

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 Promenade Circle, Suite 115
Sacramento, CA 95834



July 21, 2010

Scott Mozier
Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer
City of Fresno
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721-3615

File No. G.10-06-015

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter "O" Street Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 103BS-206.90, DOT No. 750689D in the City of Fresno, Fresno County.

Dear Mr. Mozier:

This refers to your letter dated June 15, 2010, and received by us on June 18, 2010, requesting authorization pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter an at-grade highway-rail crossing of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad (SJVR) tracks in the City of Fresno (City), Fresno County. The crossing is identified as O Street Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No.103BS-206.90, DOT No.750689D.

O Street is a two-lane urban collector roadway at the crossing. The crossing is just east of a State Route 41 off-ramp. There are two tracks at the crossing, but only the westernmost track is active. The westernmost track is frequented by SJVR freight trains. There are no medians or sidewalks at the crossing. The crossing is equipped with a Commission Standard 1-R (crossbucks sign) and a wigwag (non-standard, obsolete) warning device.

The City states in its GO 88-B request letter that "The new street improvements will complement the installation of the new crossing signals." This project is being done in conjunction with the Section 130 Program.

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

- Removing the existing warning devices – the Commission Standard 1-R and the wigwag.
- installing a Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning device in the northeast quadrant of the crossing at a minimum clearance of four feet three inches (4'3") from the face of the curb to the center of the warning device mast per plan;

- installing a Commission Standard 9 warning device in the southwest quadrant at a minimum clearance of four feet three inches (4'3") from the face of the curb to the center of the warning device mast with an additional flashing light signal pair (sidelights) directed toward the business in the northwest quadrant per plan;
- installing a signal house in the southeast quadrant per plan;
- reconstructing and extending the curb on the west side of the track from the intersection of Monterey/O Street to in front of the warning device, ending at approximately 10 feet from the centerline of the track (for a total of approximately 120 feet of curbing) per plan;
- installing curbing in the northeast quadrant beginning 10 feet from the centerline of the track and extending for approximately 10 feet per plan;
- reconstructing the existing storm drain in the southwest quadrant per plan.

Staff has investigated the request by the City, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and SJVR 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 California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD), published by Caltrans.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders, and the CAMUTCD.

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. A written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by interested parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, staff from 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 City 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 Marvin Kennix at (916) 928-3809 or email at mlk@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daren Gilbert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

Cc:

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Bree Arnett, CPUC