

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834



May 23, 2011

File Number: G.11-04-008

Miguel Chavez
Associate Engineer
City of Woodland
300 First Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter Main Street Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 108AE-85.00, DOT No. 750924Y in the City of Woodland, Yolo County

Dear Mr. Chavez:

This refers to your letter dated April 4, 2011 and received by us on April 14, 2011 requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the at-grade crossing of Main Street in the City of Woodland (City), Yolo County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 108AE-85.00, DOT No. 750924Y.

The crossing is currently a single track crossing equipped with two Commission Standard 9-A (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate and additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilevered arm) and one Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate) warning devices. The crossing is immediately adjacent to the signalized intersection of Main and East Streets and is equipped with simultaneous preemption. At this location, Main Street is a five-lane road running east/west, with 4 eastbound traffic lanes and one westbound traffic lane. California Northern Railroad Co. (CFNR) operates freight service over this crossing. Rail service at this crossing is approximately 4 trains per day at a maximum speed of 20 mph.

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

- Widening Main Street to accommodate an additional westbound vehicle lane;
- Installing a 5-foot wide sidewalk, with curb and gutter on the north side of the crossing, routed behind the warning device;
- Installing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant detectable warning tactile warning strips on all sidewalk approaches (new and existing). The strips shall be placed across the entire width of the pedestrian pathway a minimum of 12 feet from the nearest rail;
- Installing a 9 ½ foot long, 8 ½ foot wide unmountable raised median on the east side of the crossing between the tracks and East Street.

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The City states in its GO88-B request letter that “With the widening, Main St. will be restored to previous conditions. The installation of the median island on Main St. will prohibit northbound traffic on East St. from turning left if the RR gate is down. There currently is a 20’ + gap between the gate and median island. The installation of the sidewalk, curb and gutter will provide a path for pedestrian passageway across the RR lane which currently does not exist.”

Staff has investigated the City’s request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and CFNR 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 your 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 CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation.

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

This project is statutorily 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 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, 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 City 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/static/transportation/crossings/formg.htm> This report may be submitted electronically to rces@cpuc.ca.gov as outlined on the web page.

If you have any questions, please contact David Stewart at (916) 928-2515 or atm@cpuc.ca.gov .

Sincerely,



Daren Gilbert, Manager
Rail Transit and Crossings Branch
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

C: Mark Bader, CFNR