

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 Promenade Circle, Suite 115
Sacramento, CA 95834



August 24, 2010

File Number: G.10-07-020
Pioneer Blvd grade crossing
City of Santa Fe Springs

Melvin Thomas
Manager of Public Projects
BNSF Railway Company
740 E. Carnegie Drive
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Pioneer Blvd At-Grade Highway-Rail crossing across the tracks of the BNSF Railway Company, in City of Santa Fe Springs, Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Thomas:

This refers to your letter, dated July 13, 2010, received July 14, 2010, requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Pioneer Blvd at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing), CPUC Crossing No. 002-152.29, of BNSF Railway Company's (BNSF) San Bernardino Subdivision tracks in City of Santa Fe Springs (City), County of Los Angeles (County).

BNSF currently operates freight service on rail corridor. In addition, SCRRA operates its Metrolink Commuter service on this rail corridor, and Amtrak operates its intercity passenger service as well. The alterations proposed for this crossing are part of BNSF's project to triple track the rail segment between cities of Fullerton to Los Angeles.

The proposed alterations to the crossing include street improvements, crossing surface improvements, upgrades to warning devices, and signing/stripping modifications. Specifically, BNSF will make the following improvements:

- Installation of a new third track north of the existing tracks with concrete crossing panels,
- Relocation of existing median mounted Commission Standard No. 9 (flashing light signals with gate, per General Order (GO) 75-D) and curb mounted Commission Standard No. 9A (flashing light signals with gate and cantilever, per GO 75-D) on north approach to clear new tracks and align parallel to tracks,
- Replace existing median mounted Commission Standard No. 9 on south approach,
- Replace all existing flashers with LEDs,
- Install curb mounted Commission Standard No. 8s (flashing light signals, per GO 75-D) in northeast and southwest quadrants of crossing along sidewalk for pedestrian traffic,
- Install detectible warning strips at all four sidewalk approaches to tracks,
- Construct new median north of new third track,

- Extend existing median south of tracks to 100 ft in length,
- Install new signage as indicated in letter and attached plans,
- Paint new or renew pavement markings and stripes as indicated in letter and attached plans.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by BNSF and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As BNSF, City 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 July 13, 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 RCES may reevaluate the crossings prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, BNSF 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: Donald K. Jensen, City of Santa Fe Springs
Shari Afshari, County of Los Angeles Department Of Public Works
Alfred Yalda, JL Patterson & Associates