

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



September 28, 2011

File Number: G.11-09-002  
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 Avalon Boulevard At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, identified as CPUC Crossing No. 121S-1.50 and DOT No. 747731W, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.**

Dear Mr. Gioiello:

This refers to your letter, dated August 4, 2011 (received on September 14, 2011), requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the existing Avalon Boulevard 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. 121S-1.50 and DOT No. 747731W.

The Avalon Boulevard at-grade crossing is a four lane roadway traversing two freight tracks under the jurisdiction of POLA. The freight tracks run across Avalon Boulevard roadway at approximately 60 degrees. Currently the crossing is equipped with four Commission Standard 9-A (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm and additional flashing light signals on a cantilevered arm) warning devices, advance warning pavement markings and 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 4 trains daily through the crossing at average speeds of 10 miles per hour.

POLA proposes the following alterations:

- Install one raised 120-foot long median north of the crossing and a raised 90-foot long median south of the crossing;
- Install one new curb mounted Commission Standard 9-A 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 9-A warning device for the northbound vehicular approach, with 12" LED flashing lights at the southeast quadrant of the crossing;
- Install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant standard detectable warning tactile strips on all sidewalk approaches to crossing;
- Install new pavement as necessary;
- Install concrete crossing panels for the second track; and
- Application of MUTCD compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 advance warning signs, W48 (CA) 2 tracks signs, R3-18 (No U-Turn) signage, R8-8 (DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS) signage, pavement markings 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, PHL, and 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 request dated August 4, 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](mailto: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](mailto:rces@cpuc.ca.gov).

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

Sincerely,



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

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