

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4TH STREET, SUITE 500
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



October 30, 2012

File Number: G.12-10-006

Mt. Vernon Avenue
City of San Bernardino, San Bernardino County

Mitchell A. Alderman
Director of Transit and Rail Programs
San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG)
1170 W. 3rd Street, 2nd Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92410-1715

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Mt. Vernon Avenue Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 101SG-56.33-A and DOT No. 026731F, in the City of San Bernardino, San Bernardino County

Dear Mr. Alderman:

This refers to your letter dated September 28, 2012, received by us on October 3, 2012, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the existing Mt. Vernon Avenue grade separated crossing on the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) San Gabriel Subdivision tracks in the City of San Bernardino (City), San Bernardino County, identified as CPUC Crossing Number 101SG-56.33-A and DOT Number 026731F.

The Mt. Vernon Avenue grade separated crossing is a divided roadway with four lanes, two lanes in each direction. Mt. Vernon Avenue crosses over 18 tracks: 12 yard, 4 BNSF mainline and 2 SCRRA tracks. SCRRA and the National Passenger Railroad Corporation (Amtrak) operate passenger trains and BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) and Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) operate freight trains over this line.

San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) proposes to realign the following tracks under the Mt. Vernon Avenue grade separated crossing to extend passenger service to downtown San Bernardino:

- Relocate SCRRA Flyover Connection (BNSF mainline track (MT)4 to SCRRA MT1);
- Relocate SCRRA San Gabriel Subdivision MT1;
- Add SCRRA San Gabriel Subdivision MT2; and
- Relocate SCRRA Yard Track P-1.

Permanent and temporary horizontal and vertical clearances proposed by SANBAG comply with Commission GO 26-D requirements for the existing overhead bridge structure.

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

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (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 statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Public Resources Code 21080.13]

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with and 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, SANBAG 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/PUC/safety/Rail/Crossings/formg>. This report may be submitted electronically to rces@cpuc.ca.gov as outlined on the web page.

At the conclusion of the project, SCRRA should submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form to the FRA, reflecting the changes. Commission 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 bill@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

C: Melvin Thomas, Public Project Manager, BNSF
Naresh Patel, Assistant Director, SCRRA
Kenneth Tom, Manager of Special Projects, UPRR
Harry Steelman, Division Engineer, Amtrak
Robert Eisenbeisz, City Engineer, City of San Bernardino