

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> STREET, SUITE 500  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



April 24, 2013

File Number: XREQ 2013040002  
I-805 Freeway Rose Canyon Bridge and Overhead  
City of San Diego, San Diego County

Brian Finkbeiner  
District 11 Railroad Coordinator  
California Department of Transportation  
4050 Taylor Street, MS 310  
San Diego, CA 92110

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Highway-Rail Crossing of Interstate 805 Freeway Rose Canyon Bridge and Overhead, and Metropolitan Transit System/North County Transit District Tracks, CPUC Crossing No. 106-254.20-A and DOT No. 026842X, in City of San Diego, San Diego County**

Dear Mr. Finkbeiner:

This refers to your letter, dated January 25, 2013, received by us on April 4, 2013, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the grade-separated highway-rail crossing (crossing) of Interstate 805 Freeway (I-805) Rose Canyon Bridge and Overhead (BOH) and the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) / North County Transit District (NCTD) Coaster mainline tracks, in City of San Diego, San Diego County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 106-254.20-A and U.S. DOT No. 026842X.

The I-805 Rose Canyon BOH, grade separated crossing consists of two (2) separate freeway bridge structures that cross over the MTS/NCTD tracks with four (4) lanes and an exit lane in each direction. The BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) operates approximately seven (7) freight trains daily with a maximum speed of 55 miles per hours (mph) and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and the NCTD operate approximately 44 passenger trains daily with a maximum speed of 90 mph.

In an effort to reduce traffic congestion and add a High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane in each direction, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) widening project proposes the following alterations to the I-805 Rose Canyon BOH crossing:

- Construct an approximately 28-foot wide median structure to connect the two (2) I-805 Rose Canyon bridge structures ;
- Construct a 2-foot wide median barrier separating the northbound and southbound traffic of the I-805 Freeway; and
- Restripe the median area to create a 12-foot wide HOV lane and a 10-foot shoulder in each direction of the I-805 Freeway.

The existing I-805 Rose Canyon BOH complies with the minimum vertical and horizontal clearance requirements of 22 feet 6 inches and 8 feet 6 inches respectively, specified in Commission GO 26-

D. The alteration project proposes a permanent vertical clearance of approximately 70 feet 5 inches from the top of rail and a permanent horizontal clearance of 26 feet and 11 inches from the centerline of the nearest track. The temporary vertical clearance during construction will be 26 feet from the top of rail and the temporary horizontal clearance will be 12 feet from the centerline of the nearest track.

During construction of the I-805 Rose Canyon BOH widening project, temporary traffic controls will be provided in compliance with current version of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), published by Caltrans. All parties will comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and the CA MUTCD. In addition, MTS/NCTD will provide the train schedule and railroad flagging during construction for the safety of the public, construction workers, train operators and train operations.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) has investigated the request by Caltrans and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As Caltrans, MTS and NCTD 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 January 25, 2013 and summarized above are authorized.

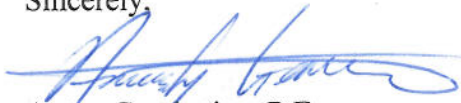
This project is statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Public Resources Code §21080.13]

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with 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.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, 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 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Ken Chiang at (213) 576-7076 or [ykc@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:ykc@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Anton Garabetian, P.E.  
Program and Project Supervisor  
Rail Transit and Crossings Branch  
Safety and Enforcement Division

C: Reed Caldwell - NCTD

Paul C. Jablonski - MTS