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Decision No. 91473 . MAR 18 1980

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 separation of grade over the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation's Los Angeles to San Francisco mail line tracks at approximate Railroad Mile Post 37.1 and Highway Station A3100 in connection with the widening of State Highway 237 in the City of Mountain View, County of Santa Clara.

Application No. 59332
(Filed December 13, 1979)

O P I N I O N

As part of a project to widen and improve an 0.8 mile segment of Highway 237, the State of California, Department of Transportation, requests authority to construct a grade separation structure to be known as Route 237-East Mountain View Overhead over the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Los Angeles-San Francisco Main Line, in the City of Mountain View, Santa Clara 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, Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et seq.

After preparation and review of an Initial Study, the California Department of Transportation issued a Negative Declaration and approved the project. On February 29, 1980, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Secretary for Resources which found that "the project will not 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 Initial Study and Negative Declaration. The site of the proposed project has also been inspected by the Commission staff.

The East Mountain View Overhead modification program will provide much needed additional capacity for vehicles. It will widen an 0.8 mile segment of State Highway 237 (Mountain View-Alviso Highway) from two lanes to four lanes.

This new two lane structure will parallel the existing two lane overhead. The project site is in an area which is principally commercial and light manufacturing.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on December 14, 1979. 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 the State Route 237-East Mountain View Overhead over the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Los Angeles-San Francisco Main Line in the City of Mountain View, Santa Clara County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as part of Crossing E-37.1-A.

2. Clearances should be in accordance with General Order 26-D.

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

4. Construction and maintenance costs of the "State Route 237-East Mountain View Overhead" should be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into between the parties relative thereto, and copies of the agreement, together with plans of the crossing approved by the Southern Pacific Transportation Company, should be filed with the Commission prior to commencing construction. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will apportion the costs of construction and maintenance by further order.

5. 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.

6. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has independently evaluated and assessed the lead agency's Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

7. This project will have no significant effect 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

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The State of California, Department of Transportation, is authorized to construct the "State Route 237-East Mountain View Overhead" over the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Los Angeles to San Francisco Main Line in the City of Mountain View, Santa Clara 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 three 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 MAR 18 1980, at San Francisco, California.

John E. Bryan
President

Vernon L. Johnson
Robert D. Swalle

Francis J. Smith
Commissioners

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