

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 Promenade Circle, Suite 115  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834



October 11, 2010

File Number: G.10-09-013

John R. Stilley  
Manager Public Projects  
BNSF Railway Company  
740 East Carnegie Drive  
San Bernardino, CA 92408

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter County Road A-21 (Mooney Road) Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 009-159.90, DOT No. 833642P, in the County of Lassen.**

Dear Mr. Stilley:

This refers to your letter dated September 10, 2010 and received by us on September 23, 2010 requesting authorization pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter an at-grade highway-rail crossing of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway Company in the County of Lassen (County). The crossing is identified as County Road A-21 (Mooney Road) Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 009-159-90, DOT No. 833642P.

The crossing is currently equipped with two Commission Standard 8-A (flashing light signal assembly with additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilevered arm) warning devices, and two W10-1 (RXR) advanced warning signs. BNSF Railway Company currently operates approximately 5 trains per day at 40 mph over this line.

County Road A-21 is a rural two-lane highway at the crossing, with one lane in each direction. There are pull-out lanes at the crossing.

The BNSF Railway Company states in its GO 88-B request letter, "The public will benefit from the proposed project through improvements to both public safety and convenience. The installation of gates, LED lights and the Train Activated Active Advanced Warning System will provide greater visibility at the crossing and alert drivers sooner of the approach of an oncoming train." These modifications are part of a Federal Section 130 project to improve safety at the crossing.

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

- Commission Standard 8-A warning devices to remain. Addition of one stand-alone gate arm to the northeast and southwest quadrants, adjacent to existing Commission Standard 8-A warning devices, at a minimum of 8'3" from the edge of traveled roadway to the center of the warning device mast.
- Retrofit all mast mounted lights to 12" LED assemblies with 24" hoods.
- Installation of a cantilevered train-interconnected active advance warning system on the east and west approaches of the railroad crossing. A pair of yellow flashing beacons shall be

installed on either side of the two W10-1 (RXR) advanced warning signs located on a cantilevered pole over the roadway.

Staff has investigated the BNSF Railway Company's request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the BNSF Railway Company and County 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 the 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 (CA MUTCD), published by Caltrans.

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

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. 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 Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, the BNSF Railway Company 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](mailto:rces@cpuc.ca.gov) as outlined on the web page.

If you have any questions, please contact Daniellia Fristoe at (916) 928-2108 or [dvm@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:dvm@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

cc: Larry Miller, Lassen County Department of Public Works