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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

515 L STREET, SUITE 1119
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814



April 12, 2010

File Number: G.10-03-007

Cary Keaten
Interim City Manager
City of Lathrop
390 Towne Centre Drive
Lathrop, CA 95330

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Stewart Road Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001TTL-89.76 (formerly 001D-78.20), DOT No. 753042R in the City of Lathrop, San Joaquin County

Dear Mr. Keaten:

This refers to your letter dated March 22, 2010 and received by us on March 25, 2010 requesting authorization pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B to alter an at-grade highway-rail crossing of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) track in the City of Lathrop (City), San Joaquin County. The crossing is identified as Stewart Road Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001TTL-89.76 (formerly 001D-78.20), DOT No. 753042R.

The crossing is currently a single track crossing equipped with two Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate) warning devices. At this location, Stewart Road is a two-lane road running generally north/south. UPRR currently runs approximately 4 – 6 trains per day on these tracks at 20 mph.

The City states in its GO88-B request letter that “The road widening and improvements on approach which include signage and lane markings will improve safety for the motoring public (due primarily to improved sight distances). The crossing location is on a levee road which is currently very narrow and does not allow for current street standards. The widening of the approach will improve visibility and will allow for the inclusion of shoulders and a sidewalk which do not currently exist. The installation of medians is intended to reduce the possibility of motorists driving around the lowered gate arms. Due to the proposed road improvements, UPRR will be upgrading the gates and signals to meet the latest standards.”

The proposed alterations as described in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments shall consist of:

- Widening Stewart Road to two 12 foot lanes and two 8 foot shoulders on the north side of crossing, along with an 8 foot wide sidewalk.
- Widening Stewart Road to two 12 foot lanes and one 5 foot shoulder and one 2 foot shoulder on the south side of crossing with an extension of 8 foot wide sidewalk.
- Installing ADA compliant truncated dome tactile warning strips on all approaches.
- Installing one foot wide, 100 foot long medians on both sides of the crossing.
- Installing a 325 foot long “No Parking” zone on both approaches to the crossing.

- Installing new pavement markings and W10-1 advance warning signs on both sides of the crossing.
- Removing and replacing existing crossing surface with precast concrete.
- Removing and replacing the existing Standard 9 warning devices with new warning devices.

Staff has investigated the City's request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and UPRR are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, you may proceed with the improvements as described in your request letter and attachments, and summarized above.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with section 8A.05, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and CA MUTCD.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Public 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 Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, the UPRR shall notify RCES that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. 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 as outlined on the web page.

If you have any questions, please contact David Stewart at (916) 324-7134 or atm@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

C: Jim Smith, UPRR