

Decision No. **S9214** AUG 8 1978

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the State of California,  
Department of Transportation, for an  
order authorizing the construction of  
a crossing at grade for bicycles over  
the tracks of the Northwestern Pacific  
Railroad Company's San Rafael mainline  
track at the south junction of the  
Schellville (5H) branch line wye track  
immediately south of the Route 101/37  
Interchange in South Novato, Marin  
County.

Application No. 57807  
(Filed January 18, 1978)

O P I N I O N

The State of California, Department of Transportation, requests authority to construct a bicycle and pedestrian crossing at grade across the tracks of the Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company's San Rafael Branch Line immediately south of the Route 101/37 Interchange in the City of Novato, Marin County.

The State of California, Department of Transportation, is the lead agency for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended. Applicant alleges that this project is categorically exempt from the requirements of CEQA, pursuant to Title 21 (Public Works), Chapter 2, Section 1510.1 (f) (2) of the California Administrative Code. 1/

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on January 19, 1978. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

1/ Title 21, Chapter 2, Section 1510.1 (f) (2) of the California Administrative Code provides for the categorical exemption of projects for the "(2) Addition of nonmotorized trails to separate such use from motorized traffic," on existing highways.

F I N D I N G S

After consideration, the Commission finds:

1. Applicant should be authorized to construct a bicycle and pedestrian crossing at grade across the tracks of the Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company's San Rafael Branch Line in the City of Novato, Marin County, at the location and substantially as shown by the plan attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing 5-25.5-D.

2. Construction of the crossing should be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 of General Order 72-B.

3. Clearances should conform to General Order 26-D. Walkways should conform to General Order 118.

4. Protection at the crossing should be two Standard No. 1-D pedestrian crossing signs modified to read "RAILROAD CROSSING - BICYCLES AND PEDESTRIAN ONLY." In addition, two signs reading "WALK BIKES ACROSS TRACKS" should be installed in advance of the crossing.

5. Construction cost of the crossing and installation cost of the crossing signs should be borne by the applicant.

6. Maintenance of the crossing should be in accordance with General Order 72-B. Maintenance cost of the crossing signs should be borne by the applicant.

7. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

C O N C L U S I O N S

On the basis of the foregoing findings, we conclude that the application should be granted as set forth in the following order:

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The State of California, Department of Transportation, is authorized to construct a bicycle and pedestrian crossing at grade across the tracks of the Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company's San Rafael Branch Line in the City of Novato, Marin County, as set forth in the findings of this decision.

2. Within thirty days after completion pursuant to this order, applicant shall so advise the Commission in writing.

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

The effective date of this order shall be thirty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 8th day of AUGUST, 1978.

Robert B. ...  
President

Vernon L. ...  
Robert D. ...

Commissioners

Commissioner William Symons, Jr., being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

Commissioner Claire T. Dedrick, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.