

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90013



February 21, 2013

Bruce Kranz  
City Manager  
City of Colfax  
33 S. Main Street  
Colfax, CA 95713

File No. G.13-01-002

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Grass Valley Street Highway–Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001A-141.90 and DOT No. 753151U, in the City of Colfax, County of Placer.**

Dear Mr. Kranz:

This refers to your letter dated January 10, 2013, received by us via email on the same date, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Grass Valley Street highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) tracks in the City of Colfax (City), County of Placer. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001A-141.90 and DOT No. 753151U.

At the crossing, Grass Valley Street is a rural, minor collector roadway, with two through lanes. The sidewalk sections that are adjacent to the tracks begin and end on either side of the tracks. There are two tracks aligned in a northeast-southwest direction. Currently, there is a total of 15 freight and 2 Amtrak passenger trains per day that frequent the crossing. The crossing is equipped with two 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 installed on the shoulders of the roadway.

The proposed alterations, as indicated in the request letter and/or shown on the plans, shall consist of:

- aligning new curbs to narrow the existing roadway approaches to the crossing and to allow sidewalks to offset closer to the centerline of the roadway per plan;
- constructing new sidewalk sections on both sides of the roadway as shown per plan that will connect to existing sidewalk sections on the other side of the tracks;
- installing American with Disabilities Act (ADA) detectable warning tactile strips on the sidewalk approaches per plan;
- installing striped channelization of the walkways across the track (excluding the rails and concrete panel surfaces) per plan;
- constructing decorative landscape or hardscape (not to block view of warning device lamps) to improve delineation of new sidewalk zones per plan;
- constructing a 2-foot wide, 6-inch high raised concrete median on both sides of the tracks per plan;
- installing new edge delineation for vehicle lanes per plan;
- removing the existing two Commission Standard 9-A warning devices;
- installing two new Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices to replace the Commission Standard 9-A warning devices per plan;

- installing a Commission standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) in both off-quadrants (northwest and southeast) per plan.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) staff has investigated the request by the City, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and UPRR (Parties) are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, you may proceed with the improvements as described in your request letter and attachments, and summarized above.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD), 2012 Edition, published by the California Department of Transportation.

All Parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including other Commission General Orders and the CAMUTCD.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment 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. A written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by interested 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, the City shall notify RCES that the authorized work is completed by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/safety/Rail/Crossings/formg.htm>. 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 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form to the FRA, reflecting the changes. CPUC 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 Marvin Kennix at (916) 928-3809 or email at [mlk@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:mlk@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

Cc: Terrel Anderson, Manager of Industry & Public Projects, UPRR