

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834



July 20, 2010

File: G.10-03-008, G.10-03-009, G.10-03-010,
G.10-03-011 G.10-03-012, G.10-03-013,
G.10-03-014, G.10-03-015, G.10-03-016

John Quinn
Director of Public Utilities
P.O. Box 569
970 Ventura Street
Santa Paula, CA 93060

Subject: General Order 88-B Request for Authorization to Alter Highway-Rail Crossings in the City of Santa Paula, Ventura County.

Dear Mr. Quinn:

This refers to your letter dated February 3, 2010, received by RCES on March 15, 2010, requesting authorization pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B to alter nine highway-rail crossings (listed below) of the Fillmore & Western Railway Company (FRWY) Santa Paula Subdivision tracks, along right-of-way owned by Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC), in the City of Santa Paula (City), Ventura County.

Street Name	City	CPUC Crossing No.	U.S. DOT Crossing No.	GO 88B No.
Cameron Street	Santa Paula	001BE-413.32	745714Y	G.10-03-008
Steckel Drive	Santa Paula	001BE-413.47	903179B	G.10-03-009
Dean Drive	Santa Paula	001BE-413.60	745716M	G.10-03-010
Palm Avenue	Santa Paula	001BE-413.90	745718B	G.10-03-011
Olive Street	Santa Paula	001BE-414.00	745719H	G.10-03-012
Santa Barbara	Santa Paula	001BE-414.36	745722R	G.10-03-013
7 th Street	Santa Paula	001BE-414.30	745721J	G.10-03-013
8 th Street	Santa Paula	001BE-414.40	745723X	G.10-03-014
9 th Street	Santa Paula	001BE-414.50	745724E	G.10-03-015
12 th Street	Santa Paula	001BE-414.90	745727A	G.10-03-016

There are some inconsistencies between the plans, project description, and further details provided by City staff. RCES has worked informally with City staff by phone, site visits, and email over the past few months, and requires the following items be clarified by the City:

- If a pedestrian crosswalk is to be installed, specify the location with reference to the crossing;
- The location of any pedestrian treatments at each crossing;
- Specify what signs will be installed along the trail approaches to each crossing and in what locations;
- For the crossing at the industrial customer spur track, whose property gates block the trail when the train crew opens the gates to enter the property, drawings and narrative should clearly show the trail blocked by the appropriately placed gates and gate stops, and be accompanied by narrative describing the procedure to be employed; and
- If removing abandoned tracks, location of relocated warning devices.

Due to uncertainty in a number of project details, RCES cannot authorize the project at this time, and therefore we are rejecting the filed GO88 requests submitted March 15, 2010. Please submit revised GO 88-B requests when the project details that may affect railroad crossing safety have been finalized and/or are more clearly specified in the request. Please include a detailed project description and/or drawings which address the items above. Please list any modifications or improvements in the narrative of the GO88 request form, Section 4, in addition to showing them on the plans.

We support the efforts of the City to improve the intersections and railroad crossings and look forward to working with the City to finalize the project proposal in the near future. If you have any questions, please contact Sergio Licon at (213) 576-7085 or sal@cpuc.ca.gov. We would be happy to review revised GO88 requests prior to actual submittal.

Sincerely,



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

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