

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834



August 30, 2010

File Number: G.10-07-019
City of Dana Point, County of Orange

Naresh Patel
Manager Civil Engineering
Southern California Regional Rail Authority
700 S Flower Street, Suite 2600
Los Angeles, CA 90017-4101

Re: **General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Beach Road Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 101OR-201.00, DOT No. 026794K in the City of Dana Point, Orange County.**

Dear Mr. Patel:

This refers to your letter, dated July 26, 2010 (received on July 30, 2010), requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the existing at-grade crossing of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) Orange Subdivision tracks and Beach Road in the City of Dana Point (City), Orange County. The crossing is identified by CPUC Crossing Number 101OR-201.00

In addition to SCRRA Metrolink commuter trains, the BNSF Railway (BNSF) and the National Passenger Railroad Corporation (Amtrak) operate freight and passenger trains over this line respectively.

The proposed modifications are part of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) funded Orange County Grade Crossing Safety Improvement Project. The project will enhance and improve safety at all at-grade crossings in Orange County.

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

- Install Commission Standard 9E (Commission Standard 9 installed on the departure side of the at-grade crossing, also known as an exit gate) warning devices at the southwest and northeast quadrants of the crossing with vehicle presence detection system.
- Modify the existing south side median to 16 ft.
- Remove existing Commission Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning device installed at the south median and replace with a Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate) warning device.
- Addition of Advance Preemption circuitry.

- Install a northbound pre-signal on Beach Road along with California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) complaint signage, including R10-6 “STOP HERE ON RED” and R13A (CA) “NO RIGHT TURN ON RED”.
- Install R8-8 “DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS” signs for the northbound and southbound vehicular approach to the crossing.
- Construct delineated sidewalks through the crossing on the west side of the crossing, along with handrails and fencing to channelize the pedestrian pathway.
- Install a pedestrian gate in combination with swing gate at west sidewalk of the crossing and prohibit pedestrians on the eastside of the crossing.
- Install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standard detectable warning tactile strips on all sidewalk approaches to the crossing.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request filed by SCRRA, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As SCRRA, City, BNSF, and Amtrak are all in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the improvements as described in your request dated July 26, 2010 and summarized above are authorized.

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 (CA MUTCD), published by the California Department of Transportation.

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

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, RCES may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, SCRRA shall notify RCES that the authorized railroad work is completed and the City shall notify RCES of the completed civil work, 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 Laurence Michael at (213) 576-7076 or ldi@cpuc.ca.gov .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daren Gilbert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" and "G".

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

C: Brad Fowler, City of Dana Point
Dinah Minter, OCTA
Melvin Thomas, BNSF
Harry Steelman, Amtrak