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CPUC APPROVES CROSSINGS FOR EXPO LINE

SAN FRANCISCO, November 10, 2011 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today authorized the Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority (Expo Authority) to construct 16 new at-grade and 11 grade-separated highway-light rail transit crossings as part of the Exposition Corridor Light Rail Transit Project-Phase 2 located in Los Angeles and Santa Monica.

The Expo Authority, acting for and on behalf of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), is charged with planning and constructing the CPUC-approved Exposition Corridor Light Rail Transit Project.

"Today's decision will help ease traffic congestion and promote public transportation," said CPUC President Michael R. Peevey. "The Exposition Corridor Light Rail Transit Project will extend from downtown Los Angeles to the City of Santa Monica for a total of 15.2 miles."

Added Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon, "Our decision today will be a helpful addition to rail transit infrastructure in greater metropolitan Los Angeles. This will connect communities and expand economic, educational, and cultural connections

while reducing fuel pipe emissions."

The CPUC reviewed and considered an environmental impact report and determined that, where feasible, the Expo Authority adopted mitigations to reduce the impacts to less-than-significant levels, and that remaining significant impacts were lessened to the extent possible through adoption of additional mitigations. The CPUC also conducted a thorough crossing hazard analysis and determined that it is satisfied with the safety of the crossings for the public.

The proposal voted on is available at http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/word_pdf/AGENDA_RESOLUTION/151043.pdf.

For more information on the CPUC, please visit <u>www.cpuc.ca.gov</u>.

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