

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



November 1, 2012

File Number: G.12-10-010
Laurel Street
Colton, San Bernardino County

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

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Laurel Street Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 002B-2.10 and DOT No. 026449C, in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County

Dear Mr. Jakher:

This refers to your letter dated October 15, 2012, received by us on October 17, 2012, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to grade-separate the existing Laurel Street at-grade crossing on the BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) mainline 2B – San Bernardino to Fullerton tracks, in City of Colton (City), San Bernardino County, identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002B-2.10 and DOT Number 026449C.

The Laurel Street at-grade crossing is currently a divided roadway with two lanes, one lane in each direction that crosses over six BNSF tracks. The crossing is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices with advance warning signage and pavement markings.

In addition to BNSF and Union Pacific Railroad Company operating freight trains, the National Passenger Railroad Corporation (Amtrak) and Southern California Regional Railroad Authority (SCRRA) operate passenger trains over this line.

City proposes to construct a two lane overhead bridge structure crossing the BNSF railroad tracks at Laurel Street.

During construction, the Laurel Street at-grade crossing will be closed to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic and the at-grade crossing will be removed including all railroad warning devices. City requires construction of three temporary shoofly tracks for the six BNSF mainline tracks. Railroad traffic will be shifted to the shoofly track while the track is removed and the elevated railroad bridge structure is constructed. The temporary shoofly tracks will then be removed upon

completion of the grade separated track structure and the mainline tracks is installed over the bridge. All proposed vertical and horizontal clearances meet Commission GO 26-D requirements.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by the City, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As City, SANBAG, 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 October 15, 2012, and summarized above are authorized.

The following requirements pertain to this authorization:

- The new grade separated structure will be identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002B-2.10-B and DOT Number 026449C;
- The existing at-grade crossing shall be closed to public access by installing temporary fencing during construction; and
- BNSF shall provide the train schedule and railroad flagging during construction for the safety of the public, construction workers, train operators and train operations.

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.

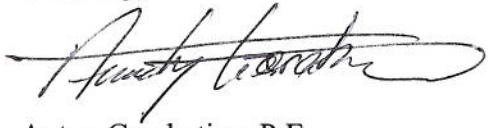
Within 30 days after completion of this project, City shall notify RCES that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G title *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separation*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission web 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, BNSF 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.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anton Garabetian", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

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

C: Melvin Thomas, Public Project Manager, BNSF
Kenneth Tom, Manager Public Projects, UPRR
Harry Steelman, Division Engineer, Amtrak
Naresh Patel, Assistant Director of Standards and Design, SCRRA
Paul Melocoton, Project Manager, SANBAG