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossings AH-110.1 and AH-109.2, respectively.

2. City is granted an exemption from General Order 72-B to permit installation of a rubber crossing surface at each crossing.

3. Construction of the crossings shall be in accordance with the provisions of General Order 72-B except that a rubber crossing surface shall be installed.

4. Clearances shall conform to General Order 26-D. Walkways shall conform to General Order 118.

5. Protection at each crossing shall be four Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals (General Order 75-C).

6. Construction expense of the crossings and installation cost of the automatic protection shall be borne by City.

7. Maintenance of the crossings shall conform to General Order 72-B. Maintenance cost of the automatic protection shall be borne by City under PU Code Section 1202.2.

8. Construction plans of the crossings, approved by SPT, together with a copy of the agreement entered into between the parties, shall be filed with the Commission prior to commencing construction.

9. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, City shall notify the Commission in writing of the completion of the work authorized.

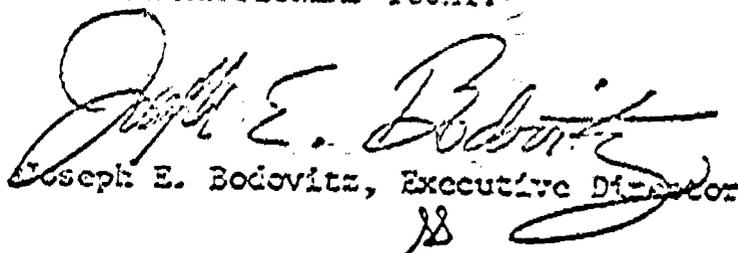
This authorization shall expire if not exercised within two years unless time is extended or if the above conditions are not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so require.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated MAY 18 1983, at San Francisco, California.

LEONARD M. CRIMES, JR.
President
VICTOR CALVO
FRISCILLA C. GREW
DONALD VIAL
Commissioners

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


Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director