

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



May 4, 2012

File Number: G.12-04-005  
City of Vernon, Los Angeles County

Samuel Kevin Wilson  
Director of Community Services & Water  
City of Vernon  
4305 Santa Fe Avenue  
Vernon, CA 90058

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the 27<sup>th</sup> Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002H-0.40 and DOT No. 027907S, in the City of Vernon, Los Angeles County.**

Dear Mr. Wilson:

This refers to your transmittal, dated April 5, 2012 (received on April 9, 2012), requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the at-grade crossing of the BNSF Railway Company's (BNSF) Harbor subdivision railroad tracks and 27<sup>th</sup> Street, in City of Vernon (City), Los Angeles County, identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002H-0.40 and DOT No. 027907S.

27th Street is currently a two lane local road that dead ends approximately ¼ mile east of the crossing. The immediate area around the crossing is generally business/industrial related. Currently the crossing is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 1-R (crossbuck sign installed on retroreflectorized wood or metal post) warning devices. In addition, advance warning pavement markings and signage are also present. 27<sup>th</sup> Street has an estimated two thousand average vehicle daily trips and the crossing experiences 16 trains per day.

City proposes to modify the crossing as follows:

- Remove the existing concrete driveway located at the northeast quadrant;
- Remove the existing asphalt concrete surface at the southeast quadrant;
- Remove the existing concrete sidewalk at the southwest quadrant;
- Construct new curb and gutter with concrete sidewalk at all three of the crossing approaches listed above;
- Install two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices with 12-inch LED flashing lights, one each for eastbound and westbound 27th Street, as shown in plans;
- Install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant standard detectable warning tactile strips on all sidewalk approaches to the crossing; and
- Install California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 advance warning signs, W48 (CA) 1 track signs, and RxR pavement markings.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by the City 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, the improvements as described in your request dated April 5, 2012 and summarized above are authorized.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with 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 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, City 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.

At the conclusion of the project, BNSF must submit an updated FRA inventory form to the Federal Railroad Administration, reflecting the changes. Commission 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 Oliver Garcia at 213-576-7077 or [og1@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:og1@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

C: Melvin Thomas, BNSF  
Pin Chan, City of Vernon