

S&E/RLE

Decision 95-08-049 August 11, 1995

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of SOUTHERN PACIFIC)
TRANSPORTATION COMPANY for an Order)
Authorizing the Construction of at)
Grade Spur Track Across Casale Road)
(formerly Rawson Avenue), in the)
County of Tehama, State of California,)
at Railroad Milepost C.219.7-C.)

Application 95-03-042
(Filed March 8, 1995)

ORIGINAL

OPINION

As part of a Louisiana-Pacific Corporation industrial development project, Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SPT) requests authority to construct a spur track across Casale Road, Tehama County (County).

The proposed crossing is located about five miles south of the City of Red Bluff in a rural industrial area. It is to replace an existing crossing approximately 400 feet west of the proposed crossing location, and is therefore more a relocation of an existing crossing than totally new construction. It will provide rail service to the recently completed Louisiana-Pacific joint plant.

County 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 Initial Study, County issued a Negative Declaration and approved the project. On July 10, 1995 a Notice of Determination was filed with the Tehama County Clerk, 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 reviewed and considered the lead agency's Initial Study and Negative Declaration. The application meets the

filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, including Rule 39, which relates to the relocation of an existing crossing, and Rule 40, which relates to construction of a railroad track across a public highway. A sketch of the crossing area is set forth as Appendix A.

The Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division Traffic Engineering staff inspected the site of the proposed project. After reviewing the need for and safety of the proposed construction, the staff recommends issuance of an ex-parte order authorizing construction of the proposed crossing.

Findings of Facts

1. Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on April 6, 1995. No protests have been filed.
2. SPT requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct the proposed crossing at grade across Casale Road in Tehama County.
3. The proposed crossing is required to provide rail freight service to Louisiana-Pacific Corporation's joint plant facility.
4. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the proposed at-grade crossing.
5. Public safety requires that warning devices at the crossing be four Standard No. 1-R crossing signs, and that all rail movements over the crossing be flagged by railroad employees.
6. County 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 Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

Conclusions of Law

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

2. The application is uncontested, and a public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SPT) is authorized to construct its tracks at grade across Casale Road in Tehama County (County), at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing C-219.7-C.

2. Construction of the crossing shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 of General Order (GO) 72-B.

3. Clearances shall conform to GO 26-D. Walkways shall conform to GO 118.

4. Warning devices at the crossing shall be four Standard No. 1-R crossing signs (GO 75-C).

5. No on-rail vehicle shall operate over the crossing unless it is first brought to a stop and traffic on the street protected by a member of the crew, or other competent employee of the railroad, acting as flagman. The flagman shall place a minimum of two fuses on each side of the track prior to entry of the on-rail vehicle into the crossing.

6. SPT shall issue written instructions to trainmen operating over the crossing, to comply with the flagging instructions specified above. SPT shall file a copy of these instructions with the Commission's Safety & Enforcement Division within 30 days after installation of the crossing. SPT shall install suitable signs on both sides of Casale Road calling to the attention of trainmen the flagging instructions.

7. Upon completion of the Crossing C-219.7-C, the existing crossing of Casale Road identified as Crossing C-219.6-C, shall be closed and physically removed.

8. Construction expense of the crossing and installation cost of the crossing signs shall be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into by County and SPT.

9. Maintenance of the crossing shall conform to GO 72-B. Maintenance cost of the crossing signs shall be borne by SPT.

10. Construction plans of the crossing, approved by County, together with a copy of the agreement entered into between the parties, shall be filed by SPT with the Commission's Safety & Enforcement Division prior to commencing construction.

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

12. 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.

13. The application is granted as set forth above.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated AUG 11, 1995, at San Francisco, California.

DANIEL Wm. FESSLER
President

P. GREGORY CONLON

JESSIE J. KNIGHT, JR.

HENRY M. DUQUE

Commissioners

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

Wesley Franklin
Acting Executive Director

A.9503042

PRO. READ 1' SLY & 1' ELY
OF FENCE CORNER AT TYLER
ROAD N. S. P.M. MAINLINE R/W
PER P.M. NO. 093

N 72°49' E
997.05'

PRO. READ RICE 18504
9.5' WLY & 2' SLY OF FENCE CORNER
AT S.W. CORNER OF READING & TYLER
ROADS PER P.M. NO. 093.

N.W. CORNER OF OLIVE RD.
& HAYSON AVE. (NOT FOUND)

P.S.# 10
P.S.# 11

REMOVE

PROPOSED P.S.# 10

S. ALBERT ST. 11.5'

WIDE PAVED AREA
OF ROAD TO 24'
THRU CROSSING

INSTALL

CASALE ROAD (FORMERLY HAYSON AVE.)

25.00' ± 1" ± 00.00
INTERSECTION

INSTALL ADVANCE WARNING SIGN
750 FEET EAST OF
NEW CROSSING

INSTALL

REMOVE

EXISTING SPUR
TO BE REMOVED

INSTALL

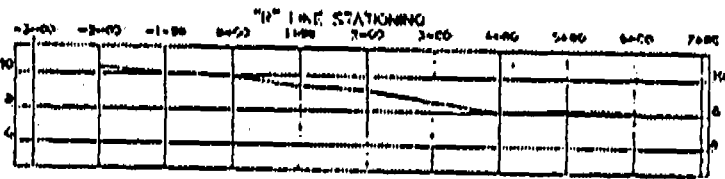
NOTE: CONSTRUCT PAYMENT VARIANCES
CONFORMING AS CLOSELY AS
FEASIBLE TO DETAILS OF SECTION
R1-4 & FIG. R-2 OF MHA MANUAL
ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL
DEVICES (MUTCD).

12" JOIST
BUILDING

PROPOSED NEW
SPUR LINE

LEGEND:

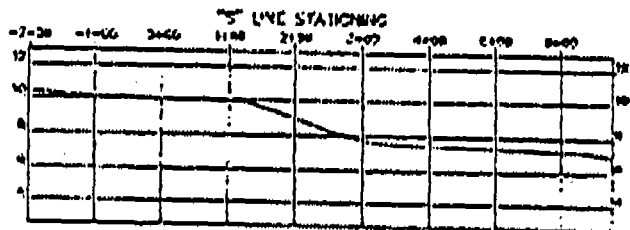
- ⊙ ... ADVANCE WARNING SIGN, R-1-0-1
PER SECTION R0-3 (MUTCD)
- ... STANDARD NO. 1-R R/W CROSSING SIGN
PER C.P.U.C. 0.0 72-C
- ... POWER LINE



EXISTING PROFILE CASALE ROAD

HOR. SCALE : 1"=200'

VERT. SCALE : 1"=8'



PROFILE OF PROPOSED SPUR

HOR. SCALE : 1"=200'

VERT. SCALE : 1"=8'

Appendix A