

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 WEST 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 500  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



September 26, 2012

File Number: G.12-09-009  
Wilmington Avenue  
City of Carson, County of Los Angeles

Farrokh Abolfathi  
Acting City Engineer  
City of Carson  
701 East Carson Street  
Carson, CA 90745

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter Wilmington Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing Number 001BBM 499.92-C and DOT Number 747912B, in Carson, Los Angeles County**

Dear Mr. Abolfathi:

This refers to your letter dated September 19, 2012, received by us on September 20, 2012, requesting authority, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the existing at-grade crossing of Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Company's Carson Industry Lead Subdivision railroad track and Wilmington Avenue, in City of Carson (City), Los Angeles County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001BBM 499.92-C and DOT No. 747912B.

The Wilmington Avenue at-grade crossing is a six-lane roadway, with three (3) lanes in each direction, crossing over the UPRR track. The curb to curb width of Wilmington Avenue is 80 feet north of the UPRR track and 84 feet south of the UPRR track. The Interstate 405 Freeway southbound on and off-ramps are immediately located north of the UPRR track. The crossing is currently equipped with four (4) Commission Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning devices, two (2) delineated medians, advance warning signage and pavement markings. The current annual average daily traffic at the crossing is 38,564 vehicles. Approximately two (2) UPRR freight trains per day operate at 10 miles per hour over this line.

In cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and UPRR, City proposes the following safety improvements at the Wilmington Avenue at-grade rail crossing:

- Remove two (2) existing curb mounted and two (2) existing median mounted Commission Standard 8 warning devices;
- Remove two (2) existing raised medians and construct two (2) new raised medians as shown on the plans;
- Widen Wilmington Avenue through the crossing to 107 feet, curb to curb, to maintain three (3) southbound lanes and provide four (4) northbound lanes;

- Install crossing surface panels and increase the total crossing panel length from 98 feet to 144 feet;
- Install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant standard detectable warning tactile strips on all sidewalk approaches to the crossing;
- Install three (3) curb mounted Commission Standard 8 warning devices in the northwest, southwest and north east quadrants of the crossing;
- Install two (2) median mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices;
- Install two (2) curb mounted Commission Standard 9-A (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm and additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilevered arm) warning devices in the northwest and southeast quadrants of the crossing;
- Install two (2) sets of sidewalk edge line pavement markings across the tracks on each side of the roadway as shown on the plans;
- Install new traffic signal and railroad signal controller interconnection circuits with advance preemption and queue detector loops at the crossing as shown on the plans;
- Relocate the existing overhead power lines: the west overhead power line to the new roadway edge with a minimum vertical clearance of 28 feet and the east power line buried underground; and
- Install California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 advance warning signs, W10-2R parallel railroad crossing sign, R8-8 "DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS" signs, R10-6 "STOP HERE ON RED" signs, R10-11 "NO TURN ON RED" signs, and RXR and "KEEP CLEAR" pavement markings as shown on the plans.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by the City and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As City, Caltrans and UPRR 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 September 19, 2012 and summarized above are authorized.

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 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 (3) 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.



Farrokh Abolfathi  
G.12-09-009  
September 26, 2012  
Page 3 of 3

Within 30 days after completion of this project, City and/or Caltrans 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 Commission 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, UPRR should 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 on this letter authorization, please contact Jose Pereyra at 213-576-7083 or [jose.pereyra@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jose.pereyra@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Anton Garabetian, P.E.  
Program and Project Supervisor  
Rail Crossings Engineering Section  
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

C: Kenneth Tom, Manager Special Projects Industry & Public, Union Pacific Railroad Company  
Hamid R. Toossi, California Department of Transportation  
Surafael Teshale, Parsons