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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 West 4th Street, Suite 500
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April 30, 2010

File Number: G.10-03-017
Mednik Ave Grade Crossing
Los Angeles County

John C. Miller
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Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Mednik Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing (CPUC No. 84E-5.33) of the Gold Line Eastside Extension along Third Street, in Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Miller:

This refers to your letter, dated March 1, 2010, received March 4, 2010, requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Mednik Avenue at-grade crossing (crossing) of Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Gold Line Eastside Extension Light Rail tracks in Los Angeles County (County), identified as CPUC Crossing Number 84E-5.33.

Metro currently operates two light rail tracks in the median of Third Street. The tracks are separated from adjacent vehicular lanes by means of concrete mountable curbs. There is one lane of vehicle traffic on each side of the median.

Construction of the light rail tracks across Mednik Avenue was authorized by Commission Decision 04-03-029. During pre-revenue testing and operation of the Gold Line Eastside Extension, it was recognized that the installation of left turn arrow signals for the north and south directions would provide for a safer and more efficient operation of vehicle movements at the intersection and crossing. Metro also noted that it would be necessary to change the traffic signal phasing in order to provide for permissive protected left turns.

Metro proposes to remove the existing traffic signal heads at the subject crossing and replace them with new signal heads containing left turn arrow indications. In addition, the traffic signal phasing will be modified to accommodate the new left turn phases and provide permissive protected left turns as illustrated in exhibit B attached to your letter. The proposed traffic signal modifications will provide safer and more expeditious traffic control at the crossing and intersection.

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 County 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 March 1, 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 as outlined on the web page.

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

Sincerely,



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

C: John Huang, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Vijay Khawani, Metro
Abdul Zohbi, Metro