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## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

515 L STREET, SUITE 1119  
Sacramento, CA 95814



March 29, 2010

File Number: G.10-01-019  
Los Angeles Street  
City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

John C. Miller  
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One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Los Angeles Street Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 084L-1.70, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.**

Dear Mr. Miller:

This refers to your letter, dated January 15, 2010, received on January 20, 2010, requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the existing at-grade crossing of Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Blue Line Light Rail tracks and Los Angeles Street in the City of Los Angeles (City), Los Angeles County, identified as CPUC Crossing Number 084L-1.70.

Metro currently operates two light rail tracks in the median of Washington Boulevard and across Los Angeles Street. There are two lanes of vehicle traffic on each side of the median and left turn pockets are provided as well. Movements of light rail vehicles, automotive vehicles and pedestrians through the intersection are governed by a combination of vehicular traffic signals and light rail bar signals. There are also train-actuated train coming signs at the intersection.

Metro proposes to conduct a demonstration project using "in-road" warning lights to better control the left turn automotive vehicle movements across the tracks at the intersection of Washington Boulevard and Los Angeles Street.

The demonstration project, as indicated in the request letter and/or shown on the plans shall consist of:

- Installing five "in-road" warning lights at each of two left turn stop bars on Washington Boulevard,
- The warning lights shall be red in color and embedded within the street surface,
- The red warning lights will be illuminated when the left turn traffic signal arrows are red to provide motorists with accentuated warning.

The experimentation has been approved by the Federal Highway Administration and the Caltrans Traffic Control Device Committee. Metro shall evaluate the effectiveness of the use of "in-road" warning lights as a means to provide motorists with accentuated warning for left turn movements, and its effects on the occurrence of incidents between left turn motor vehicles and light rail vehicles.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by Metro and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As Metro and the City are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the improvements as described in your letter dated January 15, 2010, and summarized above are authorized. Improvements shall comply with all applicable Commission General Orders and the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices published by the California Department of Transportation.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Pubic Resources Code 21084]

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within two years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to this office, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by involved parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, the Commission's Rail Crossing Engineering Section (RCES) may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, Metro shall notify RCES that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G title *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separation*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/formg>. This report may be submitted electronically to [rces@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rces@cpuc.ca.gov) as outlined on the web page.

If you have any questions, please contact Jose Pereyra at (213-576-7083) or [jfp@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jfp@cpuc.ca.gov) .

Sincerely,



Daren Gilbert, Supervisor  
Rail Crossings Engineering Section  
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

C: Sean Skehan, Los Angeles Department of Transportation  
Vijay Khawani, Metro  
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