

SD

Decision No. 90355

MAY 22 1979

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
The City of San Buenaventura to
construct a City Street across the
Right of Way of the Southern Pacific
Transportation Company at Petit Avenue
in the East San Buenaventura area.)

) Application No. 58301
) (Filed August 18, 1978)

O P I N I O N

As part of the Woodside Development Project, the City of San Buenaventura requests authority to construct Petit Avenue at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Santa Paula Branch Line in the City of San Buenaventura, Ventura County.

The City of San Buenaventura is the lead agency for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended, Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.

After preparation and review of an Environmental Impact Report, the City of San Buenaventura approved the Woodside Development Project. On May 26, 1978, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Ventura County Clerk, which found that "The project will have a significant effect on the environment."

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has independently evaluated and assessed the lead agency's Environmental Impact Report. The site of the proposed project has also been inspected by the Commission staff.

The construction of Petit Avenue across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Santa Paula Branch Line is part of the larger Woodside Development Project to construct 286 residential units. The project site is presently a citrus and avacado orchard; however, the area has been designated as residential by the City's General Plan. Residential development adjoins the site on the northern and western boundaries, and land adjacent to the southern and eastern boundaries is vacant.

The anticipated significant environmental impacts such as: loss of agricultural land, erosion due to increased run off, increased traffic on crowded road segments, depletion of the City's water supply and the addition of sewage to a system, portions of which are above design capacity, are the results of residential development rather than construction of the proposed crossing. In fact, the proposed extension of Petit Avenue across the railroad's tracks is one of the mitigation measures to ameliorate the impacts of the Woodside Development Project.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on August 21, 1978. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

F I N D I N G S

After consideration, the Commission finds:

1. Applicant should be authorized to construct Petit Avenue at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Santa Paula Branch Line in the City of San Buenaventura, Ventura County, at the location and substantially as shown by the plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing BE-406.05.
2. Construction of the crossing should be equal or superior to Standard No. 2 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 four Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals (General Order 75-C).
5. Construction cost of the crossing and installation cost of the automatic protection should be borne by the applicant.
6. Maintenance of the crossing should be in accordance with General Order No. 72-B. Maintenance Cost of the automatic protection should be borne by the applicant pursuant to the provisions of Section 1202.2 of the Public Utilities Code.
7. Construction plans of the crossing, approved by the Southern Pacific Transportation Company, together with a copy of the agreement entered into between the parties involved, should be filed

with the Commission prior to commencing construction.

8. Applicant is the lead agency for the Woodside Development Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended.

9. The Commission is a responsible agency and has independently evaluated and assessed the lead agency's Environmental Impact Report.

10. Construction of the proposed grade crossing will have no significant impact on the environment.

C O N C L U S I O N

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

1. The City of San Buenaventura is authorized to construct Petit Avenue at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Santa Paula Branch Line in the City of San Buenaventura, Ventura 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.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 22nd day of MAY, 1979.

John E. Gryn
President

Leon L. Sturgeon

Richard P. Howell

[Signature]
Commissioners

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