

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834



May 20, 2011

File Number: G.11-04-007
Unincorporated, County of Tulare

Randy Perry
General Manager
San Joaquin valley railroad
221 North F Street
Exeter, CA 93221

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the County Road 140 Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 103BC-245.80, DOT No. 756765P in an Unincorporated section of Tulare County.

Dear Mr. Perry:

This refers to your letter, dated April 8, 2011 (received April 11, 2011), requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the existing at-grade crossing of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad (SJVR) Exeter Subdivision tracks and County Road 140 in an unincorporated area of Tulare County. The crossing is identified by CPUC Crossing No. 103BC-245.80, DOT No. 756765P.

County Road 140 is a two lane roadway over one SJVR mainline track. The crossing is currently equipped with two Commission Standard 1-R (crossbuck sign on a post) warning devices, pavement markings and advanced warning signage.

SJVR proposes to make the following modifications to the crossing:

- Install one new curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate) warning device with 12" LED flashing lights in the northwest quadrant. Device to be equipped with backlights such that they are visible from both directions of travel;
- Install one new curb mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device with 12" LED flashing lights in the southeast quadrant. Device to be equipped with backlights such that they are visible from both directions of travel; and
- Signage and pavement markings to be replaced or refreshed, as necessary, to comply with the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices .

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request filed by SJVR and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As SJVR and Tulare 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 request dated April 8, 2011 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 three 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, SJVR 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 as outlined on the web page.

SJVR should also submit an updated FRA inventory form to the Federal Railroad Administration, reflecting the changes. CPUC requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rces@cpuc.ca.gov .

If you have any questions, please contact Sergio Licon at (213) 576-7085 or sal@cpuc.ca.gov .

Sincerely,



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

C: Jake Raper, (Tulare County)