

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 Promenade Circle, Suite 115
Sacramento, CA 95834



October 28, 2010

File Number: G.10-09-020
Los Nietos Road
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 Los Nietos Road At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, identified as CPUC Crossing No 002-153.40 and DOT No. 027650J, in City of Santa Fe Springs, Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Thomas:

This refers to your letter, dated July 14 2010 (received September 27, 2010), requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Los Nietos Road at-grade highway-rail crossing, identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002-153.40 and DOT No. 027650J over the BNSF Railway Company's (BNSF) San Bernardino Subdivision tracks in City of Santa Fe Springs (City), County of Los Angeles.

BNSF currently operates freight service on the San Bernardino Subdivision 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 the Los Nietos Road crossing are part of BNSF's project to triple track the rail segment between the cities of Fullerton to Los Angeles.

The proposed alterations to the Los Nietos Road 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 east of the existing tracks with concrete crossing panels;
- Relocation of existing median mounted Commission Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly, per General Order (GO) 75-D) and curb mounted Commission Standard 9A (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm and additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilevered arm, per GO 75-D) on the east approach to clear the new tracks;
- Addition of an additional flashing light pair on the Commission Standard 8 warning device in the west median, aimed for conspicuity for eastbound pedestrians;

- Upgrade flashing lights on existing Commission Standard warning devices to 12-inch LED lenses;
- Install curb mounted Commission Standard 8 warning devices in northwest and southeast quadrants of crossing along sidewalk for pedestrian traffic;
- Improve the pedestrian sidewalk by installation of Americans with Disabilities Act compliant detectible warning strips at all four sidewalk approaches to tracks;
- Construct new 10 feet in width and 100-foot in length median east of new third track,
- Extend existing median west of tracks up to the Norwalk Boulevard intersection;
- Repair broken sidewalks and install additional concrete crossing panels as needed to provide level crossing surface for pedestrians across the tracks;
- 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;
- Install “Keep Clear” legend for westbound traffic between the tracks and the railroad limit line;
- Install one curb-mounted street light for eastbound traffic just west of the tracks; and
- Relocate the existing curb-mounted street light east of the tracks to the east median for westbound traffic.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by BNSF and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As BNSF and the City 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 14, 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, 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

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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,

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: Donald K. Jensen, City of Santa Fe Springs
Alfred Yalda, JL Patterson & Associates