

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 Promenade Circle, Suite 115
Sacramento, CA 95834-2939



June 7, 2011

File Number: G.11-04-015
City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

Antonio V. Gioiello
Chief Harbor Engineer
Port of Los Angeles
425 South Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Fries Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, identified as CPUC Crossing No. 121SB-1.90-C and DOT No. 931159P, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Gioiello:

This refers to your letter, dated April 5, 2011 (received on April 26, 2011), requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the existing Fries Avenue at-grade crossing (crossing) of the Port of Los Angeles' (POLA) San Pedro subdivision tracks in the City of Los Angeles (City), Los Angeles County. The crossing is currently identified as CPUC Crossing No. 121SB-1.90-C and DOT No. 931159P.

The Fries Avenue at-grade crossing is a four lane roadway traversing one freight track, with the roadway being under the jurisdiction of POLA. The freight track runs north-south within the western most vehicle lane on the southbound approach. The track then curves easterly and crosses the full width of the Fries Avenue roadway at approximately 45 degrees before curving southerly and continuing south adjacent to the roadway on exclusive railroad right-of-way. Currently the crossing is not equipped with any warning devices. It is solely equipped with advance warning pavement markings but no advance warning signage. POLA owns the right-of-way, which is currently used only for freight rail service by Pacific Harbor Line, Inc. (PHL) freight trains. PHL currently operates 8 trains daily through the crossing at average speeds of 10 miles per hour.

POLA proposes the following alterations:

- Install one new curb mounted Commission Standard 8-A (flashing light signal assembly with additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilever arm) warning device for the southbound vehicular approach, with 12" LED flashing lights, at the northwest quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one new curb mounted Commission Standard 8-A warning device for the northbound vehicular approach, with 12" LED flashing lights, at the southeast quadrant of the crossing;
- Application of MUTCD compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 advance warning signs and RxR pavement markings.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by POLA and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As POLA, and PHL 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 5, 2011 and summarized above are authorized.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with 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 CA MUTCD.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental 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, RCES may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, POLA 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 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.

POLA 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 Jose Pereyra at 213-576-7083 or jfp@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

- C: Ron Groves, Port of Los Angeles, 425 South Palos Verdes Street, San Pedro, CA 90731
Michael D. Stolzman, Pacific Harbor Line, 340 W. Water Street, Wilmington, CA 90744
Alfred Yalda, JL Patterson, 725 Town & Country Road, Suite 300, Orange, CA 92868