

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



September 27, 2011

File Number: G.11-08-006
Citrus Street
City Riverside, Riverside County

Edda Rosso, P.E.
Capital Projects Manager
Riverside County Transportation Commission
4080 Lemon Street, 3rd Floor
Riverside, CA 92502

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Citrus Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002X-0.70 and DOT No. 027301Y, in the City of Riverside, Riverside County.

Dear Ms. Rosso:

This refers to your letter, dated August 1, 2011 (received on August 11, 2011), requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the existing Citrus Street at-grade crossing on the San Jacinto Subdivision railroad tracks owned by Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) and operated by BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) in the City Riverside, Riverside County. The crossing is currently identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002X-0.70 and DOT No. 027301Y.

The single track crossing is currently a divided roadway, two lanes, one lane in each direction over one branch line track. The Citrus Street at-grade crossing is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 1-R (crossbuck sign on a post) warning devices. This line currently experiences approximately two BNSF freight trains per day at 15 mph. The crossing improvement project is part of the proposed Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) Perris Valley Line (PVL) Metrolink commuter extension project from the current terminus in the City of Riverside to the City of Perris.

RCTC proposes the following modifications to the crossing, as part of the PVL Metrolink project to meet SCRRA standards, as SCRRA will be the service operator:

- Remove the existing two Commission Standard 1-R warning devices;
- Install one curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning device with 12-inch LED flashing lights for westbound Citrus Street at the northeast quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one curb mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device with 12-inch LED flashing lights for eastbound Citrus Street at the southwest quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one curb mounted Commission Standard 9-E (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm installed on the departure side of the at-grade crossing, also known as an exit gate) warning device with 12-inch LED flashing lights at the northwest quadrant with Exit Gate Management System (vehicle presence detection) for westbound Citrus Street;

- Construct one 8-inch in height, 4-feet in width and 100-feet in length raised center median for westbound vehicular approach to the crossing;
- Construct one 8-inch in height, 4-feet in width and 75-feet in length raised center median for eastbound vehicular approach to the crossing;
- Construct Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalks on north and south approaches of the crossing;
- Install pedestrian channelization in the form of railings and fencing to prevent trespassing, as shown in plans;
- Install ADA compliant detectable warning tactile strips for all sidewalk approaches to the crossing;
- Adjust the approach grade on Citrus Street by increasing ground clearance to achieve SCRRA approach grade requirements and to reduce the potential of low clearance vehicles scraping at the crossing;
- Install concrete crossing panels surfacing for the one branch line track;
- Install curb, gutter and sidewalk to close driveway on northeast quadrant of crossing;
- Install illumination on northeast and southwest quadrants at crossing, as shown in plans;
- Application of MUTCD compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 advance warning signs, R106 (CA) 'LOOK TRAINS', R 8-8 'DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS' signage, and RxR pavement markings as shown in plans.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by RCTC and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As RCTC, BNSF, City of Riverside, County of Riverside and SCRRA 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 August 1, 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, RCTC 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.

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RCTC 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 Bill Lay at 213-576-1399 or bl@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daren Gilbert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

- C: Tom Boyd, City of Riverside, 3900 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92522
Melvin Thomas, BNSF Railway Company, 740 East Carnegie Drive, San Bernardino, CA 92408
Naresh Patel, P.E., SCRRA, 279 E. Arrow Highway, Suite A, San Dimas, CA 91773
Juan C. Perez, County of Riverside, 4080 Lemon Street, 8th Floor, PO Box 1090, Riverside, CA 92502