

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



May 29, 2012

File Number: G.12-05-001
Valley Boulevard
City of Colton, San Bernardino County

Amer Jakher
Public Works Director
City of Colton
650 N. La Cadena Drive
Colton, CA 92324

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Highway-Rail Crossing of BNSF Railway Company's Mainline 2B Subdivision Tracks and Valley Boulevard, CPUC Crossing Number 002B-3.10 and DOT Number 026456M, in City of Colton, San Bernardino County

Dear Mr. Jakher:

This refers to your letter, dated March 21, 2012 (received on May 1, 2012), requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the existing at-grade crossing of BNSF Railway Company's (BNSF) Mainline 2B Subdivision tracks and Valley Boulevard in the City of Colton (City), San Bernardino County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002B-3.10 and DOT No. 026456M.

Valley Boulevard is a four lane roadway, two lanes in each direction, crossing over two BNSF mainline and one siding tracks and is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) and two median mounted Commission Standard 9 warning devices with advance warning signage and pavement markings. In addition to BNSF operating freight trains, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) operates freight trains and the National Passenger Railroad Company (Amtrak) and Southern California Regional Railroad Authority (SCRRA) operate passenger trains over this line. Approximately 62 freight trains per day traveling at a maximum speed of 50 miles per hour and approximately 20 passenger trains per day traveling at a maximum speed of 60 miles per hour operate over the mainline.

City proposes the following alterations to the Valley Boulevard crossing as part of the City's project to create a 24-hour quiet zone at two crossings between milepost 2.37 and milepost 3.10:

- Remove the existing two curb mounted and two median mounted Commission Standard 9 warning devices;
- Install one new curb mounted and one new median mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device for eastbound Valley Boulevard on the southwest quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one new curb mounted and one new median mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device for westbound Valley Boulevard on the northeast quadrant of the crossing;

- Install one curb mounted Commission Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning device for pedestrian traffic on the southeast quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one curb mounted Commission Standard 8 warning device for pedestrian traffic on the northwest quadrant of the crossing;
- Construct a new raised median 8-inch in height, 14-feet in width, and approximately 134-feet in length on the eastbound approach to the crossing;
- Construct a new raised median 8-inch in height, varying in width from 14-feet to 16.3-feet, and approximately 116-feet in length on the westbound approach to the crossing;
- Relocate and extend the existing adjacent driveways on the northwest and southeast quadrants of the crossing, as shown on plans;
- Install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complaint sidewalks on both sides of the crossing;
- Install ADA compliant detectable warning tactile strips on all sidewalk approaches to the crossing;
- Install wrought iron steel fencing 48-inch in height for pedestrian channelization at all four quadrants to prevent trespassing, as shown on plans; and
- Install California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage, and pavement markings per plans, including W10-1 and W10-9P advance warning signs, W48 (CA) 3 tracks signs and RxR pavement markings.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by City, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As 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 letter dated March 21, 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 RCES, 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 and/or BNSF 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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At the conclusion of the project, BNSF 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: Melvin Thomas, BNSF Railway Company, 740 E. Carnegie Drive,
Harry Steelman, Amtrak, 810 N. Alameda Street, 3rd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Naresh Patel, SCRRA, 279 E Arrow Highway, Suite A, San Dimas, CA 91773
Kenneth Tom, UPRR, 19100 Slover Avenue, Bloomington, CA 92316