

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 Promenade Circle, Suite 115
Sacramento, CA 95834



November 12, 2010

File Number: G.10-09-021
I-605 Freeway Grade Separated Crossings
City of Irwindale

Christopher Burner
Chief Project Officer
Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension
Construction Authority
406 East Huntington Drive, Suite 202
Monrovia, CA 91016

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Five Interstate 605 Freeway Ramps Grade-Separated Highway-Rail Crossings; CPUC Crossing Nos. 101PA-119.97-A, 101PA-119.96-A, 101PA-119.93-A, 101PA-119.91-A, and 101PA-119.90-A , and DOT No. 026229G and 026228A in City of Irwindale, Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Burner:

This refers to your letter, dated September 21 2010 (received September 27, 2010), requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the five Grade-Separated Highway-Rail Crossings, identified in the table below, under the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) Interstate -605 (I-605) Freeway structures in City of Irwindale (City), County of Los Angeles.

Existing CPUC Crossing No.	New CPUC Crossing No.	Street/Location
101PA-120.00-A	84P-20.90-A	210 EB to 605 SB Ramp OH
101PA-119.97-A	84P-20.94-A	I-605 Southbound OH
101PA-119.96-A	84P-20.95-A	605 NB to 210 WB Ramp OH
101PA-119.93-A	84P-20.98-A	I-605 Northbound OH
101PA-119.91-A	84P-21.00-A	605 NB to 210 EB Ramp OH

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) currently operates freight service on this portion of the Pasadena Subdivision rail corridor. In addition, the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) retains maintenance and operation responsibilities on this rail corridor on behalf of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), owners of the rail corridor.

BNSF will apply to the Surface Transportation Board (STB) for discontinuance of all freight service west of MP 119.10 (east of the San Gabriel River Bridge), effectively eliminating freight operations on the subject segment of the Pasadena Subdivision. Upon approval of abandonment from the STB, BNSF freight service will cease in this portion of the Pasadena Subdivision and only light-rail will be operating thereafter.

The Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority (Foothill Authority) proposes to make the following modifications:

- Remove the existing single BNSF freight track below the I-605 Freeway;
- Perform earthwork widening of the embankment;
- Install new sub-ballast blanket and track drainage system;
- Install concrete ties and ballast;
- Install two (2) Light Rail Transit tracks on continuous welded rail;
- Construct overhead catenary system;
- Install right-of-way fencing.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by the Foothill Authority and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As Foothill Authority, Metro, BNSF, SCRRA, Caltrans 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 September 21 2010, and summarized above are authorized.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD).

Relative to the grade separation, this project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Public Resources Code 21080.13]

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, Foothill Authority 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 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.

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If you have any questions, please contact Jose Pereyra at (213-576-7083) or jfp@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daren Gilbert".

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

C: Dain Pankratz, Foothill Authority
John Miller, Metro
Kwok Tam, City of Irwindale
William Reagan, Caltrans
John Shurson, BNSF Railway
Darrell Maxey, SCRRA