

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834



April 2, 2012

File Number: G.12-03-004

Tadj Ratajczak
Senior Right of Way Agent
California Department of Transportation
703 B Street
Marysville, CA 95901

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter Interstate 80 Overpass (Natomas East Canal BOH Overhead) Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 004-143.30-A, DOT No. 833692T in the City of Sacramento, County of Sacramento

Dear Mr. Ratajczak:

This refers to your letter dated March 9, 2012 and received by us on March 13, 2012 requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the grade separated crossing of Interstate 80 (Natomas East Canal BOH Overhead) in the City of Sacramento (City), Sacramento County (County). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 004-143.30-A, DOT No. 833692T.

At this location, Interstate 80 is a divided freeway running east/west over two Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks. Rail service at this crossing is approximately 12 freight trains per day at a maximum speed of 70 mph and Amtrak runs approximately 1 train per day at a maximum speed of 79 mph.

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

- Widening each freeway structure from three to four lanes by widening toward the median;
- The minimum vertical clearance over the UPRR tracks shall be 23' 5".

Caltrans states in its GO88-B request letter that "The proposed construction of HOV lanes and the median structure widening of the Natomas East Canal BOH Overhead will reduce traffic congestion, emissions, commute time as well as encourage the use of buses and carpools."

Staff has investigated the Caltrans request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the UPRR and Caltrans 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 categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Public 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, the Caltrans 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.

At the conclusion of the project UPRR 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.

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: Terrell Anderson, UPRR