

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834-2939



April 2, 2012

File Number: G.12-03-003

Ahmed Abu-Aly  
Associate Civil Engineer  
City of Antioch  
200 "H" Street  
Antioch, CA 94531-5007

**Re: GO 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Wilbur Avenue Highway-Rail Overpass Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 002-1150.30-A, DOT No. 029684K in the City of Antioch, Contra Costa County.**

Dear Mr. Abu-aly:

This refers to your letter dated February 16, 2012 and received by us on March 8, 2012 requesting authorization pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B to alter a grade separated highway-rail crossing of the BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) track in the City of Antioch (City), Contra Costa County. The crossing is identified as the Wilbur Avenue Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 002-1150.30-A, DOT No. 029684K.

The Wilbur Avenue crossing is currently a double-track grade-separated crossing on the BNSF mainline, with the roadway passing above the tracks. BNSF operates approximately eighteen freight trains per day over this crossing. Amtrak operates eight passenger trains per day over the crossing.

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

- Widening the overpass from the existing two lane roadway to a four lane roadway. The Wilbur Avenue overpass structure will retain the existing minimum vertical clearance of 22.64 feet and horizontal clearance of 10 feet 7 inches to the tracks.

The City states in its GO88-B request letter that "Widening of the existing structure would allow seismic load transfer from the existing to the proposed structure" and that the "new bridge will add 2-lanes to the south side to improve traffic safety in the eastbound direction and satisfy the projected traffic demand for the year 2025."

Staff has investigated the City's request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and BNSF 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 Caltrans.

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 Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Pubic Resources Code 21080.13].

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, BNSF 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](mailto:rces@cpuc.ca.gov) as outlined on the web page.

At the conclusion of the project BNSF should 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 Felix Ko at (415) 703-3722 or [fko@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:fko@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

C: Ahmed Abu-Aly  
Associate Civil Engineer  
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200 "H" Street  
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